

New Orleans.

June 30. 1866.

My Dear Donohoe,

I have nothing from you since I dropped you a short note on Monday, & I sent you a letter received on Thursday.

The ~~most~~ ^{only} startling intelligence I have for you is about myself, and you will glean what I want from the following copy of telegrams -

"New York June 27. 1866.

To Geo. Coppel.

Would you accept a situation as corresponding Clerk in our Office at a Salary of three or four thousand dollars Currency.

Royal Phelps.

to which I replied, after consideration with my wife, and mentioning the matter to

Montgomery

This morning I am favoured with your telegram of yesterday's date - "will wait" "provided you can be here within time" "States. Letter to-day".

To-day I write to be relieved of charge of the Consulate, fortunately having met a gentleman competent and willing to assume the position, and I hope ~~at the latest~~ to be able to leave New Orleans about the 10th or 15th August - at the latest. In the meantime I shall make arrangements to get my house and office off my hands so that I may have nothing to detain me.

I think it proper to state that, though I have a knowledge of the French language, I am not sufficiently au fait
to

you'll not think badly of me for what I have
done ^{without consulting you - but as the matter seems urgent} ~~it was~~ the offer was quite unexpected
and of course ~~unacted by me~~ with them in N. Y.
I had no time - the offer was quite unexpected, and
of course unacted but it is such a ^{capital} splendid
thing ~~and~~ ^{begin with \$4000 a year to begin} with a bright prospect that I
could not well let the chance go by - if I can
get out of this ~~haphazardly~~ ^{properly} and without hurting
you. If you have to write to England please
do it at once, ^{if I have to write will you telegraph} so that I may be ready to
~~leave here in August.~~ ^{no - so that I may not overstep the time.} Briggs I think will be
as good a man for the berth as any I know -
Montgomery would not take it, though very
anxious to please & ^{assist} further me.

Johnson is here looking out for
work, I gave him the Scyllas' transcript to make
copy of. Fees I have not been able to make
up yet as a little vessel is clearing. Everything
dull, ~~and~~ the weather positively cool, we have to
keep the windows shut. Kind regards to ~~self~~ ^{Mr. Johnson}
Self -

to correspond in it; I shall be glad to know if it is essential in the situation you have so kindly offered me.

With regard to the ~~salary~~ ^{amount} mentioned in your telegram, I ~~would~~ ^{have} ~~merely~~ ^{been to state} ~~remark~~ ^{have merely to remark} that as I shall have heavy expenses in moving my family, refurnishing &c I would ~~not~~ have to ask for the ~~extreme~~ larger amount, ^{and} which I trust would be satisfactory to you.

In conclusion I beg to offer you, Sir, my thanks for this renewed expression of your good opinion - which ~~being~~ ^{highly} ~~constituted~~ ^{inestimable} value I shall endeavour to deserve for all time.

I beg to remain,

Dear Sir,
Your faithful servant,
Wm. M. M.