

Mr. Jos. R. Caldwell:

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. is received.

I very much regret that you should have been so annoyed by the truly peculiar inclinations of my letter to Mr. Neuthey — which by the way was a private one and in reply to one equally private in tone and character — as to send me a letter so evidently studious of opinion in its character — I might reply in the same strain suggesting that my numerous letters upon this subject have never received the courtesy of an answer; that a private utterance to another should not be made the ground of a personal attack without explanation being asked; that a consideration of the letter itself would have shown me not blinded by passion that it was intended to hurt him neither hostile nor insulting — and lastly, that my previous course towards your Excellency has not been such as to entitle you to term me either an "enemy" or "disgruntled". After mature consideration however I can be wise and proper —

If your letter was the result of sudden passion induced by a knowledge of any somewhat distant familiarity with Mr. Neuthey, I trust that his hands before this exculpated me in your opinion from any intentional wrong or reasonable charge of disaffection towards you. Even should it be not be the case as yet, such reply would only have the effect to render more hopeless an altogether unresolvable difference —

Mem. Jos R. Caldwell

Dear Sir:

Your favor

of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst is received. It <sup>seems</sup> to be studiously <sup>intended</sup> to be studiously <sup>intended</sup> offensive - whether as intended or not, I shall reply to it. If I had any previous hostility towards your Excellency or desired to engage in a quarrel or contro-  
versy I should

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Having no previous cause of offence  
and no disaffection toward your

Excellency I am not actuated by any  
personal ill-feeling, or any ~~suspicion~~ hos-  
tility to your public acts to aggrivate the es-  
trangement - I therefore prefer to regard your  
letter as the result of sudden heat, and to  
write patiently to see if time will not bring  
rationality and justice to your Excellency's  
view of the circumstances ~~arising~~ from  
whence your anger arose - If I am not con-  
rect in this view, I shall still have the con-  
viction of having so controlled my own con-  
science as to have avoided willful <sup>as would</sup> aggrivation  
of a ~~possible~~ <sup>unintentional</sup> ~~and prevented~~  
all possible <sup>unnecessary -</sup> ~~prevention~~  
rupture -

If on the contrary, instead of being  
the result of sudden anger, ~~is the result of~~  
your letter with its charges of personal and  
official infamy, is the consequence of a delib-  
erate belief in the charges you have announced  
it would be inconsistent with my own self re-  
spect to make any reply other than to call your  
attention to the fact that if you give such report  
"entire credit" as you say it becomes <sup>the</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>unpleasant</sup>  
duty of your Excellency to report me ~~to the~~  
Legislation for impeachment - Indeed I am not  
sure that it would not be your duty to call an  
extra session for that purpose. So foolish a man  
and so ignorant as fool, as one might be who  
could be guilty of the conduct charged ought not  
to be allowed to disfigure the bench of the state or  
have longer than is necessary to get rid of him -  
Of course I cannot, consistently with my own  
self respect offer any explanation, or even denial  
of and a charge to one who has already announ-  
ced his belief in my guilt -

Even it not that Your Excellency has de-  
clared your faith in its verity, I should  
have considered the charge as beyond the  
pale of denial from its very absurdity - as  
much so as if I had been accused of  
kissing an elephant or an alligator -

But there is another view in which this  
altogether remarkable production must be viewed -  
It is that this letter is neither the product of  
calden worth nor of actual belief in the  
charges set forth - but an outburst of long-  
simmering excision and accumulated  
ill-will. I will not excuse you your Excellency  
that, considering our previous relations, the frank-  
ness which I had supposed existed, the constant-  
ly growing respect which I had believed to be own-  
ed - the joy which I had felt in your numerous  
and the regret I had experienced at what I deem-  
ed errors in your policy - which regret had  
rarely found expression and now referred into  
animadversion or opposition - I say in view of  
all these things, I find it next to impossible to be-  
lieve that Your Excellency ~~should~~ could  
be treated by any such emotion - Some of the few  
friends to whom your letter has been shown have  
thought it might be possible, however, and I  
am bound in duty to myself to consider <sup>them</sup> that  
hypotheticals - Should such supposition, unfortunately  
be true, I have only to say that it is an act alto-  
gether undignified & an honest contempt -  
In conclusion, I have only to say, that Your Excellency may  
be as old, or have such a surplus of friends that you can  
afford in more wantonness of pipe, to transform them  
into enemies. For myself, I am so young and inexperienced  
as to be able to remain with pleasure on advantage  
in a number of quarrels between persons of kindred interests.

I am, Sir, very respectfully

Your Excellency's Oth servt

"C. W. George"

Copy of letters sent  
in reply to enclosed  
letter from Gov. Calver  
well —

Sept, 22 / 1873

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