Myron Coloney
June 19, 1861

Alexandria, June 19, 1861

My Dear Friend,

Your letter containing your best stamps, came duly to hand, as have also many papers among which are Harper's Weekly and the London Times. You have my sincere thanks for this generously and promptly complying with my requisition when you for papers and you will doubtless have your reward in knowing that they are a source of great comfort and pleasure to me, as by the light of my big Dutch fire place when the day's work is over I read the stirring events that are taking place around me. Sir, when I sit down and carefully reflect upon the true position of affairs at the South, I feel that this struggle must end, not result in the final overthrow of slavery and its entire prohibition upon this continent.

Now since this must naturally be the great finale of this rebellion, do you not think it will be bad policy for our leading Republican papers to proclaim the destruction of slavery as one of the great ends sought in this conflict? Will such a course not tend to the building up of a powerful opposition which will obstruct energetic action? Since the institution seems to be doomed, why not keep still? Why not "stand still and see the salvation of God?" In relation to State Politics, I agree with you. We must wait the shaping of events. I will agree to a union with the Democracy on a State ticket if they will give us Ignatius Donnell for Governor, Dr. Watson for Lt. Gov. Dr. Tefft for Sec'y. State.
F. R. E. Cornell for Attorney General, and Schaeffer for Treasurer. They cannot have the balance of the ticket filled by their women. No, sir; I am personally opposed to any union with Democrats as Democrats. I would not be opposed to a ticket convention that should adopt a new platform of one plank: "Eternal Fidelity to the Union and utter extermination to traitors." I would vote for the candidates put in nomination by such a convention provided as fair share of them were Republicans and the movement was participated in generally by the Republicans. Col. Aldrich has no very well defined plans. He is not confirmed of procuring Rice's place. Rice is laboring very diligently to be re-elected. We ought to see to it that all senators elected in the odd districts this year are Republicans as they will hold over and cast their vote for Senator. Col. Aldrich is well disposed toward you. Would rather see you Governor than Gilfillan. Hill do all he can for you, you may be assured. I have enclosed a few of my productions which were laying about. They are full of errors and are not my best specimen according to my judgment. The earth shall be sent. I have made arrangements whereby you will receive some from other tails. Shall be happy to hear from you. The brother I wished you to appoint Adjutant General in case you were for has been appointed 1st Lieut. in the U.S.A. by the President. He commands a company of Artillery at the Relay House. Ever your friend, "Wyman Colman."