

Douglas Co. Sept. 19th 1855

Dear Bush

Your brief epistle to Deady of the 10th ult. has been read to me. Both of us regretted that a few plain words relative to your candidate for President should have so disturbed your usual equanimity. We were flattering ourselves that we considered matters dispassionately as they came to our knowledge, and never for one moment imagined that any one could esteem us "unreasonable grumblers." It pains us to think that the favorite of the democracy of Oregon is so much disposed to flatter and to humbug yet we strive to be reconciled to the "Powers that be" and hope that our friends on the other side the Calapooias may never enjoy so rich an experience of our prospective President's peculiar characteristics. Indeed we do not think you will ever have quite as much cause to grumble as have your southern correspondents. Yet we fear that there may be a screw loose somewhere in your vicinity. The General has not only expressed himself well satisfied with the appointments of Guthrie, Lawson and Mosher but I have been told that he has also manifested sympathy for Col. Gardner. Some persons have told me that Lane was determined to procure the removal of Gen. Palmer - others say that he is still very friendly to Palmer and will try to keep him in his present position.

The truth is that we still think (and we have good cause to think so) that the "Old Statesman" is too much inclined to listen to softs and Whigs. Men who sometimes vote the democratic ticket, but whom some of us consider democrats always manage to get his ear.

But enough of this. Doubtless you arranged all the affairs of Oregon when the General passed through your place on the way to Portland. I see that Charlie Drew is still corresponding for the Oregonian under the signature of Clarendon. His communications produce no effect in Jackson County but they may in other portions of the Territory. I will send you a communication from Jackson County by the next mail in which I will notice his last two letters. Charlie is dead in Jackson County, but his letters are calculated to convey a wrong impression of the popular feeling in the South in regard to the policy by the Indian Department. Ambrose has I believe made himself popular by his course as Indian Agent. The great mass of the permanent residents of the valley believe that it is owing to the discretion and of Ambrose and Capt. Smith that peace has been preserved. I wish I had a copy of Drew's report to Gov. Curry. It occurs to me that there is a marked similarity between it and the Clarendon letters.

Boyd does not go into the Land office. Mosher has employed Walton of this Co. a grand old friend of Bill Martins.

A brother of Strattons made application for a clerkship in the office. If the Gazette ever starts again, it will doubtless be rather more spicy than of late. It is said that Boyd is more favorable to the cash system in all his business transactions than heretofore. At all events he will not be disposed to give so long a credit hereafter. I have not seen Chadwick of late. Perhaps he too does not feel fully rewarded for his services as a private in the Mexican



War. Don't grieve because of our grumbling. We are not really disappointed, indeed we are quite jolly and consider the prospects for the future not so dark as they "mought be".

Yours truly  
Drew

(P.S. Since the above was written, I have scribbled a brief notice of Clarendon for the Statesman which is at your service if you think it fit to print. I write from Jackson Co. of course.

P.S. No. 2. The communication shall be forwarded next week.

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