

Portland March 1st 1856

Friend Bush

There is a great fuss being made in this County and no doubt many others in regard to the great increase in taxation of the State Government question carries, now I want to know if you cant get the territorial auditors books and from them give the amount of taxable property in the Territory- the increase for the last two years if then there has been any and the probable increase for the next two years, taking into consideration the fact that land &c have not been assessed heretofore, and that they will be hereafter, estimate the amount of the territorial expences now, and the probable increase under a State Government, give the amount of the expences of our territory now paid by Uncle Sam in fact put in every thing that will bear upon this question of taxes and make the calculations as close as possible as I think an article of this kind would do more good than any thing that has been said upon the subject (provided it does not show too great an increase of taxation which I do not think it will-- I dont want you to think this dictation in me, and do not write the article unless you think it will benefit the question- I am anxious it should be carried & request this thinking it will assist the matter. The G D S has not come to hand for this week when

Yours truly

Norris

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There is a great fear being made in this County and no doubt many others in regard to the great increase in taxation if the State Government Question carries, now I want to know if you can get the Territorial Auditors books and from them give the amount of taxable property in the Territory - the increase for the last two years (if there has been any) and the probable increase for the next two years, taking into consideration the fact that land taxes have not been applied heretofore, and that they will be hereafter, estimate the amount of the territorial expenses now, and the probable increase under a State Government, give the amount of the expenses of our Territory now paid by Uncle Sam, & in fact put in every thing that will bear upon this question of taxes and make the calculations as clear as possible. As I think an article of this kind will do more good than any thing that has been said upon the subject provided it does not show too great an increase of

taxation which I do not think it will - I don't want you to think this dictation in me, and do not write the article unless you think it will benefit the question - I am anxious it should be carried & suggest this thinking if will assist the matter - the G. D. I have not time to hand for this week when Mr. L. J. Jones writes

Publick Affairs

This is revised
first page labeled Malone
by resident