

Shawneetown Dec 17<sup>th</sup> 1854,

Hon A. Lincoln  
Springfield Ills.

Dear Friend.



Having from Judge Thomas <sup>learned</sup> that you were a candidate for the office of U.S.S. and that you had declined accepting a seat in the State Legislature, which induced me to believe there was a probability of your success.

Mr Gray the member elect from Hardin Pope & Massac was here, I conversed with him on the subject of your election to the U.S.S.

He is a Nebraska Whig. George Watters says it is hard for him to do anything with him, I think the reason of that is George opposed him in his election.

(After a free conversation as Father Rickey once said)  
He warmly expressed a wish for your success.

After seeing Mr Gray, Mr McCallum informed me that he had rec'd a private letter informing him of the fact that you were a candidate for U.S.S. and requested me to do all I could for you.

I have written to several of my warmest Friends and G<sup>r</sup> Most ardent supporters, to intercede with Gray in

your behalf. I know they will do it, and will be well calculated to induce him to give you his aid. I think by the time he gets to Springfield you will be able to use him to your best service. I intended to have given him a letter of introduction to you, but was unable to do so, he left whilst I was on the G. Jury, it being in session.

He is not in favour of Shields for U.S.S. I think he will not wait for any Foreigner,

Accept my best Wishes for your success.

Believe me to be your sincere Friend &

Humble servant  
J. W. Norton

P. S.

The Land Office Closed

S. K. Casy the Receiver (now, (my successor,) resigned his office last week, J. W. N.

J. W. Motter

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Hon. A. Lincoln  
Springfield

Illinois

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