

Jefferson Texas

Col. Robertson Topp

2<sup>d</sup> July 73

Dear Sir

A few weeks ago I wrote you from Shreveport that I was under the treatment of a Dr who had promised to cure me in two weeks of paralysis - he told a lie - I derived no benefit from him and having expended all my money in paying him and for board I returned to Marshall. In future I will shun traveling Drs

It is a little amusing and provoking to notice the various news papers reports in relation to the passage of the cotton tax bill. It appears from the pecasine of 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> ult that the <sup>of</sup> administration leaders were determined to pass the bill at the present session. And again it appears from a communication published here in yesterday's paper that it was believed the bill would not pass at this session of congress if ever - this was a damper. But in the next column of the paper it appears from another communication that the good feeling of congress assures the passage of the bill - and then I got better and breathed a little better. But

again it appears from this mornings paper that the committee of ways and means have reported against the passage of the bill which I suppose renders its passage doubtful

There is <sup>a</sup> feeling with tax payers that the bill when passed will be for the benefit of all parties and that they can get their tax without expense or for much less than half. They are looking about for cheap lawyers and I suppose may find them

<sup>fear</sup>

I there is an organized co you are not aware of. I have frequently <sup>entirely</sup> heard it asserted that <sup>there</sup> was a powerful co ~~at~~ <sup>in</sup> a ring it was ~~at~~ <sup>called</sup> at W. B. in no way connected with your co. I was told by a man at Strick report that <sup>he had</sup> a tax interest of \$15,000 connected as I understood <sup>him</sup> with the ring alluded to. He said there was on deposit at W. B. a million or more dollars for the purpose. But after reading your circular I handed him he qualified his remarks by saying perhaps the ring was connected with your co.

I wrote you I had no money to pay for the printing of your circular. But afterwards Mitt of Strick report promised to have it published. I sent <sup>it</sup> to him but have not seen it in any of <sup>the papers</sup> and it may be he has declined its publication.

I have however procured its publication  
in the Mt Pleasant Patriot Times Co edited by  
Rev Mr Wagers He was here a few days since  
and gave him an agency for several Counties that  
had been neglected by other agts He makes no  
charge for the publication unless you choose to pay  
him He promised to send you at W. C. the paper &  
another copy to Mr Nelson He deserves I think  
your patronage as a subscriber to the paper

I discover the bill introduced by you has been  
altered by amendment - will this deprive you  
of the credit you would have been entitled to  
if the bill had passed in its original shape  
After an appropriation is made by Congress I  
am tempted from <sup>you</sup> in bitter circular which ~~that~~  
I think ought to be published in one or more  
papers of the cotton states. Intermeddlers deserve  
severe rebuke especially intermeddling lawyers  
who can in no way in my opinion escape the  
charge of unprofessional conduct without con-  
tributing liberally to <sup>the</sup> expense incurred by the Co  
And the late false charge that the Co had failed,  
sold out, and you and I were dead ought  
not to escape notice nor the pretensions that if  
the Tax should be collected by your Co it will  
not be paid its parties entitled to it. I do

wish to be considered as dictating to you. But  
it seems to me that a correct statement of the  
facts in suitable language - bitter if you  
choose would create a sympathy in favor of  
you so and a just prejudice against those  
working against your interest.

The circular you sent me was not published  
by Haynes for the reason I had sent it to Mr  
Witt which accounts for the omission of your  
memorandum in writing.

4<sup>th</sup> July 73 It appears from this morning's paper  
that the motion to take up the tax bill Friday  
next failed - is it to be inferred from this that  
the bill will not be voted on this Congress - This  
information printed me this morning from  
raising money by a transfer of tax interest.

I am entirely destitute of money with which  
a cent to pay my board bill.

I expect to return in a few days to meet  
your friend  
Granville Lewis

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