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Title: Letters from Andrew Curtin to Eli Slifer, 1860-63 Date: 1860-1863

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Beleprete dele 29- 1860 How Rli Alips may going at gring more have proved and first have and a they made and quantifician mis and sutifie to get you the mpeg in relations of conficence with you not vity for you fitures In the place, and the wincate in which you are heary the in pridly parmat relations -(shala it be your pleasure to aceth the office | m the originant of the Dep. Nee can the and the other Hias ingo gift It is proper that I should by that I am clear that souther the lance The Figilation must dect a meepor to you in fin days after active of your resignation - The care be no prasin of the law, and as Jam more and Juped Scala int print a trust

A so made infortance to the people to be with in wind violation of the letter and spirit of the act of aprilia in the I have prividece that theme were the mapity he gave fur and have as I win he in Handling on Saturagety my many and finthe min the that ananget duce he dranged I will worth you tota - Min tuly - - - - - -All Contine and protect preserves alla to the second manded as yours account to an a the gave for the angue of the says to. and the server of the of the server of the for the a si propres that down the top the f and second start source the same i it atten second dead in magness the and the state of going the matrice of free arteners for - More canes and menning Setting the survey and former the former

Bellefonte Dec 29 1860 Hon Eli Slifer

It affords me great pleasure and satisfaction to offer you the office of Sec. of the Comth. I am inclined to place myself in relations of confidence with you not only from your fitness for the place, and the estimation in which you are held by the people of the state, but from our friendly personal relations.

I will confer with you (should it be your pleasure to accept the office) on the subject of the Dep. Sec. Comth and the other offices in your [illegible].

It is proper that I should say that I am clear that under the laws the legislation must elect a successor to you in five days after notice of your resignation. There can be no [wavings?] of the law, and as I am now [illegible] I could not permit a trust

[page break]

of so much importance to the people to be held in direct violation of the letter and spirit of the act of assembly.

I have provided that there will be necessity for your presence here as I will be in Harrisburg on Saturday before my inauguration. If in the mean time that arrangement should be changed I will write you.

> Yours Truly A. G. Curtin

is an There is an The summer of and Manue to the last care & then My dear Au I am in home band to pique Milant pr Scoration - The much Ritigentis from the month for the coince Igas at Thursding apisting to functed my distris -. If he can be elicted by any fair and he thould be the can aly on him as a true Man and het afrance has count an lequary tinte million on the Juin and the of our minudiate Restaporte il ing the put in a putance to us all and I have ho doubt of the unit if you all two and - Min car we my feating my to manythat and I will chus dawn if you thick it purdent I wonter lien have have beitte quest aluctance, last will at about anything to have this puit - When you place to me Willet at dres and carps with him - He were tree you of the

is any thing in the more fland laum I have letters to that Mich this anning - Price prices a frax attins black better beach and he whitecon freder and mite me ly aten practe the John I thate with ance which Her area when in as a f do > former and had affire at former A. Gleintie - - - Bleve 18ter ar a ce bar of I trens int top the mon chap of a ... is Here et 1. The is no force in the higger? the made by more that the exection tart for the routh shiper toilent hty shall be haffer the thousand atte candidate - If you fait top elict him aprin well ale requits Nuter too loto and in true and a de la Carta and

My dear Sir

I am in honor bound to prefer Wilmot for Senator. He sent delegates from the North for me and was at Harrisburg assisting to promote my election. If he can be elected by any fair means he should be.

We can rely on him as a true man, and rest assured we cannot on Cameron. I wrote McClure on the subject last month. Will you see him and Finney and others of our immediate friends and elect him if you can.

Rest assured it is of the first importance to us all, and I have no doubt of the result if you all turn in. You can use my patronage to some extent and I will come down if you think it prudent.

I would leave here now with great reluctance, but will do almost anything to secure this point. Will you please to see Wilmot at once and confer with him. He will tell you if there

[page break]

is anything in the rumor of an alliance between him and Gen. Cameron. I have letters to that effect this evening.

