

Box 38 No 52 Wall Street

February 1877

My dear General

Yesterday I gave to Maria
a brief of the points, which I thought
would be of use to you in preparing
that paper for the Philadelphia
Times. It was said to Souli that
you wrote your letter proposing
the Western Campaign, just
after Chancellorville. The
plan sent to Souli was ^{written}
much later, and that plan
is published in the Rebellion
Record. It was pitched to the
same time indeed - concentra-
tion of our Masses by means
of our Railway interior lines -
upon exposed fragments of our

enemy - and in opposition to
movements like that of Gettys-
burg. The letter in question
am entirely satisfied, was sent
to Powder Mill; by him shown
to Genl Howell both, and others -
doubtless Wigfall - Cobden
was, that brought it to the atten-
tion of Davis, and used its
adoption. I have an assured
recollection of hearing you
read Miles answer, and his
statements of Cobden's participa-
tion.

That you made the proposition
substantially as I state in
my brief, is certain - and you
can confidently write to that

effect in the paper than I
and myself judge that you
should write as a matter of
interior history! If Davis or
any friend should deny that
such a plan was ever submitted

Very well - the reply can be made
The plan was so patent, in view
of the military situation at
the time; that it ought to
have occurred to those charged
with the public defence, without
outside suggestion! For nothing
could be clearer than the utter
disability of Hooker after the
battle of Chancellorsville, to
make any offensive move-
ment for ^{at least,} 60 days, against

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Richman, and her in the safety
with which the Veterans of
Lee's army could in material
point be thrown elsewhere, to
coöperate in crushing their
opponents such exposed feder-
al fragments as that of Rose-
crans, - or that ^{also} of Grant, then
opening the extraordinary
Campaign from Port Gibson
through Mississippi to the
rear of Vicksburg. Not to
have ^{seen and} taken advantage
of the plain opportunity
they opened, and to go off
on such an operation as
that which ended in the

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most wonderful of the
Confederacy at Gettysburg,
was the climax of Military
blindness. - What I say about
the statements of the Southern
Newspapers at the time,
you can rely on, & confidently
assert in your paper. You
must remember how ^{carefully}
I used to search those papers
for items concerning the
Federal forces - and keep
you informed upon these
points. - They also spoke in
the most significant terms
of the terrible demoraliza-
tion of Hooker ^{any} after the battle -
through carelessness, was
in papers which at ^{times}

in another column or page
per chance, would claim that
as Hooker does, that, after all,
his battle had not been a
disaster to the Federals.

A most mighty Martin
and myself work at your
"Reminiscences" of the Philo
Campaign. It is slow work
but is being done very ³ surely.
You ~~are~~ giving too much
"money" as they say in the
 slang phrase of the day.
We are wiping every para-
graph - and considering its
relation or bearing to what
has gone before, or is to come
after.

We have the Mary letter
undergoing the same process,
but it will be ready to enclose
to you in a few days!

I have been much discouraged
about my Iron enterprise
by not finding the small
capital (so of two promised
me) - for beginning the work
never was a great enterprise
so fettered by the lack of a
paltry capital. The profit
was certain - I had a ^{contract}
for 30,000 tons of ore on which
profit would be \$14,000 on an
expenditure ^{of capital} at no time
of \$6000. I am again
promised the money but

For May 1863

relating to my plan of Campaign
See the book

we should be omitted or neglected
The whole bar should act in
the same way at all hazards,
and practise before him in
such cool ways as to show him
that they regard him as
no worthy of fellow ships —

If men will but act ^{together} they can
clothe their people in full
clothing ^{garments of} in fermy

Sincerely your friend
Thomas Andrew

Wm G. Beauregard
New Orleans