

forces there would be more profitably employed in making demonstrations towards Richmond instead of burying themselves in the wilderness of Louisiana and Texas. Unless they are used to engage the attention of the rebels in Mississippi and Georgia we shall have all their forces to fight here. The old policy of retreatation still finds favor with our military authorities in spite of the many reverses which it has brought upon our arms, and it seems as if it never would be abandoned. We shall need two hundred thousand men in Virginia, but I doubt whether we shall have half that number in the army of the Potomac when we advance. Burnside will probably have 35,000 or 40,000 more to waste some where between Washington and Richmond.

It would bewilder my spirits very much to hear that our Rebels Army had commenced aggressive operations + that Burnside had been recalled to operate on the heels of the Mississippi Much love to you all
Thos. G.

Notterville April 18th 64

Your second letter of the 13th came to hand this evening. Boyer made that ugly book case, for which he charged me \$16.00. I know nothing about the trundle-bed and think you must have bought it yourself, as I was not at home when it was bought, I think. I have forgotten all about it, at any rate. He never made, or told me an office-desk; of that I am absolutely certain, as I have none but the big one at R. G. C. and that I bought in Calif. Boyer was vaccinated for a preacher but either the theology or the religion didn't take, so he turned into a very mean cabinet maker. Never having been able to make a living by selling his manufactures

to persons whose eyes were open
he is now trying to do it by selling
them to them whose eyes are shut!

So Sam. Galloway had the audacity
to say there was a resemblance
between your humble servant and
the great Copperhead. Well - as I
have been mistaken for him by
some of his bumpkin admirers
perhaps it is so, but I don't feel
much flattered. I used some-
times to think I saw a resam-
blance to my brother David in
the upper part of his face, and I
confess that nothing ever made
me feel kindly disposed to him but
that. However he has put himself
entirely beyond the pale of kind feeling
even if he were that brother him-
self.

I have heard nothing from
Robert yet; indeed I only guess that

that he has come to Washington
except as you did not say in yr
letter that he had started or was
about to, I have written him
another letter since receiving your
first letter of the 13th, so that he
ought to be pretty well posted
on my views. Our quiet
life here still continues, but it will
not last long, tho' I shall not be
surprised if some time elapses be-
fore any warlike demonstrations are
made by us. The rebels appear to be
concentrating pretty near their whole
army in front of us. If they are
we shall be obliged to get ^{many} more troops
than we have here now before we
can fight them, and they do not
appear to be coming very fast.

I am not very well pleased with
the military operations here in progress
in the west. It seems to me that one