Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

http://archives.dickinson.edu/

Documents Online

Title: Letters from Alexander McClure to Eli Slifer, 1854-59

Date: 1854-1859

Location: MC 2003.4, B7, F11

Contact:

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

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

Confidential Refusitory & hhy affin Chambershy, my toth Dear bel-James M. Sellers mishes his name mentined in the "Chemicle" for Denatur, and he and I will little esteem it a Jersonal fain of you will have it done, I do not know that he mile le a candidate, but he mister to be in a fafe line for at Should circumstances seem to demand him to effec humself. Mellen contributed great To your monumation in 1857, and did much to Sustain the Monigation in the mudst of thealened

dis a fampation of the maternal He usited Senstown times from to the selection of their Conference, once onthe myself, and carnest juged the selection of conferres famalleto gowelf. He weitter effect or desires you to take a claud for him, but he will be parfect if you will have his manne mentioned in a buefactules This is all Strelf confidential of come, sobsesso Colffee All Cline

Confidential

Repository & Whig Office Chambersburg, May 6th [1854]

Dear Col-

James M Sellers wishes his name mentioned in the "Chronicle" for Senator, and he and I will both esteem it a personal favor if you will have it done. I do not know that he will be a candidate, but he wishes to be in a safe <u>line</u> for it should circumstances seem to demand him to offer himself.

Mr Sellers contributed greatly to your nomination in 1851, and did much to sustain the nomination in the midst of threatened

[Page Break]

disorganization by the mal-contents He visited Lewistown twice prior to the selection of their conferees, once with myself, and earnestly urged the selection of conferees favorable to yourself.

He neither expects or desires you to take a stand for him, but he will be gratified if you will have his name mentioned in a brief article. This is all strictly <u>confidential</u> of course.

Yours &c A K McClure

Col Slifer

Parate to ensentable of the glad Dear Citto elect a khy Senator? If any person en demata can cary the district it is belles, for he can command influences in a contest not millen the reach of any other man, He fear, the distrut, and of it is hazarday be mel decline, Please inform me particular how things are, and what the profect is, If there is a may if getting things in a safe condition, tell me how it is to be done, for Salley must not be un and defeated, He is blamed, and very just. for acting south me in your bain thee year agre and

if defeat is wentable et must fall on those who ment t more, An early reply sull Pollich will have from Sor to 1000 in Manklin just as Certain as the election comes mel that do for the "neen I for ?" Take care that me don't beat Umore and it they ment heres From the Attlebline B. - my hundert reports to dach" and lady, Tell him I am looking for a tetter soon for the paper as he promised, and , barred is it for acting with me

Private

Chambersburg, July 24 [1854]

Dear Col-

Is it possible for you to elect a Whig Senator? If any person in Juniata can carry the district it is Sellers, for he can command influences in a contest not within the reach of any other man. He fears the district, and if it is hazardous, he will decline. Please inform me particularly how things are, and what the prospect is. If there is a way of getting things in a safe condition, tell me how it is to be done, for Sellers must not be run and defeated. He is blamed, and very justly, for acting with me in your favor three years ago, and

[Page Break]

if defeat is inevitable, it must fall on those who merit it more. An early reply will be gladly received.

Pollock will have from 800 to 1000 in Franklin just as certain as the election [comes?] Will that do for the "Green Spot?" Take care that we don't beat Union.

Nothing new here.

Yours truly A K McClure

PS.- My kindest regards to "Jack" and lady. Tell him I am looking for a letter soon for the paper as he promised.

Repository & hhy Office Chambersomy Left h Dear led-Dear led- You fair is at hand I hope that whatever action the State Committee may take en reference to Darsie, will be taken Speedif, for in many countres teches, are printed from needs before the election, so of the solo some In have doubtless been appried of deller normation in Annata. I supposed that such must be the result, for there is no man in the country approaches him in personal & folitical strength, I do hope endeed that he will be elected, I go to derivated to monon, x will be there some days on private business,

Hon so indiculous a Dong as that I am apprece to the This techel in this county get ente zone section, d'earnot una gine. There is not a man on the ticket for whoe success I de not feel a personal as nell as a political interest for it is muttout exception, one of the very best trekets ever nominated in the county, the Candidates are every one men of somewal miral month, unguestimed competency and bound hop, Desides I don't appore him, hetelsits against my principle and I have verer done it in my life. Hipering to hear from you fregnents, believe me Ol Eli Stefer AMblehm

Repository & Whig Office Chambersburg, Sept 1 [1854]

Dear Col-

Your [fame?] is at hand. I hope that whatever action the State Committee may take in reference to [Darsie?], will be taken speedily, for in many counties tickets are printed four weeks before the election.

