

Fort Umpqua, Oct. 18th, 1869

Dear Dush

As old Jo. used to address you, so now do I and possibly some of your other friends, who still adhere to and swear by the Statesman.

Umpqua Coos & Curry will be represented in the convention of the 18th of November, that is, if I will consent to serve. It is very hard to get men to go from Coos or Curry to attend any kind of convention in the Willamette, as the times are as hard down in these diggings as in other parts of Oregon. Fifty dollars is less than the cost of a trip from Coos Bay to Eugene while the expense is still greater from Port Orford. The changes from land travel to water carriage are expensive and these hard times, only federal office holders in those counties can afford to attend conventions and just now, the old collector at Port Orford is sullex with Lane & the society, because he was not reappointed and consequently he would not attend a convention to please the Lane society even if the democrats of Curry desired him to do so, which they most assuredly do not.

Old Ben. Brattain and Winchester do not care to do anything just now. They prefer to remain quiet and be let alone. Prominence they do not seek and consequently they will not be found in conventions, working either for against the society, although Mosher is continually threatening them with loss of place, if they do not work for the family and obey orders.

Who will be in the Convention from Marion & Polk? I got a letter from Nesmith last night, in which he writes that he shall not be there. He ought to be there & so ought you and Brice and Ben Harding & Ben Hayden and Grover. Our strong men should be in that convention and if I thought none of you would be present, I would not go myself, and if I should not go, I fear some of these little counties would go unrepresented.

What have you done with your Indian Department Vouchers? Has Geary paid them or does he refuse to do it. How did you learn that the Umpqua Indian Agency was abolished?

Ned has not received any notice of it or of his removal. He is still acting as Agent, but ready to go out at any time, though the salary these hard times is quite convenient to have.

The longer he can hold the place the better for all of us, under the circumstances. I think you may as well drop me a line by next mail and let me know who you will send from Marion & Polk and Yamhill. Nat. Lane told me old Frank Martin had been accumulated by the family and that you did not own him any longer.

Yours

J. W. Drew

Fort Wappan, Oct. 18th 1859.

Dear Bush

As old Jo. used to address you, so now do I and possibly some of your other friends, who still adhere and swear by the Statesman.

Wappan Coos & Curry will be represented in the convention of the 16th of November, that is, if I will consent to serve.

It is very hard to get men to go from Coos or Curry to attend any kind of convention in the Willamette, as the times are as hard down in these diggings as in other parts of Oregon. Fifty dollars is less than the cost of a trip from Coos Bay to Eugene while the expense is still greater from Port Oxford. The charges for land travel to water carriage are expensive and these hard times, only federal office holders in those Counties can afford to attend conventions and just now, the

old Collector at Port Oxford is sullied with Law of the Society, because he was not appointed and consequently he would not attend a convention to please the Law Society unless the Democrats of Curry desired him to do so, which they most assuredly do not.

Old Ben, Prattain and Winchester do not care to do any thing just now. They prefer to remain quiet and be let alone. Prominence they do not seek and consequently they will not be found in Conventions, working either for or against the Society, although Mosher is continually threatening them with loss of place, if they do not work for the Family, and scrupulously obey orders.

Who will be in the Convention from Marion & Polk? I got a letter from Nesmith last night, in which he writes that he shall not be there. He ought to be there & so ought you and Brice and Ben Harding, & Ben ~~Hopper~~ Hayden and Grover. One strong man should be in

that Convention and if I thought none of you would be present, I would not go myself, and if I should not go, I fear some of these little Counties would go unrepresented.

What have you done with your Indian Department Vouchers? Has Geary paid them or does he refuse to do it.

How did you learn that the Umpqua Indian Agency was abolished?

Ad has not received any notice of it or of his removal. He is still acting as Agent, but ready to go out at any time, though the salary these hard times is quite convenient to have.

The longer he can hold the place the better for all of us, under the circumstances. I think you may as well drop me a line by next mail and let me know who you will send from Marin + Polk and Yumbill. Nat. Lane told me old Frank Martin had been accumulated by the family and that you did not own him any longer — Yours J. W. Drew