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Letter from N. H. Harris to General W. S. Featherston. 26 January 1878

N. H. Harris

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New Orleans, St. Louis & Chicago R. R. Co.

Lamar's letter

Genl W J Featherston

Lamar's letter

New Orleans St. Louis ^{and} Chicago R.R. Co.

Office of the
2nd Vice Pres^t

Mississippi Central Rail Road Co.
New Orleans Jackson & Port Northern R.R. Co. } Consolidated.

Washington, D. C. May 10th 1876

Col Van H. Manning,

Hernando, Miss.

My Dear Sir,

When I was a candidate for Senator, Taylor at once announced himself as my warm and cordial supporter, He not only took an active part for me as his first choice but he was considered by my friends as next to Wall Thal in the efficiency of his support, I was deeply indebted to him and told him then, that he could call on me as a "minute man", ready at any hour of the night or day, and I would respond ~~with~~ to his call, When I was in Oxford early in March we had some correspondence about his being a candidate. It was thought General Featherston, and Mr Watson, and possibly General West, and one or two from Oxford would be candidates for the nomination I did not hear your name mentioned at all, except with the positive declaration that

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3

187

I have said or done, or that has been said or done to me in connection with the congressional canvass in our District- I took ground for him when I had no idea it would be taking ground against you- I feel very grateful to you for the support I received from you in the Senatorial Contest. I believe you to be true, brave, and talented and would, if Taylor were not a candidate support you with zeal and pleasure- But having to decide between two friends- a most painful thing, Taylor is my first choice.

Yours Truly-

L. L. C. Lamar

Copy

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2

187

You would not run - H. H. Chalmers was supposed also to be a candidate if he could not be made Supreme Court Judge - In my conversations with a friend or two in Oxford. I expressed my preference for Taylor, ^{and} in reply to a letter from him, repeated the assurance, that I was ready to respond to his call at any hour of the night. I think there were three persons to whom I expressed this preference in Oxford one in Granada ^{and} the other, H. H. Chalmers. This was all on the 3rd of May or perhaps a few days latter I received a letter ~~from~~ which gave me the first indication of your being a candidate, ^{and} requesting me to write to Lafayette in behalf of Taylor. It was from a mutual friend who had actively co-operated with him in the Senatorial contest, I answered this letter stating what I ~~had~~ said before leaving Oxford ^{and} promising to write as requested. I have received two other letters from Taylor's friends in the last ~~two~~ weeks which I have not answered - This constitutes all