You have doubtless been apprised of Sellers' nomination in Juniata. I supposed that such must be the result, for there is no man in the county approaches him in personal & political strength. I do hope indeed that he will be elected. I go to Juniata tomorrow, & will be there some days on private business.

[Page Break]

How so ridiculous a story as that I am opposed to the Whig ticket in this county got into your section, I cannot imagine. There is not a man on the ticket for whose success I do not feel a <u>personal</u> as well as a political interest, for it is, without explanation, one of the very best tickets ever nominated in the county. The candidates are every one men of eminent moral worth, unquestioned competency, and sound Whigs. Besides <u>I don't oppose Whig tickets</u> - its against my principle and I have never done it in my life.

Hoping to hear from you frequently, believe me

Yours truly A K McClure

Col Eli Slifer

Chamberlay, ax 12 Dear Colnon is at hand, Hugga for Pollock & Sellers! Our county has full redeemed my promise to you some time ago, Polloch will have near 900, Rolisin electio to beingress high and dry, I know all about the beaufud more ment, and in fact may in it myself as deepf as I Could be, I fan when in Annata in September that the election of leadufred as a división man nas the enf may of

Reching Seller Eight, I called on leraufud myself, on the subject, and found him right. He is a reliable man, and you can defend on him, If you end has elected him, as I infec is the care, he would for to the d-I to arrays hunself in the Baum non In need not concern gonself about him, & Hum of no man, in all my acquaulance who sticks closer to his frends and is more unrelenting with his everines. And he will be no half nay man he always fores the while his a more.

you will have no reason to repet his election, either as regards gom breat issue or as regards you personally, Had I been in drinata I should have rited for hein so be stated in - But huza for Pollich! I think non that me shall have an hourst ad numbedin and one that me can stand up to outh on while hearts, Of come brage is a Muno Attery, and Saint but no defference, dans onus on the principle, I am much rejoreed at Seller freces and I am well anare how much gon have contabuted to it

In Sellen I feel fersmally probably kum that delles & Maline vere identical in ducuald, and had he been defeated, it would have been chuckled all of such chuckle- Leaded forts as Bell as the neithon of Mcbline dominion in dremata, I do not try to contil the county, but they wrist that, I am doing or and ntetter futly or not, They mould have heralded delley defeat as my defeat - Augga fu Pillreh El Slipe. Jones de Allablica

Chambersburg, Oct 12 [1854]

Dear Col-

Yours is at hand. Huzza for Pollock & Sellers! Our county has fully redeemed my promise to you some time ago. Pollock will have near 900. Robison elected to Congress high and dry.

I know all about the Crawford movement, and in fact was in it myself as deeply as I could be. I saw when in Juniata in September that the election of Crawford as a division [man?] was the only way of

[Page Break]

keeping Sellers [right?]. I called on Crawford myself on the subject, and found him [right?]. He is a reliable man, and you can depend on him. If your end has elected him, as I infer is the case, he would go to the d_l to avenge himself on the [Baurn?] men. You need not concern yourself about him. I know of no man, in all my acquaintance who sticks closer to his friends and is more unrelenting with his enemies. And he will be no halfway man—he always goes the whole way or [none?].

[Page Break]

You will have no reason to regret his election, either as regards your local issue or as regards you personally. Had I been in Juniata I should have voted for him

- —But huzza for Pollock! I think now that we shall have an honest administration and one that we can stand up to with our whole hearts. Of course Judge is a Know Nothing, and I <u>ain't</u>—but no difference, I am sound on the principle.
- —I am much rejoiced at Sellers' success and I am well aware how much you have contributed to it

[Page Break]

For your personal efforts for Sellers I feel personally grateful to you, for you probably know that Sellers & McClure were identical in Juniata; and had he been defeated, it would have been chuckled over by such chuckle-headed fools as Bell as the [overthrow] of McClure dominion in Juniata. I do not try to control the county, but they insist that I am doing so, and whether guilty or not, they would have heralded Sellers defeat as my defeat.

