

Washington City Sunday May 13th 1849

My dear Lincoln

I have concluded to trouble you with a letter, in which I wish to say to you, that we have a rumor here that the Hon^{ble}. Cyrus Edwards has declined applying for Commissioner of the Land Office in your favour, this information is said to have been brought here by — Chambers Ed. Republican of St. Louis I hope it is so, and in that case I am clearly of opinion that you should come on here without delay, for you know much more about this than I do, but your success would be better secured by your presence, It is said that the President is for you, & perhaps a majority of the Cabinet, and that Mr. T. Ewing is warmly in favour of Friend Butterfield of Chicago, If you wish to be Commissioner I am satisfied you should come to Washington without delay I want you to have it in preference to any one else, and this is the Genl. feeling of the Whigs, but there is here a very powerful N. York & Yankee influence, which is too formidable I think to be managed unless you come on, I am ready to serve you in any way that I can, If I only knew how it could be done, I believe it is the wish of the Whig Whigs in the Land Office, & our Whig acquaintances here, that who ever may be successful of our Illinois friends, that I should have old Father Robbs place as Clerk, all of which would be very gratifying to me, as well as advantageous, as I have not yet applied for any thing, nor cannot now with propriety do so. I should be glad to see you here, or hear from you, & do hope you will get the appointment. The office will soon be vacant.

Your friend in haste
Wm. A. Henderson