Dear Judge,

Though we do not agree on all questions of Domestic Policy, yet as we have always been friends, I may add attached to the interests of our Country, I take, the liberty of presenting some views on question of Foreign Policy which may become worthy of your attention.

Until within the last few days, I have never been in the instability of a War with Mexico. The advice recently received from the delegation of Pancho and the ground he has taken in conformity to the Annexation of the Texas had not been to believe that we will have War with Mexico. You also may receive the sound and current information. I need not list them. I look upon war with Mexico as more than probable. Upon this subject, I have addressed you.

Such a war if it occurs, should be a short one, and successful, all of which can be accomplished by the concentration of the major energies of the Govt on this object. You know very fully in the connection that are ought to have California if she believes if it can be secured practically and if she is bought or by the folly of Mexico, then it should be taken. Other provinces of Mexico are more easily penetrated. But California is taken it will not be surrounded by our force. To do this there is the choice of an Expedition by sea or land. I believe it is too expensive of fully aided on. Though it might be successful and a Sound Expedition. The time Method of attack is by a Sound Expedition. To make an Expedition of this kind successful it should start from the Western Coast of
Maj. Gen. by the 1st of June, now since

arrived. The route taken should be by Santa Fe. 

in the adjacent country, a detachment to help it in the

to be detached from Monterey to the north.

of California. The Detachment should all be mounted, with some loose hay as

sustenance. A portion (at least half) should be armed with rifles and pistols - the remain-

ance would adjoin to be armed with muskets.

The plan for forty days in a march in the house-

of a soldier who will act as the vanguard. With

Villavicencio or Indians, will act as a strong

point, properly sustained by artillery. - The plan is to

be made for keeping the enemy from Monterey, but the

men on foot in actual engagement. There should

also accompany the Detachment a small body

of five light field horses, from 6 to 8.

The number to be mounted. The Expedition should

be from 1,500 to 2,000. This force, though small, if judi-
cally organized and commanded, could overcome all ob-

structions which could be offered against it by the

Mexican or Indian in the region of country things

which it would help. It must be composed of

allied Mexican men who are accustomed to manage

horses, horses, cattle, and other necessary Affari-

age. Without it should not be possible to make

the necessary which could not be obtained in a

large force, and to travel with great

To supply the Provision, the resources

of the country should be provided a number of

carts or wagons, drawn nearly by cattle,

and as the provisions were consumed from the

wagon, the cattle should be turned loose for

refu. The ammunition, whatever happens, was

understandably should be disposed by means of

which

The journey from the town of Monterey to the

points would easily be covered on the route.

Although this trip would be a long one, yet the

outfit of the Expedition would not be costly, as they

were not carry a large quantity of provisions, with

them as they sought to struggle. Thereby, the
codions from the Baja California with a

dance in the Mexican which would not be known

from the other Indian, grain brought to them for trade.

There would be no fear in my judgment, but

that the same wagons of food would be readily

transferred along the superior route. The transference

of heavy ordnance was by Don Juan Leoni, after

which the Expedition was extended along the

route. This would be the result of the above

action, of which the conquest, it would be even

does not permit landing at the Bay of San Francisco. In

this fashion, heavy ordnance should be put in

of a squadron would constitute advantage

in the land Expedition.

In the present condition of Mexico, any firm

of war troops could not be sent to California as the distance

from the city of Mexico to Monterey is about 700 miles.

With José de Guadalupe, it could be done.
Maintained fo that another Mexico a Great Britain could successfully disturb it.

Prior to that, with the Indians should be given to the commanding officer, or to a chief person who would accompany the expedition, it further known should be given (on account of the remote location of the country) to establish a Provisional Government. I would further suggest that another Expedition in connection with this might be well and very hospitably act conjointly with it. That if of that a corps of similar size to the one proposed should accompany the Expedition to Santa Fe, & from there make an excursion into the Province of Chihuahua, under the command of H. B. Bonito, to attack the Province of Durango, as well as their South to them, contain abundant supplies to sustain an army. In an attack from that quarter would act as a useful diversion to restrain the force of these people from making any attack which might be contemplated on the City of Mexico. And these troops could be used in the early stages that would enter from Texas of their junction was desirable.

If mine is taken as a probability of a war with the Mexuc, more especially if mine is to be one with both England & Mexico, it is shown to me that troops & the material for them should be collected at Jefferson Barracks. At the Western frontier in time, so that the Expedition could start on the Shrew. If it does not, if they succeed, we may expect to find Mexico putting California into the Expedition of England, from whom war it will be much more difficult to wrest it.

Then and nothing about any expedition to
To Mr. Douglass,

As I have not taken into the account
that we are to have an immediate war with
England. But in such an event the port will
doubtly take steps to defend our rights in that
territory.

I shall hope we will have peace, & if it is
possible to secure it with honor it should be done.
War is no pastime, & many good men will be
enriched if they can be consulted if war
takes place with any power. But really antici-
pare that the first hardening of the Mexican front
doing will precipitate us into an unprepared
war. Should it be so, I would like to see it sometime.
Should either the expedition to California, or by
Santa Fe, to the Arkansas, be determined upon
I should like to be with them & you & all your colleagues, as well as all who know me for
acquainted with the business for army, & & my inti-
mate knowledge of all description of frontier life.

If our country minds men in the field, I think
I could make myself useful to you in some
capacity. But whether I go or not, it does
seem to me from much reflection on the subject,
& a thorough examination of all the sources of informa-
tion to form me within my reach, that an event
of a war with Mexico, there should be an expedition
fitted out to seize California.

I could write a great deal more on the reasons for
this opinion, if the details were to carry it out, but
it is unnecessary, as you there is a probability they cud
be done useful.

