

Nashville 24th June 1853

My Friend

About fifteen days ago I saw James
Chisholm with your passport when he was to pass through
our country with ^{out} ~~motivation~~ - he applied to me for a negro
Boy which ^{he} pretends to claim, I refused to let him have the Boy
& told him ^{to} get his Brother Ignatius who I had purchased the
negro of, & we would all go before you, and if he could
then make it appear that he had the best right to him I
would give him up, ^{if I got my own money again} I also told him if he would pay me back
four hundred dollars which I paid for the negro he might take
him. - when he found he could not obtain the Boy with out going
before you, he advises him and an other Boy of mine to run off to
the whites, & give them a pass with my name forged
to it, I have only this day got the negroes at Nashville
It certainly was his intention to steal the negroes, & I think
him a bad ^{person} to come into nation, but he has your
passport

passport we cannot say any to him, we must only look
to you for his bad conduct, as you will suffer him to come
into our country. - the fact that Chisholm gave the negroes was
seen by a number of the people in Nashville. - I have it now in
my possession. - what do you think of Chisholm giving the counter
fact to the negroes, & trying to take them of in that way, I
think very bad of it, & I think ^{he} ought not to go unpunished. I respect
you will know how to treat him on this occasion. - -

About eight years ago we made treaty with General
Washington, and we agreed that when a Horse or any thing
was stolen from the whites by our people that it should be paid
for out of our salary or annuity, & when the whites stole from
our people the Public was to pay us for our property, ^{why} that ~~stolen~~ ^{was} stolen. -
but no part of our salary or annuity is to be stopped for private debts
our salary or annuity is intended for our old helpless people &
children, but ^{not} intended to pay the debts of people that trade
and traffick abouts. -

I have nothing more to say to you at present

But I remain your friend & Brother

Double H D Head

Col. Meggs -