Head Quarters. April 19, 1863. 1. P.M.

General

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 7. 30, yesterday evening. By direction of the commanding General I send the following instructions for your guidance, which will take the place of all others.

You will not move your main force beyond the operations of the supply trains. As it becomes necessary for the trains to move further from Franklin in the collection of supplies, you will also move your Brigade in a corresponding degree. Have Cavalry reconnaissances made as far to the other side of the Dismal Swamp, as may be safe with the force at your disposal. Keep parties out to observe the Chowan River to see that no force of the enemy passes up to land in rear of you, and be prepared to throw some artillery on the banks of that river to destroy transports should the attempt be made to land troops above you.

I am General very respectfully
By Maj. C. T. S.

G. W. Smith

To

Genl. H. L. Benjamin

Commander in C. P.W.
I send you a note from Judge Weld. I hope you will be able to pick up some of these parts.