Executive Mansion,

Washington, September 6th, 1864.

Dear Sir;

I must beg your kind indulgence for not having sooner answered your letter asking for a copy of certain recommendations, &c.

I did not find them on file in my office, but learning that you had obtained it from another source, I let the matter rest.

I herewith return to you the $5 sent in your letter, which I ought to have done sooner, but which has been prevented both by a pressure of work and a temporary absence.

Your obt servt

Jno. G. Nicolay

Priv. Sec.

J. L. Bittinger Esq

St. Joseph, Mo.