

Walter Horne March 1<sup>st</sup> 1833

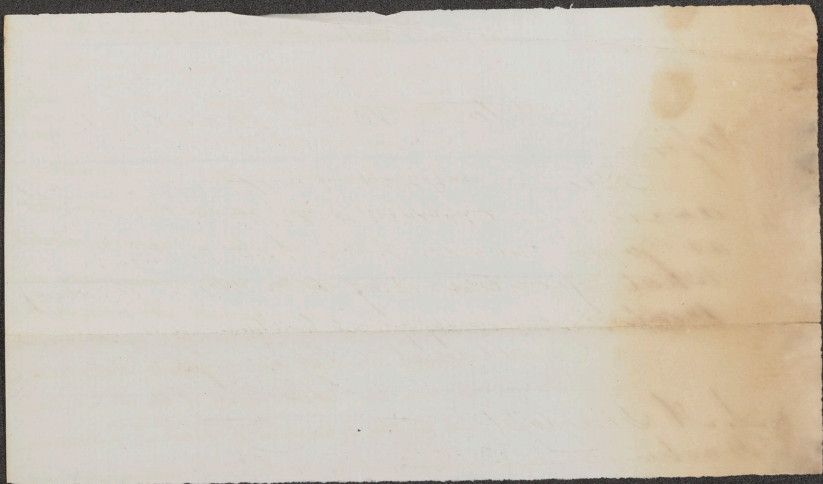
Sir

Please examine the enclosed  
document. And inform me  
at your earliest convenience,  
what portion of the same (if any)  
meets your approbation

And oblige Yours

W. B. C. C. C.  
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Wm. A. Douglass  
Washington



Points by H. Berdan of Chicago Illinois,  
relating to the Patent Office and Suggestions  
for improving the method of conducting that  
branch of the Public Business

1 Plan and Original design of Patent Office Buildings

The magnificent edifice at Washington now occupied as the Patent Office was originally designed for that express purpose and for no other. The building was commenced in the year 1836 and 270 feet of the South side of the block finished and occupied within 4 years from that time. The whole when completed will form a Quadrangle 413 X 280 feet with an open Court for light air and other convenient. The original design gives a splendid Hall 270 X 65 expressly intended for the display of Models, and two smaller rooms communicating with the Hall 85 X 65 feet intended for the same purpose. The rooms in the Basement of the building were designed to accommodate rejected models models of a coarse and heavy character and to furnish shops lathe, furnaces engines &c. in fine the lumber rooms of the Institution. The gallery was designed for the Exhibition of specimens of American skill and ingenuity as developed by the Patented Improvements contained in the principal story of the building; and to meet the requirements of the 20th Section of the Patent Law of 1836, as other minor parts of the place were to comply with other requirements of the same Law.

2 Increase of the Business of the Office and the Diversion  
of the Building from its proper use

The number of applications for Patents is increasing annually in an extraordinary ratio. In the year 1790 they numbered only three. In 1850 the number was 2198 and it promises to reach near 3000 the present year. The applications are in most cases accompanied by models averaging at least one cubic foot in size furnishing a present aggregate of more than 20,000 models deposited in the building. This makes a constant increase in the demand for room not only for their display, but for their stor-



unaccommodation of the increased number of Examiners Clerks, Draughtsmen, machinists and other Officers requisite to carry on the increased business. According to the rate of increase in all these respects the whole building according to the original plan much of which remains to be completed will be required for the legitimate purposes of the Patent Office within 20 years from this time, making it much to be regretted that the Architect did not select a larger lot of ground for the site instead of as has been represented there being an unnecessary amount of room.

From the first a large part of the building already constructed has been diverted from its legitimate uses. The best story in the Edifice has been occupied by a Cabinet of Curiosities while the models of Inventions which it is of the utmost importance should be so displayed that they shall be accessible and open to inspection, are crowded in a scandalous confusion into the basement rooms of the building where they are not only rendered useless for the purposes for which they were intended but where they are also corroded by the dampness and liable to be entirely destroyed. A large portion of these models are entirely unclassified and all of them badly so, so that the time of the Examiners is consumed in useless searches and the whole economy of the administration impaired. Besides this and going in the same wrong direction a deliberate design is now entertained to perpetuate upon the interests and rights of Inventions a gross outrage which can admit of no justification nor palliation. In 1844 Mr. Ellsworth then Commissioner of Patents appreciating the great evil of the want of classification and proper exhibition of the models and there being then no other receptacle for the National Gallery of Curiosities recommended the completion of the East and West wings of the building. The recommendation was renewed by Mr. Burke. In 1849 Congress commenced this enlargement by appropriating \$50,000 out of the Patent fund, the accumulation of fees paid by Patentees and applicants for the erection of these wings. Strangely enough Mr. Lubant the late Commissioner reported that the additional about to be so furnished would not be required for the purposes of the Patent Office and Mr. Stuart taking advantage of this statement of Mr. C.

