

Washington D.C.
Jan 25 1865

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 20th inst
is before me, also the letter from the
Loyal Reconstruction League which you
enclose. In this letter you state that
the organization you represent desires
to unite with the League of American
principally for the reason that Mr W. W.
Holden has been temporarily placed at
its head in your State. I do not can
regret your determination more than I
do, and yet, it is not my purpose to
attempt any argument on the question
at this time. I may be permitted to
suggest

that Mr Holden was selected
for this position, not by the National
Council, but by the Legislature of your
own State, many of whom must be
unobjectionable and your friends who

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except Governor Holden have you or others
to my knowledge, raised objections.

2^d It was not the province of the
National ~~Agency~~ to reject a man so
selected and who had taken the obligations
and was ready and willing to discharge the
duties of the position.

3^d In a work of such magnitude as
we are all engaged in it will become
necessary to bury personal considerations
for the general good of the Cause, and
if Gov. Holden works faithfully I see
no reason why his aid should be
rejected. Certainly it will be needed.

4th As yours is a loyal organization
it must necessarily work in the same
direction with ours. Therefore while we
are not united we are, or at least ought
to be in harmony. You may do more
good as you are. If so I shall be rejoiced.
And yet if there is just ground for
your objection to Gov. Holden, it seems
to me that you would have done
better to unite with us, your former

would thus have been united in
an acceptable manner to the people of
the State, and would have been
shall be a few advantages in a general
Call of a State Convention for the election
of regular officers and for other purposes.

From the information at my disposal
I am convinced that you would have
better, had your organization sustained
the proposition which you made to me
and to which Gov. Holden was ready to
consent.

It is my opinion that Gov.
Holden will be faithful to the trust
he has undertaken, and that, because of
his assistance, and that of all others
who will work faithfully for the Cause.

We cannot stand upon personal objections
in this contest, and if we attempt to do so
shall find few men to whom we can
object, and possibly very few who will
be less objectionable than Gov. Holden.

I cannot hope to dissuade you from
your purpose, as you should be
attended. I do not know how to