

Confidential

Oregon City, Sept. 10th, 1854

Dear Bush,

In Saturday's issue of the Times you will see a statement of mine replying to Dryers insinuation that I was expelled from the Mil. Academy. From what Nesmith tells me this morning I understand that it is D's intention to reiterate the charge and furnish as a specification of cause for expulsion that, I was guilty of theft while a cadet. 'Nes' says that Holbrook told him Dryer had the "documents" and that it was unfortunate I opened the way for my exposure! From this you will see there is likely to be something of more importance grow out of the article to which I replied than was foreseen some days ago. It is all well. Providence takes its own way to cure certain evil. Poor things, how little they imagine their iniquitous plans to injure and debase me will only weave a toil that can and will be used to compass their own destruction. All things work together for good, ultimately; and out of all this work me - nobody will be harmed but the iniquitous wretches who have then.... daily and mightily plotted my abasement to the end that Whig leaders Whig politics may rule in Oregon.

In this state of things I want you to publish, if agreeable to you, my com. to the 'Times' at the earliest moment you can after getting this. There are several typographical errors which please correct - as follows -

"related" in 5th line from top read, relates
"owe" in 3rd line 2nd paragraph read, owes
"abortion" 1st line 4th " " apertion
"they" 7th line 6th " " men

There are other errors of punctuation but they are of little moment.

Be so good however as to correct those pointed out.

In haste, Your Friend,
O. C. Pratt

Confidential

Oregon Daily, Sept. 10th 1854.

Dear Buck,

In Saturday's issue of the Times you will see a statement of mine replying to Dray's intimation that I was expelled from the Mil. Academy - From what Hamith tells me this morning I understand that it is D's intention to retract the charge & furnish as a specification of cause ^{for} expulsion that I was guilty of theft while a cadet - 'He' says that Holbrook told him Dray had the documents & that it was unfortunate I opened the box for my expense! From this you will see there is likely to be something of more importance grown out of the article to which I replied than was foreseen some days ago - It is all well - Providence takes its own way to cure certain ills - Poor things, how little they imagined their iniquitous plans to injure & abuse me will only reap a tail that can be

used to compass their own destruction - All things work together for good, ultimately; & out of all this - mark me - nobody will be harmed but the iniquitous wretches who have ^{thus far} ~~been~~ ^{plotted} my abuse to the end that Whig leaders Whig justices may rule in Oregon -

In this state of things I want you to publish, if agreeable to you, my com. to the 'Times' at the earliest moment you can after getting this - There are several typographical errors which please correct - as follows -

"related" in 5th line from top read, relates
"owe" " 3rd line 2nd paragraph read, owes
"abortion" 1st line 4th " " " assertions
"they who" 7 " 6th " " " men

There are ~~some~~ ^{other} errors of punctuation but they are quite momentary - Be so good however as to correct those pointed out -

In haste,

Your Friend,

A. C. Bell