

November 29, 1913.

My dear Senator:

I reached Porto Rico with my family all safe and sound on the 19th, was inaugurated on the 20th and have been on the job ever since. The people have been exceedingly cordial and have received both myself and my family in the kindest way possible.

My inaugural address, which I wrote entirely out of my own head without any instructions from the War Department or anybody, was received with a tremendous amount of interest and has produced in fact a small-size sensation in the newspapers especially. I will enclose a copy of it. That part relating to the American flag seemed like a red rag to some people here; but I believed it to be the truth and thought it was right to say it and have had no reason to change my mind. They are all settling down to that basis now and I am confident that the definite announcement of my judgment on that point has done good. The job is going to be heavy. There is a tremendous amount of work here for the Governor to do. The people want a change in the Foraker law. They all want it and I think they are entitled to it. I am planning to get all parties together and agree

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to ask Congress for some moderate and safe concessions in the way of amendments to the Foraker Act and have these drawn in the form of a bill and introduced into the House and Senate sometime next winter and then along in March come to Washington myself and see if I cannot aid in securing favorable action. I want you to introduce these amendments into the Senate for Porto Rico and then help us to pass them.

I have not yet found any Mr. Gray who wrote to you with reference to some position here in the Island. I suppose he will come to the palace before long.

Now I want you to remember that you promised to come down here during the holidays with a committee of the Senate and bring Mrs. James to make a visit to Mrs. Yager and myself. I am writing this letter chiefly to remind you of it. I do not want you to let anything interfere with your plan to do this. I am sure it would do you and Mrs. James good. It will do the Island good and it will be a delight to Mrs. Yager and myself. Put this on your program and paste it in your hat and stick to it. I want to show you the Island. It is simply beautiful and the climate is wonderful.

Let me hear from you once in a while and remember me as always.

Yours friend,

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY, IND.
ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C.
THOMAS P. GORE, OKLA.
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WILLIAM S. KENYON, IOWA.
LE BARON B. COLT, R. I.
W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 11, 1913.

Governor Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My Dear Governor:

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date. I have read your inaugural address and I heartily endorse every word. I think it is a magnificent address and reflects the sentiment of the American people.

I shall be very glad to introduce a bill to amend the Foraker Act as suggested by you and hold myself ready to aid in any way possible.

I suppose you have noticed how hard the Senate is working. We are meeting at ten o'clock each day and continuing in session until late at night with only two hours for dinner. We are undertaking to pass the Currency bill before the holidays. If not, we have determined to stay in session during Christmas week and have no adjournment at all.

I very much fear I shall be unable to come to Porto Rico for this reason. If we do pass the bill and I get a vacation, I shall have to go to Marion to see my mother and father. My mother has been quite ill, but I had a letter today saying she was improving. I hope, however, to have an opportunity of getting down to see you at Porto Rico. I know it would be a

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Gov. A. Y. - 2.

very great pleasure for Mrs. James as well as myself to enjoy the hospitality of yourself and Mrs. Yager.

I have written Ed Gray to call on you and I am sure he will be around in the near future.

Sincerely your friend,

Allie M. James

J/P.

The Filson Historical Society

December 17, 1913.

My dear Senator:

I have just had a letter from my brother, F. S. Yager, of Vine Grove, Kentucky, telling me of his recent visit to Washington.

I would appreciate it very much if you would take up personally the matter of his appointment as a special assistant of the Attorney General. When in Washington I saw Mr. Thompson, of the Attorney General's Office, and he promised to keep the matter in mind; but these men are very busy and of course they forget.

The position is not a very important one and my brother is absolutely qualified to render excellent service, and I am confident that his appointment would mean simply the transfer of some of this field work from some Republican attorney who is now doing it, to a Democrat who is just as well qualified and experienced and more deserving of recognition by the Democratic Administration. I know you would like to see this policy pursued by the Department of Justice somewhat more than it has been heretofore, and if you could get them to do it in this case it would be thoroughly consonant with the public interest.

I am looking for you and Mrs. James for the

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holidays. I hope Congress will adjourn and give you a
chance.

With the highest regards for you, I am,
Faithfully your friend,

Governor.

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

The Filson Historical Society

December 17th, 1913.

My dear Senator:

I am enclosing a paper which explains itself.

I desire to add that Mr. Newland is a good man, an old student of mine of Georgetown, and if he were to receive an appointment he would render excellent service. He is moreover a good friend of yours as well as of mine and a constant hard-working Democrat.

Sincerely your friend,

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

December 26, 1913.

