



Washington, D. C.  
Feb. 26th 1877.

Sir;

The retirement of Justice Doves from the Supreme Court of the United States, by reason of his election to the Senate of the United States by the Legislature of the State of Illinois, will devolve on you the appointment of a successor to the position which he will vacate.

Pardon me in taking the liberty of suggesting the name of a gentleman for your consideration in connection with this very important appointment; I suggest as an eminently fit person upon whom to confer said appointment Hon. Henry C. Caldwell, now occupying the office of United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

I have intimately known Judge Caldwell for twenty-five years. He is able, true and pure. His appointment to his present place by Mr. Lincoln was induced by my personal efforts. I thoroughly knew the man, his ability, his worth, his competency; and in every regard necessary to make up the full measure of a man fit to be made a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, I commend him to you without reserve.

I think it well that this appointment should go to one of the Southern States. Every reason in the present juncture of our National affairs enforces upon me this conclusion. These reasons will readily occur to your mind, and I need not state them here. And I feel safe in saying that

the best men in both political parties in Oregon,  
and whenever the judge Caldwell is known, will  
rejoice at his appointment to the Supreme Court of the  
United States as one of its associate justices.

To the President } Respectfully,  
James F. Wilson

Geo. F. Wilson  
Newtown Lincoln