

United States Post Office.

Raleigh, N.C., February 15<sup>th</sup> 1890.

A. W. SHAFFER,  
POSTMASTER.

My Dear Mrs Sawyer,

I am ashamed to write you - even in acknowledgement of all your kind services, because I have not obeyed your good advice to go to Washington, but I have placed the Judge's letters, and stand apposed upon the Senate Calendar.

I think I stand safe, unless there may arise a conspiracy through the Treasury Department, the details of which are too long to tell, I was appointed Custodian. The Chief Clerk of the Supervising Architect <sup>while acting Supervising Architect.</sup> undertook

to travel on me, I bit him - told the Secy the whole story resigned.

White was appointed Custodian. Taking his measure they found a better man, and appointed Sturrah Ellison Jamison, over the protest of every man in the building, Custodian <sup>vall.</sup> All the rest collapsed.

I notified the Custodian, the P.M.G. and Secretary, that he was forbidden to enter my mailing room, because I could not trust <sup>him</sup> behind the series of open letter boxes for 1 1/2 hours every morning for cleaning purposes, when there was nobody present to protect the property in my charge.

It made a tremendous row here. Harris & Spolich made everything

It is now reported that Grissom is the man whom they propose to put in my place. Who advising that he hasn't voted the republican ticket for 17 years. I think Waterloo will come Tuesday - 18th. The money has gone in tonight.

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Oliver, claiming that the Jamison was the representative of the Custodian, who represented the Secretary. I told them I didn't care if he was the Secretary himself, if I thought he was not honest he should not act in his usual such conditions while I was under \$45,000<sup>bond</sup> for the Custody of the Mail. Not knowing that I had forestalled them, they reported me to the Secy. who replied, - showing them my letter, - that I was the most incorrigible bull head he had ever had anything to do with - but he liked me, and was not going to force into my mailing room, any man I didn't want, whether he could or not. This is what I am told of the interview.

The few newspapers are egging on the "fight" with misrepresentations and flat lies, mostly gotten up by McChumey & Harris. Calling it the "fight" between Shaffer & Harris, when, in fact, it is Cheatham's fight for Ellison, with which I have had absolutely nothing to do - except to try and prevent the ejection of Alston on false charges, without notice, or hearing - for, from the crown of his head to the sole of his feet, he is one of the truest men, ever any, I ever knew. All the

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Commisined officers, Clerks and employes in the building joined me in the protest, yet it is "Harris vs Shaffer." still.

I don't anticipate any evil from Mr Windom, of his own motions, but it is universally concluded, that McLean, Acty Supervising Architect, was wrong, and got the worst of the jump upon me, and he is spoiling for satisfaction. I see it in this appointment of Ellison, and he is the only man I personally know in the <sup>Forum</sup> Dept.

If you & I could get the Judge to write our more letter, and convince Mr Windom that I am not the Devil I have been painted to him, I think the last note of danger would be past. I would like Mr Windom to know that for good, honest work, I am always available, and only wrong, injustice and roguery puts me in condition to fight a bug-saw.

Do you think you and I could wriggle him into it?

Mr Allen recind Gauge and Swallow, and noticed it - but so shably - that I did not send you a copy. Do you want it.

Very truly yours.

A. W. Shaffer