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Title: Letters from Oliver Worden to Eli Slifer

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fier the second and remarked that it was almost a first to sand to fine an origen to Maturishing after all - fack was the My Dean Colone: Hickok entertained a few of us not long pince by classing your very interesting and very racy the. I of the thades of Rublic slife." of you account warned that are beforeliund my menogenes somewhat at failet, buter on off from Says, Experiencempis work can school at atem the all her you next effort may bring out the dight of Pathic Life, " and realize in face the salet anticipations of your welleteld dream. I as asked a separate letter from "severals" aring whom? was the side for any how any remembrance of this nature chens one when farmany fran enrall they love best, I take my fun this onzyling evening, lefter & hard Ing work as usual by the side of any wife and a cizy frients "boto you a line." But what shall I write about? The Cliemicle gives you all the sum of a public nature. The etterto orits and Chuis: times have comiss meeting - of which you pertraps know more them I as I have not time to attend all of our tun is A good so feeling still sait in the Baptit congregation - 26 have been buch = in tigid - more an expected next fablath - and whatility " of them to inthe charateristics of the young converts walk - My den Vi, I hope your religions characters inte outs be injund by your new associations: but you know that especial watch our you heart is medet in their hyporned will not lake offence if I allude to it this plainly. One of your friends called in the

office this evening, and remarked that it was almost a frite to send so five as man to the Harrishug after all - Jack was the noster fitting character for such a place. I mention this to show hav the station is viewed by many, and to express the hope that a change is occurringt in the habit of an Ligis laters for the betta en Deer ym que set to work bedesignally, but han not as yet given your tongue an airing. When you so "take the floor," he Sine you are moster of your satiged, and make an effort. Van fring and the toblic expect much from you for of come if you succeed at first will not new symmethy out, little ram farhier: and if you have occasion to ingo a bill of local interest only the must plain and practical common sense explanation you will find the best. Tan Kelly speech might more in apropos of pulitical har angues to come farthion ble, and to some be give the Likrys then "how homes gods." If you can speak without furthing your hund upon your cheet, it when in prove your antition position while speaking. "In till out have either the spen sig or sufficience; and when you get the hard of the ilensant place to her ones "how " Is showed think it wither a seef talk. - Neut very an mining in frity for 'one of the people: " excuse me for speaning to a mist grace and potent sension " who is a hundred and thinky = this part of the whom of the Commentation of Parm

The new Editor takes thing as easily as and be expected from his excitable disposition : small matters exceltand depress his spirity, equally, and often. He has sent off some fifty papers which have not been returned - which, with ton or a Dozen new ones near home, make quite an addition to an pubmage, especially as achopeits a puelide of that "better time a: coming." I think the May'a gets up a fraher annhunt than This publicanir, and if he has pluck will be a quat advantige to it. The C. J. and J. Do not take yet, nor the K. tribe, but "the pupple" are with us. "The Guardian" does well-5 or 600 sab: seribes : and chose takes of giving one a book to print on Botamy. So you see there is no danger of my being out of work. If that finites' monorial comes up in the House, I hope you may feel include to favor it. There are many reasons why laws should be what known to the people cooner than they are ; and not the least is that printers are a meritorions set, and as cauntry printers are contribually encreached upon by the mannoth capital employed for City papers, a little patimage will be of cecential Luine in saving the right, the independence, and the usefulness of the country press. And here accuss a joke played off upon Bite Frick. One of your franked anelopes to him, he left in the P.O., when a comple of ellajors picked it up, took an ace of spade, and a counterfait \$2 bunk bill, and enveloped it in the mapper. sealed it, and left it for Bill again! The story is that when he spend it he stands long and lond - and finally observed that if you could not make none than that playing Quils, you betta give it up. - By - the by I hope you have sabraited for father Ritchis's "Imin" as this. I thrank you is whorem ele seus "The Chunicle" the Vathaling Hastches accusionally int amed prefa a Frundation accompanying it. After ten - aifey hurrying - nothing men to unite - good night - and for then you and return you even to your family. Write to mesifymour. O. M. Morden

