on this matter - An expedition of 10.000 men would in ten days have captured every point of value between Norfolk and Pensacola including the Warrington Navy yard - He should now before winter sets in strengthen Fort Hatteras with rifled guns and thoroughly provision it [illegible] leave a full garrison there, and likewise build fortifications to command every one of the inlets to the Pimlico & Albemarle Sounds - This war should at least leave us in a state of perfect coast defence - With the inlets commanded a few cruising gun boats would easily keep the coast clear of pirates & prevent any landing in force from the Mainland to attack the forts.

I saw Mr Tuckerman yesterday but he does not seem to think it worth his while to call upon the investigating Committee so unless you stir him up again nothing will be done by us in that direction - He informed me of Alfred's capture but told me also that he had gone to Fort Craig so that until your letter arrived I supposed he might have escaped - I hope he has not given