

You will expect, my dear friend, that
being here will enable me to commu-
nicate to you some information
eventful and momentous; and your
disappointment will be an exact re-
tro to your expectations when I assure
you that it is out of my power to gratify
your craving wishes - Things here have
known are done ^{upon} a mysterious as
well as a great scale - And as I shut my
mouth and open my ear ~~and~~ I can
only tell you what I hear - and what I
think I see - The executive, you know, has
advised Congress to put the Nation in alarm
and Congress has done so - ~~at his word~~
at his word - Whether he meant or not, it is
evidently their intention to make
him intend it, and accordingly they
are proceeding with rapid, and really
well meant acts to place the nation
in an erect as well as hostile at-
titude -

S. C. Miller Esq

22 Dec. 1861

Governor Morris & the Mayor are here for you
know on the canal project. Their memorial
will be read in Senate tomorrow some
of the Senate have told me they thought the com-
missioners intended, by some intimation
in their memorial to invite a hearing
from them at the hand of the Senate. Should
this be the fact, my journey here will be well
remunerated at by the hearing & their display
in eloquence. This however may or may
not be the case. I sincerely hope it may
take place. Should this opportunity be offer-
ed to the Canal Commissioners, you and I
will anticipate the honor with which
both will acquit themselves. It would be a
grand day for our State. The members of
both Houses stare at the man of the North
and he is watched in every movement
knowing as well as he does this observation
his circumspection is to me very perceptible
-always penetrating and always prudent.
He doubles his diligence in this characteristic
of his department.

The Northern men point him out as the next suc-
cident, and vauntingly challenge a like candor
date. Indeed it is plain that his opponents now
look with mortified sensibility on an event
which is as politically certain as any other
event to come. I fear the contingencies of
political consequences. There is no other man
shown of as the successor of the President in
event; and if it were thought advisable
to oppose even at the ensuing election
he would out-run the man filling
the executive chair - provided the Federalists
would or could be permitted to lend their
aid. Our delegation are much more unani-
mous than usual - excepting Gen Smith and
Dot Sage they are in charming harmony.
The apportionment law has given a death blow
to the South - Maryland will go to the North
and so will one or two other States. This
gives at once a numerical preponderance
of Northern Power. Since this there has been
a great lowering of Southern domination
before so open & perceptible.

I am more and more convinced that our New York
divisions have their origin in this direction
and will tell you why I am confirmed in
my belief personally - - Perceiving the drift of
Public opinion to be gravitating to the Mayor
~~effort~~ to be continually striving to divert
Public opinion to some other Man - Gov-
ernment is pretended to be desirable
and intimations are set afloat that Mr
C. is wanted to regulate things in New York
I presume this is unknown to our friend
the Governor - for the truth is, that it is
all stuff - I cannot disclose to you all
my ideas at present - nor will I commu-
nicate sundry other observations
made and impressed on my mind
I am occurrences taking place here
arrest the appearance of my friendship
consider this as for your own personal
(Pardon me) and believe the writer
as usual your best & warmest friend

Washington Sept 22. 1811 -