Lewisburg Jan. 17, 1850

#### My Dear Colonel:

Major Hickok entertained a few of us not long since by reading your very interesting and very racy ch. 1 of the "<u>Shades</u> of Public Life." If you were not warned of it all beforehand, my memory is somewhat at fault, but an old proverb says, Experience is a dear school, <u>et cetera</u>! We all hope your next effort may bring out the "<u>Light</u> of Public Life," and realize in full the sweet anticipations of your well-told dreams. You asked a separate letter from "several" among whom I was one - and knowing how any remembrance of this nature cheers one when far away from all they love best, I take my pen this drizzling evening, (after a hard days work as usual) by the side of my wife and a cozy fire, to "drop you a line."

But what shall I write about? The Chronicle gives you all the news of a public nature. The Methodists and Christians have evening meetings - of which you perhaps know more than I as I have not time to attend all of our own. A good feeling still exists in the Baptist congregation - 26 have been baptized - more are expected next Sabbath - and stability appears to be characteristic of the young converts' walk. My dear Sir, I hope your religious character will not be injured by your new associations: but you know well that especial watch over your heart is needed in Harrisburg and will not take offence if I allude to it thus plainly. One of your friends called in the

#### [page break]

office this evening, and remarked that it was almost a pity to send so fine a man to Harrisburg, after all - Jack was the most fitting character for such a place. I mention this to show how the station is viewed by many, and to express the hope that a change is occurring in the habit of our Legislators for the better.

I see you are set to work occasionally, but have not as yet given your tongue an airing. When you do "take the flour," be sure you are master of your subject, and make an effort. Your friends and the public expect much from you. You of course if you succeed at first will not wear yourself out, little [illegible] fashion: and if you have occasion to urge a bill of local interest only the most plain and practical common sense explanation you will find the best. Your Kelly speech might come in apropos if political harangues became fashionable; and be sure to give the Lakeys their "two-horned gods." If you can speak without putting your hand upon your chest, it would improve your position while speaking. You will not have either the open air or suffocated corners to speak in, but a pleasant room and a select audience; and when you get "the hang of the house" I should think it rather a pleasant place to hear one's self talk. But really I am running on freely for "one of the people:" excuse me for presuming to intimate advice to a "most grave and potent senior" who is a hundred and thirty-third part of the wisdom of the Commonwealth of Penna!

#### [page break]

The new Editor takes things on easily or could be expected from his excitable disposition: small matters exult and depress his spirits, equally, and often. He has sent off some fifty papers which have not been returned - which, with ten or a dozen new ones near home, make quite an

addition to our patronage, especially as a prelude of that "better time a coming." I think the Major gets up a {two words illegible] than his predecessor, and if he has pluck will be a great advantage to it. The C. G. and S. do not take yet, nor the K Tribe, but "the people" are with us. "The Guardian" does well - 5 or 600 subscribers: and Noel talks of giving one a book to print on Botany. So you see there is no danger of my being out of work.

If that printers' memorial comes up in the House, I hope you may feel included to farm it. There are many reasons why laws should be made known to the people sooner than they are: and not the least is that printers are a meritorious set, and as country printers are continually encroached upon by the mammoth capital employed for City papers, a little patronage will be of essential – in saving the dignity, the independence and the usefulness of the county press.

And here occurs a joke played off upon Bill Frick. One of your pranked envelopes to him, he left in the P.O., when a couple of Majors picked it up, took an ace of spades and a counterfeit \$2 bank bill, and enveloped it in the wrapper, sealed it, and left it for Bill again! The story is that when he opened it he stared long and <u>loud</u> - and finally observed that if you could not make more than that playing cards, you'd better give it up. By-the-by, I hope you have subscribed for father Richie's "Union" on this. I think you or whoever else send "The Chronicle" the <u>[Vathulina Hactcha?]</u> occasionally, but would prefer a translation accompanying it.

After ten - wifey hurrying - nothing more to write - good night- and God bless you and return you soon to your family. Write to me if you can.

O. N. Worden

Lewisburg, Jeb. 3. 7892.