—Huzza for Pollock

Yours &c A K McClure

Col Slifer

Chambersburg. An 20. My Dear bi-I am afraid I have got ento a marl. I never intended to aff for any office from In Pollreh, and onf a few days agr I give a letter to bol Patterson for the same affice. In you Kindness koneier I feel emmedsmall endetted, and the more Is because d'is unsolicated aux I know sencere, I cament, home make a formal application fute affice after having recommended another; but of In Pollick thinks fit, to fue ofere the affortment I would nit refuse de flat Ceson Cannot be affinited, then I would feel free; but I frefer

Consistency to the office, My action bonever does not enter few with your voluntary recommendation, and of the does my jord, it can do me noham, At any rate I heartely thanh joh In gon Aud faitality, A dispatch before me neened a fen minutes ap, acho me to met led leuten at Hamsling ti-minon ereny; I will do or; and will muty you from there. I will then be butter posted, An Jackoual this nech will Get me bear from you pregnents. and let the letter be strict finate m, ty Alltelin

Chambersburg, Nov 20, [1854]

My Dear Sir-

I am afraid I have got into a snarl. I never intended to apply for any office from Gov Pollock, and only a few days ago I gave a letter to Col Patterson for the same office. For your kindness however I feel immeasurably indebted, and the more so because it is unsolicited and I know sincere. I cannot, however, make a formal application for the office after having recommended another; but if Gov Pollock thinks fit, to give me the appointment I would not refuse it. If Patterson cannot be appointed, then I would feel free; but I prefer

[Page Break]

consistency to the office. My action however does not interfere with your voluntary recommendation, and if it does no good, it can do me no harm. At any rate I heartily thank you for your kind partiality.

A dispatch before me received a few minutes ago, asks me to meet Col Curtin at Harrisburg to-morrow evening. I will do so, and will write you from there. I will there be better posted. An editorial this week will commend you for State Treasurer. Let me hear from you frequently, and let this letter be strictly private

Yours truly A K McClure

Chamberly Oct 14 I mill le a candidate for Speaker. Will zur aid me orth bal Regensella? Bleave have the Chemole the Day a Und ma for me, Mile me on the onlyet. Will gon le a candedate for Freasmer, S ballhfer .

Chambersburg, Oct 14 [1858 or 1859?]

Dr Sir-

I will be a candidate for Speaker. Will you aid me with Col Wagenseller? Please have the Chronicle to say a kind word for me. Write me on the subject. Will you be a candidate for Treasurer?

Thine A K McClure

Col Slifer

Parate Sold Old Numelage is efter me hard he has thrown several menter from one ai Phila Lamence (Darthin) Carey, Bug ner spo are in his interest. I have his tracks; and to-day note him very frankly, that if his Justial interests were to be flung into the contest In Speaker. I weant to under stand the case fully I will soon have kein understand that in Duch a bight be may for selly throw me, but that I well certainly bling him. I understand him, He

will fight as long as there is a fair perspect of defeating me; when tope fades, he will fain award all of us, If it only once becomes understood that he has a candedate for Spaler to advance his Presideutal asperatures, I can safely please you that that candidate cant le nominated Among them they have flathers Patterson until te ocarely knows whether he is for me or not. Can be control nagunseller? My letter to-day unter. to him will have hem up It is respectful and concellating but its determed tone to mile

July comprhend, When I have from him I will cente you I don't bear him. He way throw a few meat men ents histily; but lefue the cepin Convener te mill le letter understord, and een neak oven all see hu they are to le med & chaled Excepting to granely 13mm lærger & a fer otters. I have been non-committal in the Freamer grestin, In cucumstances can avie to dine me from my vell settled chrie, and I shall unfonly refore to que fligges to intrider. When my lands are love I shall then be free to sustain you efficients. I have a letter from hymiter

alunteering to for me, and asking me to for for you and to take care of him, Dullery whether he man is a safe man, I tota him I could not fledge rupelf for Beasner, but refered hum to you, stating that my position van ferfeats satisfacting to junelfor so so so Had a letter from Frick of Moule, Much endelled to gue, I will ante to the menters mute me at any time any they ven times up Grans har Alleloline levl Eslifer

Private

Chambersburg. Oct 28th [1858]

Dr Col-

Old Winnebago is after me hard - he has thrown several members from me in Phila. [Sainence?], (Dauphin) Carey, Bergner [one word illegible] are in his interest. I have his tracks; and to-day wrote him very frankly, that if his personal interests were to be flung into the contest for Speaker, I meant to understand the case fully. I will soon have him understand that in such a fight he may possibly throw me, but that I will certainly fling him.

