

Washington, May 10th, 1872.

My dear Judge:

I would be unpardonable if I should neglect to thank you for the interest you manifest in my behalf on a recent occasion. It does not diminish at all my sense of obligation that I know you were influenced in your action more by the public than private consideration. Confidence in my personal character and appreciation of my public services formed by basis of your belief that the greatest principle of Liberal Republicans and earnest Democrats would unite in my support and for this confidence and appreciation I can never be sufficiently grateful. It does not at all surprise me that a majority of the convention did not agree with you. I shall be glad if the necessary union can be secured by the nominations actually made. I am, as you are aware, a democrat, separated in nothing from the democrats of the Jackson and Benton school, except by my convictions on the slavery question, in times past, and now by nothing. But especially since we came together in support of Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Greeley has given me a steady and generous support. He advocated my nomination as secretary of the treasury and sustained my financial measures. After I retired from the Cabinet he urged my appointment as chief justice. He agrees with me now on the question of Finance and Amnesty and more important, as I verily believe, than any others were before the war. Why should I not then, though a democrat and certainly not much of a protectionist, give him a support, which I believe he would have given me had I received the nomination? And why should you not support him? They will be sure of agreement upon the great question of Amnesty and Currency, and may rely with confidence for its consideration upon the impulses of gratitude for generous support given to an old antagonist. Division is defeat.