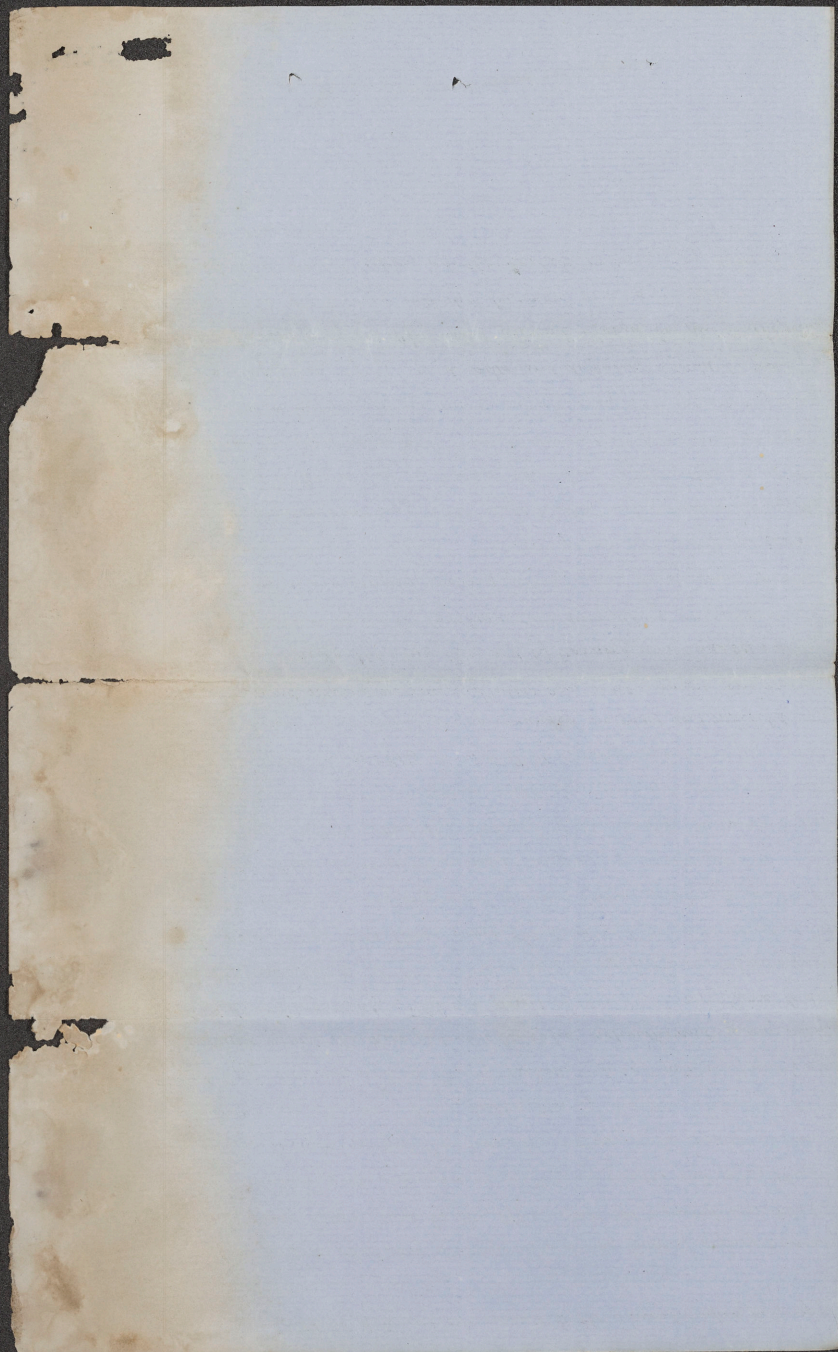


recommends to Congress in his report of January 1851 that the two wings of the Patent Office be appropriated to the department of the Interior, by which means a single class of Citizens not generally overburdened with wealth, the Inventors, will be taxed to the extent at least of \$140,000 for the purpose of furnishing the Government with offices for a new department with which they have no relation more than others. If this appropriation of the building is once made it may be and probably will be impossible to restore it to its proper use for many years after it is urgently wanted for those uses. It is an experiment at all events which ought not to be tried, inasmuch as the additional room even now will only help to make a more perfect and intelligible classification and system in the business of the Bureau and will at a very early day be absolutely demanded. Indeed the transaction can be characterized as little better than robbery and the proposition has aroused a feeling of much indignation among Inventors.

