

Astor House

New York May 23/57

Joseph W. Barrett Esq.
Chester Vt.

Dear Sir

Several months ago I wrote to Hon. W. F. Raymond Editor of the New York Times, asking if he knew of a gentleman who would be competent to take charge of the leading working editorial department of the Cin. Gazette. Mr. Raymond mentioned you as a gentleman that would probably suit. Owing to sundry preventing circumstances not necessary to mention the matter was ~~done~~ about that time; permitted to rest. The place however has not been supplied permanently, and this has partly brought me to this City at present.

In conversation to day with Mr. Raymond he suggested that I had better write to you, as he had not recently had occasion to know any thing of your engagement. Thus, I have briefly explained the object of this letter.

I will now state in a new words what we want at the Gazette Office. — If you should be open for an engagement when this reaches you, I will save the writing of many letters. If you should not, I will

do no harm. Edward D. Mansfield Esq. is now our chief editor i. e. he does most of the leading writing, but his strength lies in writing solid articles on ~~some~~ prominent subjects. He does not watch current events closely. In a word he has not the tact for managing the editorial department, and he can best make his great talents available in writing leading articles, without reference to the every day details of newspaper life. Besides Mr M. resides in the Country, and is in rather poor health. We expect to continue his services so long as he chooses to write for us, which will doubtless be while as long as his health will permit, but we want another man to work with him, and ~~he~~ ^{this man} would of course be the principal managing editor. This man should be a strong writer well informed on all practical subjects, and capable of putting almost as many ideas as words in an article. The leading editorials of the New York Times and Courier & Enquirer are samples of the style of writing that would suit the Gazette. Our paper is a Commercial and political newspaper - Our politics are Conservative Republican, and on the leading questions of the day we aim to take strong but Conservative ground, and having taken a position, we labor to maintain it with ability. Being a stranger to you, and wanting to

you will doubtless see no impropriety in the liberty I have taken in indicating the qualifications necessary for the place that we are seeking to fill in the Gazette office.

The Gazette is the leading paper in the West. It occupies a high position, and exercises a due amount of influence. Its business is large and moderately profitable. We would prefer in arranging with an editor to find a man who could take an interest in the establishment, and who would do so in case after a fair trial he suited the place and the place suited him. In order to guard against any misunderstanding or hard feeling on either side, it would be best before making any permanent arrangement to try each other fairly and fully. This might be done by your spending two or three months in Cincinnati - or by your writing some articles for us, on general subjects, at home and sending them by mail. The compensation would depend altogether on circumstances. - It would be from \$1000 to \$2000 - In case you purchased an interest the profits would be in addition - say 15 to 20 per cent, - to the salary. - We would expect you, to do little else than to write for the paper. We have news and other departments of the paper well filled - chiefly with parties who are interested in the establishment. I shall be pleased to hear from you at your earliest convenience. Please address the writer individually. I will be at home on Thursday or Friday next.

Yours Respectfully
Richd Smith

Richard Smith

May 23, 1832

James Schindler

of New York City

17th November