

Transcript of 1873 June 24: Powell Clayton, New York, to Governor Elisha Baxter, Concerning Election of Baxter as Governor, L.C. Gulley collection, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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New York  
Powell Clayton  
Private

New York  
June 24th 1873

Dear Governor  
Your letter of June  
10th is before me, I was glad  
to receive it and entirely satisfied  
with its contents, It was just such  
a frank and open expression as  
I expected to receive from you, I  
think we know each other, and  
at the same time understand the  
furious mischief-maker of both  
parties who seem so anxious to  
place a gulf between us. I see  
by the papers that Brooks has  
gone to the Circuit Court with  
his case, do they really expect  
to accomplish anything then? or  
is it merely an attempt to get  
a lot of testimony before the  
county? Their persistence is worthy  
of a better course, but they are  
wasting their energies, and to use

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a somewhat vulgar expression  
they might as well attempt to "fast  
against the wind" as to get the  
people to believe that they represent  
an honest and praiseworthy  
cause. I understand that McClean  
and Banen are very serious upon  
me, they have no reason to be,  
for they took their own cause and

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ought to be willing to abide the result. Upon the score of past services in my behalf they must not claim to control my present or future cause. That would place me in a collection of political slavery that I could not for one moment submit to.

I trust there will be no further serious question raised as to the validity of your Election and your right to Exercise the function of the Executive Office. and that you may have a peaceful and successful administration.

I am detained here on the interest of the Railroads I represent and am very much encouraged with prospect of success. I hope to return in a few weeks, at which time I hope to be able to make some suggestion concerning the finances of the State which I think will strike you as seriously. The railroad debt can be reduced largely, during your administration, by the adoption of a proper cause, of this, I am confident and the [illegible] of which I know you surmise. Regards to Mrs. Baxter

Yours Truly  
Powell Clayton

To  
Hon. Elisha Baxter  
Little Rock  
Ark.