As you have taken time to inform yourself in ref-
inence to our Western relations I can appreciate this
point in which this letter is written, I have thought
on your patience. This faithfully yours,

John J. Hardin

Hon. L. H. Douglass
Jacksonville, M.
July 5th 1846

Dear Major,

Knowing I wrote to you two days since, further advice has reached us here of the result afforded to our
sent by Mexico in its council toward
Mr. Dallas on Minutemen. That now will be the result from the question of the
remaining Grant of Mexico, seems almost
 certain. The attention of the community
is being turned to the subject, and an
issue is expected. I send you a copy
of the Missouri Republican, ready to
show you the tone of the Major present
the West. I hear no one who expresses
a different opinion.

If Mexico does not give
any explanation or satisfaction which
our Grant should demand under the
circumstances, there is no resort but
to take up arms. In the mean time,
while our Grant is demanding more explanation
from (if the case demands it) the Council
Stances to do so. I suppose, of course, military operations
will be taken for offensive purposes, &

wearing troops to it.
Should a war occur with England or Mexico, you will be commanded to offer such resistance as circumstances will permit. My object is not the intention of taking a part in it. Military time has shown a call for troops. I have tried and always seen the different capabilities at different times, of President, Brigade Major, Commandant.

Should there be an occasion

As you have been in my staff, it seems reasonable that as well as from an American nation as from, I can rely on your treating me with justice in this matter.

Should there be an occasion in which you deem my services can be of any avail to the Government in a Military CAPACITY, you are authorized to present them for the control of the force.

And constantly, that if there is a call for troops, you will be exceedingly annoyed by requests for persons of all kinds. But as I have held office in this Military career since I have been of age, I have felt it to be my duty to place my self at the service of the country, if I can be useful.

Through not agreeing with the administration on all points of domestic policy. I acknowledge my position yet in our foreign relations I acknowledge not greatly to any treaty but that our country believed it to be the duty of all

If I had a chance I would begin a campaign. Through Santa Fe and Sonoma. California being I could be most useful on such an expedition.

Without waiting to learn the result of the action of Congress, on this subject I acting on my conviction of probabilities. I notify you have always acted with me, if my services I have chosen to do it through you, as you may best make them known to the force of any other command, and I have not chosen to do it through my immediate representation in Congress, because acts from the confederation, the measure in which he has recently acted towards me is endeavors to invite my renunciation to Congress, would prompt me from making this request of you.

I am desirous you will confer with Mr. Boutwell and Mr. McDowell of the United States House (who is my counsel) of the New York
Who I am confident will do all in their power to see
me in a position which I consider will satisfy the
country.

Yours truly,

John J. Hardin

To Washington D.C.

[Postmark: Feb 5, 1830]

P.S. If this reaches with Mexico, as it is very
probable she may be here upon the 20th in legislative and diplomatic
business, you can learn this by my former letter; if they call
himself, you can hear from my former letter. If they call
himself, you can learn from my former letter. If they call
Winston-Salem, May 14th, 1866

My dear Judge,

I suppose that first at this time you are in the midst of military moments or concerns, attending to the Mexican war.

The news have awakened some interest, but so much treatment as the Senator and as the news of war usually make. The attention of our people is not devoted towards Texas or Mexico, nor the Gulf coast. People here seem to think that the skirmishes will wait to engulf that jaw.

But there is very considerable anxiety to know whether Congress will order a corps to march to California via Santa Fe in such an expedition as I once sketched off to you. Some I had from Sub Taylor & the certainty of the war I have gained in that there should go to California if the General commanding send out a corps for that service. There is a very general desire throughout the country amongst old as well young men to enlist in such an expedition. Many of the Army lost men in the country - Merchant.
Members of the Legislature, Congress of the United States,
I have been informed that an expedition—of which I con-
tinue 20,000 men in a few days to join—will start for that trip.

By all means such an expedition should be made. I think it should be undertaken immediately.
May 2nd or 3rd July—California can be reached by early winter.

If Santa Fe or California are the points to be taken, this would be to the benefit of the
people of the West. I understand I have

been in a hurry of the troops
for such an expedition. It could be
an advantage to some troops from this
State, if one command could come from Illinois, another from Kentucky.

If I am ordered to

command, if he is a gentleman, or
a gentleman soldier, I wish 50,000
men I can do so.

May 2nd or 3rd, the 20,000 troops to
Illinois for troops to aid. I would be
very glad if all should be made. I trust it will
be immediately made. But it is not
to claim that there is much
more than of the yellow fever, than
of all the Mexican losses that were un
mentioned, passing through the
country, especially as to the value of gold
from the Missouri climate at this season
of the year. To be Southerner latitude,

Part of troops are wanted to go
to Santa Fe, or to California or
both—you may depend when any
number being raised. As also if they
is to be an expedition via Santa Fe
to Chihuahua to Mexico South a
Southwest for a quantity.

I am just writing to

an hour long, will act. They
should act promptly & efficiently,
so will have a good effect abroad.

Having hesitating policy, will destroy
the instinct of spirit of the people.

Longing should show that in case
all not used, all the feeling is lost
in the general determination to add
the arms of home to rights of the nation.

Yours truly,

John A. Dayton.

Nov. 5th, 1847.
To J. A. Douglas
Washington City
D.C.

[Postmark: Jacksonville May 15]
Bredstrom
Brazos City, May 20th, 1876

Dear Judge,

Your letter of the 2nd May preceding me in this mail yesterday.

I am now attending court of treason here—lonely watching the news by the boat
from Matamoras. Then the business of

ourtact: We have just heard of the battery down of Matamoras, & the desert
of our troops in their encounter with the Mexican, & it has begun to send
unlike feeling into our bosom—

Since I heard of the outburst in Mexico, I have been making arrangements to raise a corps for the
California Expedition, on which I hear
my heart very much set. It strikes
me that this is the most proper &
smallest time to remove California to
our government.

No time however is

To be lost in raising a corps of
the troops on that expedition. If the
Emma is lost it will be too late to
send troops in the fall to California.
If we can get off by 1st July it will
be, but we should start sooner.