My dear Senator:

I received your letter of the 16th enclosing a letter of the Honorable George Frederick Williams in endorsement of Mr. Sullivan, and I shall note carefully what you say in regard to him. I suppose that Mr. Sullivan has made application for his position at the War Department at Washington and that his papers and letters will be in charge of General Mc Intyre, Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs. I am not sure when the matter of filling the position for which he applies will be taken up by the War Department and myself. We may conclude to make a temporary appointment before filling the position finally, for the reason that we are trying to postpone the permanent organization of our departments until we shall have seen what can be done in the matter of changing the Foraker Act and getting a new constitution for Porto Rico. We would like to do that first and then take up the organization of our government under the new Act. General Mc Intyre and I will work out together the details of this new Organic Act and then we are going to call on you to help us get it through that august body. I see that Harvey Helm is on the corresponding committee in the House. I hope to interest him strongly along with

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Campbell Cantrill in pushing the matter in the House.

By the way, I have just learned of the sad death of Campbell's wife, which is truly pathetic, for Campbell's devotion to her was very great.

I received also your earlier letter in which you explained the improbability of your being able to come to Porto Rico during the holidays. I am truly sorry for this, but of course I understand the necessity which called you to Kentucky.

I have just seen in the papers that you succeeded in getting the currency bill through the Senate in time for adjournment for the holidays in spite of all the predictions to the contrary. It seems to me that our Democratic Congress has made a great record, and I congratulate you upon your part in it with all my heart. If that bill and the tariff bill fulfill the expectations entertained of them, our friends the Republicans may as well postpone indefinitely their plans for returning to power. I plan to come to Washington myself sometime in March for the sake of personal attention to various matters touching Porto Rico which will be by that time before Congress and the War Department.

I hope you will find your mother better when you reach Kentucky and that you will have a pleasant and restful vacation, which you have certainly earned.

With best wishes for you and your family, I am,

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as always.

Sincerely your friend,

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

The Filson Historical Society

March 11, 1914.

My dear Senator:

I did not get a chance to see you again before leaving Washington, but I am relying absolutely upon your promise to help to get a meeting of the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico and put the Porto Rico bill through the Senate. I hope, of course, that the bill will be approved just about as it stands; but, of course, amendments as to details which do not change the important features of it will not make much difference. You know, of course, that the House bill introduced by Congressman Jones differs from the Senate bill in one matter only, namely, the form of citizenship. Public sentiment in Porto Rico is divided on this point as it is in the United States. I still approve of individual citizenship as arranged for in the Senate bill; but, as I told the House Committee, if we cannot get the bill through with citizenship in the one form we will take it in the other. It is highly important to us here that we get the bill passed at this session of Congress. The President has approved it and promised to help in its passage, though he does not want to produce delay in their legislation by a protracted controversy. If the Senate pass their bill promptly it

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would have a good effect upon the House, for they say that they have passed several Porto Rico bills in the House in the last few years which the Senate paid no attention to. When I left it seemed to me that about all that was necessary to do in the Senate was to get the bill through the Committee and the chief difficulty on this point was to get a meeting of the Committee. So if you will take the matter up energetically and get the Committee together I think they will report the bill favorably, and then Mr. Shafroth and you together can put it through the Senate. If the Senate will pass their bill and the House the Jones bill, there is so little difference between them that an agreement could speedily be urged in a conference. But it is a matter of great importance to us here that we get it done before adjournment of Congress so we can hold the elections next November under the new bill.

I shall keep in mind the matters about which we talked when I saw you last. Please investigate the situation as to this bill and let me know your opinion.

Sincerely your friend,

Honorable Ollie H. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
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W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 23, 1914.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date. I would have answered it earlier but for my absence from Washington. I am doing all I possibly can to help pass the Porto Rico Bill through the Senate. I think we shall succeed. The fight over the tolls question will delay it some. I think there is no doubt, though of ultimate success.

Assuring you of my kindest regards, I am,

Very truly, your friend,

Ollie M. James

J/H

April 6, 1914.

My dear Senator:

Senator Shafroth writes me that he has had a hard time trying to secure a meeting of the Committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico and that he has failed thus far to get together a quorum. I am writing to ask your especial interest and aid in this matter.

The new organic act for Porto Rico, as amended, has received the unanimous endorsement of the Insular Committee of the House of Representatives, and it is thought that it will pass the House very soon, practically without opposition. As soon as it is sent over to the Senate, I sincerely hope that the Senate Committee will get together and at least give it consideration. It is very important that it should pass Congress at this session. I do not think there would be any serious opposition to it in the Senate and that it will pass without difficulty if we can only get it up for consideration; and if the Committee will have just a meeting or two on this bill I believe they would be willing to make a favorable report and place it before the Senate. We have the elections here in Porto Rico next November, and if we can only get this bill through at this session of Congress we can hold the elections

(6 Apr 14)

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under its provisions and start the new Government off. I am exceedingly anxious to do so. I hope that there will be no prolonged controversy over the Panama Canal free-tolls provision in the Senate. I am so far away I am not able to keep up closely with the news. My Kentucky papers are a week or two behind schedule and when they come the news seems so old I can scarcely take time to read it.

