

Richmond Va

Feb. 19 1862

Dear Sir

Your letter of Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> addressed to me from Portsmouth, in consequence of my absence from the city, was not received until to day. That to which it refers, directed to Capt John Markoe, and to my care, I have not seen. Probably it has been conveyed to him upon my return.

I see from an announcement in the Enquirer of to day, which I enclosed, that Capt Markoe left the city this morning with a large number of other prisoners for an exchange. He is exchanged for Capt Tho. Sharp, while your exchange is Capt W. D. Lancing of 30<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Regt. These exchanges may be relied on and I suppose some authoritative information will be conveyed to your superior officer and thro him to you. I should very promptly have called on Capt Markoe as you request, but that as you see he left very early this morning, and before your letter was received.

Now have I come in possession of the documents from the State prisoners at Fort Warren, which you say you will send

by private hand

I congratulate you very cordially on your deliverance and return to the bosom of your family; - and that you are free, in this approaching crisis & peril to the public liberty, again to draw your sword in defence of the soil of our State. Our State now needs the united efforts of all her loyal and true sons in repelling the existing invasion. Your timely return will prove of great service to our cause.

I should be happy to see you at any time in the city -

Yours truly

W. A. H. Smith

Hand W. A. H. Smith  
Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 1863