Chicago Sept 11th 1862

Hon E. M. Stanton
Secretary of War
Sir

The recent order creating the Department of the North West, which places the Overland Mail line, and our route of communication more threatened with Indian obstruction, partly in the New Department, and partly in that of Kansas,

I would call your attention to the difficulty of securing a proper protection to the route up the Platte river, with a section of it in the middle commanded from the remote head quarters at St Pauls.

Supplies for the winter subsistence
of about 30,000 people must cross over this route this fall to Colorado, or the people will be subject to the horrors of starvation in addition to those of an impending Indian war.

I see that part of the Territory of Nebraska, South of the Platte river, and West of the East line of Colorado, will be restored to the Department of Kansas, that the defenses of the Overland Mail route, and the route of transportation to Colorado across the plains, may be under a united head, with unity of direction.

I have the honor to be very res-

pectfully your obedient servant

John Evans
Governor of
Colorado Territory