Please write me your views and ideas as to this Porto Rican bill and the prospects for getting it through when you have had time to think it over.

With best wishes for you now and always, I am,

Sincerely your friend,

Honorable Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

GENERAL FILE

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OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
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CLERK

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 15, 1914.

Governor Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

JF

My Dear Governor:

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date. I shall be very glad to cooperate with Senator Shafroth to secure early action upon the Organic Act for Porto Rico. Of course, the situation is somewhat changed since you left here. The Tolls fight will be taken up in the Senate in the near future, and this may delay somewhat action upon that bill, but you may rest assured that I shall do all I possibly can to hurry it up.

Sincerely your friend,

Ollie M. James

J/P

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OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
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CLERK

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 22, 1914.

Governor Arthur Yager,

San Juan, Porto Rico.

My Dear Governor:

Campbell Cantrill is having a fight for the nomination to Congress. Claude Thomas is running against him. Of course, you know without my saying it that Campbell has made a most excellent Member of Congress here and is your warm personal friend. I know he will appreciate it very greatly and I shall also if you can write a letter in his behalf.

I hope you are well. With kindest regards,
I am,

Very truly your friend,

Ollie M. James

J/P

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May 27, 1914.

My dear Senator James:

This is to introduce to you the bearer,
Mr. Wenceslao Borda, who is going to Washington for
a brief visit.

Mr. Borda is a prominent and influential
citizen of Porto Rico and can give you a great deal
of accurate information about the Island.

I should appreciate any courtesies that you
may find it possible to extend to him during his stay
in Washington.

Yours sincerely,

Governor.

Honorable Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

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July 4, 1914.

My dear Senator James:

I have just received your letter of June with reference to Mr. Cantrill and his contest for re-election. I had already received a letter from Mr. Cantrill himself upon this subject which I answered a few days ago. I recognize the truth of all that you have said as to Mr. Cantrill and my own personal feeling for him, and I regret very much the fight that has been made upon him especially in his own county where I have lived side by side with him for many years. The difficulty about it however is that I did not know of the situation in time to be of use. If I had been at home I could have, I am sure, prevented this open fight against him in his own county; but I did not know of it until Campbell wrote me the letter which I received about June 20, and by that time those who were inclined to oppose him had gotten together and organized clubs and came out in open declaration against Campbell on the temperance issue. It was then too late, in my judgment, for me to be of any use. I have written a long letter to Campbell about it which I wish you could see, and I am sure you will agree with me that at the present stage of the contest my taking any part in it would be of no use whatever. I am confident, however, Campbell will be renominated and reelected, and I regret the situation

(4 Jul 14)

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that has exposed him to opposition in his own county.

I wish awfully that I could be in Washington for the next two or three weeks to see if I could not be of some help in securing the passage of the Porto Rican bill. I cannot tell you how important it seems to us down here to have this Congress do something that will show interest in Porto Rico; and the new organic act would go far toward offsetting the feeling of having been neglected and indeed injured by the passage of the new tariff law. Moreover, our elections are going to take place next November and it is immensely important to have them held under the new act rather than have to have another election after the passage of the new act, if it should be passed at the next session. If I could do anything in Washington to aid in securing the attention of Congress to this important question I would make any sort of sacrifice to come. If I could get the Senators to realize the conditions down here in this far-off possession of the United States I am sure they would take a little time to consider and pass this measure of relief.

I am sure you are awfully busy, but I wish you would take time and write me your views of this matter. How long do you think Congress will continue in session, and what are your views of the Mexican policy and the general political situation? I do not get much news down here and would be awfully glad to hear from you.

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With very best wishes for yourself personally, I am,

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

*Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.*

The Filson Historical Society

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
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W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 21, 1914.

Governor Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My Dear Governor:

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date.

I regret exceedingly that you took the view of the situation that it was impossible for you to aid Mr. Cantrill. I know that he was your warm personal friend and aided you in every way he possibly could. But, of course, you are the judge of your own conduct rather than myself.

I feel sure that Mr. Cantrill will be elected by several thousand majority.

I do not believe that it will be possible to get the Senate to consider the Porto Rican Bill at this session. They all seem to be quite well worn out with the trust bills, and the fight over the confirmation of the Federal Reserve Board will take about all of the time, together with the passage of the appropriation bills at this session.

Assuring you of my kindest regards, I am,

Very truly your friend,

Ollie M. James

J/P

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OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY, IND.
ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C.
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CLERK

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sept. 18, 1914.

Hon. Arthur Yager,

Governor of Porto Rico.

San Juan, P. I.

My Dear Governor:

I write to call your attention to Mr. Robert P. Ironside, of the United States and Porto Rico, who has applied for the position of Member of the Executive Council of Porto Rico.

