

From George M. Beebe to Jefferson Davis

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Troy, Doniphan Co. K.T.

June 9 1860

Hon[.] Jefferson Davis: --

I am just informed that my confirmation for the office of secretary of this, Kansas, Ter. has been by the senate, at the instance of yourself & Hon[.] A.G. Brown--"indefinitely postponed[.]" Of course I can but conjecture, only either of you should have opposed me. Mr[.] Walsh[,] the present secretary, has undoubtedly appealed to you as a Mississippian & you have too, I suppose been favored with affidavits &c of my being unsound.

Your sympathy for Mr[.] W. on grounds of fellow citizenship is well enough, but did Mr[.] W. take the trouble to inform you that he & I are from the same county in New York? Did he tell you too that among the most prominent petitioners for his removal & my appointment were men who were born in Mi & came direct from that state here. As to my status as a Dem. I satisfied His Excellency the Prest. & the Cabinet on that score & was told by Green [Chn?] of your Ter'l Com. that

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that was all the senate required. I personally waited on Hon[.] Jacob Thompson & after my interview with him he assured me that though he had been instrumental in securing Mr[.] W.'s appointment, he could not after seeing the memorial, signed by every democratic member of either branch of our legislature (one in the lower house excepted) together with the Gov[.] of the Ter[.] & other prominent men of the party here, make a single effort to return him. They accused me of being "free state" &c. I never said a word about "free state" until the party in its platform, gotten up by the old pro-slavery party, declared they would no longer attempt to keep up a pro slavery organization for the Ter. However, when our late legislature attempted to pass "personal liberty bill" I alone defeated it. When again they got up the law prohibiting slavery here, I from the judiciary com. submitted & fought for days for a minority report against the bill & voted all the time against its passage. All this & more was set forth by the governor of this Ter. in his letter to the Prest. in my behalf. It was all

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proven before the cabinet.

The thing stood just thus. The present secretary & the Gov[.] could not agree. They in fact, holding no personal communications. This embarrassed the action & advancement of the party. The Secty. finally became so arrogant & overbearing that the entire Dem. of the legislature with one exception united together with Gov[.] Medary & many others united in a reconsideration of myself. The Prest. himself told me that Mr[.] Walsh should be removed. he

could no longer hold his appointment; but that charges had been made ag[ain]st me that I had taken certain action in a conversation held at Atchison &c; but on showing the Prest. that I was there under instructions to oppose all resolutions of endorsement, whether of the administration or of Douglas, & that, I stated at that convention that I complied reluctantly with my instructions in voting ag[ain]st a resolution endorsing the [action?]. I was by the Prest[.] & cabinet nominated to the senate.

Now, sir, I desire you to read this. I know I am defeated; but I care more for my reputation as a democrat than for any office you could ever

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vote to confirm my appointment for. I sustained myself before the Prest. Cabinet. I did not care to nor will I ever stay a cringing supplicant on the senate for any office. I am not an "office" democrat. You have branded me unworthy of democratic confidence; but, thank God, the party here[,] those who know me repose confidence in me. But, should every one withhold, as you have done, their confidence, I would still be a Democrat. I am one con amore, & so long as I live I shall fight Blk[.] [Refs?] & all other abolition ism ites.

I want the wish of the party here to be recognized. They ask Walsh's removal. The dem members of the legislature & the Gov[.] will resign if he be not removed, so for my own appointment I care nothing. Let some one else be appointed, but if I ever come before the senate [*text stricken through*] for confirmation for another office (& I expect to)[.] I hope you will be good enough to examine into the case before upsetting "my kettle of fish". This office holding is a humbug.

Rather than fool it so, I'll let all office & all honors go to those that will do thus[.]

Very Rpctfly  
Geo. M. Beebe