

Gadsden Ala  
Dec. 15th 76

Hon John H. Caldwell  
Washington D.C.

Dear Friend

I write to acknowledge the receipt of the Record of 5th 6th 7th 8th & 9th for which I am under renewed obligations to you. The Situation appears to me to be so threatning of the peace & perpetuity of this Goverment that I am at a loss to know how or what to write to you about. I have become satisfied that neither Honor justice Law Constitutions Supreme Court or public sentiment even of the north is going to restrain Grant & his fellow conspirators from Robing the Maj of the people of the U.S. of the President, that they have elected fairly & constitutionally, & I look at it in the light of a Govement like that of Mexico when the party in power sets the example of disregarding the will of the people when it is constitutionally expressed Then if they maintain it, the foundation on which this Govt rests is gone, & there never will be again

any force given to any mans claim to an office by having received a maj of the votes, if the opponent has the power to hold on to the office by force, & for these reasons I conclude that if Tilden is not Inaugurated President in Mch next that every thing is gone of this republican Goverment that is worth a cent & then when it is gone Twenty years will not establish any other kind or reestablish this one permanently again

There is a general feeling among the people in this country of hope that there will be by the northern people a serious earnest & determined resistance to their nefarious plans & Schemes even of carrying the war into Africa if necessary but we realize that the South should Stand in the back ground until she was needed. I am aware that you know Ten times as much about these things as I do & have the capacity and opportunity to penetrate the future far more intelligently than I can and I should be happy to hear from you & know what you think of the prospect ahead especially if you can see any prospect of a peaceable

Settlement of the question. Anyway I want to hear from you privately on the situation I suppose that you will probably be at home during the hollidays & should You we would be more than pleased to have you & Mrs C. come over & spend a few days or at least a day or two with us. It would be an opportune time.

My family are all well & all join in expressing kind feelings for you & yours.

I remain your friend

Truly

A.L. Woodliff

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

TOWN CREEK

MAY 4

ALA.

U.S. POSTAGE

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THREE CENTS

Jno H Caldwell [John H. Caldwell] MC

Washington

DC