My plan would be then to restore the Patent Office to and retain it in its original and appropriate use as the Temple of the Inventions and the Inventors of our Country.

3 My next proposition would be that the agricultural returns which are now very inappropriately and incongruously mixed up with the reports of the Commissioner of Patents be printed as a distinct report and that the collection of that species of information (and perhaps Commercial Statistics also) be entrusted to a distinct Bureau organized for that purpose. By this means the duties of the Commissioner of Patents will be reduced to a proper attention to matters relating to Inventions and the way will be prepared for the following proposition which is.

4 That the Commissioners reports instead of being an annual volume as now be issued monthly in the form of a Journal containing full specifications of all the Patents granted illustrated by appropriate Engravings when engravings are applicable and carefully and minutely indexed. It might be provided by law that the engravings





1. Gordon  
Public Buildings



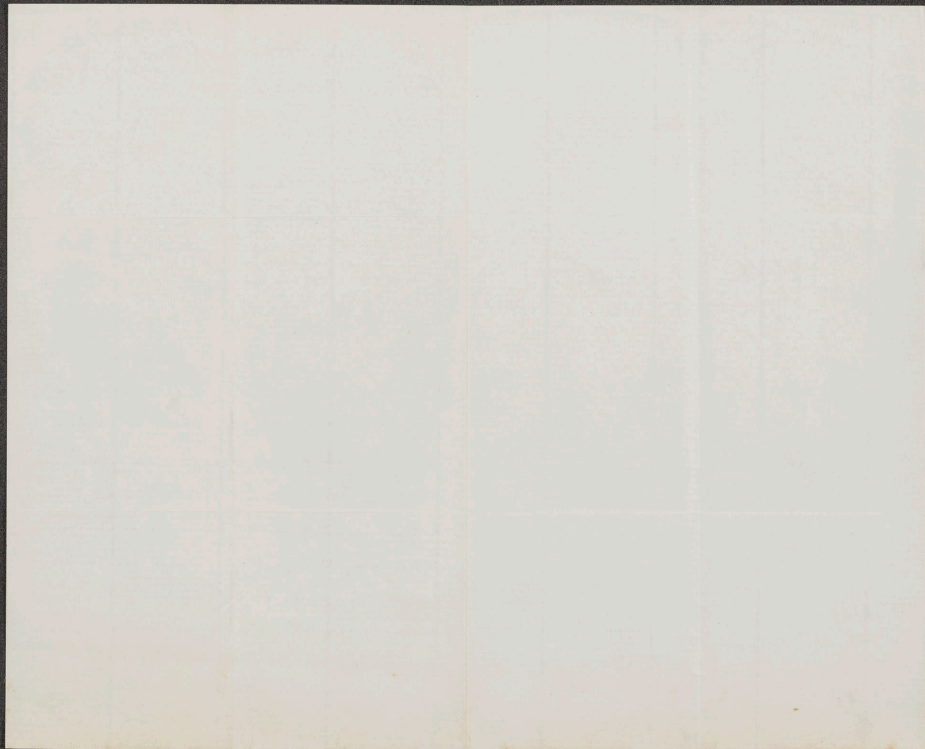
Brooklyn, March 1./53

Hon. S. A. Leangles,

Dear Sir;

When recently, on a visit to Washington,  
 I ~~took~~<sup>took</sup> with me a letter of instruction  
 from Dr Vandewater, Bishop of Chicago,  
 in which I now enclose: of which the  
 object is to desire you to use your powerful  
 influence with the in-coming Administration,  
 that my Mother-in-law, Mrs Chs. E. Benson,  
 may be retained in his position in the  
 Custom House of N. York - you had, at  
 that time, been visited by a domestic calamity  
 which prevented your appearing in public; and  
 I could not, consequently, present you the letter -  
 May I hope, dear Sir, that you will interest  
 yourself in this case: and you will confer a  
 great favour upon the Bishop, ever well as ever  
 your humble servant

Charles C. Pate D.D.