In several counties active

A good man has promised me to raise,
companies, if there is a call. Col Mathi-
son, Mr. Kurtz, a merchant of Jackson,
Mr. Monard, Mr. Hill, Mr. Scott, Isaac Plasiter, & myself, & several others will raise companies. I have no

about going until I soon can get
as many men as the Government will permit me to get. I am now at the head of a force that I expect to organize any corps authorized to be raised in this State for that expedition. If I can get a conservative corps I intend to have a force large enough to make my object successful. I shall organize a corps of Mountain men if you mention that can depend on a force of from 1,000 to 2,000 men large enough to do all that can be done with them. I have been informed that the Kentucky, Tennessee and South Western states will expect to repel any attack on Mexico by the South, and as they will be but few troops from the North West in that quarter, the force raised in this State would confer great advantage on that quarter.

We are very importantly waiting for news from Washington, nothing having reached us from that quarter.

For the convenience of your military aid I am procuring a place in which I may be useful to my country in this hour, I am perusing many letters to you. I have many old friends at Washington, as well as many of my fellow senators in the case I am being to see aid in returning me to have a portion when I may be useful. What I am about may be, I shall learn to yourself & my other friends in Washington.

As for writing with other parties to be placed if not in raising troops, you will confer a favor by advising me in advance of what shall be done, or it is likely to be done, respecting troops of the various states.

For an efficient and efficient organization of a corps to march to California, there should be stationed at St Louis an officer of the Government, as agent with any military powers, to facilitate the arming & equipping of this corps. It should be best I suppose for this agent to be a volunteer. The volunteers furnish their men but the volunteer furnish the arms & the boat should only furnish off a few hours for remittance of the boat.

The military agent which has been standing so long seems to be serving no useful purpose. I have taken steps to blame my troops in thorough organization. I have applications constantly for leave to join my present command. Will not an expedition be organized to march & make a descent on California to take the shelter, then I march toward the city of Mexico? That would be a grand expedition. Yours truly,

John C. Frémont
R. The Bills of the King's measure the House of China $80,000 to raise 50,000 arms. How does this work out? Is it right? Acting Secretary. Still it does not authorize the California Expedition. Will it afford a chance? Will it? The arms must be sent. At least 18 months or 2 years.

Mr. S. E. Drake

Washington, D.C.

May 1876

The Harcourt
Springfield, March 25th, 1836

Dear Judge,

I am indebted to you for your favor of the 15th inst. which reached me at Jacksonville this morning. Leaving Illinois to see the lawyer I have more on the subject. I read this paper this morning when I found the petition in the office for 3 Repts. as you stated. I have talked with everybody made a speech to the Volunteer write out any proclamation, copied it for the purpose. I go into particulars up on your excellency.

I am the first place, what does the law 50,000 volunteer arms mean in this? Who are to elect or appoint the guards of Brigade & Division? You mention that they are to be elected by the laws of the State but they are to be bound over to the Govt. by Rept. When in the service of the Govt. what is the rank of the Govt. arm as the armed forces of the United States? It seems to be the intention of the Govt. for these officers to be chosen as similar officers are chosen by in the State.  To this Mr.
In the 2nd Place—We are growing discouraged in not hearing that Orders is to have all the troops raised there to go to Santa Fé—The things I’ve heard has a right to half that force, & 5,000 men could be raised in a few days to start there. I am assured very a Right with the intention of taking in that direction of the front with advantage. If we can go—The men can be mounted in a week or 2. You have a right in clining to represent us this campaign. Baken’s help is representing himself. I should go out you can already, & a camp start I believe in very that if you visit a. The forces of Jed. They have already shown us greatly—but have been doing it will lead to the destiny one of the time. I doubt then is it the determination of the right to throw an exciting force into those by Sanfress or Vera Cruz. You that will be better looking after—No matter talked of or thought of in Union this year. I should be glad to hear from you often.—Yours truly—John J. Hardin.
Jacksonville, May 31st, 1866

Dear Sir and Major,

Contrary to all the predictions of the cowards and envious community, I alas! at this time seem to have a busy honor of fighting fever, Illinois and doing duty in various volunteer companies.

On my return from Springfield I notified the battalion line and St. Louis would call for volunteers on yesterday. I made there an address & in the towns we had 65 volunteering enlisted weekly from the county. I know of no man that I expect to form another company in this place next Saturday.

Your old friend, Wadsworth came to an end at midnight after returning from Springfield, continued to Franklin (15 miles) begin day to begin to raise a company. I heard a report of his march to the corps at Franklin.

"Boys," said he, "the do NECED them come on on my side of the river & killed some of our men. They must be driven back & you must all go."
A man who was there says they all
stood upon their horses, but the long
old men—certainly it is the only
good one or more companies—
both fell from their horses. The command-
crier, I, and the young
man, not yet 20, had added that
my information satisfied me. I would
get two or three companies from them.

Kearney the Democratic Democrat for Senator
in Missouri is raising a company to go
with me. Smith of Marion
is raising another. Asbury of Springfield
is also in the field. I believe we can raise another company.

You know that the Pittman law is, that
Pittman will raise another company—
you know it is unwise. It is
more difficult to raise men at
this season to go to the Gulf than on any other
season. But they know that men are
Pittman will not be behind his state,
Owing to our having been large during it is
more difficult to get them together. They
consequently are slower than in the city,
but you may assume that President
Dix's Secretary of War, the V.P. Smith, will do,

To command us, that we will be
ready to at the appointed place to aid
us in any service.

I have raised my men to march through
the yellow sun to the city of Mexico,
I shall have no trouble in getting a
Regt. The prospect is I shall get this or
three, if the other is then to be done?

I write you would impress whether
the Regt will be permitted to send one
more than 10 companies?

