

office of Judge in my person to be degraded by subserviency to either Governor or President, and that I would not so have suffered it to retain it.

I released upon bail a man by the name of Hays, charged with murder, upon proof presented to me tending to exonerate him and with the sanction of the District Attorney in the ordinary discharge of official duty, knowing nothing of the man and having no more feeling in the case than any other brought before me. After his discharge, he was re-arrested by order of the Governor to his aid-de-camp Col Titus, the Marshal refusing to serve his order or mandate. Hays afterwards applied to me for a Habeas Corpus which I issued, and upon his being brought before me I discharged him. I have no idea that any lawyer can hesitate to sanction my action and to condemn that of the Governor. I regard it as nothing short of a high-handed usurpation, and as conclusive to show whatever his capacity for an executive department he has none to justify his appointment to supervise me in the Judiciary. I have had and have nothing to excuse or retract in my conduct.

I understand that it is reported that I had refused to bail "free state men," in cases of less magnitude. To this I have only to say—it is utterly false—and I have to say of all charges of partiality in any official act that they are equally false, made by whomsoever they may be.

I do not as yet know certainly whether I have been removed or not. I have written a statement of the facts of my action in detail to gentlemen in Congress in reply to their letters. To the President I have written nothing because I have not been apprized by him or by any department that my conduct had been arraigned, and I hold myself above replying to the newspaper reports. I should have made such statement if he had done me the justice and the favor to ask them, but I should have said to him as freely as to others that I do not hold myself bound to discharge my functions by any other rule than my own judgement and conscience, and that I should think myself guilty of a degradation of myself and my office, to concede to either the Governor or him a right to dictate to me.

From the Cambridge Democrat.

JUDGE LECOMPTE'S LETTER TO WM. L. HEARN, ESQ.

We have been favored with the following extracts of a letter from Judge LeCompte, of Kansas, addressed to Wm. L. Hearn, Esq., of this town.

LEAVENWORTH CITY, K. T. Dec. 25, '56.

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Leavenworth is going ahead in great style, and your investment there will doubtless be profitable.

There has been a Stoppage of the sales as to the town, but with this exception the sales were completed so far as published. I was in hopes you would come out again so as to be present at the sales. I do not think you lost anything by your absence. The spirit of speculation put up every thing to a high figure—higher I have no doubt than they will be again in five years to come.

You will think it quite natural, that in my position my mind should revert to myself.—You mention the possibility of my removal and I see by the papers that it is spoken of as a probable occurrence. It is reported in fact that I have been. It would not be true to say that I am satisfied with it—but it is true that although some painful reflections follow, there are associated with them some that are pleasant. I am rid of provocations excited by the unscrupulousness of those who have tickled the ears of the lovers of detraction for two years past at my expense. I am relieved from those vexations necessarily attending long absence from home under the circumstances of an unsettled country. I am unembarrassed by the official obligations which—(lies innumerable to the contrary notwithstanding,)—have hitherto restrained me from participation in the advancement of the great interests of the South, and of political justice in which I feel the most intense interest.

On the contrary I shall miss to no little inconvenience the salary of my position. I shall feel with no agreeable sensations that a brand, unjust and calumnious though it be, of official delinquency had been set upon me. I shall feel that injustice has triumphed and fidelity been rebuked. I shall be indignant that these have been wrought to gratify one, who possessing indeed good executive qualities has nevertheless been wonderfully aided by a concurrence of most favorable circumstances and at the cost of one, who has by circumstances of an adverse character while bearing the burthen of the difficulties, been unavoidably the target for opprobrium.

I shall have with it all however the consolation, that I have not suffered the of-