

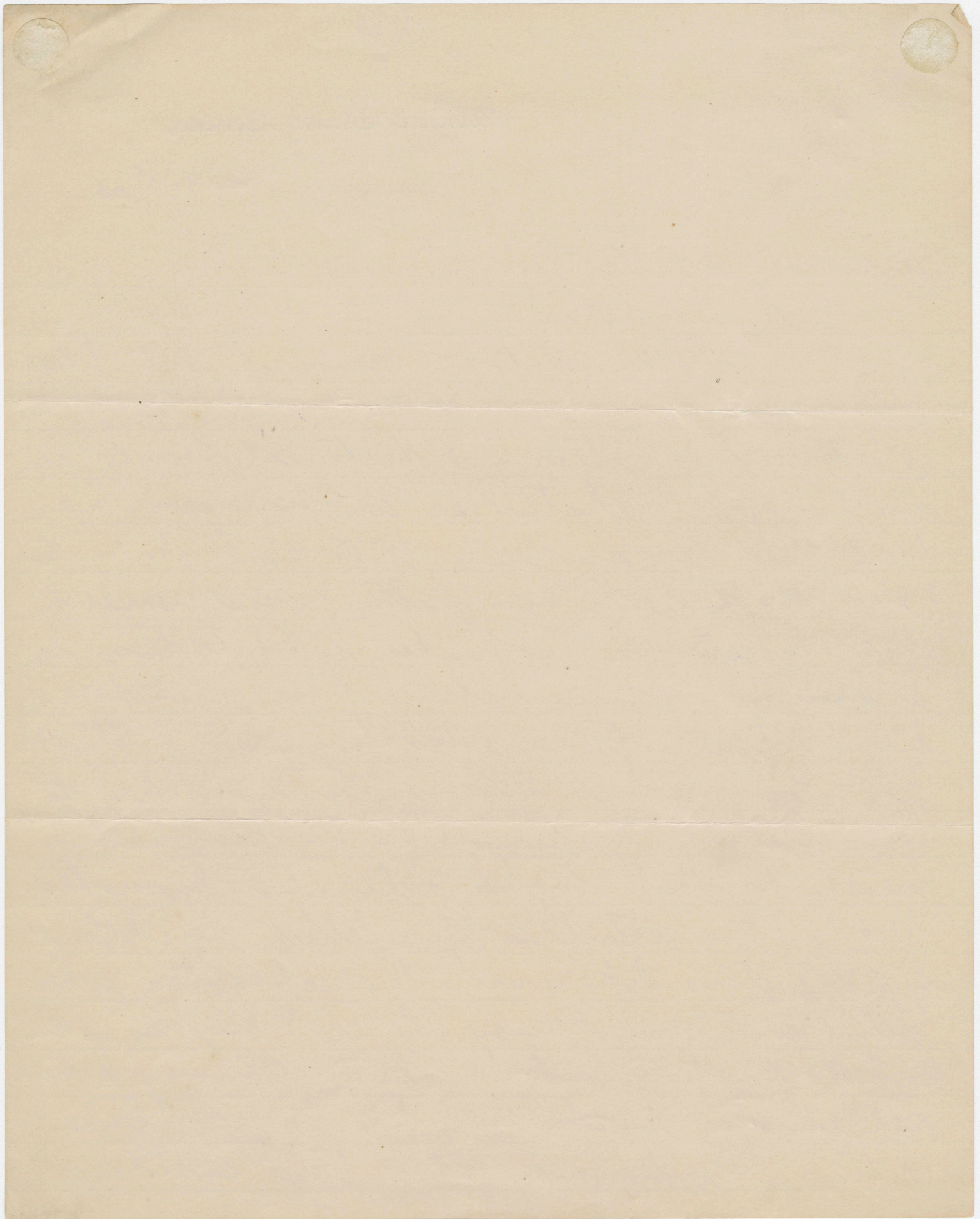
United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1886.

Ben. W. Austin, Esq., Secretary =

My Dear Sir:

With satisfaction amounting to pleasure, I have received your letter as Secretary of the Northwestern Literary & Historical Society, announcing my election as an honorary member of that organization. With such associations I have the deepest sympathy. An earnest believer in our popular institutions as a form of government, I have greater reliance upon popular education among the agencies by which those institutions are to be conserved. The schools are the preparation merely for that higher education promoted best by the attrition of intellect developed by associations like yours. To meet often, where "mind with mind may blend & brighten" is among the best, if not the best, means of attaining a liberal education such as befits the American citizen who may at a time least expected



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United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

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by himself become an important factor in making or administering the laws of his country.

Very Respectfully & Truly,  
H. H. Riddleberger,