If you can have the kind of service
with me. I am it is healthier to go through
the upper part of Texas, yet it will take
months to get into Mexico. I can do this
in keeping the Spirit of the laws. By December, 42nd.

There is a good deal of charity here
because we cannot send any men to
California—Thousands will go that
route if they have the chance.

I will try to accommodate the officers
by enrolling the thorough of a few pounds
of officers and to track up than the army.

I hear our old Kentucky of Kentucky.
I will promise to have our followers of cash
since in another month.

I go to Springfield in the morning, will
Write me what is going on about military matters - hang your clothes out about much or tell me any thing about them. Who is singing? When are they going? A Mrs. Washington will come to see the girls at some, I hope.
April 11, 1846

Dear Mayor,

We have heard nothing
departure from Matamoras in Washington
for some days, I am getting anxious.

Now, if the military are busy against
getting ready for the campaign.

Return from contain an enemy in past,
from unexpected operations, and had
that the whole question will be filled up
by the middle of next week, so that there will
be an increase of 15 or 20 companies. Can't
you get the President? I beg of you to
find if the resignation in known been filled
so that they will receive another Regt.

It can easily be raised, or rather it will
be raised before it is known they will not
be wanted.

Mr. Lincoln wrote me on the 22nd
that they are in contemplation to send
the forces to Texas on an expedition against
the eastern provinces of Mexico, probably by the
long Route from Fort Goze. If this is done
the troops should be mounted. They should also
be sent to Fort Goze on the Mexican to
independence. Mexico by them sent. This would
be kept the troops fed, I would not cost more
than the transportation of the troops and baggage
supplies for across the country. I can trust
The regiment number of Mounted troops can be
raised in ten days after the order is received.
If the troops from the north are to be sent against any of the Eastern borders of Mexico, it should be known to them in time so that they can be in readiness. A change of drill or discipline of troops, as mounted men instead of infantry, will make a change of men in the pay in some instances. But all vacancies can be readily supplied.

If the troops from the south are not to be divided into sections abroad their summer, we should also know it. Thousands want to go in this fall. I have already made the request of the information from the north for the City of Mexico. We are looking for them.

I, Simple.

Camp near the battle of Harpers Ferry in the center. The entrance of the state of many counties in the center most near from.

We have our difficulties to overcome in this state. We have no funds at command to get out the troops. Harry another Brisk, or large return to and in getting out the troops there are both to form circumstances the getting out adventurers in a long play. I do not know what the Sea of War can end up, but thanks in mighty by giving a general order to the
Company of Enfield at St. Louis to furnish the Missouri troops with shirts. I am sorry I am not in the town.

I have seen a letter from the Company of Enfield at St. Louis to the Governor in which he states that no orders have been made for the same reason to furnish the volunteers with tents. This is an important item, and as tents are to be furnished by the Government, the War Department will have no use for left-handed soldiers if this is not speedily attended to. I am not sure this be suggested to the War Department without trouble for you.

We were all anxious to have some kind of help needed.

Yours truly,

John Martin.

Major D. C. Douglas.

Do not you adjourn long enough along with us?

N.B. Prius entering alone. I have seen the dictation of the Preudhomme to the President. It helps me. Certainly I am inclined to think it advisable you can see President any more on the subject. I wish to continue in some way the line of your letter. I have written to Mr. Arnold on the subject.
Major S.A. Douglas
Washington City

1781-1791

Wm. Lee

[Handwritten text]
Jacksonville June 14, 1866

Dear Younger,

I have been so busy, writing letters, making plans, and answering questions that I have not found time to write a letter for some days. One trust will begin to enable you at Alton in 10-5 days. Bakers Right is filled up from the central part of the state. The house largely of his influence is the same. President and other to be I shall to have greater influence from the legs of new cotton office in the getting equipment for them is allowed to the you or there can be a reference by any other official of the state. It was also said that he was to be a different route from the other trust. There are reports from abroad. It was essential to him to fill his Right with the right man. I believe it will all be of very little help. In the long run, I believe it will find in expense, but that is for future consideration.

My Right will be filled from Morgan Scott cap. A. Brown, M. R. (certainly for) and then Richardson of St. Louis, Hardy, or Brown.
Rays of Fulton, Mr. Ken of Reno, know written is addressed to you that they will from any request. A quantity from Chicago another from Boston is also intended to form my command. If these in the present state I will have a battalion from my complement. If so I will get a pleasure from them of your friends most probably.

Richardson of Lehigh, I

Now it is trying to get the command of a regiment of draft will succeed, I feel confident I can get along well and that easily with it. The will command the

last day is uncertain. I start off the 1st dom. tomorrow to ask about the supplies for my regiment. That comes to a dozen, the joke is rather behind the three articles.

By the way, a word of the or two of instructions if your Mr. Lin. A resolution is obtained to

$3 a month, This is too little. The present

be marched. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid. But the resolution will absolutely well enough paid.

$3.50 per month in lieu of all clothing. If the

in an exchanged in a month the set but

$3.50 for all one outfit. And in any way I can (2) send the clothing will not nearly correspond

which is allowed even if we are in

despite a year. Now therefore to

in an exchanged in a month the set but

$3.50 for all one outfit. And in any way I can

Blanket in clothing is absurd & outrageous

ject. I for ought to be let down as clothing as
new coffee, coffee pots, plate, knives, forks, a strong en
getic, else & eat better, & be furnished & grind
our commissary supplied 5000 from
raising. I estimate 3000 men would require 3
plenty, as they must have for them out of their
wages, which are $8 per month. $43.50 for
clothing $13.50 altogether. When enlisting
made in the face of a dozen men & face the storm they
cannot supply all articles in hand, he is compelled to beg other
way. 4 merchants who have to make their
end to services, & at their losing this
their hay comes to this amount.

