

1707 N. Y. Ave.
Washington, DC
July 2/91

Dear Mr. Henry

I received your letter of yesterday this morning and last night wrote you of the poor prospect of success. I have just come from the Dept but have nothing further to report. The Secy has not made the appointment yet; as soon as he does I will let you know. The clerk will keep all the letters on file so that they will be available next year. Judge Hagners [sic] sister died on Monday and I presume he did not see the Secy but he wrote him a letter which the Secy must have seen for it was sent from his office to the Clerk to be filed. The Secy was evidently quite familiar with Jamie's application, for when I said what I had come for he said [" Oh yes. I noticed his case." He was very pleasant and asked who you were, where you lived, what was your business and where your office was. He seemed to take an interest, and I told him about Loulies [sic] thinking possibly he might have known my father. But he as good as said there was no chance for his vacancies had been cut down to four and there were over four hundred applicants. When I called to see him, I was at first told that he would not see any one — then I went to his aid [sic] and said I wanted to see him. He asked what I wanted to see him about. When I told him he pooh-poohed the idea and said it was the worst thing I could see him about as the Secy was much annoyed at having his vacancies cut down, and particularly that he was obliged to disappoint Mrs. Sheridan to whom he had promised one. However, I insisted on going in and under the circumstances as I as a total stranger. I think his manner indicated that he would like to appoint Jamie if he could. So perhaps next year we may have better luck. I dont [sic] understand about Genl Medford's letter. You sent me one from him to you stating that he takes pleasure in sending one to the Secy and you speak of it as a strong letter referring to Presdt [sic] Buchanan, etc. but no such letter came. I received your letter containing the Genl's letter to you at 10 p.m. Tuesday by special delivery. I at once mailed you a note stating that no such letter was included and as there is a collection at 11 p.m. you out to have received it yesterday morning. Yet my note had evidently not reached you when you wrote. If Gen'l Medford's letter comes in an envelope which will permit if it I will mail it to the Secretary so that he sure be to see it. I can not call on him personally again in regard to the matter, [sic] it might annoy him and prejudice the case — for he is irascible at times. It is unfortunate that I did not have such a letter if there is one to take with me yesterday — though I dont [sic] suppose it would have done any good. I am sorry Mr. Tracy's priv secy is sick and still away. There is now no one in his office and who has access to him or whom I could rely for any assistance. The clerk who has helped me is in Ramsay's office, but he has nothing to do with the Secy. I hesitate about asking R. to do anything or his influence might be against instead of for us.

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Jamie ought to accept the appointment of alternate without delay. It can not hurt his case at all. Probably no one will see it except the clerk and it makes no difference any way. Let him keep up his studies too for the other man might step out for some reason. There is no telling. I dont [sic] think Willies case at all serious from what he says. I return his letter.

Affectionately yours
Frank Anderson

P.S. Before mailing this I received Gen'l M's letter. It is a very strong one I think and may do some good. I sent it to the Secy. marked personal and the messenger promised to deliver it himself to the Secy so he will undoubtedly get it. I have met an officer just now who knows the Secy well and he says that he never commits himself and he does not believe he has in the matter of appointments committed himself to any one. Last year he would not promise the appointment to a boy he finally did appoint and whom everybody knew he would appoint. There may be some consolation in this, and a slight hope, but I have not myself much idea that Jamie will get it from the way he spoke and from the fact that here are so few vacancies. I will keep you posted and at once write when anything turns up. Let me know your Lake George address.

F.

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