Baltimore. Feb. 20th 1862.

Rev. Wm McLain.

My dear Sir.

I doubt not you feel kindly towards me, at least you would not wilfully give me cause of offence, such as a slap in the face, tweak of the nose, or call me secesh. but how little did you know the effect of one of Gibson's folios, a voluntary thrust of one under my nose. Barring the details of shrouds, grave-digging, coffins and the like of which I have seen some, the inexplicability of the man's acts, have been ever more deadly than the matter above. Never was one understood this side the water. I once got a friend, a good accountant, to go into the business of dissecting, and explaining to him what they ought to be, and how made up and put together, but no use. His Drfts. used to come in all shapes, so that we could form no conception of what they were for. I had a book of blank drafts printed and sent one out. "for — Salary from — the — st. to — the — st. 186- " &c.
Well how do you think he got around that? Why by erasing the l "in full," and inserting "in part," for salary 1 year 186- & so on, & so forth.
He is reputed to be an honest man, if one is to be found, but a terrible man of business. He is a popular, high-standing Liberian, more influence with the natives than any man in La. urged last election by the opp. McGill & Roberts, to stand a

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III. Correspondence Sent
A. Letter Press Books

3. September 1859—September 1863

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