

Natick, Nov, 11th 1879.

My Dear Sir,

Returning to my home this afternoon I find your note of the 7th instant, requesting me to give you my impressions of the late Senator Broderick, with some account of his general bearing and deportment in the Senate. I hasten before the closing of the Mail to comply with your request.

Mr Broderick's early history, his position in California upon a great question and his prolonged and exciting struggle for the Senatorship had made a deep impression upon me, and I was anxious to make his acquaintance and to learn more of his character. Early I sought his acquaintance and during the two years we served together in the Senate we were on terms of inter-

innuery. We were members of the same Committee, often conferred together concerning public affairs, and entertaining sentiments in common upon many questions, we held free and unreserved intercourse with each other. Our acquaintance ripened into a warm and sincere friendship. For him I entertained sentiments of respect and affection, and I deeply deplore his death, and shall ever cherish his memory.

He was a man of marked characteristics. He impressed upon me the conviction that he was a man of iron will, inflexible resolution, indomitable perseverance, and of undoubted courage, truthfulness and sincerity. He was a man of a nice sense of Honor and justice and he despised meanness and dishonesty, and he was plain and outspoken in the expression of his opinions acts and actions. His words and his manner showed how intense was his scorn of wrong

and wrong-doers. He was familiar, frank and out-spoken and I think he was sometimes imprudent in the utterance of his opinions.

Mr Broderick had many great and noble mental and moral qualities and these qualities were being developed by study, reflection and a larger experience with public affairs. His faults - vices he had none - were the faults of a manly, honest and robust nature. He mingled little with general society. There was a shade of melancholy about him. He seemed to feel that he was alone in the world. He looked not hopefully for the success of the principles which he deeply cherished. I sometimes thought he was saddened by the consciousness that he was about entering into a great contest for the supremacy of the principles he entertained, in his adopted State, and that he

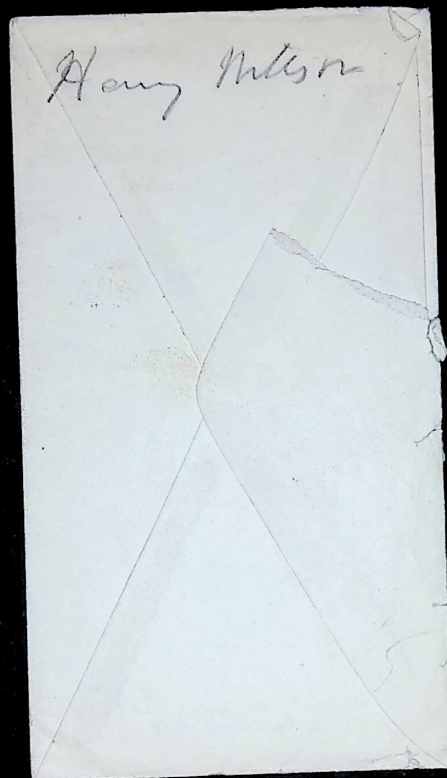
must encounter the hostility of men
who were seeking his overthrow if not
his destruction.

California has lost
in him a public man who was
ever watchful of her interests and
honor; The country ~~has~~ lost a
true patriot, the cause of free
dom a devoted champion
and thousands a tried and
constant friend. Yours truly

To John W. Swinelle Esq. Henry Wilson

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