Dear Colmed: Jour of Ano time since, was very thankfully received, and in the saperior depth of the melancholy prospects presented, dissipated my ever since. I sincerely hope you are now better, and alwithat you feel better I have quessed fin you letter that you friend tigle" is the man for whom you made you maiden freech, and that to his certation of labors on cleak of Chapping & minited I am indebted for that communication. The greater part of it is in type. Express to him on thanks for his trouble; and assure him that the only reason we have expringed certain portions, is that a correspondent of the Philad, paper used language so very pinilar, that we feared of ove in cated it, the Philada, paper afresaid might be Anorators to the change of committing plaisary from the columns of the Chumicle! In Kindness Othe Lin, then, we yielded them the exclusive claim to the more saline parts of the acticle. We have the explanation will be satisfactory, and that the Sun and its humble satelite at Derestown may work along inthint violating evers in appearance, any of the laws of mine and thinks, Som a seem to interpre mut a lack of unbition, as an ærene for nova liftig refe you voice in clarate, Now. my deen Si, you are just where you should be, to speak to perpose a great questions. I you avoid all appearance of affection or whining (or I doubt not you would) and speak the henest faling of a full heart on a question of immutable Right, and in down ciation of fort and hatiful throng, you will do just what great Orators have always done for truth - de ford - and that is a nobles incention that Aubition, in every heart of suble and houst qualities. Speak as a dying man to dying men, and even numsing politicians who workip delf as a God, will have you in heart if not by life. I bolowed, there should be a Rurad offer forthe Mender, w a Committee of matystim in that Mille case. Thistofd. I will with your Muit some he much hang Och. Horden

[Lewisburg] Feb. 3, 1852

Dear Colonel:

Your of-some time since, was very thankfully received, and in the superior depth of the melancholy prospects presented, dissipated my blues entirely, and has made me a somewhat more happy man, ever since. I sincerely hope you <u>are</u> now better, and also that you <u>feel</u> better.

I have guessed from your letter that your friend "[Ingle?]" is the man for whom you made your maiden speech, and that to his cessation of labor as clerk of [canvassing? committee, I am indebted for <u>that</u> communication. The greater part of it is in type. Express to him our thanks for his trouble; and assure him that the only reason we have expunged certain portions, is that a correspondent of a Philad. paper used language so very similar, that we feared if we inserted it, the Philad. paper aforesaid might be – to the charge of <u>committing plagiary from the columns of</u> <u>the Chronicle</u>! In kindness to the [Sen?], then, we yielded them the exclusive claim to the more saline parts of the article. We hope the explanation will be satisfactory, and that the Sun and its humble satellite at Derntown may work along without violating, even in appearance, any of the laws of mine and thine.

You seem to interpose a lack of ambition, as an excuse for lifting up your voice in Senate. Now, my dear Sir, you are just where you should be, to speak to purpose on great questions. If you avoid all appearance of affection or whining (as I doubt not you would) and speak the honest feelings of a full heart on a question of immutable Rights, and in denunciation of foul and hateful wrong, you will do just what great orators have always done for truth – <u>do</u> <u>good</u> – and that is a nobler incentive than ambition, in every heart of noble and honest qualities. Speak as a dying man to dying men, and even [one word illegible] politicians who worship Self as a God, will have you in head if not by lip.

Colonel, there should be a Reward offered for the murderer, or a committee of Investigation in that <u>Miller case</u>. Thinkof it, I will write again. Write soon. In much hurry,

O.N. Worden

Semily, March 13, 1834

Dear du'i Enclosed I send you apy of matters besigned to assist Casey in securing his seal, got up by adrice of Sugar. Wagensider & Taggart. I have seat a copy to Wagenseller, and if he approves he will telegraph you. authisging you & endorse it for him as Preident. He saw Simonton on Saturday night. He says you should have said you could pass the Division own Simonton's head," and from the men who told it as coming Strought from you, he seemed to believe it. The same thing he head as coming from other advocates of Division. If course it made him salty. I hope you are see him, state the matter frankly, dery it fully as you no doubt can, and demand the author, and follow it why tice you make him assured that it is, do I believe it & be, a sanderin wholesale lie, got up & make him obstimately fostile & Division. Function said he willed to do what was right, but he thought last falls dection was about as fair on one side as the other, and he and you cright to be satisfied with it. The toto him to take the petitions from Raffaloe, Mit Deer, and Kelly, and compare them with the vote last fall, and see if there were not enorth men to his own knowledge to ovacance the 181 mujerity. As seemed to think that might be so. I am confident he shered be dealt with easily, as the less his opposition, the better. Conclose a appy of last years high county till, with two a the amendments for your consideration. That relative to The bonds I consider essential & a fair understanding of the intert of the Section I enclose also a cipy of last Residential rote, sharing that bith countries would be Whig. They tell some of on Whig that it could make a loco county. I am convinced that a Smaller majority is more reliable than a larger one. The Division would remove the red

