New York Aug. 8th, 1856

Dear Sir,

I have a letter to day from Dr. McCracken suggesting the immediate adoption of new signs & passwords to be forwarded to him as soon as possible. I would respectfully suggest the following for your approval:

1st sign: Place the left hand across mouth three times. 

Answer: Pluck twice with right hand.

1st question: Shall we open succeed?

1st Ans: We will in the fall!

2nd question: What fall?

2nd Ans: The fall of tyranny.

If you approve please inform me promptly so that I can advise Dr. McCracken.

I am and have been very sick lately; the filthy state of this city has placed me fairly here on combat.
were it not for the famous news from Kentucky, Nebraska, Iowa, N. Arkansas etc. which has just arrived to revive me I would soon be "down among the dead men." The returns from these states have made the Provisions men in them to kneel in their shoes. Some of the Fillmore men say that if they see that Fillmore has no chance they will vote for Buchanan.

The course of the Herald is able, but internally unpurified and thoroughly ungentlemanly. I feel confident that a most outrageous article against Buck, about a week since, has injured its repute as it has alluded to it several times since in a half apologetic manner, justifying itself by stating that the Dem. papers have also abused Fremont. The principal aim of the Herald seems to be to sophisticate and falsify the issues pending, in an air of candor to fraudulently beautiful to their followers, particularly the State division of the South. I regret to see that the