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Title: Letter from John W. Forney to John M. Read

Date: February 14, 1867

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Del R. B. B. B.
Paul Grant

Washington D. C.

February 14th 1867.

My Dear Judge,

You must not suppose that because I have not replied to your several favors that I had neglected or forgotten them. Everything you write deserves and receives my respect. I am fully convinced however that no good could come from a newspaper discussion of the political matter in which our friends Colonel Stamm is concerned, but I think I satisfied him in my recent conversation with him of the propriety of keeping silence. What we ought to strive after now is to keep our party united for the Presidential election, taking care to put our friends in force at the National Convention so as to defeat the aspirations of General Hancock. The best way to accomplish this is to call upon the good men in the Republican party to organize in their respective wards, unless this is done corruption and profligacy will continue to rule in every one of the municipal departments. I repeat to

dance with my policy of doing everything
I can to promote the interests of Phila-
delphia. There is a rumor, which is
generally believed, that the President
is about turning tail upon the cop-
perheads - at any rate that he
is willing to make terms with Con-
gress. But it is too late. The two Houses
are as much in the fulfillment of their
obligations to the people.

Very Sincerely Yours

Wm. Garrison
Hon. John M. Read
Phila

P.S. Your two favors ^{has} of this morning received
and contents noted. I promised to give Judge
Syon of Centre county a lift for the Su-
preme Court but your views will bind
me and I will take care to shape any
case accordingly.

say that the last two years experience proves
that Philadelphia is very little behind New
York in the corruption of its officials
and if the Union men do not organize
in the different wards the people at the
elections will vote us down. On the sub-
ject of the bridge across the Delaware, I would
like to confer with you personally. Is it
not clear to you that if such a bridge
were constructed it would promote equally
the welfare of Camden and Philadelphia?
If it is practicable why should it not be
constructed? Could anything be more
deplorable than the inconvenience to
which the ferry system subjects the people
on both sides? We can better under-
stand the necessity for a bridge
across the Delaware by reflecting
what our committee should do with
out a bridge across the Schuylkill.
I had no personal object in view
in the article to which you refer
but directed its publication in accor-

Col. Tenny

1867

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1867
Feb. 14 FORNEY, JOHN WIEN,

To the Hon. John M. Read:

Washington, D.C.
February 14th, 1867

My Dear Judge:

You must not suppose that because I have not replied to your several favors that I had neglected or forgotten them. Everything you write deserves and receives my respect. I am fully convinced however that no good could come from a newspaper discussion of the political matter in which our friend Colonel Mann is concerned, but I think I satisfied him in my recent conversation with him of the propriety of keeping silence. What we ought to strive at now is to keep our party united for the Presidential election, taking care to put our friends in force at the national convention so as to defeat the aspirations of General Cameron. The best way to accomplish this is to call upon the good men in the Republican party to organize in their respective wards, unless this is done corruption and profligacy will continue to rule in every one of the municipal departments. I regret to say that the last two year's experience proves that Philadelphia is very little behind New York in the corruption of its officials and if the union men do not organize in the different wards the people at the elections will vote us down. On the subject of the bridge across the Delaware I would like to confer with you personally. Is it not clear to you that if such a bridge were constructed, it would promote equally the welfare of Camden and Philadelphia. If it is practicable why should it not be constructed? Could anything be more deplorable than the inconvenience to which the ferry system subjects the people on both sides? We can better understand the necessity for a bridge across the Delaware by reflecting what our condition should be without a bridge across the Schuylkill. I had no personal object in view in the article to which you refer but directed its publication in accordance with my policy of doing everything I can to promote the interests of Philadelphia. There is a rumor, which is generally believed, that the President is about turning tail upon the copperheads - at any rate that he is willing to make terms with Congress. But it is too late. The two Houses are a unit in the fulfilment of their obligations to the people.

Very Truly Yours
J.W. Forney

Hon. John M. Read
Phila , Pa.

P.S. Your two of this morning received and contents noted. I promised to give Judge Lynn of Centre County a lift for the Supreme Court but your views will bind me and I will take care to shape my case accordingly. J.W.F.

Gift of the Friends of the Library, 1972.