Of course, they charge a

Nearly every man will start
prone to a month's pay in debt. Some men
This is unreasonable under the regulations of the
War department. Now if I hear a friend in
long, I will return to and say: if only this
injustice to the private soldier. The officers
have funds enough, but the private soldier
the government. I tell
is not sufficiently paid for coming for
them too, there are men in this nation who
deserve to fill, and some of whom will benefit all
during the highest office in this nation. The volunteer
on not expect a wish to make money out of the
government, but they have a right to demand
that their reasonable necessities be supplied while
in the service of the government; I that they be not
discharged with a coat sewn to membranes
which might ought to be supplied by the go-

John J. Pershing
Jacksonville 22 June 13th 1846

Restricted Madam,

You will excuse the freedom of a stranger in addressing you, on account of the subject on which I write.

I shall have the command of a Regiment of Illinois Volunteers in the Mexican campaign. From having had some experience in the management of men, I am convinced that moral and religious influences are of the greatest assistance in controlling soldiers.

There seems to be no provision made for the appointment of chaplains to the Regiment. At least it is doubtful who has the honor of making an appointment if one can be made.

You are acquainted, I presume, with the Rev. James Fallahoe, for many years a distinguished preacher in East Tennessee, who has since wandered out into the far West of Christian. He belongs to the same denomination with which you and myself have the privilege of being connected. He is very holier as a preacher in this state & has a very general acquaintance throughout all the Western States. If he
is appointed Chaplain. He will go with us to Mexico. He has been in Texas & his acquaintance for it. I his genius as a publican & a man admirably qualify him to accompany this expedition.

Is it asking too much of you to request his appointment as Chaplain from the President, if it is within his power? Or at least, that he would sanction the appointment, if it is made by the Commander of a Regiment?

If the Regulations of the War Department prevent the appointment of Chaplains, could you not exercise the influence which your character bestows upon you, through your connection with the Department, for authorizing the appointment of Chaplains?

It is not proper to place so many thousands under the control of all religious influences. The moral and religious sentiments of the community should march with us from one home, & in no way can this be so effectively promoted as by the appointment of Chaplain, to the army.

I have addressed you on this subject, instead of writing directly to the President, because I feared a letter to him would be lost amongst the multitude of business with which he is occupied, and because I know that all men, for encouraging moral virtue, amongst army and navy officers, have the constant support of Women.

Should this be deemed worthy of your notice in any way, my friend Judge Congrat of Illinois, will know what a letter will find me. If anything can be done towards attracting Mr. Fieldtser I wish to advise him prior to my departure from this state. Nothing that you can

Pardon the freedom of this letter, I have the honor to remain

Yours most respectfully

John J. Hardin

Mrs President Polk
Jacksonville Ills
June 13th 1866

My Dear Sir,

I am going to Mexico with command of a Regiment, I would have a higher command of the Illinois Volunteers could overseas - You officers of the Army will have nothing to do but burnage round Mexico running down trading schools. No hemp or credit can be had in that service.

This was urged to bring some other fruit besides that of distressing the Mexicans. The plan of the campaign will take them away vits detachment through to some of the eastern parts of the continent, from then is an unattacked field for of service for the honor of the Geologist, mineralogist, & meteorologist - Why cannot a corps of scientific men be organized to accompany the expedition? It certainly ought to be done. It will cost the government little to buy great interest & advantage to all men of letters,
as well as paid to the honor & dignity of the
military enterprise - No one is better
suited, in my opinion, to head such a corps
as yourself. Ask for the organization
of such a corps, & come & join us. I know
nothing to Robert & James of Indiana &
Judge Young of Illinois on the subject of
you think Boston persue with them.
I would suggest David Dale Owen
be appointed Inspector -
Your 3rd corps (if you should organize
one) would be most welcome to be attached
to my command. If you come along you
shall find quarters with me, at all my
hours of influence to assist you in securing
all measure of scientific or military
investigations. If you want to come &
cannot arrange it otherwise, you can be authorized
instructor, or assistant to my command.
This can be arranged at the post office.
I should be most happy to have you with me.
You see that it is my desire
that your coming does not prevent you
from visiting on horseback, & that you
would not disdain frequently going to scientific
proseuche in the midst of such prolific
activity. I should be glad to have you
bring up this subject.
Yours truly,
John J. Hardin

[Signature]

[Postmark: October 30, 1857]
Supt. Mary [illegible]
Washington City
DC
June 16th 1846

Dear Miss

I am in answer to my letter of the 25th, the dear beloved one yesterday just as I was getting into the stage to come to this place, I did not read it until I was on my way.

I am grateful for the interest you have taken to advance the comfort of the volunteers, extremely extremely.

I am pleased to learn that Lord Byron is to have the command in the field. This will give general satisfaction in the next in with the army.

If we were committed to prevent my draft, I should be much pleased to go to Clerkenwell. We could march there, take the country, and then from Lord Byron in turn to participate in the full campaign. But if the earth is to go on frost, it will be a long season a long time, and we would send out the drafts of the men without enabling them to see an engagement. It seems to me folly to send fortunes to catch the Negroes and citizen who all go on bread and butter.
In these reasons I am at present
modified to go to your camp
tomorrow or in next march to the right end of Mexico during the last months. Besides
I can only the last three months, and
I was out of being in a detachment
that would be necessary for

I am exceedingly pleased to see
the commencement of your determination
to your very command, and at any and
at all times, I am sure you will be more
welcome at my request.

