

Indianapolis June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1843

Hon. A. Toussie

Dr Sir

I never was in the habit of asking favours at the expense of other persons time, much less that of a stranger, but really I have felt such an anxiety to ascertain some thing of the nature and disposition of Thompson McAdoo the Coloured man that lived some time with you, ~~and~~ I know of no other way than to approach you as I would an old acquaintance or confidential friend, and ask you to write me an answer to some thing like the following, how is it as to his industry, his truthfulness, his respectfulness to his superiors and - I hardly know what else to say, I will however put down a few things that I don't understand about him & ~~tho~~ you will better know what I mean, soon after he got here he commenced telling how high he

stood with every body where he come <sup>from</sup>  
how he work for you, how you indulge  
him in this & in that & a great deal of  
big talk, about himself enough to tire  
any one, indeed he acts a good as thou-  
gh he was the master & I the servant  
in other words, I have come to the con-  
clusion, he is a great blow, too big for  
his parts, by far, he was for four weeks,  
after he got here grunting and groaning  
sick sick so he said he took portion after  
portion of medicine every day until I  
told him he must stop, it of leave I  
took <sup>him</sup> to a <sup>home</sup>opathic doctor & found  
it all done no good, then I took him  
to a <sup>home</sup>opathic doctor who gave just  
about nothing but advice, and he  
seems better now, in the mean time I  
had to hire a man to do all the har-  
dest of the work, just at this time  
there is a great <sup>do all</sup> of building and dig-  
ging dirt for streets, & other foundations  
&c. and hodd carriers, & such get  
high wages, but severe labour, & Thom-  
pson makes it his constant business

to ask all he sees about these things and  
then get ~~dis~~ satisfied because he  
is not <sup>get</sup> just as much as those fellows  
who are paying five dollars a week for board  
and in wet weather & in winter get not-  
hing to do, still he says he will stay his  
year out, another thing if you please I  
wish if you see Bro Rodgers you would  
ask him if he has fixed up the balance  
and sent it me over, the amt it took to  
pay their way here I sent \$70 - Thompson  
says he only got 44¢ I wrote Bro Rodgers  
to keep 10¢ and send me the balance  
if he has done it, it has not come to hand  
yet please name it to him, I have all  
his letters stating that if Thompson stay  
one year or longer he thought I had  
best allow him the amount it took to  
bring him here beside the \$300.00 I think  
I should do so, but as the 70¢ was more  
than it took to bring him here I don't  
like to loose too much, I intend to do  
well by them if he will only do his  
duty, but he is most too pompous

he has more pomposity than any nig I ever  
came across, but as to Molly, we think the  
world of her, my wife is always giving  
her something she bought her a fine pair  
of gaiters yesterday and gave her Molly  
is well pleased and so are we, but I  
judg. I fear he is none too good to her  
how is that? Now Judg I have opened  
my thoughts and ~~been~~ entrusted you with  
them hoping you will find the time to  
write me and aid me in my efforts to  
get along with my new arrangement  
I am very easy to get along with. I have  
had but two servants the last ten  
years, one I kept 8 years. he took sick  
and died poor fellow or he would con-  
tinued with us 100 years had we all  
lived and the last wanted to stay  
but we had to part with him in order  
to get a man with a wife, hoping  
you will pardon this intrusion -

with great Respect

I am  
yours

J. N. Phipps

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