169. (ABRAHAM LINCOLN). CAMERON (SIMON) Secretary of War under Lincoln. A.L.S. 2 very full pp., 4to. Harrisburg, Pa., Mar 23, 1823, to “Friend Mifflin.” An exceedingly early letter of great political interest, in which Cameron speaks of “chastising some of those rascals” (his opponents!) etc. A most unusual Cameron letter

$4.50
Fred Mifflin:

I have again been disappointed in seeing your letter by private conveyance about two weeks ago. I requested a letter for you to a gentleman that was about leaving the city from this place and yesterday had it returned to me. He said he had entirely forgotten it until after he left the city. But it matters not much as it only increased you of my disappointment in not being able to succeed in getting you stated in Indiana. I have been of late less sick & hear from you lost on account of some of the persons here. I have been entirely changed in opinion. They said they were fearful that by a reflecting a paper, they would injure the election of their favorite candidate. It might, they say, people be said by our opponents that the pope was interested by Whig and would have a countering effect. I could not agree to this doctrine but had to go my way to them, or a paper could not
live without their encouragement at this time. I knew no other alternative than waiting some time longer, for, in their opinion, my change, I am extremely sorry, might, or I had already fancied myself near you. You can be so short, but there will be a serious waiting to conduct papers in new part of the state, during the summer, and it is probable that I shall hear of them. I can, I will not mean you intend. I shall be in the city in the early part of the summer, and we will accompany you to Deer Town, and I hope we will have an opportunity of cherishing some of the case of them. I am extremely anxious to have a conversation with you. If you are not much engaged, could it not be well enough to visit this place? I will accompany you to Lebanon, and perhaps if you please you might do something to your advantage.

I am well acquainted with Mr. Stoddard and am convinced that he is the best choice that could have been made at this time.

Remember me to all your friends in Bucks, and bless you.

[Signature]

[Date: September 23, 1843]