You, McClure, Finney and a few others had better meet and see what can be done and write me by return mail to whom I shall write and what do.

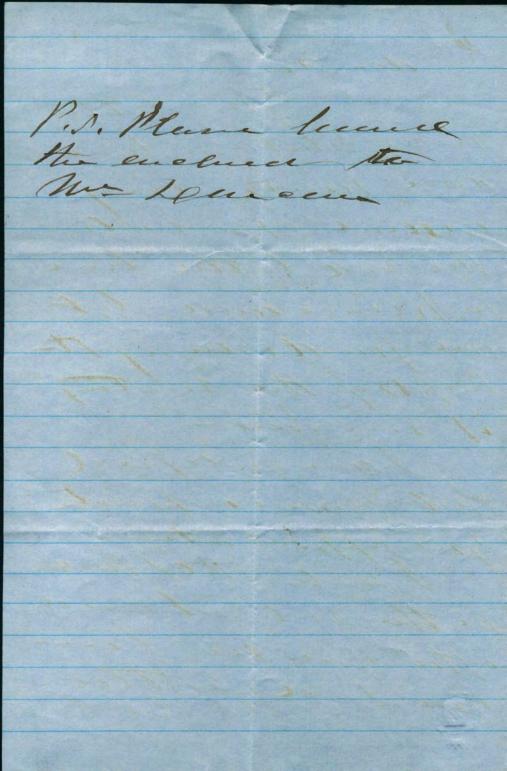
Yours Truly, A. G. Curtin 31 Dec. 1860

P.S. There is no sense in the suggestion made by some that the excitement from the South hinders Wilmot. Why should he suffer more than any other candidate. If you fail to elect him you will all regret it when too late

A. G. C.

1861 My dear 1 in your letter near what you have Ame muts my entice affordation the had better line In please and lit an finds anying the hupts of the mictay 1 man enter I am grotefied that Three muts you appartation -I mite melluce An the majut and after you we his you have better

apport Muncas and anne it at once Mu much trak not for a competent ching cluth-Amistur in Natur= train you are come up in the Ann train and with much mythin -Better with Mini = ance to be a that have thitent is me man and put his in of your our - Then the matter with my finasmr. Teg U. C. Contin



My Dear Sir

Your letter rec'd. what you have done merits my unofficial approbation. We had better time in [place?] and let our friends reaping the benefits of the victory if some can.

I am gratified that Thomas wants your approbation.

I wrote McClure on the subject and after you see him you had better

[page break]

appoint Thomas and announce it at once.

We must look out for a competent chief clerk.

I will be in Lewistown on Saturday for the afternoon train. You can come up in the noon train and meet me at Mifflin.

Better write [Plainance?] to be on that train.

Wilmont is our man and put him in if you can. I bear the matter with my friends.

Yr Trly

A. G. Curtin

[page break]

P.S. Please forward the enclosed to Mr. [Hanecure].

Haristay 24-1861 Km. E. Miper Alear Sie If you seen make any anayout to give Wallace him the wacan't clothship in you give I will be auch abliged - the har along a low me Janily supplied we yearly aging in this subject and were averge me unch ' you some give the sheet the place Just of Alleentic

Harrisburg Jany 26 1861 Hon E. Slifer Dear Sir

If you can make any arrangement to give Wallace Kerr the vacant clerkship in your office. I will be much obliged. He has always been one of my warmest friends and his family supported me zealously.

You are aware of my anxiety on this subject and will oblige me much if you can give Mr. Kerr the place.

