

Thomaston 14th Nov. 1834

Dear Sir

I have received your favour of the 10th inst. desiring to be informed of my views and wishes in relation to being a candidate for the U.S. Senate, and kindly expressing your preference of me for that Station. I am not insensible to the good opinion of my political friends and only regret that my ability to serve them falls so far short of what would be my desire to justify the partiality they express. The subject you name has been often mentioned to me, especially since a recent appointment has left a single vacancy to be supplied; and under all the circumstances under which the subject is now presented, I have thought it my duty, whatever my preferences or wishes might have been, to submit myself to the disposal of my political friends. I am aware of the great responsibility attached to the important Station alluded to, and I have many fears that I should be unable to justify such a selection.

The situation I now hold is one I did not seek. I accepted it hesitatingly - was told I should not probably be required to hold it long. But if the salary was commensurate with my annual expenditures and the tenure was less precarious, I should be content

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to remain "on the shelf." I am constrained to believe from what I learn in various parts of the State, that there is a reforming spirit abroad, and that changes may be expected at no distant day, which the C.C. Pleas, being unprotected by the Constitution, can scarcely be expected to survive.

I hope you did not mention the circumstance of your having on a former occasion given your vote for Mr Shepley, under any idea that that vote was not entirely satisfactory to me. If I had had a vote to give I should have done as you did. You could not have bestowed it upon a better man.

With assurances of much personal esteem and respect.

I am Dear Sir

Your obliged & Obedient
Jno Ruggles

Hon. Josiah Pierce.

P.S. Should be pleased and gratified to hear from you often.

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