



St. Louis Missouri July 2. 1863

General

I am painfully apprehensive as to the fate of our army at Vicksburg. I do not know any thing in regard to the military situation but from information I have, I have two fears.

1<sup>st</sup>. I fear the high waters, the continued rains there, the encampments of our men on the low wet grounds with the camp equipage they have will produce an enormous amount of sickness and that adequate preparations have not been made to meet this emergency of affairs.

2<sup>d</sup>. I fear a sudden and bold dash by the rebels to seize Memphis or some other point on the river above our army, that will command the river & cut off supplies to the army.

On the latter point my fears may be wholly imaginary on the former I am satisfied they are not.

Major Gen Halleck }  
Gen in Chief }  
Washington City D.C. }

By Order of the  
Genl S. B. M  
Samuel D. Burman

P.S. There is no object in my judgment so important to the Union Cause to-day as the opening of the Mississippi river. I dread to contemplate the consequences of a failure.

S. D. M.



*[Faint, illegible handwriting covering most of the page]*

5 AMUSEK 2 KIRKWOOD  
CITY OF IOWA

To Mrs. Gen. HALLECK