Yrs Tly A. G. Curtin

Attanta City: Angust 5 9861. How Eli Shifes Socretary of State Decretary of State Decretary of State Decretary You and the questerew in the Military (Department, understand the history of the Bentz contract; and the difficulty about the Over coats up to the time of my departice from Marrisburg .blace, that requires, settlement. - 0 Gen: Biddle ha given notice to Me This Webster That he will not sective the Over Couts made by hiw mide his contract with the State, which notice actungle bearing the name of You Biddle, is in the handwrite (signature and all of Me Bentz We has also given whice by a

telepran to the chispectors, nor to hispece any more of the Coats made by Ale Wetster, a copy of which was served apow him, by able dayder, one of the duspectors .-Sew Biddle has acted made a misappreheusind, marmuch an the Coats made facter, then the Inspec tins meet seady to inspect and receive them, of which face, Me Wetster, has about and couche = size proof, ~ You are fully arraw of my anxiety to protect Sew Did de in the contract imprudently made with the Benty, and bus lufing my coufidence, I would have asserved the serporesitility of seliving time, by placing myself in his stead, on the record. -To declaw now, that the Webster had forfeited his contract, in order to les in Benty in preference, moved be so mejuce, if nos pupidious that is cannot be permitted. Whitse, as you know, I have always been willing to Suction

gentlement in the various Deputruents. of the Sovermine, in the discharge of their duties, I will not be made a party to a hans action of duch a character, - Mu Metster will vicit Manis buy tommen evening and I truck Justice will be down hin as our, without the necessity for my inwediate return to Manistay. The enclosed advertisement has only appreared in the Selegraph, and in no haped he Philo; which much he an omission In the pour of Son Bindle, as husteper all advertisements from for contracts for Clothing, have appeared in paper published in Phile and Pittshing - In nill please have this subject, and the letting of Contracts made and Friday law supervised by the Mardith, - I have some fears

that Me Sny de, one of the Inspectors, is in complicity with the Benty; and Me Cochran Should the Streefno be consulted in reference to the Subject. If you desire the throwledge and advice of Me Waight we this subject, tetepapeto him as once. I with you, if possible to extricute Sew Piado fine the Complications, in which he is involved by Bents: ~ and I decine you, to have the inspective of the Clothing furnished by Me Wetster, serund on Unesday, so that the tolunteers may at once have the tenefit of the preparation made for them. I shall repear to hear find you on Ineeding by tetyraph. My health is much niproved, and I am so much terefitted by my Soform here That I moved like to stay a long as possible, your truly ali Contá

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I presence, you of course nice nifed that I mish you to consult the geneteries in the Military Department as sell no Mu Mindith. but as the may be no misopprehensino, I beg you to lay the subject, with the Contents of this letter before the guitterver of my staff.

Cili.lo-

Atlantic City: August 5 1861 Hon Eli Slifer Secretary of State Harrisburg Dear Sir

You and the gentlemen in the Military Department, understand the history of the Bentz contract: and the difficulty about the overcoats up to the time of my departure from Harrisburg.

It has now assumed a place that requires immediate settlement.

Gen Biddle has given notice to Mr. Thos Webster that he will not receive the Overcoats made by him under his contract with the state, which notice; although leaving the name of Gen. Biddle, is in the hand writing, (signature and all,) of Mr. Bentz.

He has also given notice by a

[page break]

telegram to the Inspectors, not to inspect any more of the coats made by Mr. Webster, a copy of which was served upon him, by Mr. Snyder, one of the Inspectors.

Gen. Biddle has acted under a misapprehension, in as much as the coats were made faster, than the Inspectors were ready to inspect and receive them, of which fact, Mr. Webster, was abundant and conclusive proof. You are fully aware of my anxiety to protect Gen. Biddle in the contract imprudently made with Mr. Bentz, and but for the advice of those who surround me, and enjoy my confidence, I would have assumed the responsibility of relieving him, by placing myself in his stead, on the second.

To declare now, that Mr. Webster had forfeited his contract, in order to [let?] in Bentz in preference would be so unjust, if not perfidious, that it cannot be permitted.

[Whilst?], as you know, I have always been willing to sustain

[page break]

gentlemen in the various Departments of the Government, in the discharge of their duties, will not be made a party to a transaction of such a character. - Mr. Webster will visit Harrisburg tomorrow evening and I trust justice will be done him as once, without the necessity for my immediate return to Harrisburg. The enclosed advertisement has only appeared in the telegraph and is on paper in Phila; which must be our mission on the part of Gen Biddle, as heretofore all advertisements fewer for contracts for clothing, have appeared in paper published in Phila and Pittsburg. You will please have this subject, and the setting of contracts made on Friday last supervised by Mr. Meredith. I have some fears

[page break]

that Mr. Snyder, one of the Inspectors is in complicity with Mr. Bentz: and Mr. Cochrane should be therefore be consulted in reference to the subject.