Executive Mansion,  
Raleigh, March 1, 1853.

My dear Sir:

Major Green W. Caldwell of this State would be gratified to procure the appointment of Superintendent of the branch Mint at Charlotte. He has held the office, and resigned it to go to Mexico, to defend the rights and honor of his Country. He is eminently deserving and his appointment would be hailed with satisfaction and pride by the democratic party of North-Carolina. May I bespeak your good offices in his behalf.

Providence has again sorely afflicted us by the death of our dear sister Miss Rebecca Settle who departed this life on Thursday last in this City.

Your friend

& obt servant

David S. Reid.

Hon: S. A. Douglas,  
Washington.

E. A. Caldwell

Atlanta

Sept. 1st Charlotte

ConfidentialWalt Allen-OfficeNew York March 7<sup>th</sup> 53

My Dear Sir-

In relation to the title claim I have  
 upon the new administration in which you kindly  
 promised your assistance I have forwarded today  
 to Gen Shields who has promised to hand  
 them in, my applications backed up by recommendations  
 signed by the Democratic members of the Legislature  
 of this State. General Shields has kindly consented  
 to present my claim and as I am unable to have  
 done at present, owing to the illness of my partner,  
 I solicit your cooperation. It would oblige  
 me if you were to speak to the General  
 on the matter and if he has not already handed in  
 my application request him to do so -

I fear that while so many more important  
 matters occupy you, that you will be  
 annoyed by my importunity yet, as I trust my  
 very humble claim may not pass unmentioned.

When do you think the New York appointments  
 will be made?

very truly  
 your friend

Wm. D. Douglass }

W. D. Daly



Edith "Luna" Hill  
Myer  
Rice



May 8, 1853

My dear Sir,

I desire to send in my papers to day, and if it would not be inconvenient for you to send your letter to me by my friend and relative Mr. Stevens, you would greatly oblige me.

I had a conversation last evening with the Hon. R. D. Walker in reference to exploring the Northern Line and I was most highly gratified to learn that in his judgment, I had not over-estimated its importance.

Truly your friend,

Isaac Stevens

Hon. S. A. Douglass

Washington March 8, 1853



J. Stephens  
Washington

Philadelphia March 9<sup>th</sup> /33

Hon. S. A. Douglas Sir.

A resolution having passed the "Phila. Literary Association" to this effect. "That our Secretary be requested to communicate with the Hon. S. A. Douglas, and ask his permission, to have the honor of enrolling his name, upon our records, as an Honorary Member."

I am extremely happy, Sir, to be the instrument of communicating the wishes of my associates, and sincerely hope a favorable response.

Very Respectfully Yours  
Jerome J. Buck

No 12 Mercantile Library  
Phila

Spencer  
Addison





March 11. 1863

Dear Judge -

My cousin's application for re-instatement in the Navy is before Mr. Dobbin, and will probably be decided to day or tomorrow. The two vacancies will at once be filled. Mr. Bissell's prospects are every way favorable, but still something else remains to be done.

I am exceedingly anxious that all should be done that can be done - and earnestly wish, therefore, that you and Rev. Shields would so far favor Mr. B. & myself as to call upon the Secretary of the Navy to day, and do what you can consistently in support of the application. I feel an unusual degree of interest in this matter, as I would not make of you so troublesome

a request. Yours Ever W. H. Bissell  
Judge Douglas.