I understand him; He

[Page Break]

will fight as long as there is a fair prospect of defeating me; when hope fades, he will fawn around all of us. If it only once becomes understood that <u>he</u> has a candidate for Speaker to advance his Presidential aspirations, I can safely pledge you that <u>that</u> candidate can't be nominated.

Among them they have flattered Patterson until he scarcely knows whether he is for me or not. Can he control Wagenseller?

My letter to-day written to him will wake him up. It is respectful and conciliatory but its determined tone he will

[Page Break]

fully comprehend. When I hear from him I will write you.

I don't fear him. He may throw a few weak men into hostility; but before the session convenes he will be better understood, and even weak men will see how they are to be used & cheated.

Excepting to yourself, [Bomberger?] & a few others, I have been non-committal on the Treasurer question. No circumstances can arise to drive me from my well settled choice, and I shall uniformly refuse to give pledges to outsiders. When my hands are loose I shall then be free to sustain you efficiently.

I have a letter from [Nymuller?]

[Page Break]

volunteering to go for me, and asking me to go for you and to take care of him. Doubting whether he now is a safe man, I told him I could not pledge myself for Treasurer, but offered him to you, stating that my position was perfectly satisfactory to yourself.

Had a letter from Frick of Pottsville. Much indebted to you, I will write to the members Write me at any time any thing new turns up

Yours Truly A K McClure

brbol I have no instructions to gre on the South- Sare that if Helcomb is to be pat in Chance must zeeld in due time I do not fear the Sheth. Sam in lep danger tere tan gen are. In the heat me stand with agual chances pertups you occupying the advantage I take et haver that Bunkeyer needs no instructions. Dent affected that I mil Cut love from you at all- I think zur know ore letter. I stall day as keetifue. that my fortin

Julia tal I about a take part in the contest at all-lit under Ou cucumotanee can I be or complicated as to emlaraf me at all after the Election of Spaker I must then be free to goe you all aid in my foner. I am fully feesua ded that I can be Speaker nothing conflicating myself at all, and if I make the fustion withat may I can then render tenfola une Prince to gen than forteenine & wear house & Spare an efforts where effort even to be needed mite me my de meloline

Chambersburg, Nov 19th [1858 or 1859?]

Dr Col-

I have no instructions to give for the [North?]—save that if Holcomb is to be put in, Chase must yield in due time. I do not fear the [North?]. I am in less danger [one word illegible] than you are.

In the West we stand with equal chances—perhaps you occupying the advantage. I take it however that Bomberger needs no instructions.

Don't apprehend that I will cut lose from <u>you at all</u>—I think you know me better. I shall say as heretofore, that my position

[Page Break]

forbids that I should take part in the contest at all—but under no circumstances can I be so complicated as to embarrass me at all after the Election of Speaker. I must then be free to give you all aid in my power.

I am fully persuaded that I can be Speaker without complicating myself at all, and if I make the position in that way, I can then render tenfold more service to you than if otherwise. I mean however to spare no efforts where effort seems to be needed Write me

Yours &c McClure

Deld-I tear of Samuer jame mthe the heasure Cardidales almost very day; and have had the different candidates futed as to his filing, though third Set the Phila Register of Mills attend the afening, he smit have no chances, I have beated before mith freat country - have not asked In stength in his becton in any other went than the impossibly of his Election. It is not pudalle that he will for for Samuer. He

is ambitus and will not nas onth his frends. Laweree Election is and emposiblely. If in this I am mostaten. I will om up to ignaine of felities. If any other man can leat me, then I am ur darger, Han a letter finn dellen He thinks leicheau may be mue frundalle tan le à jena ally reckived. I think or too It seems to me that he is in a fred faction for men to fall on as a Decend chice lattersm is a did fork of will verer know to He will die in bleseful ignam of the fact. Sucky fellon! Still of he does

any they like the face they. I mit allow his frend, in the went of my Duccep, to pay where te shell p. I calculate upm the receptly of futting him quite legna his ments. I stall epare ar pairis for my defeat nou modale a serior neither od only to supelf: but I bear that it moula inentally deag you down onth me, a result I would enfently mue upet than an aster to suppelf. Brown Stattleblure

Chambersburg, Dec 4th [1858]

Dr Col-

I hear of [one word illegible] game with the Treasurer candidates almost every day; and have had the different candidates posted as to his policy, through third parties.