If you desire the knowledge and advice of Mr. Wright on this subject, telegraph him at once.

I wish you if possible to extricate Gen Biddle from the complications, in which he is involved by Bentz: and I desire you, to have the inspection of the clothing furnished by Mr. Webster, [illegible] on Tuesday, so that the volunteers may at once have the benefit of the preparation made for them.

I shall expect to hear from you on Tuesday by telegraph.

My heart is much injured, and I am so much benefited by my sojourn here that I would like to stay as long as possible.

Yrs Trly A. G. Curtin

[page break]

P.S.

I presume, you of course will infer that I wish you to consult the gentlemen in the Military Department as well as Mr. Meredith, but as there may be no misapprehension, I beg you to lay the subject, with the contents of this letter before the gentlemen of my staff.

A.G.C

Dear Miler The inter wie do my well and I make no addition to A I am vering my actin treatant and due not able to num about but agting to get week I take it all withit cmpling - 1/ 1 cant git any hope minday a Tursday moula A lat lie weer for heful to low our for a day and let me

the tour our to tatte with - Vanday and a he agood day -I am againging the Auglan's la pula a heling haday and it there do good Vou an head luthe go to the Buck tils and neafter the hundred aun. the note Juchunce of your cun An Mula And Thomas hady if it can be had tite war - learny late as I and a little and you pl

Dear Slifer

The notice will do very well and I make no addition to it.

I am receiving very active treatment and am not able to move about but anything to get well.

I take it all without complaining. If I cannot get any [illegible] Monday or Tuesday would it not be well for [Russel?] to come over for a day and let me

[page break]

[illegible] ever [our?] to talk with - Sunday could be a good day.

I am organizing the Pennsylvanians here into a relief body and it will do good. Some one had better go to the Bucktails and see after the wounded. [illegible] the vote [illegible] if you can. You should send Hoards body if it can be had. Write me I cant write as I am a little [illegible].

Yrs A.C.G

Atlantic and Ohio Telegraph Lines,

DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH

PHILADELPHIA, HARRISBURG, PITTSBURG,

AND ALL INTERMEDIATE STATIONS,

CONNECTING WITH THE

NATIONAL TELEGRAPH LINES THROUGHOUT THE UNION.

Dated at leaford augh ? 1862 Torton Eli Difer last dispatch and from what you day it is enident that flould beat Harrislung it is too late now to reach and train to day or tonight, I can leave here this evening or tomorrow morning and reach Halliday lourg by noon of you ask Scatt he will give me a lo comotive + car from these - tell him it is important that should be in

Harrisburg and that I will meet the car so as to be these tomorrow afternoon I am perfectly cuelland have felt as though of Should be in Harrislang for leveral days fast. answer inmediately after you hear from Scott. mcReynolds is in office waiting= . A.G. Curtin 114/233-boll

a. G. Curtin

Bedford Aug. 9 1862 Hon Eli Slifer

I received your last dispatch and from what you say it is evident that I should be at Harrisburg it is too late now to reach any train today or tonight.

I can leave here this evening or tomorrow morning and reach Hollidaysburg by noon if you ask Scott he will give me a locomotive & car from there. Tell him it is important that I should be in

[page break]

Harrisburg and that I will meet the car so as to be there tomorrow afternoon. I am perfectly well and have felt as though I should be in Harrisburg for several days past. Answer immediately after you hear from Scott. McReynolds is in office waiting.

Atlantic and Ohio Telegraph Lines,

DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH

PHILADELPHIA, HARRISBURG, PITTSBURG, AND ALL INTERMEDIATE STATIONS,

CONNECTING WITH THE

NATIONAL TELEGRAPH LINES THROUGHOUT THE UNION.

