

Williamsburg, ^{15th} June 1845

Mr Ritchie

Dear Sir

I have been requested to send you the names of the following persons as subscribers to the weekly Union

William C. Marrow. Hampton

Robinson C. Foviss. Warwick C. St.

Robert Mcintosh - Halfway House, York

John P. Mallicote - Halfway House, York

Stafford C. Cook Halfway House, York

I believe all of these perfectly good. We have no news. The whigs are gradually melting away; some sliding into our ranks, and some into the shades of retired life, then to remain till the British-French-Mexican-Abolition party shall be blessed with more flattering prospects than they have at present to cheer them. Permit me to congratulate you on the glorious consummation of the Texas cause. The whigs have nothing but shame & mortification and the upbraids of their consciences, to repay them for labouring side by side with England, France, Mexico & the Yankee abolitionists in opposition to the clearest and most manifest interests of this country.

A rumour was in circulation here some month
or so ago that Mr Wise would "resign" about
the 1st July - The rumour has died off and I
suppose it was unfounded. I do most heartily
hope that if he "resigns", it will be done freely
and voluntarily and without any constraint,
or in plain English that he shall not be com-
pelled to resign to avoid a discomf. Tho. he
is extremely popular and has a deeper hold on
the hearts of the people than any man amongst
us, it is for another reason than that I am
desirous he should remain untouched.

The personal difference between him
and Mr Polk. gave our enemies frequent occas-
ion to remark, during the prevalence of the
rumour mentioned above, that Mr President
had forced him to resign in revenge of the insult
offered formerly to Mr Speaker - and that with-
out courage to avenge the affront in manly
style he had resorted to the means of vindic-
ating his personal honour, by dismissing the offi-
cer whilst he had shrunk from an encounter
with the man - I never thought Mr Polk acted
cowardly in the affair - nor do I doubt that Wise
is accused of his hair-brained rashness and
indiscretion - but should Mr W. resign without
a perfect willing ness on his part, it would give
our cause ^{in this district} the deadliest stab that could be in-
flicted on it.

I am rejoiced to find that the Union is becoming daily more popular. Both parties speak of it in the highest terms; and your friends, who feared that a new scene and a new theatre might prevent you in less brilliancy than encircled the Enquirer, are delighted to find that your advancement to a more elevated position has rendered your talents more conspicuously useful to the country, and has augmented and brightened a reputation which seemed to have reached its meridian.

With my best wishes for your prosperity and happiness, I remain

Yours Truly
Saml J. Bowden

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Let the papers now sent to the Rural Ordinary in the name of Wm J. Lindsey be hereafter charged to Ro Morris and sent to his address at same post office.

L. J. B.

Boston
1845-

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D.C.
Washington

Thomas Ritchie Esq^r

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Send the weekly Union to Henry
B. Allen - Bucknelt Ordinary. Pa
city and to Oliver F. Taylor, Dooms
dayer -