

P.S. Address  
J B Allen  
Upper [Ochoco] Oregon  
Wasco Co.

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3-2-1876

Hon John H Caldwell  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

I presume to address you not being personally acquainted with you but still I know you from character &c you will not take any exceptions &c being from Calhoun Co Ala I shall presume in this to ask a great favor of you & hope it may merit your full approbation & approval knowing & hoping it is in your power to confer this Special asked for favor I will appreciate it indeed & will more than liberally Satisfy you for your expenses, trouble kindness &c &c &c

In order that you may be safe in recommending me as to aid you somewhat in getting or securing the asked for position & satisfy you I will give you a short line of my family & some good references &c

I am a grandson of Mathew Allen two miles from Alexandria (near Mr. Bush) (has been dead some years) & also the grandson of Daniel Hinds one mile north of Oxford & am the only son of E D Allen [E.D. Allen] two miles north of Oxford below the Iron works, hope you know something of my family &c I was raised in Calhoun & remained there until last May. I then came to Oregon cant say I am well pleased in every respect &c. I am twenty six years of age have been in the Mercantile line of business for the last five years.

For References &c I will give you Capt Wm. Hames [William Hames], T.J. Renfroe & D.D. Draper & as many others as you want but think these good reliable men & hope you will if necessary write to all three parties & if to any other parties now offered D P Gunnels [D.P. Gunnels] C C Shelby [C.C. Shelby] Dr. Williams or any reliable old citizen &c they can give you my character as to my habbits &c soberness willingness competency & ability also my general standing &c

The position that I so heartily ask you for is an appointment as Route agent in the U S Mail Service &c. I have some little experience in this but never was appointed or held the position I kept the Oxford Post Office eight months in 1871 & also the Post Office at Anniston or Woodstock Stack for six months & up to the time I left them. I refer you to the Woodstock Iron Co. if you want or [Samuel] Noble as I done business for them three years & a half just before leaving also probly Mr. W H Forney [William H. Forney] could give you some Special information in some way about this matter as he is in Congress from our State &c. Should this request not be in your power & is in his will you please turn this letter over to him but hope you are the proper one & will not hesitate to give me a favorable answer after you are satisfied as to my Character Standing &c I am deeply interested indeed in this matter I mean & want business &c want a good permanent position & will

ever strive not to have your confidence mislead or deceive you on this matter & as before Stated will [?] reward you in appreciation financially & hope you will take my request in full & due consideration & greatly oblige me

I would like to have the appointment about the first of June next but will take it when I can get it, would prefer to have it in some of the middle states Kentucky, Tenn or North Miss dont care to go South as warm climates dont agree with me so well &c but will not object where if I can procure the position &c California would answer but prefer some of the older States &c may this meet with your full consent & may I not again implore your special favor in this Matter please should it be best at once or after while will leave this matter to you, but dont neglect too long please I can be ready to serve at notice &c after you inquire into my Standing &c please let me hear from you & if agreeable let me know of the reception of this may I have your Special attention in this Give me any [?] political news in your letters accept my good wishes for your future success &c Yours &c

J.B. Allen

UPPER [Ochoco] OREG

[?]land Route

[?] Bosie City

Hon. John H. Caldwell,  
Representative in Congress  
from 5th Alabama District  
Washington  
D.C.