Col Russell  
friend  
Jan 1 Mary 80



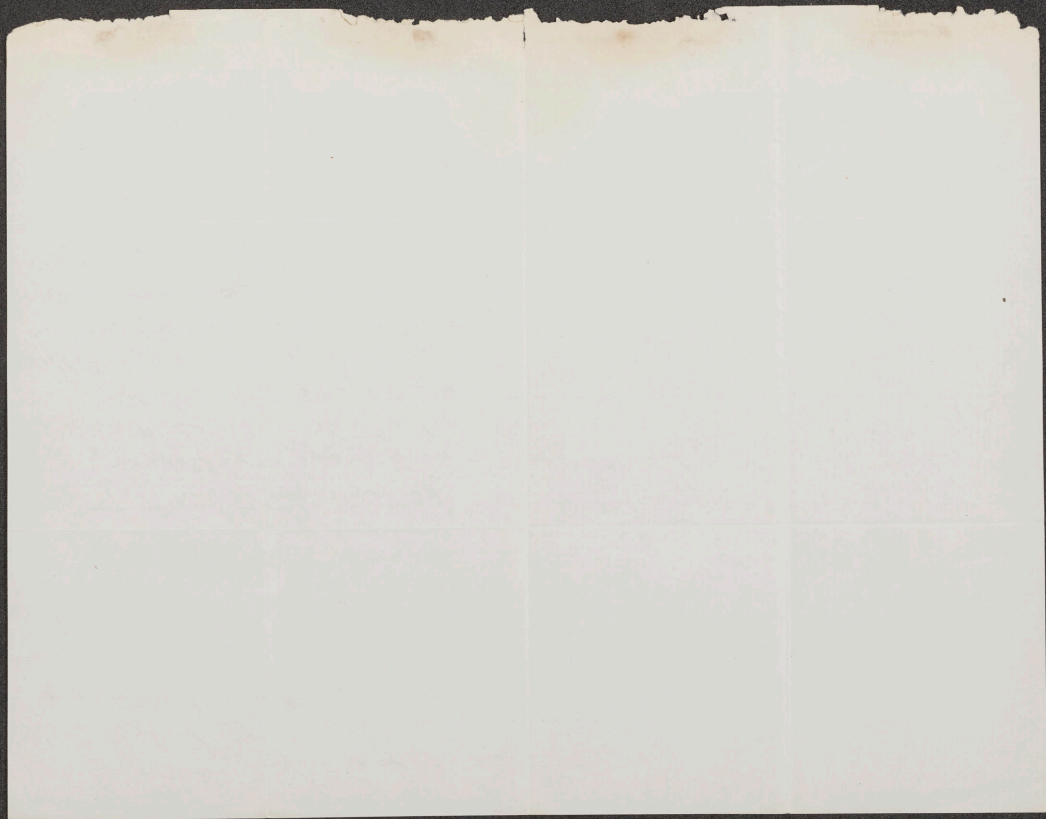
C. M. Johnson  
Wants to go to Spanish  
American States

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Washington March 11, 1883

My dear Sir:

I told our friends what  
you said & did for me yesterday  
, and would have been glad if you  
could have heard their expressions.  
You were kind enough to say you  
would speak to the President in  
my behalf. Will you permit  
me to make a suggestion? That  
you point him to me as deserving  
& as being peculiarly qualified  
for duties in the Spanish American  
States. You can do me most  
special aid; for which & assured  
you shall never have reason  
to regret. If you bring me before the  
President in a strong light, I shall  
~~be~~ be successful. Very respectfully  
Hon S A Douglas C M Johnson



1837  
Hampden Sidney College March 12<sup>th</sup>

Dear Sir

I have the honor of informing you of your recent election as an Honorary Member of the Philanthropic Society of H.S. College. This Society was instituted by the students of H.S., for their mutual improvement - intellectual - moral - social, and is seeking, effectually, to promote these objects by exciting an honourable emulation amongst its members in the pursuit of knowledge, and by the additional stimulus of a well selected, very valuable, and annually increasing library.

The Regular Members of the Society are elected from students of our own Institution only, but we feel it would be both an Honor & Benefit to us to enroll amongst our Honorary Members the names of gentlemen whose virtues are in harmony with our general objects; and especially of those who have already reached public distinction for their attainments - their genius, - or their virtues -

You will gratify us much by accepting, kindly, this testimonial of our Esteem, and authorizing us to place your name amongst our Honorary Members, and will confer a still greater favor by allowing us to enjoy, at your earliest convenience, the pleasure of your personal appearance, and the advantage of your friendly counsel.

By order of Society  
Wm. H. C. Thomas



Wampden  
Sidney College  
Invitation

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No. 154490

Thomas Kelly's Case

Pension Office

March 16, 1853

Sir,

This application for Bounty Land under the Act of September 28, 1850 is herewith returned for the filling of the blanks in the same and the Signature of the Claimant.

It is necessary for him also to file his affidavit that he has never applied for nor received Bounty Land heretofore and is to his knowledge entitled under the former Act of Congress.

For other evidence required see Circular (No. 4) enclosed.

I have the honor to remain

With great respect

Your Obedient Servant

Hon. S. Douglass

U. S. Senate

P. C. Johnston

for Com.

Enclosure



(No. 4.)