Mr. Ironside is splendidly fitted for such a position and I am sure would make you a valuable assistant. He has spent a good deal of time in the Island, having married the daughter of Hon. T. Larrinaga, formerly Resident Commissioner to the United States from there, and his wife and children are now in Porto Rico.

Mr. Ironside is a young man of fine education and is a graduate of the law department of Georgetown University and is a member of the state bar of Oklahoma, his native state. He has spent a number of years in Washington as secretary to his brother in law, Hon. James S. Davenport, Member of Congress from Oklahoma, and has therefore acquired a wide experience in many respects.

I sincerely hope you will feel justified in recommending his appointment to the Secretary of War.

With kindest regards, I am,
Very truly your friend,

Ollie M. James

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY, IND.
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LEBARON B. COLT, R. I.
W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sept. 23, 1914.

Governor Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My Dear Governor:

I write this letter to call your attention to Judge J. W. Bonner, who is now serving as Auditor for the Island of Porto Rico, and who is an applicant for re-appointment.

Judge Bonner is an excellent gentleman of great ability and efficiency and has made a fine record in the office he holds. I feel sure that you will make no mistake in selecting him for this position and I shall greatly appreciate the favor if you find it possible to do so.

Assuring you of my kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Ollie M. James

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September 25, 1914.

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I was delighted to get your letter of the 18th and see your signature once more.

I have received several other letters in connection with the application of Mr. Robert Ironside for the position as member of the Executive Council of Porto Rico. I also met Mr. Ironside when I was in Washington last February and formed a high opinion of his personality and promise. However, his application comes too late, perhaps, for it has already been practically settled here some days ago as to the man who is to succeed Mr. Travieso in the Executive Council.

Mr. Ironside is mistaken also in his idea that the vacancy is on the American side of the Council, as the new appointee must succeed Mr. Travieso who, though an American citizen, is a Porto Rican by birth and family and everybody here understands that his successor will also be a Porto Rican by birth.

I have promised that this position shall be filled by a member of the majority party here in Porto Rico and by one they shall recommend, provided, of course,

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that they recommend a man who is in every way fit and against whom I can have no objection.

Well, it seems now that Congress will likely sit on until December. You gentlemen certainly have had a long siege of steady work, and it seems to me that you have made good on every point.

I notice that the Commerce Committee of the Senate has reported to Congress the Simmons' substitute for the river and harbor bill, and I am greatly gratified to learn that this includes an appropriation for the San Juan harbor. I have no doubt you have helped to bring this about, and I would greatly appreciate your further help to keep this in the bill as finally passed. You may rely upon my statement that this is truly a national project, and if this harbor is deepened as provided in the project it can readily become one of the great harbors in the West Indies and be of great use in the development of the trade through the Panama Canal under American control and protection.

I have become rather well acquainted with your friend and fellow-townsmen Mr. E. K. Gray. I have been considering him for another appointment but I find it will hardly be suitable to his qualifications and tastes, as it is almost entirely office work and Gray is essentially a field man and well adapted to outside work amongst the people and in general business.

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Still, I have my eye on him and will see that he gets an absolutely square deal in the position which he now has and in which he has made good as inspector of buildings and other work in the Interior Department.

I am in hopes that the Porto Rico bill will be passed through the House by Mr. Jones shortly, and when it is passed I want to come to Washington and take up the matter afresh with the Senate Committee and suggest some modifications which my experience here has made me think are advisable and try to get the Senate to act upon it as soon as possible.

I hope that you and your family are all well and that you still have in mind your promise to bring Mrs. James down to Porto Rico for a visit. I want to assure you that the climate is delightful both in summer and winter and that Mrs. Yager and I would be delighted to see you any time or any season that you could find an opportunity to come.

Remember me cordially to Mr. Richardson and accept my very best wishes for yourself.

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

October 10, 1914.

My dear Senator James:

Your very kind letter of the 25th ultimo, with reference to Judge Bonner, has been received and I am giving that matter the most favorable consideration. I shall have it disposed of in a few days.

I suppose you have heard from my brother in Kentucky that they are treating ^{him} rather shabbily around in the Attorney General's Office. Mr. Thompson who has charge of that particular department is a most excellent man, but it seems to me that he is mistaken in his policy if he thinks that any saving to the Government can be made by sending from Washington out into the South a high-priced department lawyer to attend to matters which could be competently managed by a special assistant who is on the ground and would not have to make the trip from the capital and back. I know you will do all that you properly can in the matter as you always do in any matter concerning our State and its citizens.

I hope to be in Washington on Porto Rican business before Christmas and I am exceedingly anxious to see you and talk with you once more.

I sincerely hope you are well and strong in your health. Everything is running smoothly here. With sincere good wishes, I am, as ever,

Hon. Ollie M. James, Faithfully yours,
U. S. Senate, Washington.

