J. Lee Esqr

Flagerstown, August 10th 1824

1457

Sir

Nearly a month has elapsed since I addressed a letter to you on the subject of obtaining a Cadetship at West point for my brother which remains unanswered, a circumstance causing me some uneasiness – chiefly because it leads me to suppose that has not reached you if it has, or should, it contains most that I thought necessary to say tho expecting as I did a postscript from a Friend who is slightly acquainted with you, but which on perusing mine he thought unnecessary, I was less particular in requesting an answer than would otherwise been the case, in a late letter to you I believe Mr Roscoe said something on this subject. I did not know until some time after – I am acquainted with the course to be pursued and knowing how much depends on the recommendation of the representative I am extremely solicitous to gain a share of your interest in this affair – you may be surprised or amused – or both, at the concern I manifest in a matter which might be thought to involve little interest to me – this however is not the case, as nothing less than an anxious desire for the attainment of the object in view could have led me to step from the retirement in which I have ever lived and direct my pen to that which requires something at least of publicity, and the interference of you with whose character only, I am very imperfectly acquainted – this circumstance had at one period nearly induced me to abandon altogether a project which required any effort on my part but I have now passed the Rubicon and must proceed, and tho political sagacity is not, and never has been the characteristic of my sex perseverance certainly is and I shall probably exercise this quality, whatever the consequence may be – on receiving this to forward an answer as soon as possible compliance with this presuming request will greatly oblidge one, who while soliciting the favour acknowledges, she has no claim to it

Mary Douglas

John Lee, Esqr
Petersville
Frederick County
Md

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