

Washington Jan 26 '1861

Mr Edw, I salute you as  
Speaker pro-tem & deprecate  
you as a correspondent, so  
slow & so uncertain, like  
an old coach on a dirt road.  
If you suppose I am a gentleman  
of leisure you are in error all,  
I am struggling with an  
Epistolary storm, all the  
while, poured on me by applic-  
=ants for office & their friends.  
Appropos to this, Tho. Brown  
has written me for the Dayton  
P.O., I do not answer, as I have  
enough to do of my own.  
The Ohio Legislature has done  
well this winter, Abolitionism  
or the Country must go down,  
there are the alternatives,  
The Convention of Comm. &  
respond to Va is I think a  
healthy move. Send your first  
rate men, we have enough of  
every other kind already here.  
The Congressional mind is  
narrow, selfish & timid.

W



The near view I have of the  
question persuades me that  
unless the Republicans concede  
something the country will  
permanently divide & what  
is worse the Democratic  
party will prevent a united  
North & will beat us in  
every Free State of the West.  
Kansas hangs along charac-  
-teristically. This week will  
be my last as Delegate, that  
is sure. The Bill will go  
through on Tuesday & you  
may expect me along,  
in my narrowest flight  
about Friday or Saturday.  
The Senatorial fight rages  
in the Territory & I must  
hurry out. My chances are  
as good if not better than  
his. The only danger I  
have to encounter is in trades  
or combinations. Frank Blair  
will go up with me or at  
least come up about the  
time the Legislature convenes.  
Russell's embarrassment is  
rather against me but  
still I have some view =