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OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY, IND.
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LEBARON B. COLT, R. I.
W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

November
October 9, 1915.

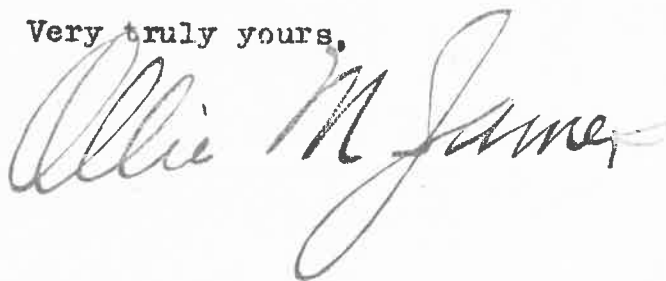
Hon. Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

Senator Williams of Mississippi, writes me that he is deeply interested in seeing Mr. L. E. Evans appointed Treasurer of Porto Rico. I would greatly appreciate your doing this, as the Senator is a very warm friend of mine and I am very anxious to see his wishes complied with.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,



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November 19, 1915.

My dear Senator:

Your brief letter of the 9th instant written at the request of Senator Williams of Mississippi, with reference to Mr. L. E. Evans, has been duly received, and I am giving this matter careful consideration. Owing to some special private instructions from the President I find myself unable at present to recommend Mr. Evans for this office; but, of course, conditions may change and if they do I shall consider the matter afresh.

I am coming to Washington again, according to my present plans, next January, and I am hoping to see much of you at that time, as I shall be at work before Congress upon the new organic act for Porto Rico. The President has assured me that he sees no reason why this act should not be passed at the coming session of Congress and that he will do everything he can to promote its passage. I have requested him to mention the matter in his message to Congress, and I have every reason to believe that he will do so; but in any event he has promised to aid, and I think the bill ought to be passed.

I notice in the newspapers that Mr. Stanley was elected Governor but by a surprisingly small majority.

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This of course makes every democrat feel uneasy with reference to the future elections in the State, and I am especially desirous of talking over the matter with you when I see you and of getting your views on the situation.

I noticed also the marriage of my friend Mr. Richardson, your Secretary, upon which I desire to congratulate him and you also. Remember me to him most cordially.

I regretted very greatly that I was unable to see you at all while in the States, as you were out of Washington when I was there and I did not find it possible to cross your busy tracks while in Kentucky.

Hoping that you are well and thoroughly happy,
I am

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Honorable Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

March 28, 1916

My dear Mr. James:

I am enclosing copy of a letter written to Chairman Jones of the House Committee giving all of the facts bearing on prohibition in Porto Rico. I have information from Mr. Crafts that they are going to press the prohibition amendment for Porto Rico and I think it important that the members of the House and Senate should at least know the facts of the situation here in Porto Rico and the probable effect of the prohibition amendment before they vote to pass it.

I want to recall your promise made to me when I last saw you that in case the matter came up in the Senate you would read to them, before they take a vote on it, any communication that I would give you with reference to it, and I wish therefore that you would use this letter to Chairman Jones in any way that you think would be most effective. I sent a copy of the letter to General Mc Intyre with the request that he send you one, but for fear it may not have reached you I am sending you this letter in addition. In case you receive both letters, you might hand one to some other Senator who you think might be affected by the argument made.

I think it a matter of very great importance that the prohibition amendment should not be made a rider on

(28 Mar 16)

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the new organic act for Porto Rico. There is no disputing the power of Congress to legislate on this subject for Porto Rico at any time, and I think it possible that at some future time not far distant the Island might become better prepared for such legislation, and when that time arrives this matter could be attended to either by Congress or the local legislature without the very serious effects both upon the revenue and the political situation of the Island which would certainly attend its enactment at the present moment.

I know you are extremely busy and I hate to add anything to your burdens, but at the same time I know you are intensely concerned in the success of the administration here in Porto Rico as well as elsewhere.

I hope that you and your family are in the best of health, and wishing you the greatest success personally and politically, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Honorable Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY, IND.
ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C.
THOMAS P. GORE, O. LA.
FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN.
WILLIAM S. KENYON, IOWA.
LEBARON B. COLT, R. I.
W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 5, 1918.

Hon. Arthur Yager,

Governor of Porto Rico.

