

P. J. Q
Apr 22. 61

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Washington April 22nd / 61

Dear Sir

Yours of the 16th inst.
is now at hand, and I am pleased
to hear from you again, this
leaves us all in usual health &
hoping this will find you and
family enjoying the same blessing.

Your predictions, concerning our
state, I am ashamed to confess, are
com to be realized, for the disun-
-ionest have, ^{are} about to pervert
our good old state into this un-
holy war, against our wishes &
better judgment, it is hard for
us to fight against the star
spangled Banner, that which
our fathers suffered, bleed, and

and won for our enjoyment.
 I say it is hard for me to fight
 for breaking down the best govern-
 ment that ever existed and against
 our feudal rights, but it must
 be so. I cannot fight against the
 south, I would prefer to be
 neutral but I cannot and remain
 here, and I have not the means
 to get away with my mother and
 family, this state I fear will
 link her destiny with the rest
 of the southern states, the most
 of our people think and say
 that Lincoln has acted treach-
 erously towards the south, he led
 us to believe he was going to evac-
 uate fort Sumpter, and after
 words tried to reinforce it, for
 our I think he had the right
 to hold and protect the publick

property, but I donot think
 it was honorable to falsify his
 word, besides the northern people
 say, they will march into every
 town and village, dishonor our
 Ladies, put arms into the hands
 of our slaves and tell them
 to fight for their freedom, but
 they will be somewhat mistaken
 in that, for the negrows are
 volunteering their services all over
 the state to fight against the
 north, they are not made to
 do so, for they say the abolition^{ist}
 doo them more harm than they
 do good, for they are strengthening
 the chains of bondage on them
 all the time, for they see, and might
 be happy now for they have some
 one to care for them in sickness
 and old age, they have enough

to eat, drink and to war, and
 no care on their minds, that is
 all that any of us can have or
 at least enjoy, it is true they
 have to work, but their tasks
 are easy, and they are not made
 to work when they are sick.

I have not the heart to write
 more for our whole community
 is in excitement, I have done
 all that I could to evade the
 fatal blo. but all to no purpose.

I have got to put on the
 secession harness, it will chafe
 hard, but I will kick it off
 when I can, but I must wear
 it as long as I am in this state,
 the family joins me in love
 to you and family.

Respectfully

E. Cornelia Esq

P. J. Cornelia

P. J. Cornelia Esq (1861)