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Letter from James G. Blunt to Salmon P. Chase, August 9, 1859

James G. Blunt

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John G. Blunt

3/47

M^r. Elias Anderson Esq., K. I., Aug 9th 59

S. P. Chase Esq

(Write to him Sept 5, 1859.)

Dear Sir-

doubtless ere this you have perused
the Constitution for Kansas. Emanating
from the Convention at Wyandott. which
has just closed its labors, the
Democracy are determined to oppose
its ratification by the people. Not
because there is any thing in the instru-
ment very objectionable - except
the apportionment - but because
they are opposed to the organization
of a State government - unless they
can themselves control that organiza-
tion - and since the U. S. Senators
they admit - that - if this Constitution
is ratified by the people, the
administration and its friends
in Congress, will not dare to

Jas. G. Blunt

Mt. Gilead. Anderson Co. K. S. Aug 9th 59

S. P. Chase Esq-

(Wrote to him Sept 5, 1859.)

Dear Sir

Doubtless ere this you have penned the constitution for Kansas. Emenating from the convention at Wyandott which has just closed its labors, the Democracy are determined to oppose its ratification by the people, not because there is anything in the instrument very objectionable- except the [apportionment], but because they are opposed to the organization of a state government unless they can themselves control that organization and seems the U.S. Senators They admit that if this constitution is ratified by the people, the administration and its friends in congress, will not dare to

oppose our admission into the
union just upon the advent of
a Presidential Election; If they
do assay themselves against us
we can as well afford to stay
out of the union. as they can
to risk the consequences of a
refusal to recognize our just
demands. The Democrats in
the Convention, Councilled by the
Federal office holders in the
Territory, and all the Border
Reffin leaders of SC - made every
effort - to induce us to take
some action that would ^{furnish} ~~give~~
the Democrats in Congress a pre-
text to oppose our admission -
Such as admitting additional
members, when the law creating the
convention defined the number
at 52 &c. Their greatest effort
was to get our northern bound-
ary extended to the Platte River

oppose our admission into the union just upon the advent of a presidential election; If they do [away] themselves against us we can as well afford to stay out of the union. as they can to risk the consequences of a refusal to reorganize our just demands. The democrats in the convention— commanded by the federal office holders in this Territory, and all the Border Ruffian leaders of SC made every effort to induce us to take some action that would furnish the democrats in congress a pretext to oppose our administration such as admitting additional members, when the law creating the [convention] defined the number at 52 & C - Their greatest effort was to get our northern boundry extended to the Platte River

in this movement they had a
double purpose. They hoped
by annexing that portion of Nebraska
south of the Platte - which is dem-
ocratic - they would be enabled
to carry the election for the first
Legislation. But if they failed
in that - they would then take
the question that we had no
right to include within our
Command Territory not origi-
nally included in our Territorial
limits, Nebraska would object to
losing a portion of her domain
and the Democrats would have
as good a weapon to use
against us ~~as~~ they could
desire, but they have failed
in all their schemes in ~~this~~
direction - and their only chance
now is to defeat the legislation
before the people of Kansas and
not let it reach Congress

in this movement they had a double purpose. They hoped by annexing that portion of Nebraska South of the Platte which is democratic - they would be [enabled] to carry the election for the first [Legislation]. But if they failed in that they would then take the [position] that [we] had no right to include within our [bordering] Territory not originally excluded in our Territorial Limits, Nebraska would object to losing a portion of her domain and the democrats would have as good a reason to use against us as they could [desire], but they have failed in all their schemes in that [unclear]. [direction] and their only chance now is to defeat the constitution before the people of Kansas and not let it reach congress

but - that they can not accomplish
 The constitution will be satisfied
 by a handsome majority - you
 need not be surprised, however
 if the democrats should
 elect their delegate to Congress
 this fall, as I feel well assured
 that - a stupendous fraud
 is to be imposed upon us
 in the returns from Pike's Peak

I am happy to see that your
 name is being canvassed in
 connection with the next Presi-
 dency. I took some pains while
 at Wyandott to ascertain the
 feeling in this territory relative to the
 nomination in 1860. And I find
 that your friends are quite ~~numerous~~
~~numerous~~ numerous - I think
 that with a little management the dele-
 gation from Kansas (small though it
 may be) can be secured for you -
 anything that I can do for you in
 that line - I shall do cheerfully -
 Dr. Bellpatrick & Mr. Hanway wish to be
 remembered to you -
 yours truly Jas. G. Bleunt-

but this they cannot accomplish.
The Constitution will be ratified
by a handsome majority = you
need not be surprised however
if the democrats should
elect their delegate to congress
this fall, as I full well [assumed]
that a stupendous fraud
is to be infused upon us
in the returns from Pikes Peak.

I am happy to see that your
name is being canvassed in
connection with the next [unclear]
[unclear]. I took some pains while
at Wyandott to ascertain that
feeling in this territory relative to this
nomination in 1860. And I find
that your friends are quite [unclear]
[unclear]numerous. I think
That with a little management this dele
gation from Kansas. Small though it
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any thing that I can do for you in
that [line]. I shall do cheerfully-
Dr. [unclear] Mr. Hanoway wish to be
remembered to you -
Yours truly Jas. G. Blunt