

Portland Jan'y 31 1859

Dear Bush

I called on Stark the day after I arrived home-- He seemed somewhat surprised to find that the property was unencumbered and said that it was inadvertant on his part-- he then took me to his office and showed me his work to assure me that his personal security was ample.

---He thinks you misunderstood him in regard to---Keeping Block No 41 unencumbered-- by values that property at \$20,000 and thinks he could not with propriety be restricted in the use of it for a sum not exceeding the amount of your notes--- Had he not considered you perfectly secure he would have informed you- and he considered his personal honor pledge in the matter which he holds a more sacred obligation than any mortgage or tangible security--that his borrowing money is not on account of pecumary embarrassment on his part but to supply the necessities of others, for which he is amply secured in safe or real property-- The note to Daniel Harvey was for 30 days to provide for the exigency created by the inability of Meade & Co to meet their quota of the flour contract- that when the vessel arrives (which is hourly expected) he expects to receive \$79.00 from Nesmith-- and as he has furnished all the funds used in -----ing that contract he will receive most of the money coming.

I regard to the notes he will deposite with me (or any other person) in addition personal security enough to fully secure those notes untill the 18th Feby when he will execute a new note, and remove the encumbrance on Block 41-- and it shall be at his option to leave it unencumbered or take up the note--- he to give you a mortgage similar to the one given before to remain unrecorded--knowing Starks character as you do for ----- you may judge of the length of the conversation to draw out the above-- but it is the sentiment---and you can judge for yourself what course is but to pursue.-- I will suggest that you send the notes to me and ask unequivocally, in a letter intended for Starks eye, that you maybe secured by mortgage on reall property fully and unquestionably the amount of the notes or that they may be taken up at once-- if he infers for political considerations to execute the note & mortgage in my name and that suit you mention that in your letter-- there is a mortgage on the Vreck brick and frame house ---1st Street on one of the two lots in block 40. Judge Cathir \$8000 the Lodge I think \$3000 and somebody else \$1000. I think over and above these amounts there is a mechanic's lien on the property for \$3000 this is all the property he has mortgaged (including of course mortgages on Block 41) those brick buildings cost \$10,000 each (\$2000)--- if you see fit to do as I suggest send the notes including Cree's--- I read with unspeakable delight Brig. Gen. Harney's letter to our Executive--especially that portion which relates to Mexico-- and the protectorate. it arroused my enthusiasm-- and I was inclined to start for that County by next steamer -- read the Gen's letter to that imbeciles people and in the name of Gen. Harney. Gov. Curry and United take them immediately under my protection untill the general government send out a suitable person to relieve me.---

Bombastes Fuvirso-- Dryer is out- shows the effects of bad treat-

ment, but not as much so as I anticipated says you are a bad crowd up there----- a dozen of you "heavyweights," waylaid him- who is only a "lightweight--" gouged. hammered & kicked him and he never so much as struck back---

No news of importance-- I sent you groceries by steamer-- hope they are all right---

Very truly

Yours &c

Bro McCracken

Portland July 21 1899

Dear Ben,

I called on Stark the day after I arrived home. He seemed somewhat surprised to find that ~~that~~ property was encumbered and said that it was inadvisable, on his part - he then took me to his office and showed me his books to assure me that his personal security was ample. - He thinks you misunderstood him in regard to - keeping Block No 41. unencumbered - he values that property at \$20,000. and thinks he could not with propriety be restricted in the use of it for a sum not exceeding the amount of your notes. - Had he not considered you perfectly secure he would have informed you, and he ~~rather~~ considered his personal honor ^{a more} sacred obligation than any mortgage or tangible security - that his borrowing money is not on account of ~~any~~ pecuniary embarrassment on his part but to supply the necessities of others, for which he is amply secured in safe or real property - The note to David Harvey was for 30 days

to provide for the exigency created by the
inability of the said Co to meet their quota
of the Iron Contract. that when the vessel
arrives (which is hourly expected) he expects
to receive \$79,000. from Besmith - and as
he has furnished all the funds used in
fulfilling that Contract. he will receive most
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In regard to the notes he will deposit with
me (or any other person) in addition per-
sonal security enough to fully secure those
notes until the 18th Feby. when he will
execute a new note, and remove the
incumbrance on Block 40. - and it
shall remain at his option to leave it
incumbrated or take up the note -
he to give you a mortgage similar to the
one given before. to remain unrecorded -
Knowing Starks Character as regards
his ~~integrity~~ you may judge of the
length of the Conversation to draw out the
above - but it is the sentiment - and
you can judge for yourself what course
is best to pursue. I will suggest
that you send the notes to me and ask
unquivocally, in a letter intended for
Starks eye, that you may be secured by

Mortgage on real property fully and un-
questionably the amount of the notes or
that they may be taken up at once -
if he prefers. In political Considerations to
execute the notes & mortgages in my name
and that suits you mention that in your
letter - There is a mortgage on the Brick Building
and Frame house on 1st Street on one of the
lots in Block 40. is mortgaged by
the amount of Judge Catlin \$8000. the Lodge
I think \$3000. and somebody else \$1000. I
think or near about these amounts there
is a Mechanic's lien on the property for
\$3000. This is all the property he has mort-
gaged. (including of course mortgages
on Block 40) - Those Brick Buildings
cost \$10,000. each (\$2,000) -
if you see fit to do as I suggest send the
notes including Cris's -
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Genl. Harney's letter to our Executive -
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he never so much as struck back —

No news of importance — I sent you
groceries by steamer — hope they are
all right —
Very truly
Yours etc.
Mr W. C. C. C.