

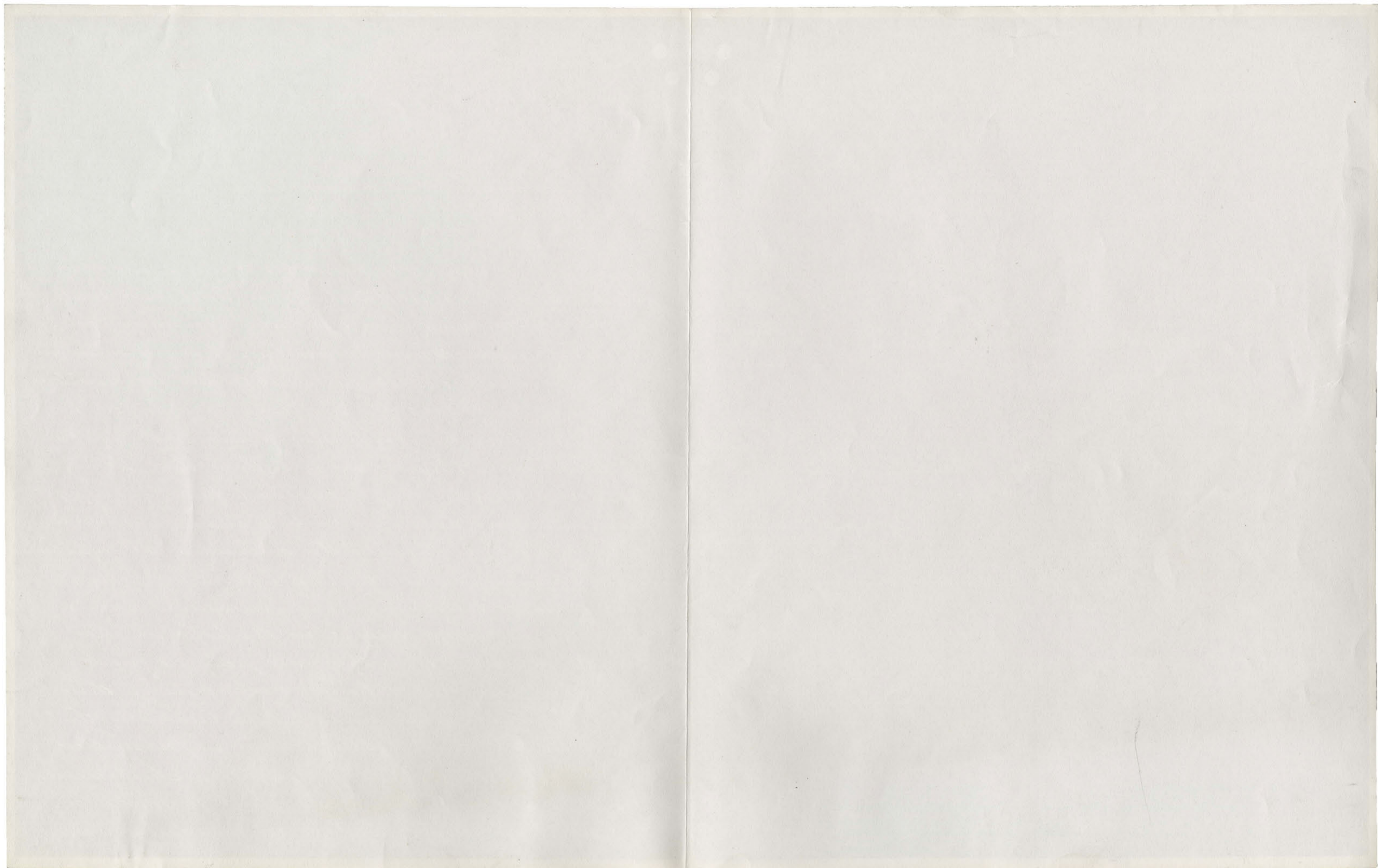
(A8)

St. Louis July. 13. 1853

Dear Governor
Messrs Seymour for whom I am employed have large undertakings in Railroad work in Illinois Indiana Ohio Kentucky Tennessee Connecticut and Maine consisting of nine hundred miles in all which will call for an expenditure of from 25 to 30,000,000 of Dollars. For these works they and their sub-contractors require vast numbers of workmen. It has occurred to them that the Catholic clergy may be anxious to them by way of circulating balmers in their lands of work and they desire me to make the attempt to get assistance from that quarter. To do that I wish for letters to the Catholic Bishops of New Orleans St Louis Cincinnati and any other Bishops in the South or West. The Seymours pay as good wages as any and take good care of their men. They stipulate in all their contracts that no indent spirits shall be used or permitted on their works and thus keep mischief away from their works. They can afford to make a pecuniary compensation for sending them

Wm. W. B. Stewart.
acting with
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St Louis July 13/53



salaries in any form that may be acceptable. They will pay a bounty on all hands who work on their lines one month or more - or they will pay the salaries of such priests as may be required to minister among the men or compensate the church in any other proper way.

Now Dear Sir, what I desire is letters from Bishop Hughes to his contemporaries in the Bishopric wherever they may be, that shall enable me to command the confidence of that high order of the Priesthood when I apply to them on this subject. I know Bishop Terman of Buffalo of course to the others I should be glad of letters of introduction. I could get them from Bishop Terman but he is absent now in Mexico.

Can you and will you by letter or otherwise ask Bishop Hughes to send me here letters of introduction to all the Bishops? I might apply directly to him but I fear that he might not remember so unconsiderable a person as I am.

I should certainly naturally have applied to Mr. Webb on such a business as this but I have been so far unfortunate in losing of late some share of his confidence and I feel a sort of self conviction that he ought not to regard me as kindly as formerly and so I hesitate to tax his good nature as

I once would with my imputation affairs. I know also that I have no right to lean as I do upon you but living a feeble folk must lean somewhere and I know no one so willingly self-sacrificing as yourself.

I believe I have ceased to be a politician and am trying to make myself a living out in the West. I am encountering the heat and malarious of the Mississippi valley in summer, with obvious advantage to my health. I am well and as happy as I possibly can be, while conscious, that I am rapidly being forgotten by dear friends east, who used to cherish me before they found out that I was not a positive quantity.

I hope Mr. Sewards is quite restored to health and I pray that he may long be a continued blessing to his innumerable friends.

Most sincerely Yours,

J C Hawley

To Hon. William H. Seward
Cuburn.

P.S. Can you next winter help me to get a grant of land to the Iowa Rail Road?

