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M. Pleasant, Iowa.  
Sept. 30th. 1862

His Excellency,  
A. Lincoln,  
President U.S.

Sir: I respectfully  
request the appointment of Rev. J. S. Stewart  
of Iowa, as additional Chaplain at the U.  
S. Hospital, at Keokuk, Iowa.

The number of sick and wounded sol-  
diers at this hospital varies from twelve  
hundred to two thousand. The Chaplain,  
heretofore appointed, find it impossible  
to give so many, the attention which the  
common impulses of a Christian Minister  
prompts. He is, I think, a Presbyterian  
Minister. Mr. Stewart whom I recom-  
mend is a Methodist, who has spent twenty  
odd years in the service of the church in this  
State, - is universally loved and esteemed,  
and will make an excellent Chaplain.

The Patients occupy ~~two or three~~ <sup>four</sup> different  
buildings.

Hoping and expecting that you may find  
it practicable to appoint Mr. Stewart,

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I am as ever,  
your <sup>obedient</sup> servant  
Jas. Harlan



I cordially concur in the  
written request of my colleague  
Mr. Horton. I have known Mr.  
Stewart more than twenty years &  
know him to be a devoted, pious  
& good man, commanding the respect  
& confidence of all who know  
him.

His Address ~~Oshtemo~~  
~~Madaska County Iowa~~  
Rev. I. I. Stewart