Wethered Nexus & Dickreaden want
the command of Battalions under one
All the commanding officers of this battalion as
not join Wethered will want to be in
my eyes, then on the other hand, this will make
a Roye of a Battalion. Here they will
be arranged. I cannot entirely say what
will be arranged, but I am certain my interest
will be more works or the days. I am
confident I can manage it as to give you
the command of a Battalion, with the other
of your breast. I do not know it yet
positively. I must should be in Nexus &
Wethered, if I can arrange it, for

The Roye will make them to come
before Saturday, 23.
They will come to home you with a
Battalion, I think, and the other Battalion
be united with a Battalion
from the commands distinct, they will
command that Roye in command.
Be assured I will deal fairly with you, I wish it well and you found a

Mr. Jackman, the head of the

Mr. Raine grant me your consent, as we
to bear the name of all those of this with the
command of my Roye. But when I hear always
has trouble with his command, coming to the
general expectations which they may have

Sir,

I remain yours;

[Signature]
June 1845

Dear Mr. R. D. B.,

I am very much pleased to hear from you. I have been thinking a great deal about the matter you mentioned and I am gratified to hear that you have made some progress. I hope you will be successful in your endeavors.

Yours sincerely,

J. H. B.
To the President of the United States.

We, the undersigned members of the Constitutional Convention of the State of New York, respectfully request that Capt. Robert Augurine of Sackett Harbor in this State, be appointed a Master in the Navy of the United States.

Capt. Augurine served with credit in that capacity during the War with Great Britain; and since the Peace has been distinguished for his enterprise and energy in private life; and as having contributed more perhaps, than any person now living, to build up the Commercial prosperity of our Northern Lakes.

We believe Capt. Augurine to be eminently qualified for the station he desires, and that he has peculiar claims upon the favorable consideration of the Government.

Albany June 25th, 1846.

John Tracy

John Sanford

J. S. Atkinson

David B. Allen

Bishop Perkins

J. L. Riker

T. W. Clark

L. S. Chafin

R. B. D. Smith

S. D. Talman

Geo. Locke Rupley

William Gayle

Abel Huntingdon

Orvis Hart

Joseph D. Hurdus

T. C. Plumley
W. G. Angel
A. W. Ward
William Hackett
A. Worthy
A. Coppard
Rebecca Peace
Se Purner
Thorn Warren
C. H. Kingsley
Alex. D. Vaché

Robert Doolen
Horace Wittick
Chas. F. Kirkland

M. M. McMillen

Absalom R. Bull
Asa Bascamp
R. B. Brevynge
Moses Suggitt
Czech Strong
R. P. Mauze
W. Heming

John T. Stephenson

Harry Backus
Thomas B. Scoll
Benjamin Stanton
W. Stow

Campbell
Elisha B. Smith

H. Gardner

Paul John Shaw
Dear Judge,

I hope you will not think, because I have not written to you that I have forgotten you in the midst of the military confusion which prevails here. I have been several days, having travelled in error direction, since I wrote you from St. Louis. I know an beginning to open a more definite scheme now.

It has been conceded on all hands that I should have a Rept. Thump there has been universal ch ver of me as a candidate for Colonel in the near future. The following can

Matherford, Morgan, T. D. Deaky, Labelle, Storrs, Cook, Fry, Forn
Montgomery, Scott, Adams, Richardson, Shoemaker

From some slayers &
So Daniel, they have not got notified this evening of their demand to join the Rept, but the adjutant tells me they will be so to say.

There is another company from both but as some little difficulty exists between the stock company, I am not certain whether they will join us, but presume they will.
It is proposed to make another trip, a fellow named Runsell and his mother, Mrs. W. M. Runsell, and to make arrangements with Mr. A. R. B. Rawlings, Mr. E. B. M. Rawlings, and Mr. J. B. Rawlings, to be present at the conclusion of the trip. The trip was the last chance for the police to see the scene of the crime.

The police, as the only authorities, will form the rear. The first were Harman and Stimson, two young men, in civilian clothes, and they were carrying two large packages. They were armed with revolvers, and they were not letting in...

[Handwritten text continues with narrative about the situation and actions taken by the authorities, including a mention of Mr. M. P. M. Rawlings, who was entrusted with a sword.]
Dear Sir,

I have received your two letters, the accompanied by the report of my old friend Mr. Holmes, which is as clear, as concise, and able a exposition of the entire subject and coincides with my recollections as well as my intentions while in the Department.

He has viewed the subject as a Statesman and Patriot and I hope your readers benefit from his admirable report.

I urge you to have submitted some of my last letters to your to the committee as though it may have caused me some disappointment. This is not the case. They express my feelings and opinions frankly and sincerely and I have no objection to their being seen by all mankind.

Should you at length squeeze some letters among others from Congress? I shall treat it as a greater triumph of energy and perseverance than your success in latter setting hogs.

Yours faithfully,

David Oglesby, Esq.
Washington

[Signature]

[Note]:

How Stephen A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to transmit to you the above letter, from Mr. Oglesby, relative to the report made by the House Committee in my case by your request. I also enclose you one of the reports which I beg of you to read, and also solicit your friendly support to its consummation.

I have the honor to be,

Yours respectfully,

David Oglesby
David Myrtle
Hyde Park
N.Y.
June 1836

[Handwritten text]
DAVID MYERLE.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 477.]

JUNE 17, 1846.

Mr. I. E. HOLMES, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom were referred the memorial and accompanying papers of David Myerle, report:

That from the memorial and accompanying evidence, it appears that the memorialist previous to the year 1840, had been long and extensively engaged in the manufacture of cordage, and was possessed of much useful knowledge on the subject of the growth, preparation and manufacture of hemp.

That it had long been considered an object of the highest national importance, and as vitally essential to our true independence of other nations for one of the most important elements of national defence, to introduce and establish, the practicability and safety of the process of water-rotting hemp, in the hemp-growing regions of the United States, for the supply of its navy and commercial marine.

That previous to the period named, many efforts and experiments had been made, both under the sanction and encouragement of the government, and by individual enterprise, to accomplish this important end; but that all such efforts had proved unsuccessful and abortive; and had left a deep and abiding impression on the public mind, that the said process was impracticable in our climate, owing to its unhealthiness, and that if practised, would produce pestilence and great destruction of life, wherever it was attempted. That so violent were the prejudices against the operation, after all the efforts that had been made, that scarcely a ton of water-rotted hemp was made in the whole hemp-growing region of the United States.

