

Linn City, Oct. 19th, 1853

Dear Bush,

From the enclosed you will see that the 'Oregonian' had no official authority to publish for the P. O. Dep't the advertisement for letting contracts in Oregon, as announced by that print in its issue of 9th July last. I did not at the time believe that a Democratic Administration at W. intended to place its official patronage (even in the way of public printing) at the disposal of a filthy federal press, and to determine it I wrote a letter to Maj. Hobbin engineering, and the accompanying letter is the reply. The facts stated in it are at your disposal. This answer as you will see is official. I have further information on the subject explanatory of Mr. Dunda's letter; and, it is that during the life time of the Thurston and while the 'Spectator' was the only paper in the Territory the attention of the Department was called to it and a request made that all public printing required for the Territory should be given to it. No notice had been given by anybody (Whig or Democrat) that its publication had been discontinued and no information furnished that other papers either Whig or Democratic had been started or were published in the Territory besides. The notice most likely (this I don't positively know) was forwarded to the "Spectator" and fell into the Oregonian's hand through that channel. In other words, it was a fraud upon the people to hold out that it was published there "by authority". I would if in your place give the 'Server', as a consequence of such a silly trick, a decided thrust in an early number of the 'Statesman'. Public justice demand it, and, you are in capital condition to whip it out!

The intelligence, by current steamer, of Judge Deady's removal is, as you will see, ordered positive. The causes are not difficult of understanding - imposition upon the cabinet (Cushing in particular) through Holbrook (and perhaps others) by forwarding the 'Wasco' letter as a genuine production, thereby showing, as now supposed, that the person appointed was evidently never intended and, thus throwing open, to the discretion of the President, to make a new appointment. True, this theory presupposes a good deal of credulity in high places, but, after what transpired last spring in my own case I am no longer unprepared for any thing from Washington, however absurd or incredulous! The remedy readily suggests itself; and, I hope we shall not be backward in promptly applying it. And, allow me to say that although I am satisfied if the same remedy had been applied by the democracy in June last when the evil first manifested itself we should not at this time have to lament its repetition, still I am as fully unprepared with a sense of duty and individual effort to correct the wrong now that another victim feels the secret hand that commits the fraud and machinations of federalism in Oregon as when in my own and character person. I was made the object of similar vengeance. Justice to Judge D. must be had, and all I now say is let us not shrink from anything (not absolutely dishonorable) for its accomplishment.

Let me hear from you,  
Your Friend,  
Pratt

Linn City Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> 1853.

Dear Rush,

From the enclosed you will see that the Oregonian had no official authority to publish for the P.O. Dept the advertisement for letting contracts in Oregon, as announced by that print in its issue of July last - I did not at the time believe that a Democratic Administration at Wt. intended to place its official patronage (even in the way of printing) at the disposal of a filthy federal press, & to determine it I wrote a letter to Maj. Hobbs 1<sup>st</sup> Apr. Mr. Galt, enclosing, and the accompanying letter is the reply - The facts stated in it are at your disposal - This answer as you will see is official - I have further information on the subject explanatory of Mr Dundas' letter; and, it is that during the life time of Mr Thurston & while the Spectator was the only paper in the Territory the attention of the Department was called to it & a request made that all public printing required for the Territory should be given to it - No notice had been given by any body (Whig or Democrat) that its publication had been discontinued nor information furnished that other papers, <sup>either</sup> Whig or Democratic, had been started or were published in the Territory since - The notice most likely (this I don't positively know) was forwarded to the Spectator & fell into the Oregonian's hands through that channel - In other words, it was a fraud upon the people to hold out that it was published there "by authority" - I would if in your place give the 'Hurr', as a consequence of such a silly trick,

a decided thrust in an early number of the Statesman - Public justice demands it - & you are in capital condition to whip it out!

The intelligence, by current steamer, of Mr Deady's removal is, as you will see, undeniably positive - The causes are not difficult of understanding - imposition upon the cabinet (Cushing in particular) through Mr Kellogg (perhaps others) by forwarding the 'Kaleo' letter as a genuine production - thereby showing that the person appointed was evidently never intended - and, thus throwing open, to the discretion of the President, to make a new appointment - Now, this theory presupposes a good deal of credulity in high places, but, after what transpired last spring in my own case I am no longer unprepared for any thing from Washington, however absurd or inaudacious! The remedy readily suggests itself; and, I hope we shall not be backward in promptly applying it - And, allow me to say that although I am satisfied that if the same remedy had been applied <sup>by the Democracy</sup> <sup>at this time</sup> when the evil first manifested itself we should not have to lament its repetition, still I am fully impressed with a sense of duty & individual effort to correct the wrong now that another victim falls <sup>hand that commits the</sup> the recent fraud & machinations of federalism in Oregon or when in my own person I was made the object of similar wrongs - Justice to Judge D. must be done, and all I now say is let us not shrink from anything (not absolutely dishonorable) for its accomplishment -

Let me hear from you -  
Yours truly,

Wells -