Dated at Bedford Spring hyphy 1862 To Mon E. Slife I am well enough to Come but It is too late for Stage meet evening train - If very important pill try to make train tonight at Hollidaysburg Intend to go on monday but can go tomorrow let me know if important I should come and will in quickest possible time 52. 109 Coll a. G. Curtin

Bedford Springs August 9th 1862 Hon E. Slifer

I am well enough to come but it is too late for stage meet evening train. If very important will try to make train tonight at Hollidaysburg. Intend to go on Monday but can go tomorrow. Let me know if important I should come and I will in quickest possible time.

Hon Eli Shefer Decy Commonwealth I find every thing here in confusion and if it chould raw tonight it is hard to tell what and occur to arrangements for Commissary or quarter, martino dutas and the men an en auspid or about the town -The Grey Reserves

have gone to Bronston in same andition and the Regimento here defuse to march - Doend Aright to the army order bent Reynolds now is to explain and mill remain entil his seturn of the army requires immidutes enplose as I am here there is that the Course to pursue I must go along and ask men to Volunteer to follow me - The battle yeterday did not result in a decision Anacess from

all I can learn Famira at one & oclock + 3 will await octum of it honro - moleso me can ... get system at once titter Stop men from Coming or hold thege an Harrishing Omil geta room and they what I can do - I dell'mo bartin I mill be home tomorrow evening - Day withing about my going to armin-1. a & Cartin

Hagerstown Hon Eli Slifer Secy Commonwealth

I find everything here in confusion and if it should rain tonight it is hard to tell what will occur.

No arrangements for commissary or quarter masters duties and the men are encamped or rather on the ground about the town.

The Grey Reserves

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have gone to Boonstown in same condition and the Regiments here refuse to march.

I send Wright to the army when Genl Reynolds now is to explain and will remain until his return. If the army requires immediate support as I am here there is but one course to pursue.

I must go along and ask men to volunteer to follow me. The battle yesterday did not result in a decisive success from

[page break]

all I can learn I arrived at one 1 o'clock & will await return of Wright which will be six hours. unless we can get system at once better stop men from coming or hold them in Harrisburg.

I will get a room and try what I can do. Tell Mrs Curtin I will be home tomorrow evening. Say nothing about my going to Army.

By Telegraph.

From Hanisburg, dated November 1862,

Received at Lewisburg _____ at 7: o'clock P. M., Addressed to Hom. Eli Slifer

Come down so as to be here

early monday as possible. General Thomas is here

to take drafted men for old Regiments, and will legin Monday.

A. G. Burtin

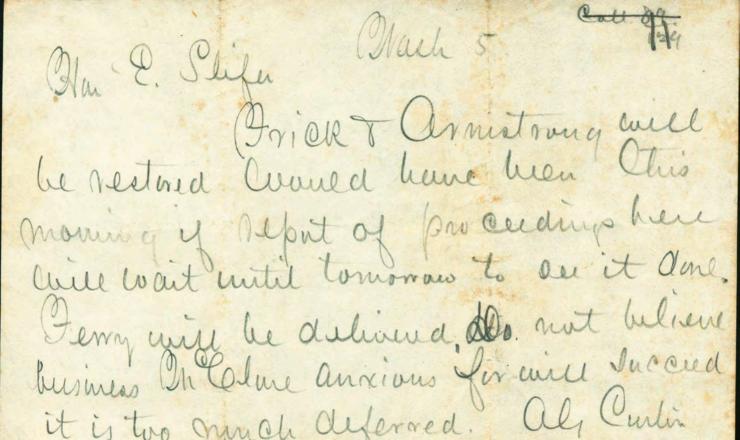
Taid.

Harrisburg November 1862 Hon Eli Slifer

Come down so as to be here early Monday as possible. General Thomas is here to take drafted men for old Regiments, and will begin Monday.

A. G. Curtin

Paid



Wash. 5 Hon E. Slifer

Frick & Armstrong will be restored would have been this morning if report of proceedings here will wait until tomorrow to see it done.

Ferry will be delivered. Do not believe business McClure anxious for will succeed it is too much deferred.