That notwithstanding this state of public opinion and prejudice was almost universal, at the period named, the knowledge and experience of the memorialist, led him, in his interviews with the navy commissioners and the Hon. J. K. Paulding then Secretary of the Navy, to express the utmost confidence in the entire practicability and safety of said process, and of the feasibility of successfully overcoming, by a course of proper experiments, the deep-rooted prejudices against it.

That concurring in the views of the memorialist, and justly considering it an object of the highest national consideration, and eminently entitled to the patronage and encouragement of the government, the Secretary of

Ritchie & Heuss, printers.
the Navy, Mr. Paulding, urged the memorialist to abandon the business in which he was then engaged, as far as it should be necessary, and to enter upon and carry out, in the heart of the hemp-growing region of the West, the experiments necessary to establish both the practicability and safety to health, of the process of water-rotting hemp.—That to induce him to do so, he tendered him the patronage of the government, and made the most liberal promises of encouragement and indemnity against loss,—and if successful, of the most generous reward from the government. That the navy commissioners, at the time, fully concurred in the views of the Secretary, and, as the memorialist alleges, the chairman and several of the members of the Naval committee of the House of Representatives, warmly coincided in the same.

That under these assurances and promises, and with much zeal and patriotic pride, in anticipation of the successful accomplishment of the objects and wishes of the government, and at the same time of conferring a great benefit upon his country, the memorialist agreed to abandon all other business, and enter at once upon the experiments proposed.

That until Congress should act, in aid of the objects of the department—which action seems to have been relied upon, both by the memorialist and the department—instead of a contract to sustain, save harmless, and reward the memorialist, as was promised and intended; and for the purpose of at once exercising, to that end, all the powers which it possessed, the said Secretary directed a contract to be entered into with the memorialist, (but taking no security from him,) for the delivery of 200 tons of the water-rotted hemp, to be shipped to the city of London in the year 1841; and before its delivery, or any part thereof, and in full view of the great difficulties and uncertainty of a literal compliance with the strict terms of the contract, by the first experiment, caused that contract to be extended to 800 tons, to be delivered by the close of 1842.

From a careful examination of the case, the committee are satisfied that it was not the sole or leading object of the department, by the contract entered into with the memorialist, merely to give a preference to American water-rotted hemp, and to obtain the domestic article, in that particular instance, if as good as Russian—but, on the contrary, that his great and leading national object, was, by the patronage of the government, and the success of the experiment, to be made by the memorialist, under that patronage, to establish the practicability and safety of the water-rotting process, in our own country; and thus provide for the supply of our own navy and merchant shipping, with an American article, equal to the foreign.

This object is distinctly avowed by Secretary Paulding, in his letters and report to the Senate, and is abundantly shown by the evidence in the case. The correspondence between the memorialist and the department during the year 1840, shows beyond all question, that his efforts were viewed as an experiment in which that branch of the government took the deepest interest. The application of the Secretary of the Navy to Congress, for authority, contrary to existing laws, to keep the memorialist under an advance of $25,000, which passed the Senate, but failed in the House for want of time, as is alleged, shows the same thing; and the debate and action of the Senate show that that body also concurred in the objects of the Secretary, in favor of this great American interest.

After having entered into the foregoing arrangements with the Secretary of the Navy, the committee are satisfied, that the memorialist, abandoning every other object and pursuit, entered upon the accomplishment of the difficult task assigned him, with the most entire good faith, and continued to prosecute the same with a degree of zeal and energy as rare as they were commendable. The plan adopted was the one best calculated to accomplish the object—it was the "experimentum crucis" of purchasing hemp—constructing proper piles—and actually water-rotting the same, in the different counties and neighborhoods throughout a wide circle of the hemp-growing region of country.

The expenses attendant upon these operations of the memorialist, which were all borne by himself, must have been very heavy; and the difficulties and obstacles, in the beginning, are represented as almost insuperable, growing out of the deep-rooted prejudices of the people, founded upon an almost universal belief, of the fatal effects of the process upon the lives both of men and animals. His workmen, (of which at one period he had about 200,) were difficult to procure, owing to a fear of the effects upon their health; and when obtained, at high prices, had to be instructed in every part of the process of water-rotting and preparing the hemp for market.

At the close of the fall of 1840, the memorialist seems to have established the entire practicability of carrying on the process of water-rotting hemp, without any serious detriment to the health of the country; and so complete was the change of public opinion on this point, founded on the actual experiments of the memorialist, and the evidence of their own senses, that a great number of the most respectable planters, entered into an agreement with him, to furnish him with water-rotted hemp in 1841—some engaging to furnish as much as 100 tons.

The process of preparing the hemp for delivery to the government was then commenced and carried on through the winter; and though attended with much difficulty, owing to a total want of experience on the part of the workmen;—yet as the only difficulty supposed to be insuperable, (that of practically establishing, to the satisfaction of the country, that pestilence did not accompany the process of water-rotting,) had been completely overcome,—and as this was a part of an experiment which a little time and experience could not fail to overcome, the experiment seems to have been considered, both by the memorialist and the department, as promising entire and certain success.

During all this period the correspondence between the memorialist and the department, shows the deep interest taken by the latter, in the success of the experiment. Samples of the hemp were sent to the department, examined, formally inspected and approved, and the memorialist warmly congratulated on the successful issue of his efforts.

During the latter part of the winter of 1841, two shipments of hemp were made for the government, to Boston, to be delivered and inspected, at the Charleston navy yard, whilst other portions of the same were being prepared for shipment. On the 31st of March 1841, (the day Mr. Secretary Paulding's term of office expired,) though no portion of the said 200 tons had been delivered within the year limited by the first contract—neither of the said shipments having reached Charleston until after the expiration of the period limited by the contract for the delivery of the
whole—the said contract was extended to 500 tons, to be delivered on or before the 1st of December 1842.

