

Corvallis Jan 2d 1856

Dear Bush

For the last four or five years ten chances to one that the first time I write the new year, it occurs in dating some gossip to you. We commenced our correspondence in March '57, and were posterity to judge from the expressions scattered through the letters of each, would suppose that we were a couple of street loafers or ticket porters abusing each other in good earnest. We are both grown older since this commenced, and suppose we turn over a new leaf with the new year.-----

We arrived here (traveling very deliberately) on last evening. I shall be on the hurricane deck of the old mare in the morning with my face turned homeward. Brew & Stratton left here yesterday morning for Salem. Mat and Avery have both entertained me with a rehearsal of what "they said" upon the various topics of the day, including of course "our intrusts" and young Curry-combs wars. If they have been correctly reported in what "they said" you may as well keep one eye upon them while in Salem so as to ascertain by comparison where they really are.

Avery thinks Pat's card upon Leland is an outrage and that L- ought to blow your brains out. Asked me how any decent man could support the paper after that. I replied that of course I highly prized good morals, but of all things liked to see anyone have a uniform rule upon that subject, thought his might be a little spasmodic, because not long since he failed to condemn, but sustained and approved a similar fling at John Campbell's wife in the vox populi without provocation. I understand he says, you are jealous of Mrs. B--!! Is that the reason that you did not want Hes to go up to tea? I told A, that he was suspected of being at the bottom of the State House burning. A-- has grown desperate, better, malignant; he never ceases but talks on from morning to night.

Write me soon,

Yours Deady

PS I met Ross here Wednesday night, was sociable, but I understand is hammering me somewhat about some of Brew & Stratton's correspondence for the Statesman. Well I believe there is a virtue in being abused, and may the Lord make me thankful for my share. Dont let them get a new county in Jackson. N Smith is Q. ill at this place; a miniature edition of Old McCarver. He probably from force of habit uses among better people.

I am writing this before Averys fire where I am staying all night with the Madam in the absence of J.C. Dont read this improperly.

Deady

A Bush Esq
Salem Oregon

Bowditch Jan 2^d 1856

Dear Ruth.

For the last four or five years ten chances to one that the first time I write the new year, it occurs in dating some gossip to you. We commenced our correspondence in March '51, and ^{were} ~~prostrated~~ to judge from the expressions scattered through the letters of each, would suppose that we were a couple of stout loafers or ticket porters abusing each other in good earnest. We are both grown older since this commenced, and suppose we turn over a new leaf with the new year.

We arrived here (bravely very deliberately) on last evening. I shall be on the Hurricane deck of the Old man in the morning with my face turned homeward. Drew & Stratton left here yesterday morning for Salem. At Aunt Abby's home both entertained me with a rehearsal of what they said upon the various topics of the day, including of course our interests and Young Curry's untimely war. If they have been correctly

reported in what they said" you may as well keep one eye upon them while in Salem, so as to ascertain by comparison & where they really are.

Avery thinks Pat's card upon Seland is an outrage and that I ought to blow your brains out. Asked me how any decent man could support the paper after that. I replied that of course I highly prized good morals, but of all things liked to see anyone have a uniform rule upon that subject, thought he might be a little spasmodic, because not long since he failed to condemn, but sustained and approved a similar fling at John Campbell's wife without ^{in the way of} provocation. I understand he says, you are jealous of Mr B-!! Is that the reason that you did not want Mrs to go up to tea? I told A, that he was suspected of being at the bottom of the State House burning. A has grown desperate, bitter, malignant; he never ceases but talks on from morning until night.

Write me soon.

Yours Deady

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Daddy

J. Bush Esq
Salem Oregon }