



Shenwood Forest

March 10. 1853

My Dear Sir;

Accept, in the first place, my sincere congratulations on your recent elevation to the head of the Post Office Department. You have no friend who more sincerely rejoices in it than myself. And now permit me to introduce to you my brother William Tyler, and to ask you to aid him in the objects of his visit to Washington as far as may lay in your power. He is desirous of obtaining the place of Naval Store keeper at the Washington Navy yard, or one elsewhere of a corresponding character. With the Secretary of the Navy I have not a personal acquaintance, and must therefore seek to interest him and the President through the agency of others. Who now likely to do me a favour of this sort than yourself? I have asked myself that question, and the answer produces this letter.

My Brother has seen hard service in the cause of the Country. He was quite young when the war of 1812 broke out but he rushed to the standard as an ensign

and was exposed to all the hardships of campaigns on the northern frontier for two winters, and after having considerably increased his rank, was driven out of the service by Typhus fever. He has since held a seat in our Legislature, and been in the discharge of other important local duties. In my time I nominated him to the Senate as one of the Commissioners to settle the vast multitude of the Choctaw claims and in view of the magnitude of the amount involved and the vast temptations in the way of the Commissioners, I put his nomination upon the ground of my having one at the board who would not hesitate to disclose to me upon all occasions, the whole truth. He was confirmed, and the result fully answered my expectations. He is provided with a numerous family - as thorough a Democrat as any in the Union and worthy of all trust and confidence. His appointment is most probably the only one I shall make as a personal favour of the administration.

tion. I may not trouble you in any  
other case. In this every feeling of  
my heart is interested. May I  
not ask your active aid in his  
behalf?

Wishing to you every possible  
good, and a successful administra-  
tion

I am D<sup>r</sup>. Sir

Most truly Y<sup>r</sup>s

John Lykes

P. S. My brother bears with him the recommen-  
dation of 60 members of our Legislature

Hon. James Campbell

P. M. General

Maude 10 1853

How Mr Tyler

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*