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Lawrence, N. J. Jan'y 12th 1859

My Dear Sir;

We have had an exciting time here in the Legislature to-day but I think the Anti-Montgomery men will succeed in their measures, and I also think that when they find they will get better that they will get some of their own notions put into the reports and then yield opposition and vote pretty unanimously in favor of some Territorial measure looking to the suppression of the troubles in Sum & Bourbon Counties.

Had the Sec. of War not issued orders for the return of the U. S. Troops we should have made a general clearing out of that country in a short time. The accounts from that country are really distressing and I have no faith in our Marshal that he will do any thing useful. I am in hourly expectation of hearing from him, but cannot bet on him with any certainty. If it was not for the desolation sweeping over those counties I could very well enjoy the fight going on in the Legislature. Had my opposition been prosecuted with vigor they could not raised a party here to sustain Montgomery, but the withdrawal of the Troops gave life and vigor to the rebels and they