

And an opportunity on the fifth of ~~the~~ members favoring my intended course of action by the appearance of a number of these people, who brought with them a bullock, and who refused to give any information with respect to the intent of their visit, I arrested three of them.

~~The~~ arrest and imprisonment of these men, had not been effected over four or five hours, (as it was done near sunset) when some of our people met in one of the public buildings to petition their release. Now, an instant course of action, unprepared by the employment of thought and deliberation, is highly unsuited to an attempt at the prosecution of grave measures in which the strictest scrutiny not unfrequently fails to detect treacheries.

It is an established custom among the natives of these parts when a bullock upon presentation is accepted by a people with whom they are at variance that all differences by this acknowledgment are ~~settled~~ settled.

But however ~~inconsiderate~~ inconsiderate the step was on their part, the petition was gotten up and handed in to me by a committee from that meeting, accompanied by verbal threats at a breach of the prison bars in the event it was not granted. — At first I concluded to lay the matter over for a day's consideration, and let matters — as violence seemed to be intended — take their course. But upon second thought, and rather against the advice of such of ~~some~~ of my cabinet officers as I could readily convene, I changed my views and signed it for the prisoners' release. — From the Committee after their meeting the petitioners to inform them of the result of the petition, nothing was heard on my part till the next

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

13. May 1855—October 1857

1856