Ship M. C. Stevens
New York Mon July 23d 1861

To Messrs Brown Shipley & Co.
Liverpool.

Gentlemen, Your favour of yesterday the 22d came to hand this morning, & I have to thank you for your kind offer in regards to the business of this Ship at Norfolk & elsewhere. In fact, now that I have solicited your kindness, I hardly know what I would ask. The circumstances of the case may suggest to you what might be advantageous to the interests of the Ship & its owners. I have found that the Master of a Ship, in a foreign & strange port, is often subject to imposition & impositions in various ways, especially in matters of consignees, as was the case at Charleston. Such demands & charges are much less likely to be made when it is understood that some responsible party stands at the back of the Captain, some one whom it would be for the interest of agency to please, rather than offend or annoy. The Master always in a foreign port, is in a degree powerless to enforce or claim redress. It occurred to me, that a letter from you to the English Consul at Norfolk, to whom the Ship is consigned, expressive of care for & interest in the concerns of the Ship, would, to say the least, be of great advantage to Capt Stevens. In short, you feel that it would be more advisable, to give him a letter to any correspondents you may have there, asking for their advice & counsel for the Capt in case of necessity.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

III. Correspondence Sent
A. Letter Press Books

3. September 1859--September 1863

1861