

Department of the Interior,

Washington, D. C., July 1, 1877.

[CIRCULAR.]

SIR:

By direction of the President I have the honor to enclose, for your information and guidance, a copy of Executive instructions of June 22, 1877, in reference to the participation of Government officials in political organizations and campaigns.

Very respectfully,



Secretary of the Interior.

To

J. H. Wilbur

Fort Snicoe

Wash

Executive Mansion,

Washington, June 22, 1877.

SIR:

I desire to call your attention to the following paragraph in a letter addressed by me to the Secretary of the Treasury, on the conduct to be observed by Officers of the General Government in relation to the elections:

"No Officer should be required or permitted to take part in the management of political organizations, caucuses, conventions, or election campaigns. Their right to vote and to express their views on public questions, either orally or through the press, is not denied, provided it does not interfere with the discharge of their official duties. No assessment for political purposes, on Officers or subordinates, should be allowed."

This rule is applicable to every Department of the Civil Service. It should be understood by every Officer of the General Government that he is expected to conform his conduct to its requirements.

Very respectfully,

R. B. Hayes

Circular

Instructions relative to
Federal Appointees taking
part in Political contests