My Dear Governor:

I write to call your attention further to Mr. J. C. Hocker of Barnard, Missouri, who has made application for the position of Treasurer of Porto Rico. Mr. Hocker comes of the old family by that name in Kentucky and they are among the most substantial people in our state. He is strongly endorsed for the place and is thoroughly fitted to discharge its duties with credit to himself and to your administration. I hope after looking fully into the matter that you may find it possible to select him.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Ollie M. James

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R. L. Nichols, Attorney, El Paso, Texas.
 Wm. Kettner, Congressman from California.
 L. P. Scaroni, Banker, Santa Maria, Cal.
 Ollie M. James, U. S. Senator from Kentucky.
 G. W. Fishburn, Banker, San Diego, Cal.
 W. R. Rogers, Banker, San Diego, Cal.
 W. J. Stone, U. S. Senator from Missouri.
 P. J. Hainey, Barnard, Mo.
 Frank Owens, Maryville, Mo.
 L. C. Cook, Maryville, Mo.
 B. R. Martin, Attorney, St. Joseph, Mo.
 J. L. Ballard, Banker, Guilford, Mo.
 Joseph Meyers, Banker, Guilford, Mo.
 Carl Wray, Banker, Guilford, Mo.
 Jas. M. Rea, Probate Judge, Savannah, Mo.
 W. A. Boyer, Banker, Savannah, Mo.
 W. S. Dray, Editor Democrat, Savannah, Mo.
 R. H. McFadden, Savannah, Mo.
 O. H. Clark, Circuit Clerk, Savannah, Mo.
 J. M. Landers, Savannah, Mo.
 R. L. Limmerick, Savannah, Mo.
 I. R. Williams, Savannah, Mo.
 Geo. C. Perkins, U. S. Senator from California.
 J. F. Conkey, Editor Santa Maria Graphic.
 Julius Ebels, Editor Santa Maria Times.

Hon Champ Clark. Missouri

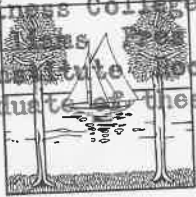
Prof. D.L. Musselman Pres

Gem City Business College Quincy Ills

Prof S.C. Williams Pres Rochester

Business Institute Rochester N.Y.

I am a graduate of these two schools



NELSON-HANNE PRINTING COMPANY ST JOSEPH MO

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company, and largely through his spirit of improvement has the business blocks been built this season. Its men like him that makes the prosperity of our country and town. Money expended in improvements gives work to the laborer and puts cash in the merchants till."

The Bankers of Northwest Missouri had this to say of J. C. at the time he sold out his banking interest at Guilford:

"We desire to attest to his christian character and to his many sterling qualities. Many of us have known him since his early childhood and we cheerfully vouch for his rugged honesty and his splendid ability."

He is well known to many large financial institutions, which have held him in the highest esteem for his strength of character and honesty of purpose and his unflinching energy.

Samuel D. Gromer, formerly treasurer of Porto Rico, said on January 15, 1913:

"I have known Prof. J. C. Hocker, formerly of Missouri, but now of California, for many years. He is a thorough business man, intelligent, reliable and honest and has had first-class preparation for a business career. He is very active and is thoroughly acquainted with modern methods, having had much experience."

The following citizens and business men of the United States backed Jefferson C. Hocker in his race for the appointment as Treasurer

of Porto Rico

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The Filson Historical Society

Their original letters being in his possession:
J. G. Skidmore, Cashier Citizens Bank, Guilford,
Mo.

Chas. F. O'Neal, Mayor of San Diego, Cal.
John E. Raker, Congressman from California.
H. C. Bagby, Assemblyman from California.
Col. Fred Jewel, Banker, San Diego, Cal.
T. D. Parr, Cashier First Nat'l Bank, Hamilton,
Mo.

Jno. A. Shower, Attorney of Kansas City, Mo.
A. V. Thurmond, Attorney of Kansas City, Mo.
Ed. E. Aleshire, Attorney of Kansas City, Mo.
S. D. Murphy, Attorney of Kansas City, Mo.
C. L. Preisker, Attorney of Santa Maria, Cal.
Jos. Jackson, Sr., Banker, Maryville, Mo.
Jos. Jackson, Jr., Banker, Maryville, Mo.
G. B. Baker, Banker, Maryville, Mo.
E. E. Williams, Banker, Maryville, Mo.
G. W. Wilfey, Banker, Maryville, Mo.
S. H. Kemp, Banker, Maryville, Mo.
J. B. Robinson, Banker, Maryville, Mo.
F. P. Robinson, Banker, Maryville, Mo.
W. C. Ellison, Judge Circuit Court.
Geo. W. Demott, County Clerk, Maryville.
W. M. Oakerson, County Supt., Maryville.
John D. Works, U. S. Senator from California.
H. S. Hitchcock, Los Angeles, Cal.
L. E. Miller, Cashier Commercial Bank, Stan-
berry, Mo.
Dr. Edward Alcorn, Hustonville, Ky.
C. F. Booher, Congressman from Missouri.

COPY

WAR DEPARTMENT

April 28th., 1916.

Honorable Ollie M. James ,
United States Senate .

