

Feb. 12th 1879

My dear wife:

I send you the enclosed circulars to let you see the plan adopted to start a Rep. paper here. I do not know how it will succeed. If we can get a great many personally interested in it, it will go, of course. It is generally understood that I will edit it. I shall make no definite arrangement until I see you however, and shall be guided mainly by your inclination. I will never ask you to come back here unless I can make it pleasant for you and know that you do so, willingly and gladly. You may see me, almost any day now. I think I cannot much longer remain away from you. Dear, dear, darling how I do want to see you and hear your sweet voice again. I feel very dull today, whether it is the rainy day without or the hard night I have passed through, I do not know. I suppose it is part of my punishment for not loving my neighbor as I ought. Eek?

I am glad my letters give you joy and that you are happy. I will try and send you some money as soon as I can that you may get your course ready. I am afraid it would not be safe for me to come before the tenth, but I will come by that time if I can.

Mrs Reade, Mrs Withell and a great many more have asked to be remembered to you. I spent a pleasant evening with the Reades a few days since. I will hold this until after the Western Mail, perhaps until tomorrow.

Good bye darling

I hope Louie will get that playhouse in Apple pie order by the time I come. I thought I am afraid she will not know me. Gm J.

[**Private and Confidential.**]

Raleigh, N. C., February 10th, 1879.

To

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DEAR SIR: Upon the importunate solicitation of many Republicans from all parts of the State, I have concluded to establish a Republican newspaper in this city, if the proper support can be guaranteed by the leading men of the party. The necessity and desirability of such a journal are too apparent to need argument. A party of 110,000 voters which does not sustain a central organ in the State has no hope of success—and does not deserve it. The previous failures of our spasmodic efforts at journalism here, have made such an enterprise of much greater difficulty than it would otherwise have been. If enough cannot be guaranteed by responsible parties to secure permanency, it is useless to attempt it. By the advice of the Republican members of the Legislature, and with the hearty concurrence of the resident Republicans, and those from a distance who have conferred with me by letter or in person, the following plan has been adopted, viz: To apply to leading Republicans to guarantee a certain amount of subscription patronage, upon such terms as may be agreeable to each individual. Those who have already responded have done so with a hearty effectiveness, which augurs well for its success. No apology is necessary for making such application to you. It is only by hearty co-operation that the party can hope for any success or merit even respect from our opponents.

The paper will be termed "THE GUIDON," will be published Tri-Weekly, with a Weekly edition, during the present year, and Daily thereafter. It will be ably and carefully edited and will maintain temperately but fearlessly, the principles of the Republican party. It will represent and promote the business interest of every section of the State and always advocate the true interests of the people, fully realizing that in order to achieve success or accomplish the purpose of its institution, it must be, in every respect, the equal, if not the superior, of any of its Democratic competitors, in the State.

An experience of twenty years satisfies me, that with the editorial aid which I have secured, I shall be able to publish a journal of which the party and the State may well be proud.

Hoping to receive a liberal response, I remain,

Yours, very truly,

JOHN NICHOLS,

Publisher.