[Set?] the Phila Register of Wills attend the opening. We must lose no chances.

I have treated Chase with great courtesy—have not asked for strength in his section in any other event than the impossibility of his Election. It is not probable that he will go for [one word illegible]. He

[Page Break]

is ambitious and will not war with his friends.

[One word illegible] Election is an impossibility. If in this I am mistaken, I will own up to ignorance of politics. If any other man can beat me, then I am in danger.

Have a letter from Sellers. He thinks Cochran may be more formidable than he is generally reckoned. I think so too. It seems to me that he is in a good position for men to fall on as a second choice.

Patterson is a d____d fool, & will never know it. He will die in blissful ignorance of the fact. Lucky fellow! Still if he does

[Page Break]

any thing like the [fair?] [thing?], I will allow his friends, in the event of my success, to say where he shall go. I calculate upon the necessity of putting him quite beyond his merits.

I shall spare no pains for my defeat now would be a serious [overthrow?] not only to myself; but I fear that it would inevitably drag you down with me, a result I would infinitely more regret than disaster to myself.

Yours truly A K McClure Pmate boled- Jun James at Land. I had a letter from Word teday, He dies not name comantes. I have not endreated or primied a seizle fronten on the committees: but it has always lun my fempur en the went of my Election to post Me Rock on May Means, In the reason that I think him well fitted for the Justin I have bracer, sol so externated to any ofhis pends to briff in confidence; and

you have me well enough to assure him that what I mean to de stall le done, Being omelf entrely per from pleases a complica timi as to the Committees I can fulfil any any ex-Justationo zur may incomage for our mutual levefit sollo any one-religing as I do fully that your pruderer o good frog ment mould place me under no defation that and and le profee to dischage, I had a letter from IA Campbell mb He is dieda of is active He intertains on dentt

of the Schriffell deligation. He Clords are cleaning any, and nthe the effect I near shall le made, I stall je through I wear, house, to use very mean, and rant all the sherethe I can command oil Dide to fraid sprinst accidents Thustons . Meloline bed Slife hord mutes commutaling henself fully manny,

Private

Chambersburg, Dec 25th [1858]

Dr Col-

Your [one word illegible] is at hand. I had a letter from Wood today. He does not name committees.

I have not indicated or promised a single position on the committees; but it has always been my [purpose?], in the event of my Election to put Mr [Wood?] on the Ways & Means, for the reason that I think him well fitted for the position. I have, however, not so intimated to any of his friends or to himself. You can say so to [Graeff?] in confidence; and

[Page Break]

you know me well enough to assure him that what I mean to do shall be done.

Being myself entirely free from pledges or complications as to the committees, I can fulfil any any expectations you may encourage for our mutual benefit with any one—relying as I do fully that your prudence & good judgment would place me under no obligation that would not be proper to discharge.

I had a letter from [J?] H Campbell, [one word illegible]. He is [decided?] & is active He entertains no doubt

[Page Break]

of the Schuylkill delegation. The clouds are clearing away, and with the effort I mean shall be made, I shall go through I mean, however, to use every means, and want all the strength I can command outside to guard against accidents

Yours truly Mc Clure

Col Slifer

Wood writes committing himself <u>fully & warmly</u>.

Hamstong. Dan 1st The have had a consultar tun about Palavis, and it has been greed to make the salam of the State offices as you trygest, and also to enciare the hay of the Phila & Superoe Juges. Me Chave, Chaun Map Means mil After the amendments to the apprepratur bile Juni hay Mil

Harrisburg, Mar 1st [1859?]

Dr Col-

We have had a consultation about salaries, and it has been agreed to make the salaries of the State officers as you suggest, and also to increase the pay of the Phila & Supreme Judges. Mr Chase, [Chairn?] Ways & Means will offer the amendments to the appropriation bill.

