

to Pittsburg

Mr. A. J. Tanager

Dear Sir

I should not be so
Cautious. I have witnessed such conclusions
as long as I could, but as there is no doubt
of its use, I may as well announce it. I find,
amongst other reasons, that it will be convenient
for me to go now to Wash in D.C. beyond the
reach of the Fed. Court; & when it is convenient
as well to go to Centerton, & return here, & then go
out to Fed. Court.

I regret not being able to see you, & witness
once more your high & intelligent administration
of law. It looks as if I should never ^{again} stand amongst
the Centerton men as a member of the Bar.
So far as other cases probable it might prove a high
at the termination of my life in an ^{so} considerable element.

I beg you will give my regards to any
of my brethren who shall think to ask about me.
My professional & personal relations with them all have
been very agreeable. If I were authorized to write a
message of a Judge holding court, I might send ~~other~~
messages. But for fear you may have them proclaimed
at the Court House windows, I forbear.

Allow me to say now, Judge Tupper, - that our
relations as Judge, & practicing lawyer, are apparently about
to close, when I shall always retain the warmest appreciation
of your invaluable kindness to me: & that I shall bear with
me during my life a strong sense of the high ability with
which you have administered your office in my sight, and of
the impartial & courageous manner in which you have administer-
ed the laws of death to all classes & colors. I have
seen a number of our old time Judges upon the Circuit; Person
& Ballin & Caldwell used to be regarded as the best when I was
a young lawyer: In later days I highly esteemed Person & Howard,
and still more highly, Womack & Fowler. It would be vain incense

were I to pretend that you were as learned a lawyer
as some of these, when I practiced, or saw them practice, before
them at Mini Prais; but I can sincerely commend you the complete-
ment, but no one of them showed greater ability upon the
bench, and no one of them administered the law, upon the whole,
with greater certainty, impartiality, or absence of delay.

I was pained to hear that your eyes were giving
you trouble. I hope that it is but a passing inconvenience.
This prolonged winter has been deleterious to health, & tends to
prevently to bring out into activity such infirmities as may lurk in
the system: Procks, & Ames, & Chase & Admiral Winslow may be
witnesses of it. We have today tried the C. J. The result charac-
ter was well attended. Dr. Siffony, a dealer, minister delivered a
written address of help in hour or more. It was very well done:
very well received, for matter, rhetoric, & delivery. Upon the whole
very fair. I counted 65 sermons, after the house, & 7 after one each
in the procession towards Grafton. I suppose the speculation is
to be successful as absolutely, well. No objection will be com-
menced by mentioning the names. It is thought that the Post.

will make us apprehensive until Decr. That seems
to me to be much prudent.

But you want breakfast, & dear Bertha - good as she is -
may look grave if you don't go in. I will detain you no
longer - except to say that I am sorry I cannot go in & partake
with you of your kind landlady's excellent breakfast.

Yours very truly,

S. J. Phillips

Wilmington

12th May 1873.