

Lexington, late Feb / early March,
1841

Dear Father

On my arrival here from Louisville a day ^{few} since I ascertained that a letter from you had been sent to that place in quest of me. I have at length received it and find that it is your letter of 11th inst. containing Mr Crittenden's communication. It is needless to assure you that I regret the delay which has taken place.

Be good enough to present Mr Crittenden my grateful acknowledgments for his friendly interest in my welfare. In regard to the post at St Petersburg, ~~of course~~ ^{I mean the charges} I consider it highly honorable to me and above my desert, but if the arrangement is satisfactory to the Administration, I pledge to the service of the country my most zealous and faithful attention. As to the Secretaryship of Legation I consider it a drawback to which I am willing to submit with the perfect understanding that that appointment is not long to endure. ~~As I see~~ In all frankness the only objection whatever to an arrangement which presents many advantages some of which you have sketched is its indistinctness. As I ~~desire~~ seek employment and only in such grade as I may be deemed worthy to fill a permanent arrangement would be highly satisfactory. But as I presume from your letter that something of the kind is intended, if I can