This extension of the contract by Mr. Paulding, before any part of the 200 tons had been delivered, (though the period for the delivery of the whole had passed,) shows, as the committee believe, that the contract entered into with the memorialist, was not considered by the Secretary as an ordinary one, nor the relations existing between the memorialist and the government, those existing between it and ordinary contractors.

Shortly after this extension of the contract, the two shipments of hemp and seed hemp were consigned—condemned—and rejected—as the memorialist alleges unjustly and without cause, and from an ignorance of, or prejudice against, the domestic article—and as Mr. Paulding states, against his intentions, had he remained in the department.

At the time of this rejection, it appears that the memorialist’s private affairs had become deranged from an entire neglect of them, to insure the success of the hemp experiments—his credit had become greatly extended, from the heavy expenses of his hemp operations—the bills he had drawn against these shipments, were returned protested—the hemp at his deposits, in the course of preparation for shipment, as well as all his private property, was seized—and, in a word, his credit entirely destroyed, and all his property sacrificed, and he left a helpless bankrupt! and has remained so, from that day to the present time. Against this unjust rejection of his hemp, the memorialist protested, and appealed to the assurances, objects and representations by which he had been induced to consent to the contract, but in vain. The total destruction of his credit, and the sacrifice of all his property, which followed the rejection, deprived him of all the benefit expected and intended from the extension of his contract; out of which, he alleges, with much appearance of truth, he would have earned a large profit of from $40,000 to $65,000, from the favorable prices under which he would have progressed with his contract, having already overcome the prejudices of the hemp-growers, and established the pools, depots and machines necessary for the supply of the balance of the 500 tons, under his extended contract.

After a careful examination of the case, the committee are satisfied—

1. That the hemp of the memorialist was improperly rejected, and that from the evidence of those who examined and used portions of the same, and who were competent judges of its quality, it should have been received—that if Mr. Paulding had remained in office, it would have been received, in fulfillment of what he understood to be the duty, obligations and objects of the department, in view of the circumstances and assurances under which the memorialist had been induced to undertake the experiments. The committee believes that the rejection of the memorialist’s hemp was primarily owing to Mr. Paulding’s having left the department, a want of knowledge of the objects of the department, and of the true relations existing between the memorialist and the government. The inspection at Charleston seems, from experience, to be an unfavorable one for American water-rotted hemp. In his late annual report, the present Secretary of the Navy says that, “Finding by short experience, that to insist on the inspection at Charleston, as heretofore practised, would be injurious to the western planter,” he proposes that the annual purchases of that article, when not provided otherwise by contracts already made, shall “be delivered and finally inspected at Louisville and St. Louis.”

2. That the consequences of the rejection of the hemp, were most disastrous to the memorialist, causing a total destruction of his credit—a deprivation of all the benefits intended by the extension of his contract, which it is believed would otherwise have been highly profitable—and the sacrifice of all his property, alleged and believed, from the evidence, to be from thirty to forty odd thousand dollars, leaving him largely in debt and a bankrupt.

3. That all the benefits contemplated by the government, when the experiment was undertaken, have been fully lost by the extension and execution entirely at the expense of the memorialist; and that mainly through these, there is now an abundant supply of American water-rotted hemp, for the use of the navy and merchant vessels of the United States, leaving as they are informed and believe, a considerable quantity for exportation—thus rendering these States independent of other nations for an article most essential both to their navy and marine;—and as an element of war, vitally necessary to the defence of the country.

The memorialist has established, by the strongest evidence, derived from the public press, and from the opinions and statements of great numbers of the best informed and most respectable public men and private citizens of the hemp-growing States, the entire success of the experiment undertaken by him, and the introduction of the process, and the present supply, of the American article; as the consequence of that success. In the report of the present Secretary of the Navy, above alluded to, he says:—

“Although large quantities of hemp have been received, under any contract made since I came into the department.”

In a letter of the late Mr. Secretary Paulding, addressed to the memorialist, and laid before the committee—after stating that his object in making the contract with him “was not to profit one of obtaining 500 tons at all profit”—to the practicability of producing water-rotted hemp, and to encourage its production, with a view to render our country independent of all others, for the supply of an article equally indispensable to our navy and our commerce—and after setting forth the previous experiments that had been made, and their complete failure, so that according to his belief, “not a pound of water-rotted hemp was produced,” at the time the memorialist undertook his experiments—and after stating that to his knowledge the memorialist had “succeeded in demonstrating the practicability of producing water-rotted hemp”—he says:

“If, as appears to be the case, the production of water-rotted hemp, has already extended not only to the domestic supply, but to large exportations of that article, I have no hesitation to express my entire conviction that this result is in a great measure, if not altogether, owing to your having set the first successful example.”—In the same letter he further says:

“In my opinion, setting aside all little technical points, and nice distinctions, the country owes you the price of a great benefit, and is under strong obligations to you enterprise, your perseverance and your sacrifices to make you amends.”

4. In conclusion, the committee believe, therefore, that whatever doubts may be entertained, as to the strict legal right of the memorialist to the relief which he prays, founded upon the breach of his contract, by the rejection of his hemp, in violation of the promises and inducements held out to him by the Secretary of the Navy, that he has a well-founded
claim, both in justice and equity, for his losses and sacrifices in behalf of
the government and country—and that independent of this he has strong
claims upon that country, as a public benefactor, which ought not to be
disregarded, and which entitle him to relief out of the common treasury
of the nation, whose commerce, agriculture, and manufactures, have been
equally benefited by his exertions and individual sacrifices—sacrifices,
which ought to be borne by all those benefited thereby, rather than by
the individual who made, and has been ruined, by them.—The commit-
tee therefore believe that this is a case in which a full, and even liberal
measure of relief, is required both by public justice and sound public
policy—they therefore report a bill.