

My Dear Son

Washington 14th Dec. 1839.

You will have heard of the event at Harrisburg. It fell upon us all here with great surprise. But, as by the common consent of the Whig party the question of the nomination of Candidates for President and V. P. had been referred to the Convention, and it had made the nomination, acquiescence was the only alternative. I have felt that it was the only course of honor good faith and duty. I have accordingly both publicly and privately expressed my determination to abide by and support the nomination. I shall be glad if you and my other connections shall come to the same conclusion. What the issue of the contest will be it is impossible to say. So far the Whigs at the North & the Whig press appear to receive the nomination well. Be it fate what it may, does not change the path which I ought to tread.

The House will probably today or to night elect a Speaker. My opinion is that he will be of the Administration party.

Do you come here this winter? How are Julia and the children? Give my love to them & let me hear from you.

Your affl. father

H. Clay

Mr. H. Clay Junr.