**PENSION OFFICE,**

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SIR:

The regulations of this office require, that in every case of application for Land Bounty, under the Act of September 28, 1850, the original certificate of discharge be presented and filed with the claimant's declaration. If lost or destroyed, or if the claimant never received a written discharge, or if discharged in consequence of disability, or if he was in captivity with the enemy, the facts must be stated, verified, and authenticated, as in the case of the declaration.

*original certificate of*  
The discharge of *Thomas Kelly*  
not having been received, nor its absence satisfactorily accounted for in his declaration, filed by

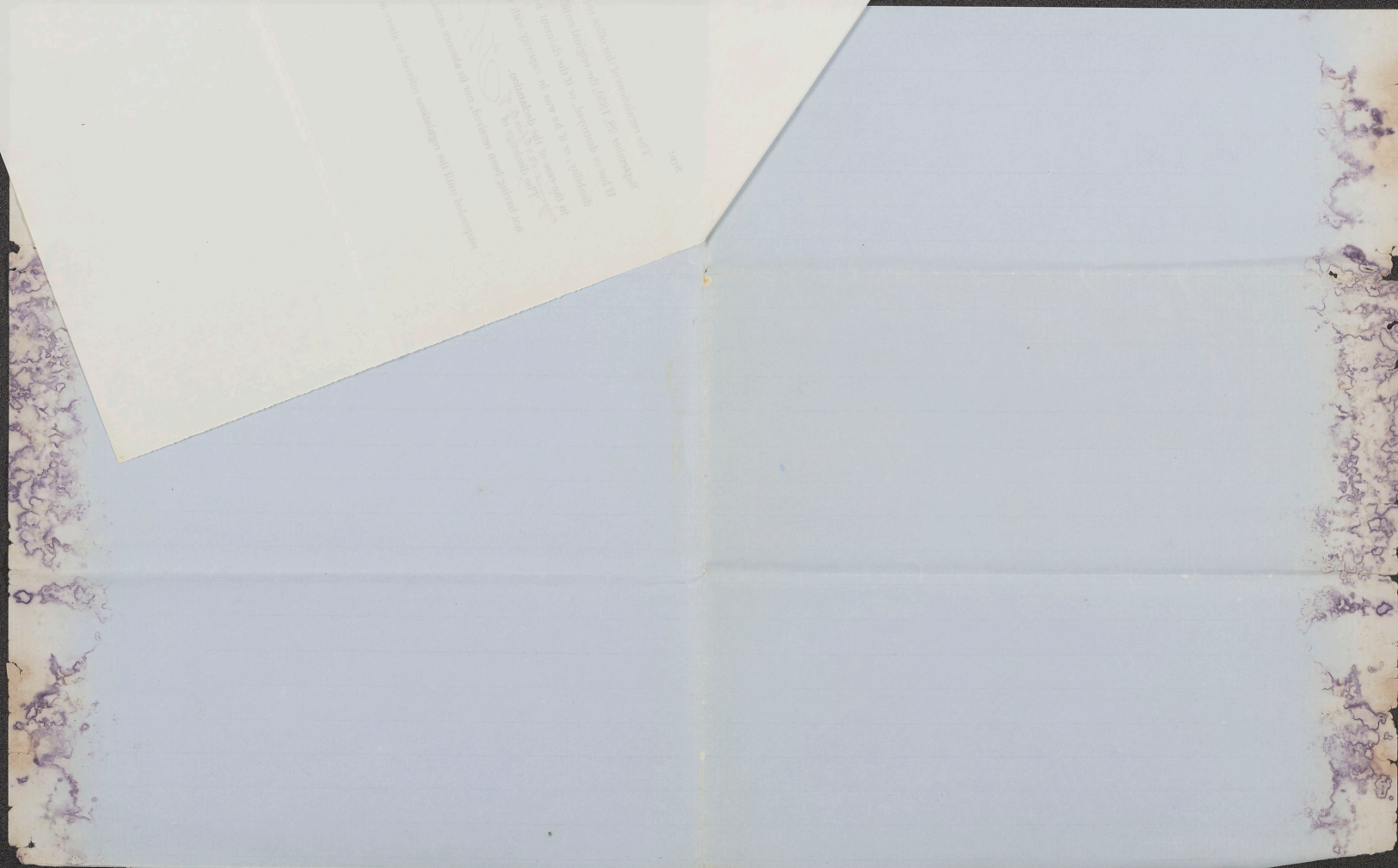
a further examination of his claim is necessarily  
suspended until the regulations referred to above are complied with.

