

[1857?]

time, was to lead to his own political advancement.

Dear Sir

If the Convention in Kansas should now determine to send the Constitution to Congress without a popular ratification then R. W. Walker will have precipitated a crisis, either by a gross blunder or by an act of treachery, a perilous issue to your Administration and the Country. In this grave exigency I have more confidence in your own experience and sound sense than in any other man's abilities or capacity for advice. I beg you to take your own course without being deterred by other people's Opinions. I know all the men about you and if you cant walk a safe path they are hardly likely to help you on.

The "Press" has gone off and out of sight, wafted by a wind of ultra Walkerism and anti-Southernism. I advised Mr Westcott Yesterday to keep the paper back for a couple of days from Washington. I saw the Editor of the Pennsylvania and he is willing to await advices.

I send you a curious telegraph. I presume if sent at all it was by your nephew Henry. Between us Mr Sickles is a dangerous person but a very talented is very tricky.

The Post Master genl has just disappointed me by failing to redeem his promise to appoint Mr C. I. Gibson to a mail agency. He has appointed a fellow by the name of Henry Phillips, a Know Nothing 2 or 3 years ago, an incompetent man for the post & Mr Daniel Beideman (a member of Select Councils) told me this morning was recommended by Phillips at the instance of the infamous Theodore Derringer because Derringer & this fellow having been confederates in various political rascalities here, it was deemed necessary to close his lips as to these transactions. Your friend ever

His Exclly

James Buchanan

Respectfully

\* President Buchanan had two nephews who aided him at times, James Buchanan, Jr. and James Buchanan Henry