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Letter, Marcus Morton to Gideon Welles, September 28, 1863

Marcus Morton

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Taunton September 28. 1863.

Hon. Gideon Welles

Secretary of the Navy

Dear Sir,

William Gray Hodges Esqr, a friend and connection of mine, is a candidate for an appointment in the Department over which you preside. He now holds a small clerkship in some branch of the military service, which is inadequate to meet his necessary expenses. Having ^{been} ~~been~~ ^{careful} in business, he depends entirely on his personal services. And although, yet young he has a numerous family ~~and~~ and a young wife to support.

Of his qualifications for paymaster, which he has immediately on view, the testimonials of his present direct employers will furnish the best evidence. I can only say that his business habits are correct & industrious.

He is of a reputable family, being a son of the late Hon. James S. Hodges, who held many important offices in this State and was for many years a member of Congress. He is a young man of ^{an} ~~an~~ ^{irreproachable} ~~irreproachable~~ character, of respectable talents and of unquestioned loyalty & patriotism.

