

Salem Nov 12th 1855

Dear Bush

Here I am in the office of the Execution and for the want of something else to do I write you a line-- Court adjourned today-- there has been no business of importance at this time. Counselor Terry has had several cases and been eminently successful, in three out of five tried by him will be found judgements, entered against the opposite party, by default-- one a divorce case which he managed admirably and gained the desired instrument for his fair client for which I saw him pocket the fee of fifteen dollars as competently as the oldest member of the bar could have done--one case (although a man ever so talented cannot always expect to be successful, we regret to say he lost, he accounts for it by the fact that the man possesses a notoriously bad moral character which had a powerful influence with the jury-- Well I hear much grumbling about the leader in the Statesman of Nov 3d but it is altogether among the K.N's. Thomas McFatten. Patten was saying something about it at the table a day or two since but I could not get the thread of his discourse, it did not please him I understood that from the little I could gather--it is said that Tom left as soon as the hostilities commenced on account of the double danger that menaced him. You remember in the War of '53 he kicked an indian arse whom he supposed to be dead who afterwards came to life and had threatened to resent the indignity if ever an opportunity offered and McFatten P is fearful that amid general hostility he will meet his personal enemy, this may not be so however, people possessing a spice of malice sometimes place an ungenerous construction upon the conduct of good men--- there is no doubt in my mind if Tom had not had the care and responsibility of the Post Office he would have shown himself to be a valient man- and it manifested a great deal of thoughtfulness of official duties when just upon the eve of an important battle the remembrance of the neglected P.O. made him forego the flattering prospect of earning for himself an imperishable fame as a soldier and patriot--- You have no doubt observed the poetry "A Song for the Times" in the last "Advocate". Notice particularly the last two verses-- a sort of left handed compliment to the Gov. which I am afraid will prove a fixy salve for his lacerated feelings caused by the hard rubs in the last two Statesman it is plain that the "Meed of praise," Sam Clark bestows, is for the appointment of men like himself. this is the unkindest cut of all. Sam will damn the Gov. if you dont divert his attention-- whatever may be the action of Curry in this matter, I think you have washed the hands of the party from all blame-- Your correspondent "A Hunter" is a very clever fellow if hadnt used that "negative adverbial adjective" "nary" we should have been at a loss in locating him--- "Oro" says "Ary" I was talking with Wm McKay about the war at the north he thinks there will be sharp fighting there, and if the thing is rightly managed many of the indians can be penned where they are fortifying on the north side of a canon in the Yakima Country, that with the aid of friendly indians a detachment can be led, by a trail unknown to the whites, to the rear of them with Rains and Nesmith in front. they can give them h--ll---

Shell starts for the Dalls this week.--- You have seen the letter of Sam May in the "Advocate"-- Sam says, there is danger and as a matter of safety he would rather be at home but his Country and McCarver calls he says the "Croakers" (?) in the valley who are crying down the war makes it difficult for the Commissary department to purchase what they want-- I was speaking with the Hon Saml Parker about this he says it is not so in this valley that anyone with the "similars" of authority (some people would say semblance (symbols) can buy anything required-- he says that although he dont like you-- he will sustain your course in regard to this war-- that it is a principle that he has always contended for, that "to the spiles belongs the office"-- (a new version of the old democratic maxim "to the victor belongs the spoils")--

I heard a day or two since for the first time that Ex Gov Garies had stopped his "Advocate", because it published an account of the Louisville riot.--he said he understood that it was not to be a partizan paper and yet here is an account of these riots taken from a democratic paper. Flame told him that he would find another extract from a paper of the other side, but he could not be mollified and left the office in dudgeon".---- I think you express the sentiments of democrats generally in regard to these military appointments dont be too hard upon the war before you are certain there is not going to be one, or they will raise it on you.

I remain as ever

Your Friend

John McCracken

I shall go to Portland the latter part of this week and will give you any items of interest from them of course this is not for publication.

Tellur Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> 1855

Dear Buck

Here I am in the office of the Excavation and for the want of some thing else to do. I write you a line. Court adjourned today. There has been no business of importance at this time. Counselor Gray has had several Cases and has been extremely successful, in three out of five tried by him will be found judgments, entered against the opposite party, by default. One a Divorce Case, which he managed admirably and gained the desired instrument for his fair Client for which I saw him pocket the sum of fifteen dollars, as Com. pleasantly as the oldest member of the bar could have done. One Case fall through. A man ever so talented cannot always expect to be successful, he ought to say he lost, he accounts for it by the fact that the man possesses a notoriously bad moral Character which had a powerful influence with the jury. Well I hear much grumbling about the leader in the Stateman of old 3. But it is all together among the H. A. Thomas McJetta. A few was saying something about it at the table a day or two since but I could not get the thread of his discourse, it did not

not please him I understood that from the little  
I could gather it is said that Tom left as  
soon as hostilities commenced on account  
of the double danger that menaced him, you  
remember in the March '33 he kicked an Indian  
arse whom he supposed to be dead, who after-  
wards came to life and had threatened to avenge  
the indignity if ever an opportunity offered and  
The Hon. P. is fearful that amid general hos-  
tility, he will meet his personal enemy, this  
may not be so however, people passing a piece  
of Indian some times place an ungenerous construc-  
tion upon the conduct of good men. There is  
no doubt in my mind if Tom had not had  
the care and responsibility of the Post Office he  
would have shown himself to be a valiant man  
and it manifested a great deal of thoughtfulness  
of official duties, when just upon the eve of  
an important battle the remembrance of the negoti-  
ated P. O. made him forget the flattering prospect  
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"need of praise," Sam Clark bestows is for the  
appointment of men like himself. This is the  
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if you don't direct his attention. Whatever  
may be the action of Curry in this matter, I think  
you have washed the hands of the party from all  
blame. Your correspondent "A Hunter" is a  
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adverbial adjective "Nary" he should have  
been at a loss to locate him. "Ore" says "Arg" -  
I was talking with Mrs McKay about the war  
at the work. No doubts there will be sharp  
fighting there, and if the thing is really managed  
<sup>wisely</sup> the Indians can be punished where they are follow-  
ing themselves on the north side of the River in  
the Gastonia County, that with the aid of friendly  
Indians a detachment can be led, by a trail  
unknown to the whites, to the rear of them  
then with Rains and Desmith in front, they  
can give them the U. S. Their starts for the  
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and as a matter of safety he would rather be  
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cried down the war. Makes it difficult for  
the Commissary department to purchase what  
they want. I was speaking with the Hon. Mr.  
Parker about this he says it is not so in this

valley that any one with the ~~same~~ "similans"  
of authority (some people would say, substance  
or symbols) can buy anything required -  
he says that although he don't like you, he will  
sustain your course in regard to this war - that  
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the office in Dodgeon; - I think you express  
the sentiments of Democrats generally in regard to  
these <sup>military</sup> appointments don't be too hard upon the war  
before you are certain there is not going to be one,  
or they will rain it on you.

Remain as ever

Your Friend

John W. Craker

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