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Feb. 2 - 1888 -

My dear Judge

Yours of the 1<sup>st</sup> lies  
before me, I think well of a contract  
with Caswell Co. upon the terms  
you state, the contract of Matthews  
is now in my hands and coming  
to me for advances, I cannot  
see any way but for the contract  
to be made in my name,

But I have made it a rule  
of life to never sign what I have  
not read, and to never execute  
a contract by agent or attorney. I know  
how much greater your interest in the matter  
is than is my own, and rely upon your discretion  
and judgment so superior to mine; still as I  
am to be bound I request you to send me the  
original for my personal approval, and signature,  
The plates will be paid for wherever they are satisfactory  
to you, you audit the bill, and so direct.  
In haste - Yours truly - Adalbert Moot