

Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

<http://archives.dickinson.edu/>

Documents Online

Title: Letter from James Buchanan to Henry A. Clover

Date: September 20, 1851

Location: MC 1998.10, B3, F4

Contact:

Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

125
Wheallands, near Lancaster 20 September 1857.

My dear Sir /

I have to day received your kind letter of the 10th Instant, together with the St. Louis Union. For both, please to accept my cordial thanks. Publius writes with ability & power. He says more in my favor than I deserve; but with this, I can surely not be offended. Although not given to many professions, I feel as truly & as deeply grateful to friends like yourself, who prefer me to other candidates, as if I were to express my gratitude in the strongest terms. I shall ever remember your kindness.

I am, also, gratified with the editorial of my old friend Phillips. I was on terms of much personal & political intimacy with him when he resided at Pittsburg & am glad ~~he remembers me~~ that his friendly feelings remain unchanged.

The approaching election of Governor in our State is one of vast importance to the Union; but unless I am more mistaken than I have ever been, the result is

not uncertain. The only question is, what will be Tyler's majority? For many reasons, we desire to make this as large as possible.

Your relative General Clover is in no danger. He is deservedly popular himself & besides, his opponent, John Strohm is one of the fourteen in the House of Representatives, who voted against the Bill granting volunteers & supplies to President Polk to enable him to carry on the war against Mexico. This vote was given at that dark & gloomy moment, after the capture of Thornton's command, & before we had heard of the victories of Palo Alto & Resaca de Palma, when the Country were alarmed for the fate of General Taylor's small army. It so happened that I was warmly in favor of General Clover's nomination.

Is there any reasonable hope that the two branches of the Democratic party will re-unite in Mississippi? This is a consummation most devoutly to be wished. The Presidential candidate in whose favor the Democrats of Mississippi & New York could unite, would present strong claims before the National Convention.

Henry & Clover Esqrs

Yours very respectfully
James Buchanan

Wheatland near Lancaster 20 September 1851.

My dear Sir/

I have to day received your kind letter of the 10th. Instant, together with the St. Louis Union. For both, please to accept my cordial thanks. Publius writes with ability & power. He says more in my favor than I deserve: but with this, I can surely not be offended. Although not given to many professions, I feel as truly & as deeply grateful to friends like yourself who prefer me to other candidates, as if I were to express my gratitude in the strongest terms. I shall ever remember your kindness.

I am, also, grateful with the editorial of my old friend Phillips. I was on terms of much personal & political intimacy with him when he resided at Pittsburg & am glad ~~he remembers me~~ that his friendly feelings remain unchanged.

The approaching election of Governor in our State is one of vast importance to the Union; but unless I am more mistaken than I have ever been, the result is

[Page Break]

not uncertain. The only question is, what will be Bigler's majority? For many reasons, we desire to make this as large as possible.

Your relative General Clover is in no danger. He is deservedly popular himself & besides, his opponent, John Strohm is one of the fourteen in the House of Representatives, who voted against the Bill granting volunteers & supplies to President Polk to enable him to carry on the war against Mexico. This vote was given at that dark & gloomy moment, after the capture of Thorntons command, & before we had heard of the victories of Palo Alto & Resaca de Palma, when the Country was alarmed for the fate of General Taylor's small army. It so happened that I was warmly in favor of General Clover's nomination.

Is there any reasonable hope that the two branches of the Democratic party will re-unite in Missouri? this is a consummation most devoutly to be wished. The Presidential candidate in whose favor the Democracy of Missouri & New York could unite, would present strong claims before the National Convention.

Yours very respectfully
James Buchanan

Henry A Clover Esquire