

1616 LAVEREDA STREET
COR. HILGARD AVE.
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Dr Himes-

I read and most highly appreciated your admirable tribute to Col. McGraw while on my back, ill in bed. What a heroic figure he was in revolutionary days when heroes were the rule. That the locally entitled are not forgotten by the local historians is also cause for gratulation. McGraw in his life time no doubt was executed and suffered ostracism and never reached the reward his fearless performance of duty entitled him to before his countrymen. I speak feelingly on this because during the Civil War, my first commander and fellow townsman Capt. H. Milroy performed a McGraw act to the great advantage of the Union forces, but to his own severe personal humiliation. When he started on his Peninsular Campaign, Milroy as Major Genl. Commanded 10,000 men in the Shenandoah at Winchester then strongly fortified. He urged that Lee would not dare hurry on north and leave such a force to hang on his rear and that to compel him to stop and cut it off or clear it away would be worth all it could possibly cost in giving our main ^{change} army in pursuit on the longer line to overtake and ^{better} confront Lee on ground of our selection. What Milroy advised

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he was permitted to do, his immediate superiors disclaiming responsibility. Lee sent a large force which failed, then stopped three days to send a larger and Milroy having accomplished what he proposed and being entirely surrounded escaped in the night with half his men lost in the confusion and darkness. Milroy was so criticised that he asked trial by Mil. Com. This was granted but regulars and men of lesser rank put on and only the intervention of Pres Lincoln saved him. While final conclusion of his case was pending Milroy went to Lincoln. "Lincoln said let us go over to the War Dept, and get the papers." I got them and as they walked back to the White House Lincoln became so absorbed in reading them he paid no attention to me, and when they reached the White House steps I sat down on them while M. waited or walked up and down. Becoming impatient Milroy spoke hoping when Lincoln looked up and said "Bob you dont think I would let these fellows harm you do you?" and this was the great salvo that eased Milroy's feelings ever after. The Records of the Rebellion contain a letter from Lincoln to Grant then in command at Chattanooga asking him to take Milroy which he did and the fearless

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crippled by ailments and did not present as much
 an arraignment as the case deserves and as I ^{intend} ^{to} ^{do}
 did. Dr. Lyman Abbott notwithstanding his five ^{thousand} more yrs.
 was the efficient head of the business or rather Plat-
 form Committee, and as usual neutralized all
 aggressive action. We agreed for years, but when
 Roosevelt was Pres. he and R. had a plan to turn
 the Indians over to the Army which I authorized
 since which he has militated against me this
 not openly unfriendly. Daughter Geneva brought me
 a copy of his (Dr. Abbott's) Autobiography to show
 my trip west. In that he says "I told him my
 plan was to load the Indians on the cars and
 drop off seven at each station". Knowing I had
 never put it in that drastic way I went to the Univ.
 Library here and marked all I ever said on that
 line at the meetings at Washok and of the Board
 of Ind. Com. and had them copied by a student.
 My record for kindly persuasive method is clear
 throughout. Thinking you might care for this
 condensed record made through all the way
 I send you a copy to read and maybe you
 will think well to place it in the H. Library.

With the very best wishes and unreserved greetings
 for the new year in which Mrs. P. joins
 Faithfully yours
 W. Pratt

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Dr. Chas. F. Hines
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