My Dear Senator: I beg to acknowledge the receipt , by reference from
the Secretary of War, of your letter of April 25th., recommending Mr.
Jefferson C. Hocker for appointment to the position of Tr easurer of
P_orto Rico.

In reply you are advised that this is an appointment which is made
by the President , and a list of names and recommendations of all
candidates for the position are now in his hands .

Very sincerely,

SIGNED(Frank Mc Intyre)

Chief of Bureau

86 X 11

The Filson Historical Society



FARMERS & CITIZENS BANK

OF BARNARD
CAPITAL \$20,000.00

DIRECTORS:
JOHN R. TURNER
M. M. POLLARD
R. B. WILLSON
J. C. HOCKER
R. P. NELSON

BARNARD, MO. June 3rd., 1916.

Governor Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Hon. Sir: Believing myself capable of serving the government creditably and efficiently I have placed my name on file in the War Dept., at Washington, D.C. as applicant for the position of Treasurer Of Porto Rico.

I have had many years experience in banking , in which business I am now engaged and believe my application is backed by some of the very best men in the United States.

Hon. C.F.Booher M.C. 4th., Dist .,of Missouri has sent me a copy of the Porto Rican bill H.R. 9533 which proposes that the governor of Porto Rico shall appoint the Treasurer .

Hence my desire to call your attention to my application.

Following is a list of some of those who believe me worthy and capable of doing good work for the government.

Senators Ollie M. James , Ky. W.J.Stone and J.A.Reed , Missouri. John D. Works Calif. Congressmen Booher Mo., John E. Raker, William Kettner and D.S.Church of Calif. Samuel D. Gromer Ex Treas of Porto Rico . I am enclosing printed list of others who are assisting me in my efforts to secure this appointment. I have kept this matter strictly out of the papers and do not want it to appear in any of them and will kindly ask you to consider this letter confidential.

It is my desire to reach the top in the profession of banking and I certainly would be very much gratified to serve as Treasurer of Porto Rico

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JOHN R. TURNER, PRESIDENT.
M. M. POLLARD, VICE PRESIDENT.



FARMERS & CITIZENS BANK

OF BARNARD

CAPITAL \$20,000.00

BARNARD, Mo.

R. B. WILLSON, 2ND. VICE PRES. & SEC.
J. C. HOCKER, CASHIER.

(3 June 16)

DIRECTORS:
JOHN R. TURNER
M. M. POLLARD
R. B. WILLSON
J. C. HOCKER
R. P. NELSON

for one term and will thank you to take this matter of my appointment under consideration and feel perfectly free to look me up in Washington D.C. with any of those whose names I have given you.

I desire to call your attention to the list that I am mailing you which has quite a number of bankers and will thank you to look me up also from that source.

Yours very respectfully,

Jefferson C. Hocker

*P.S.
Speaker Champ Clark wrote me
a few days ago, saying "I will
assist you all I can"*

June 14, 1916.

My dear Senator:

Yours of the 5th instant, calling my attention to the application of Mr. J. C. Hocker of Barnard, Mo., for the position of Treasurer of Porto Rico, has been received and read with interest. I have also received from Mr. Hocker himself copy of his application and papers relating thereto, and when the occasion arises for action upon this matter I shall give Mr. Hocker's application careful consideration. At present I think this matter will be held up pending the fate in the Senate of the new organic act for Porto Rico. Should this act become a law, the appointment of this officer will be changed from the President to the Governor, and on that account it seems best to await the fate of the bill before taking action upon it. If the bill should pass and the Governor have to make the appointment, in that event, as you know, a new question will come up as to whether it might be permissible to appoint a Porto Rican for this position. Of course I am not worrying over these questions at present, because the bill may not pass though I sincerely hope it will.

Before you receive this letter I suppose you will have returned from the Democratic Condection at

(14 June 16)

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St. Louis with your mind full of impressions received from that great gathering. I wish that you might find time to write me a letter giving me those impressions and all your views as to the probable course and result of the campaign. I am a long way from the scene of these activities, but you can understand my intense interest in them and my desire to render any assistance to the Party that I can.

I heartily congratulate you upon the results of the convention in Kentucky. I have read in the newspapers the platform adopted and the full report of all the proceedings. It seems to me that if the conditions in all of the democratic or doubtful states were as harmonious and satisfactory as they are in Kentucky there would be little to fear. I congratulate you sincerely on the success of your leadership in our home State.

Please do not forget to do everything you possibly can to promote the passage of the Porto Rican bill and at as early a date as possible. We shall have to hold the election under it if passed, and unless it be passed and approved promptly we shall have very little time. I have submitted to Senator Shafroth and his Committee a few minor amendments which I should like to see incorporated in it by the Senate which the Senator has agreed, I think, to accept personally and submit to the Committee. But I do not know what it will

(14 June 16)

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do with these amendments or what will happen to the bill in the Senate. The most important of these amendments is that fixing the salaries of the heads of departments and the Auditor at the uniform figure of \$6,000 a year. I think this ought to be done by all means, and there is no good reason that I can see why it should not be done.

