Mrs [sic] Harriet Lane Johnston Dear Madam

Lancaster Pa April 14th 1871

I write to inform you that my co-executors & myself have decided on appointing Mr J C W[elling], Professor of Belles Lettres & English Literature in Princeton College Biographer of your uncle, the late Jas B, in place of Wm B Reed Esq resigned. I also enclose a copy of an agreement recently signed by all the persons mentioned in the will of yr [sic] uncle as legatees who have arrived at their majority. Should you see fit to attach your name to this copy of it, & return it to me, I shall be pleased, & Mr Welling will no doubt undertake his work with greater interest & satisfaction Very Respectfully H. B. Swarr

[Note in pencil in left top corner: Mrs J. declined, sorry.

