

Portland March 21, 1856

Dear Bush

I received your d---d blackguard letter---by somebody---suppose I was tender in the direction you speak of what do you suppose my feelings would be to have such remarks made-- "Billy" wouldnt go with the field-- I have just returned from Hillsboro-- Court adjourned on Wednesday--little or no business-- the only case of importance--one of Rape-- Three men were accused of raping the same woman-- The Court ruled that it was a case of rapee and did not come within the purview of the Statute-- no exceptions to the ruling of the Court-- Hoyt has complained to the Governor that the express seemed to run with reference to your paper I explained to the Executive the benefit the different departments derived from the Express running on Saturday-- and especially to himself as by it he procured the papers from both Portland and Salem on the day of publication--the explanation was satisfactory-- Delazon was here last Monday. I left the same day and did not hear him speak in the evening-- I judge from what I can learn that he did not do very well. I am sorry for this because Delazon has had the reputation here of being a big gun. Leland is disgusting those who were his friends here by his d---d invidious remarks about Smith-- when he from personal motives wishes to disparage-- and as far as his influence extends-- (which in my opinion is exceedingly limited) attaches odium to a question he pretends to advocate-- to gratify his malignant spleen but this is like Leland-- and is very similar to his course during the canvass of last spring if there is any measure depending upon the influence of the press. Leland's opposition will always be more effective in its favor--- You treated my confidence kindly-- Drew tells me that the "word for your private ear" did not refer to the matter relative to Leland-- by a sort of a d---d pettifogging construction of the punctuation-- of yours-- dont let my punctuation by your criterion--- it made no difference-- he attributed it to another source-- and relieved Shipley of the responsibility-- McMillen has had a horse out of the Govt. stable-- and been two days-- in the County to obtain subscriptions for the "Statesman". If Bro. Hoyt knew all he might imagine with some propriety that this war was carried on for the benefit of that villanous sheet-- I will pay McCormick as you wish-----

Respectfully

John McCracken

P.S. I am going to get a girl for Judge Williams
Tell the Judge

Portland, March 21st 1886

Dear Bush:

I received your & a Black-guard letter by somebody. I suppose I was tender in the direction you speak of. Do you suppose my feelings would be to have such remarks made? Billy would not go into the field. I have just returned from Tallahassee. Court adjourned on Wednesday. Little or no business. - the only case of importance - one of Lepe - Throumman were accused of helping the same woman - The Court ruled that it was a case of rape as it did not come within the purview of the Statute - no exceptions to the ruling of the Court - Hoyt has complained to the Governor that the press seemed to do so with reference to your paper. I explained to the Executive the benefit the different departments derived from the press running on Saturday - and especially to himself. So he procured the papers from both Portland and Salem on the day of publication - the explanation was satisfactory. - Delagou was here last Monday I left the same day and did not hear him speak in the evening. I judge from what I can learn that he did not do very well

I am sorry for this because Delagou has had the reputation here of being a big game. Deland is disgusting those who were his friends here by his & a vicious remarks about Smith - whom ^{he} from personal motives wishes to disparage - and as far as his influence extends - (which in my opinion is exceedingly limited) ^{attached} ~~connected~~ from a question he pretends to advocate - to gratify his malignant spleen. - This is like Deland - and is very similar to his course during the Canvass of last spring, if there is any party measure depending upon the influence of the press. Deland's opposition will always be more ~~effective~~ ^{effective} in its favor. You treated my confidence badly. Drew tells me that the "word for your private ear" did not refer to ^{the matter} ~~the matter~~ relative to Deland - by a sort of a - a stiffling construction of ~~the~~ punctuation - of yours - don't let my punctuation be your criticism - but it made no difference - he attributed it to another source - and relieved Shipley of the responsibility - Mr. Mallow has had a horse out of the Govt. Stable and been two days - in the County to obtain subscriptions for the "Statesman". State of Bro. Hoyt knew all he might imagine with some propriety that this was carried on for the benefit of that villainous

sheet - - I will pay Mr Cousins as you
wish - -

Respectfully
John McClellan

As I am going to get a girl for Judge Williams
let the judge