Yours Truly MC

in the days and for a new Chambersburg. aful 14th L'Cel The statements in Tham Cetter are mainly suttent a stadon of foundation. I made no anangement onthe heri, save to hayhim what he admits I ded hay him promptly; and on settlement of the matter outh Bombage, I cantroned her not to allow any their more for him, come from what grader et omfal. He wied very artifice to get me to in-Creare the amount: and finally teld me tal you had a freed to \$500. My onf ansver na, that whatever you a good to, you would

fulfil. I ded not for a menent pappae honer, that you had dove any such thing, I never fare how any authory to procome notes at any rate. He soi dents thinks I am a scoundel lete hemself and that there pracered money from you for him I mont pay it over, Best plan is to let hen go I went to muto to him of come on any such surged, on due time he can le disabares efte crupe pun that I have puraled hum by keeping muney hand for him, and my toll and that I send ju the letter gon speak of whather to King

He are quet in filitie, The Senatural romunation is outhin my reach authort difficulti lut my busnip interest hers strong bu a declenation, Mat sag gun almet et? Innsting bol Eli: Alefer bol Eli Refer

Chambersburg. April 14th [1859]

Dr Col

The statements in Shans letter are mainly without a shadow of foundation. I made no arrangement with him, save to pay him what he admits I did pay him promptly; and on settlement of the matter with Bomberger, I cautioned him not to allow any thing more for him, come from what quarter it might. He used every artifice to get me to increase the amount; and finally told me that you had agreed to \$500. My only answer was, that whatever you agreed to, you would

[Page Break]

fulfil. I did not for a moment suppose however, that you had done any such thing. I never gave him any authority to procure notes at any rate. He evidently thinks I am a scoundrel like himself, and that I have procured money from you for him & wont pay it over. Best plan is to let him go-I [one word illegible] to [write?] to him of course on any such subject. In due time he can be disabused of the impression that I have swindled him by keeping money paid for him.

I send you the letter you speak of relative to King

[Page Break]

We are quiet in politics. The Senatorial nomination is within my reach without difficulty; but my business interests press strongly for a declination. What say you about it?

Yours truly A K McClure

Col Eli Slifer

Chamberly navou Col Eli Afa. Mi House the leave is after Fents for an Eveanfruit I must fre lond for the tetum I all breefmalle ti jan In the safe return of the Deut Sku mel le no affectly alud of face is a mist careful of facult man in such mallers Turnsting Alleblus

Chambersburg, May 11th [1859?]

Col Eli Slifer-

Mr Houser, the bearer, is after Tents for an Encampment & must give [bond?] for their return Please go upon his [Bond?] & I will be responsible to you for the safe return of the Tents. There will be no difficulty about it for he is a most careful and [prompt?] man in such matters

Yours truly A K McClure

Amate Chambushy July 20 Lool- He Sout-Sufeer- in a desferate effort to defeat my nomination for Senator. Las the avening pulleshes a tissue of the must infamous libelsof wheh the alue is one, Please send me sørne Onch an ansver as the enclosed, se far from harning me It has my had the affecte effect. July there ME

Private

Chambersburg July 20 [1859]

D Col-

The Spirit - Locofoco - in a desperate effort to defeat my nomination for Senator, has this morning published a [tissue?] of the most infamous libels - of which the above is one. Please send me some such an answer as the enclosed.

So far from harming me, it has only had the opposite effect.

Truly thine M C

Chambusbuy, and 19a I mel be nomerated on Tuesday acut by the Conference by acclamation; but there is a temble strugge before me & looks now as of Sill mel be my comfatition, If so me mele have a fully time and a doubtful contest, Jother but Lecculeau efforts will Dave the district. It is naturally aprint me, and mith shell there mel le a must desperate effet made to elect him, He is very timid about entering the race; but I think that if the party mele que hum a cordal momeration

he mill stand the fight. Myers of Adams, is titl in carnest. this county is cutilled to do; but it is not empedable that he mile be shuffled of by Ime anaugeneut On the 5th I will ofen the Campaign & it mel continue mothety until the Election Carey mel be mith me the first week or mist of to Mellectuel mill pfend Several dags mith me in Adams, Say to Kuntel that he must make his anangements to be with ne on the 3° 4th 3th +6th of October. Hat is the time he can seve me best, and he mile be thour into

ou heavest districts, where he will Lan emmerie meetings. Dell him that the time I have named must le mire, I vill le ui Adam from the 26th until the 300 of Ochter. If le can le inthe me at any time there, I shall be glad: but te Franklen te muit como I have send a check on Bunleger as you sugest. When I je donn I mel Orate Sates. factory anaequents alout it, ble mel have a most earnest campagin, and mel desere a bullant freces, the to realize et. Jonn le Allbeline bed El Hife

Chambersburg, Aug 19th [1859]

D Sir -

I will be nominated on Tuesday next by the Conference by acclamation; but there is a terrible struggle before me. It looks now as if Nill will be my competition. If so we will have a jolly time and a <u>doubtful</u> contest. Nothing but herculean efforts will save the district. It is naturally against me, and with Nill there will be a most desperate effort made to elect him. He is very timid about entering the race; but I think that if the party will give him a cordial nomination,

[Page Break]

he will stand the fight. Myers of Adams is still in earnest, & his county is entitled to it; but it is not improbable that he will be shuffled off by some arrangement.

