

Confidential.

Springfield, Ill.

Oct. 28th 1876.

Hon. Lewis W. Steward.

Dear Sir:

The movement contemplated to withdraw your associates on the Democratic State ticket to make place for so many independent Candidates, of Consummate will ruin everything.

It will disorganize the Democratic party and balk its expectation at the moment of engaging the Common foe.

It will implicate you in the howl which will be raised of bargain and sale.

It will strip the Democratic national ticket of its State staff at the moment of action.

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]*

It will scandalize us outside  
of the State.

Let me advise you to set your  
face against it.

It is too late to change front,  
even, if earlier, it would have  
been expedient to do so.

Yours very respectfully,  
John A. McLeaud.

*[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]*