Col, 8. Shifer.

context between the North and South, who are divided in language,

habits, busines and social interconse and character. Beside, double the number of Office, to fill, would make double inducements to Reep minted. And if the upper end of Northed were added to (Havin, it would give us still 2 to 300 majority.

Judge Beale say 6 or & of standing committee attended meeting which ratefied Moob - no Convention nor Conferes appointed him. It is conductors Hoods will go for any body rather than Pollock,

I hope folion Studerout of Phymin will be tatensup for Canal Councissioner. M.N. Jaygues say, wherea took up David, did it to black Poelock. I suspect that Telegraphe & Jonneal clique is hotele to Bollock. I David Taggart help Carey through, it ming be are can help him next fall, should be be a cambidate få Senator. "To no nure at present."

Cel. Main

Telegraph of you get Buyli bill thingh by Thunday. Also telegraph of Gov. be unceriates Wednesday as I wish togething paper but Third ay -one bag some than recal,

set at the sources are sources the Arean and

and will a deep county . I are a reason that a familie i reginely

Lewisburg March 13, 1854

Col. E. Slifer

Dear Sir-

Enclosed I send your copy of matters designed to assist Casey in securing his seat, got up by advice of Snyder, Wagonseller & Taggart. I have sent a copy to Wagonseller, and if he approves he will telegraph you authorizing you to sign it for him as President.

We saw Simonton on Saturday night. He says "<u>you should have said you could</u> <u>pass the Division over Simonton's head</u>," and from the men who told it as coming straight from you, he seemed to believe it. The same thing he heard as coming from other advocates of Division. Of course it made him <u>salty</u>. I hope you will see him, state the matter frankly, deny it fully as you no doubt can, and demand the author, and follow it up till you make him assured that it is, as I believe it to be, a [illegible] wholesale lie, got up to make him obstinately hostile to Division. Simonton said he wished to do what was right, but he thought last fall's election was about as fair on one side as the other, and he said you ought to be satisfied with it. We told him to take the petitions from Buffaloe, White Deer, and Kelly, and compare them with the vote last fall, and see if there were not enough men to his own knowledge to overcome the 181 majority. He seemed to think that might be so. I am confident he should be dealt with easily, or the less his opposition, the better.

I enclose a copy of last year's Snyder county bill, with two or three amendments for your consideration. That relative to the bonds I consider essential to a fair understanding of the intent of the section.

I enclose also a copy of last Residential vote, showing that both counties would be Whig. They tell some of our Whigs that it would make a [one word illegible] county. I am convinced that a <u>smaller</u> majority is more reliable than a <u>larger</u> one. The Division would remove the old contest between the North and South, who are divided in language,

[page break]

habits, business and social intercourse and character. Besides, double the number of offices to fill, would make double inducement to keep united. And if the upper end of Northd were added to Union, it would give us still 2 to 300 majority.

Judge Beull says 6 or 8 of standing committee attended meeting which ratified Woods - no Convention nor Conferences appointed him. It is understood Woods will go for any body rather than Pollock.

I hope John Struderant of [one word illegible] will be taken up for Canal Commissioner. M.H. Taggart says whoever took up David, did it to block Pollock. I suspect that Telegraph & [one word illegible] clique is hostile to Pollock.

If David Taggart keeps Casey through, it may be we can keep him next fall, should he be a candidate for Senator.

"So no more at present."

O.N. Worden

Telegraph if you get [Borough?] bill through by Thursday.

