in search of arms — but was it not pitiful, in all this vast City full — arms there were none — not quite so, but after gathering all there were he found himself with only 2800 which are to day sent off — St Louis despairing of Fremont and here citizens tired of anti-slavery have resolved in their own protection.

What the Navy are doing I do not know — there are rumors of an expedition having sailed from here as well as from Fortress Monroe but not an expedition of any consequence I judge — To day we learn that the Ocracoke forts have been burned for want of men enough to occupy them and hold them on our side —

I am very sorry to hear of the low number of McClellan's forces — you can not conceive how bitterly disappointed I am — I do not feel that there are now in the line of the Potomac more than are necessary for its defence — and the most we can claim to have accomplished is the Safety of Washington —

What you say of the Fabian policy of Scott almost