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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from Roger B. Taney to William Beall

**Date:** September 29, 1833

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Washington Sept. 29. 1833

Confidential

My Dear Sir

To day a friend has sent to me the

Fredricks Herald - & I perceive that articles

in relation to me have been inserted there

mainly for the purpose of being transcribed

into the opposition papers in other places

to be represented as my character in the

place where I am best known. The articles

are not intended for the Fredricks market

but have been concerted elsewhere by the

Bank agents. - It is necessary therefore that

my friends in Fredricks should do me

justice - I am represented as pecuniarily

indifferent to pecuniary matters & the

impression intended to be created by that

expression, <sup>is</sup> that I was reckless in that respect

I suffered myself to be involved in Debt &  
my private affairs to become entangled and  
embarrassed. - It is true I have never spent  
my money where family connections made  
it or the calls of Charity or any public object  
required me to use it - and the slaves which  
I owned all of which I have since emanci-  
pated, were treated with the indulgence of  
children. - But you who know my habits  
as well as I know them myself will bear  
me witness that I never spent any thing  
beyond my income - I did not hoard money  
but I never went in Debt - No Merchant or  
Mechanic that I recollect ever found it  
necessary to call on me a second time for  
his <sup>unless the urgency of professional business prevented me</sup> account - and I believe that my punctuality  
in the payment of any accounts against me  
was as much relied on by the citizens of Freder-  
ick as the punctuality of its Banks - or any  
Banks - & while I lived there I never had a  
dispute with a merchant or Mechanic  
about his Bill - However I am not disposed

to give my own character for no man is an  
impartial judge in his own case. - All I wish  
of you is that this intrigue should be dis-  
fruted & my true standing whatever it may  
be made known. - If the Frederick community  
were the only persons who would read that  
article I should not think it worth con-  
tradiction - but it was manufactured by  
directions from abroad - I will be im-  
mediately inserted in the Bonds papers  
throughout the union as the evidence of  
my standing at home - If any of those  
who call themselves my friends, are amusing  
themselves in the manner stated - I know  
who they are and you know how well I have  
for some years understood the insidious  
character of their pretended friendship - You  
may show this letter to Selby but do not  
show it to any one else -

Very truly your friend

R. B. Torrey

1833

A. B. Toney Esq Letter

to

W. M. Chase

29th

1833

Relative to Attacks  
upon in the States

Recd 1st Dec. 1833

A. B. Toney

[Letter to William M. Beall]

Washington Sept. 29, 1833

confidential

My Dear Sir,

Today a friend has sent to me the Frederick Herald, & I perceive that articles in relation to me have been inserted there precisely for the purpose of being transcribed into the opposition paper in other places to be represented as my character in the place where I am best known. The articles are not intended for the Frederick market, but have been concocted elsewhere by the Bank agent. It is necessary therefore that my friends in Frederick should do me justice. I am represented as proverbially indifferent to pecuniary matters & the impression intended to be created by that expression, is that I was reckless in that respect

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& suffered myself to be involved in debt & my private affairs to become entangled and embarrassed. It is true I have never spared my money where family connections needed it or the call of charity or any public object required me to use it, and the slaves which I owned all of which I have since emancipated, were treated with the indulgence of children. But you who know my habits as well as I know them myself will bear me witness that I never spend any thing beyond my income. I did not hoard my money but I never went in debt. No merchant or mechanic that I recollect ever found it necessary to call on me a second time for his account, unless the urgency of professional business prevented me from attending to it. And I believe that my punctuality in the payment of any accounts against me was as much relied on by the citizens of Frederick as the punctuality of its Banks, or any Bank, & while I lived there I never had a dispute with a merchant or mechanic about his Bill. However I am not disposed

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to give my own character for no man is an impartial judge in his own case. All I ask of you is that this intrigue should be defeated & my true standing whatever it may be made known. If the Frederick community were the only persons who would read that article I should not think it worth contradiction, but it was manufactured by directions from abroad, & will be immediately inserted in the Bank papers throughout the union as the evidence of my standing at home. If any of those who call themselves my friends, are amusing themselves in the manner stated, I know who they are and you know how well I have for some years understood the invidious character of their pretended friendship. You may show this letter to Schley but do not show it to any one else.

Very truly your friend  
R. B. Taney