And telegraph if Gov. [De?] nominated Wednesday, as I wish to get my paper out Thursday - one day sooner than usual.

Leursbuy. 15 March 1836

Or Sin : Your of 14 the is read. I observe that the Luieton Gnzette has a call for a meeting to approvit Ser. & Rep. Del., and of ministe has a call to elect one Del, they with Strail will make one to many already, and perhaps aite min had better strand buck. Personally, I have no end to gain; but as Israel and all the other Editus are quad= uning for Fillmore, I thick an attempt shadd be made to constract. I know not your princing, but if you can stand Fillnere, Aikero and Ross and be all the men's have faith ai a the fund prestrin of human Siberty. And help on country of the thinsands where have tother aight for your can be led with eyes fin into the Slavey trap of Fillmone X Denelson . If Juniata can concern in giving thein a Representatio and day on a Sanatinal Deligate, or vice versa, let an know. You see I have called a neestig, and some one will publits be appointed, to be governed as after circumstances any tretate. Hum for Munkel UM Moder

Lewisburg 15 March 1856

Dear Sir:

Your of 14<sup>th</sup> is recd. I observe that the Lewistown Gazette has a call for a meeting to appoint Sen. & Rep. Del., and as Juniata has a call to elect one Del., they with Israel will make one too many already, and perhaps little Union had better stand back. Personally, I have no end to gain; but as Israel and all the other Editors are mad-wrong for Fillmore, I think our attempt should be made to counteract. I know not your opinion, but if you can stand Fillmore, Aiken and Ross will be all the men I have faith in on the great question of human liberty. God help our country if the thousands who have talked right for years can be led with eyes open into the slavery trap of Fillmore & Donelson! If Juniata can concur in giving Union a Representative and Snyder a Senatorial Delegate, or vice versa, let me know. You see I have called a meeting, and some one will probably be appointed, to be governed as after circumstances may dictate.

[Hurry for Kunkel?] Yours, O.N. Worden

Louisburg, July 12, 1889

Dear Vis Leinshy has been beaten by Chicago! Humilisting as the fact muy be, it is nevertheles The. In slow in one motions, Mr. Buth accepts the Definite salary of \$2.000 fit your and \$3.000 afternus, and becomes head of the Law Department of the Uning of Chicago. In his Letter amounting the fact of his Decision , he express much regard at the chickenitered as may feel- as indicated by the Cicalen, which did not worch him with his mind had become fixed - and recensus in accotten new as in her demin a could or bedra qualifier for the part than hinself It is Charles & Minor, & Monestule - a gen themen where I have long themen or an humable and test : ented lowyer - much such a mian an Mr. Both. I happen. I do not think Mr. B. uneld so strugby inge him. withat Sent gronned for adatever the night say. Sappose you write to your crony, E.M. Hamlin tote him of the plan for a Leur Seline have state that Mr. Min had been Ryseited as suitable for Instructor - and dicit his fuirate opicium of his apacit, and adaptioner for the station. Have an iten & Perminen, Semp, and miller and Willer will wite to Barrett. Samoe O.M. Morden

[Lewisburg] July 12, 1859

Dear Sir:

Lewisburg has been beaten - by Chicago! Humiliating as the fact may be, it is nevertheless true. Too slow in our motions, Mr. Booth accepts the definite salary of \$2,000 first year, and \$3,000 afterwards, and becomes head of the Law Department of the University of Chicago.

In his letters announcing the fuel of his decision, he expresses much regard to the disappointment we may feel - as indicated by the circular which did not reach him until his mind had become fixed - and recommended us another man as in his opinion as well or better qualified for the part than himself. It is Charles S. Minor, Esq., of Honesdale - a gentleman whom I have long known as an honorable and talented lawyer - [much?] such a man as Mr. Booth, I suppose. I do not think Mr. B. would so strongly urge him without good grounds for whatever he might say.

Suppose you write to your crony, E.W. Hamlin - tell him of the plan for a Law School here - state that Mr. Minor had been suggested as suitable for an Instructor - and elicit his private opinion of his capacity, and adapted for the station. I have written to Peamiman, Jessup, and Wilmot, and Miller will write to Barrett.

Yours &c

O.N. Worden