Very respectfully,

J. E. HEATH,

*Commissioner of Pensions.*







Division office

te

Washington, Mar. 15/53

Washing

I see by the news from Central America that there may trouble spring up on the central American question.

I am firmly persuaded Clayton could have made a far better treaty than he did, if he had made a sine qua non of no British occupancy at all in central America, or no treaty, but you will fail in your purposes in the Senate, if we are to stand off, and attempt to drive the British from the Bay Islands colony.

If we expect to succeed in keeping the European powers from colonizing or getting a foothold in America, the foreign policy of the govt. must be materially changed, and we must work by treaty stipulations thro' the State Department, that is, we must make an alliance with these small powers, and agree to protect them ourselves from European aggrandizement. Now. before



the country is precipitated to an extremity  
have some caution and prudence, and  
work the matter, I would advise, in this  
method.

Instruct Gov. Mancy to make a  
Treaty of Alliance with one or all of  
the central American states, to sustain  
them in their opposition to any  
permanent colonization by European  
governments, John Bull, or any of them.

Then send a small squadron there  
to neutralize the British force afloat  
and you will fully succeed, I believe.

But, mark, if you stand off, and  
fulminate threats, that she must stop  
the colony, or draw off from that  
neighborhood, I predict you will most  
probably utterly fail.

I read your speech with pleasure,  
and believe with you, that the London  
Treaty should have been by all means  
sent to the Senate, but a Treaty of  
Alliance may effect all, or nearly all

our desire, and if G. Britain continues to  
colonize, we ~~can~~ <sup>may</sup> then say, we will  
antagonize the <sup>colony</sup> treaty, and do as we  
please.

Don't take this course in open  
Senate, but personally advise Gov.  
Mancy to so treat, and then England  
may be informed that we choose to guarantee  
the independence of Central America  
from foreign dominion of any sort, as an  
act indispensable to their and our  
protection.

See to Mr. Mancoleta, and if he has  
not been well treated, have him re-estab-  
lished here in his ministerial relations.  
What I say here, I am actuated by the  
purest motives. I do not want to see any  
more British occupancy here, but I think  
the only effective plan is to treat in  
the manner I here propose.

Yours, respectfully,

R. J. S.

Am. S. Abouglaph

W. A. D. Huntington

about

Winey & Watkins Spur,

Spain

✓



Private.

Boston March 16, 1853.

Sir:

I am informed that the nomination of E. C. Bailey Esq., has been sent to the Senate, as Post Master of Boston.

I spoke to you in Mr Bailey's behalf when at Washington, and will now repeat that ~~this~~ nomination is a good one in every respect, and perfectly satisfactory to the great mass of the merchants and business men here. May I again solicit your aid and influence in securing an early confirmation of Mr Bailey. If there is any opposition to him, will you please inform me.

This is an appointment as you are no doubt aware in which Col. Greene of the Post, feels a deep interest.

Very Res. Yours,  
J. Holtbrook.

Hon. S. A. Douglas,

P.S. Your late speech in answer to Clayton, is universally admired.

In the matter  
of  
C. C. Bailey  
Amicus Curiae  
Mass



Washington City, March 16<sup>th</sup> 1853

My dear Sir,

I have called two or three times to see you relative to our friend Dr. Ames. I believe you understand my position with regard to him. So long as Dr. Molony, Gen Shields, and other of his friends, supposed there was any chance of his obtaining the Governorship of Minnesota, so long was I steadfast in his support for that office, but after consultation it was concluded by Dr. W. that it would be safer to withdraw his name, and urge him for the Secretaryship. I am devoting all my energies to accomplish that end, and would be glad to withdraw all applications in my behalf for the first office named, if I could thereby secure Dr. A's elevation to it. I did not wish for the appointment per se, and have so told all my friends, but I have consented that my name be proposed, simply to exclude an outsider if possible from being placed over us in the Territory. Judge Ames & Dr. Molony both understand my feelings towards Dr. A. and my sincere desire to serve him, (and I have taken the liberty to address you this note in order that you may be apprised of the state of the case.

Very respectfully & truly

Your friend & servt.

H. H. Holley

Hon. S. C. Douglas

U. S. Senate

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1. 1.  
about 1.  
the first time



Ms. A. 1. 1. 1. 1.  
about 1.  
the first time