On the 5th I will open the campaign & it will continue mightily until the election. Carey will be with me the first week, or most of it. McMichael will spend several days with me in Adams.

Say to Kunkel that he must make his arrangements to be with me on the 3d 4th 5th & 6th of October. That is the time he can serve me best, and he will be thrown into

[Page Break]

our [heaviest?] districts, where he will have [immense?] meetings. Tell him that the time I have named must be mine.

I will be in Adams from the 26th of Sept until the 3rd of October. If he can be with me at any time there, I shall be glad; but to Franklin he <u>must come</u>.

I have send a check on Bombeger as you suggest. When I do down I will make satisfactory arrangements about it.

We will have a most earnest campaign, and will <u>deserve</u> a brilliant success, & hope to realize it.

Yours &c A K McClure

Col Eli Slifer

I Will try sspeed a night with you will a few days Chambersbug. Och 134 Dearbal I men care for but are Thing-that is you re- Election, der that command me in any way to any extent. I have unter bothe on members, and asked it of them to go with me for you. Hey both one then Election to me, and knen et. I fear nothing in that granter, I will unte Dec laron also He orght to pay some respect to my water in the matter. Ir was my \$300 grdi Course extended in that county Dane o hum frished Allelling

Chambersburg. Oct 13th [1859]

Dear Col-

I now care for but one thing - that is your re-election. In that command me in any way & to any extent.

I have written both our members, and asked it of them to go with me for you. They both owe their election to me, and know it. I fear nothing in that quarter. I will write [Dularos?] also. He ought to pay some respect to my [wishes?] in the matter. It was my \$300 judiciously expended in that county [saved?] him.

Yours truly A K McClure

I will try & spend a night with you in a few days

Chambersburg. Sw14 I have untter Gen Shaffer mthe freedom one the sulpit of his combinations, I am satisfied that he is head to ears over in anany ments touching State heasurer, Committees, Clarkship and our reaching the Opender at the clase of the sepon, He will petty certainly defeat hemself, enely he charge his fortie speedily, I will advise Jun when I tear from him I have had two letters from Ramsdell. I have answerd hom as jun organted There have been time hang

freaks of folitical difloracy played off at Philadelpha recently of which I have been advised privately. Camaon is blamed for mampila try the whole affair to emboce, More for Leasure. Lauren & Stoffer In Speaker, Evett & Rouch for Clarks and will but for Speaker at the Close of the session. I am satisfied that such an avangement has been allerapted, but an not firstno as to Cameron actur Complety. It matters not hnever Mone is not a danjeury man, All that is necessary is to have allow frends garded equinat the fossible danger of defeat, and he can camp two thus of the cancer

Next nech, bangs down any time you dispatch for me if I can be of seiner len tus necks cunt has just closed, and after beging up a little well have a be athing Junitury bed El Stefer

Chambersburg, Nov 14 [1859?]

Dear Sir-

I have written Gen Shaffer with freedom on the subject of his combinations. I am satisfied that he is head & ears over in arrangements touching State Treasurer, Committees, Clerkship and even reaching the Speaker at the close of the session. He will pretty certainly defeat himself, unless he changes his position speedily. I will advise you when I hear from him

I have had two letters from Ramsdell, & have answered him as you suggested.

There have been some heavy

[Page Break]

freaks of political diplomacy played off at Philadelphia recently, of which I have been advised privately. Cameron is <u>blamed</u> for manipulating the whole affair. It embraces Moore for Treasurer, [Lawrence?] & Shaffer for Speakers, Evett & Rauch for Clerks and Geo R [Smith?] for Speaker at the close of the session. I am satisfied that such an arrangement has been attempted, but am not positive as to Camerons active complicity. It matters not however — Moore is not a dangerous man. All that is necessary is to have all our friends guarded against the possible danger of defeat, and we can carry two-thirds of the caucus.

[Page Break]

I will be down shortly; probably next week. [One word illegible] down any time you dispatch for me if I can be of service. Our two weeks court has just closed; and after fixing up a little will have a breathing spell.

Yours truly A K McClure

Col Eli Slifer