Newport Oct 20

Dear Sir,

My friend Goodwin was saying a short time since in my presence, that you were still in want of a clerk, as I recollect hearing you say you were when I was last in your office - Upon his mentioning this, it all at once occurred to me that although I have never acted in that capacity, I might possibly make myself useful to you, at least untill you could procure one that would fill the place better than I should.

My friend knowing that a clerkship is somewhat out of my line I presume thinks it rather a strange idea that I should propose myself but at the same time has kindly offered to write a line in my behalf - and yet I cannot refrain from advocating my own cause a little too. But what to urge I know not - except to promise you that I will do my best to serve you - and endeavour to aquire the only qualification I shall be in danger of lacking and that is Chirogeaphy - which I am confident will improve because when I was in the habit of teaching I was considered a very good writer - A habit, however of writing in great haste and inattention to the mechanical part has rendered it necessary that I should not only acknowledge but exemplify the fact that at present, as you see, I write but an indifferent hand. -

Mr Goodwin having seen me engaged in writing this letter has contented himself with the performance of his task in the very few words that I inclose - and I fear by telling you my reasons for wishing to reside in Baltimore has done me upon the whole but little good - I hope however that you will do me the justice to believe me incapable of neglecting the business of your

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II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

12. January 1853--April 1855

1854