

John C. Breckinridge  
Vice President and Senator

He was a noble man, kind, generous and able, when he was Vice President I had charge of his room and was with him often, when ever he drew his salary from the Treasury, I ~~at~~ always went for it, and often kept it in my possession until he called for it. His son Clifton on one occasion came in the Vice President's room and asked his father to give him a ten dollar gold piece, he said that Mr Bassett had his bag with his money in it and to call him in and ask him to open the draw where is bag of gold was, I always kept the key, I did so and gave it him, The little fellow was so glad that he went out and told the Pages and they went down with him to the Restaurant and had a nice time. Frequently his wife, during the session would want to go to her home in Kentucky, and he would ask me to see that she got off safely, after his term expired as Vice President he was elected to the Senate, while he was in the Senate he always wanted me to attend to his wants, on the day that I was baloted for the Office I now hold, he called me up to him and said why did you not tell me that you were a candidate for that place, I would have voted for you above every body else in the world, I told him I was not a candidate and did not know anything about it until just before they commenced voting, Senator Wade and Clark came to me while I was in the lobby and told me that they had just nominated me in Caucus for the Office of Assistant Bookkeeper, I had no intimation of it before