Arlington 20 April 1861

My dear Cousin Roger

I only rec^d to day your letter of the 17th. Sympathizing with you in the troubles that are pressing so heavily upon our beloved Country, I entirely agree with you in your notions of allegiance &c. I have been unable to make up my mind to raise my hand against my native State, my relatives, my children & my home. I have therefore resigned my Commission in the Army & never desire again to draw my sword save in defence of my State. I consider it useless

http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/civil-war-in-america/april-1861-april-1862.html#obj2