

Wash. 22^d Jan. 1824

My dear Sir

I duly rec^d your obliging letter of the 18th instant. I am glad to hear of the probability of the recovery of Col. Taylor's health. With respect to his opinions on the subject to which you refer, whatever they may be, they cannot diminish that habitual veneration for him which I have ever cherished.

On the point of a Caucus, in a spirit of perfect desperation, a continued effort is making to get one up. It will be defeated, you may rely, either by being voted down, in a general attendance of the Republican members, or by a resolution of a large majority of them not to attend. If they make one, it will be a factious Cabal. My friends say that, in the score of mere expediency, they have no objection to a Caucus what shall be composed of the Republican members generally; that they have no fears of the result of such a Caucus; but that they have no idea of consenting to make part of a Caucus in what they should not the part of mere figurants, what would be the case, if the friends of other Candidates, who it is well known will not attend should be absent.

The election, in all human probability, will come to the H. of R. In that case, if Mr Crawford, Mr Adams and I should be the three highest, as is most probable, my friends do not entertain a doubt of my election. They even confidently believe that, on the very first ballot, I should receive the vote of at least twelve states, among which would be those of Penn^a and Ohio. Information from the

Letter

Mr H. Clay

Mr Wm. L. Brooks

Mr Edmund

Mr

Wm. L. Garrison

1824

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of 86 (read long ill) recd