Camp near Monterey,

July 30th, 1847.

Geil S. Cameron
U. S. Senate:

Dear Sir,

General Tayloe received this morning your very complimentary letter, covering the proceedings and resolutions adopted by a large assemblage of citizens of Pennsylvania lately convened at the seat of government of that State; and he said he should embrace the first leisure moment afforded by the pressing duties of his station to return his acknowledgments and to thank you, his fellow citizens through you, for this expression of their confidence and regard.

The General was unaffectedly gratified with your resolutions and proceedings. You ask no pledges that he will serve a party, but you are satisfied with the standard he himself has erected to be guided by it.
of his Country

The General repeated upon this, ad upon several similar occasions that the approbation of his country men, is the highest need of the soldier. And when his military is acknowledge by his country to have filled the measure of her expectations and to have shown him faithful to the high trust of maintaining the honor and glory of her arms, it is all the reward he should ask. That to accomplish this, has been his most anxious wish and constant study. Beyond this he had no thought of recompense, and no aspiring desires, have moved him to interfere with matters out of the sphere which should constitute a soldier’s duty.

In reference to the past, announced by your proceedings, I mean the presentation of his name to the American people, as a candidate for the Presidency, the General reiterated the sentiment which he has often
expressed, that his pretensions are too humble ever to have courted or sought support for that situation. That it has been his wish to see the most talented and distinguished statesmen of the Republic selected to fill that high and responsible office, and he considers that there are many who are his superiors in those attainments which he deems to be pre-requisite to a wise and judicious administration of the government; and who would conduct its affairs that the honor of the nation would be maintained and the prosperity of the country promoted.

Notwithstanding the strong influence of these sentiments and feelings, the general state, that he did not feel at liberty to refuse to serve, in any situation to which he may be called by the people! And as the people of Pennsylvania, in different portions of the state, irrespective of party and without solicitation or consultation on his part, have put forth his name as a candidate for the office of chief magistrate of the nation, he feels it due in courtesy and prudence to state, that if elected to the presidency under such circumstances, he will not shrink from
the responsibilities which such an event will impose.
Believing as sincerely that these sentiments will be appreciated and that expression this declaration of his intentions, will be considered sufficiently explicit, and trusting also that his declarations to you, and his letter to the "Signals" will be deemed as satisfactory answers to the many letters that have been addressed to him from various quarters relating to the same subject, the Gen. authorises me to present to you personally his respectful regard.

Yours Aet. Sct.

John McW. Meade

Paymaster

U. S. Army

P. S. Of course you will not use this in any way except to read, learn it.