My dear Sir:

I expected to see you in Washington by this time, but as the business on which I expected to go "Cared in" I shall not see you. I am doing but little now excepting reading news papers and from them an forming my notion of the movements for the next campaign. The removal of the Radical Edwards by Bell with the President's approval from the District Attorney's Office in Missouri for being in his effort opposed to the National & State Executive, clearly indicates that the line the President intends to rely on the Conservatives. I observe also that he stated "That" The conciliation proclamation was the greatest folly of his life. The New York World has the above extract and writes very commendably of the President. The Chicago Times, St. Louis Republican and others to-day praise papers are giving very space of full heading and apologizing for his past Cour.
dut, and attribute his extreme measures (as they call them) to his surrounding and cabinet. These things taken in connection with the letter made for a convention of War Democrats at Cincinnati Dec 3rd to take measures for early action on the occasion (the call signed from New York City) under the management of Secord) shows to my mind conclusively that the War Democrats will make the first nomination for President, and I think they will nominate Lincoln to fore-stall the action of the Union party. It is a pretty formidable movement at the North and the mercenary will join in to. You will also find that if the President speaks in his next message of the value of the seceded States, he will take pains for their coming back as States with all the powers and benefits of States to be exercised by the people within them. This will be his bid to the Democracy. The same is Secord, and it is to the
Joseph H. Geiger
T. Salmon P. Chase
Mar 15, 1863

a plausible one strongly backed.
I may be entirely wrong, but I believe that the most men are aware of the inability of Lincoln to cope with you in a fair Union Convention and that upon the present Union party is to be re-formed and a new organization formed to the success of which the President will give his aid.

I have thus given you briefly my views and reasons for them, and if we are to prevent this state of things and show these damned rebels and murderers that they are to be punished and not to have honors and position in the Government they have tried to break down, we must have some organization and that pretty quickly.

Yours truly,

[Signature]