Henry C. Bowen

United States Internal Revenue, Collector's Office.

New York, November 16th, 1863

Sir:—I have the honor to refer to you the subject of the collection of duties on importations of tobacco. I have the honor to add, however, that the collection of these duties is very much impeded by the fact that the tobacco is not regularly presented at the offices of the Collector. I have the honor to request that you will take steps to have the tobacco presented at the office of the Collector, so that the duties may be collected.

I have the honor to be, with the utmost respect, your obedient servant,

Henry C. Bowen

Hon. J. P. Chase
Secy. Treasury

My Dear Sir,

The time has come, in my judgment, when, in the most quiet way, your friends—the friends of freedom and glory of the Union—should take action in reference to the political welfare of the Country. There is only one way now, in which we can be defeeted and that is by inaction. Every petty, judicious, movement, if late, has brought forth abundant fruit. I have good reason to know that what your friends have done, without much concert of action, has resulted in great good. The cotton kings begin to fear and tremble and are preparing for all sorts of enthralling alliances. To allow them to go forward without counteraction, to prevent their mischiefous work, would...
be most indirect and wrong. For one I am afraid to act for fear I shall not move in accordance with some general plan. To be plain with you, if you are prepared directly or through confidential friends, to communicate your views I should be glad to know them believing that through our paper (The Bee) or in other ways you can render important service. 

If you were here I should like to tell you some things which might help on matters and make them go more smoothly than they now do. I suppose your duties — those of your office — may call you here before many days. I wish you could be here next Sabbath the 22 inst. as our Mr. Beecher will then make his first public appearance in our church. It will be a memorable day and the occasion will bring a vast throng of distinguished people — including Mr. C. on their way to your city. On many accounts, not necessary to mention, I hope business will open the way for you to come to New York.
at that time. It will give me great pleasure, in a most informal way, to give you a resting day at my house, if agreeable to you,

I think, when I see you, I can convince you, that you are suffering personally greatly, and the country is losing largely for the want of better management in the collection of Internal Revenue. This however is strictly private.

I know you will pardon this intrusion upon your valuable time and believe that I remain as ever your faithful friend.

Henry C. Bowen