I have not been very well of late. I have something like Grippe all through my head and ears. I hope you are well and had the time of your life at St. Louis.

With the best possible wishes for you, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Honorable Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
BENJAMIN F. SHIVELY, IND.
ELISON D. SMITH, S. C.
THOMAS P. GORE, OKLA.
FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN.
WILLIAM S. KENYON, IOWA.
LEBARON B. COLT, R. I.
W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 29, 1916.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, P. R.

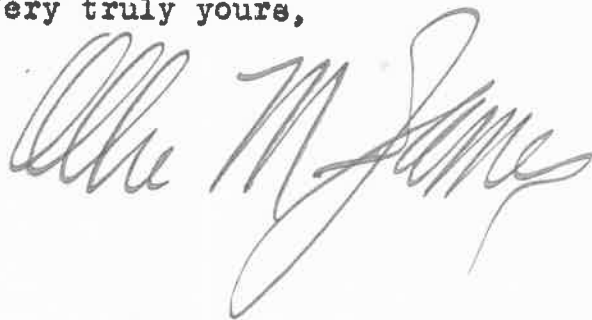
My Dear Governor:

I wish to call your attention to Col. Charles B. Morton of Maine, who has applied for the position of Collector of Customs for Porto Rico. This office, as I am informed is being held by a Republican.

Senator Johnson has just been in to see me and highly recommends Col. Morton. His appointment will be greatly beneficial to Senator Johnson in Maine, and we have not one Senator to elect there, but two on account of the recent death of Senator Burleigh. I hope you will appoint him. I feel sure that you will agree with me that this Republican ought to be put out.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly yours,



J/P

86 X 11

August 1, 1916.

My dear Senator;

Upon reaching Porto Rico I found on my desk your letter of June 29 with reference to Colonel Charles B. Morton, of Maine, who is an applicant for the position of Collector of Customs of Porto Rico.

As you perhaps know, since your letter was written the office has become vacant through the sudden death of the gentleman who held it at the time Colonel Morton wrote his letter, and so that removes the difficulty of making the vacancy which was impossible heretofore because the office was covered by the Civil Service, and it was impossible to find any real reason for making a change because the collector who has recently died was an excellent man and a fine official.

I was told, when in Washington, that the Civil Service regulations required the promotion to this vacancy of some official already in the Customs Service either in Porto Rico or in the United States; and according to this view of the matter, the only man in Porto Rico who could secure the appointment would be Mr. Hayden L. Moore who is at present Special Deputy Collector. Colonel Morton, however, is of the opinion that he himself could be easily transferred from the Insular Civil Service to the Federal Customs Service

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and so be appointed without any violation of the Civil Service regulations. I was informed at Washington that this would require an executive order of some kind by the President and could not be done in the regular course of things. For myself, I do not know.

Colonel Morton is an excellent man, a thoroughly consistent, loyal, true-blue democrat, and has been in the Insular Service here in Porto Rico for 16 years. He is perhaps not quite young enough and flexible enough for this job, but he is a man of splendid character and of fine capacity.

The appointment is made by the Secretary of the Treasury and does not require confirmation by the Senate. Therefore, I have myself no direct connection with it. If Colonel Morton could be appointed it would be entirely satisfactory to me. If this can not be done without embarrassment I see no reason why Mr. Moore might not make a good collector.

Please keep right after the Porto Rican bill and assist Senator Shafroth at every point and from every angle in getting it before the Senate. It ought to be passed by this Congress and at this session.

I found all well and quiet here in Porto Rico. With best wishes, I am
Sincerely your friend,

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate.

June 20, 1917.

Honorable Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I have been as busy as a switch engine since the passage of the Jones Bill and the declaration of a state of war between the United States and the German Empire. I have had no time to write letters except those of the most pressing importance and of course no time to read the papers except the brief and meagre despatches published in our local papers. However, I have thought of you a hundred times and imagined how busy you must be in carrying out the war policies of the Government during these stirring moments in history.

We are doing our best to help the National Government here in this Island. We are now preparing to take the military registration under the conscription law; we have recruited our Porto Rico Regiment up to war strength and sent it away to Panama. We are expecting to raise two or three more regiments under the selective draft. We subscribed about \$600,000 to the Liberty Loan and could have done more if we had had more time. We have formed an active branch of the American Red Cross and have raised many thousands of dollars and enrolled thousands of members in that great organization.

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The passage of the Jones Bill was exceedingly timely and fortunate, and the Porto Ricans are very grateful for its provisions as to citizenship and self-government and are on that account far more loyal and patriotic than they might have been if the new organic act had been still further delayed. I want to thank you again not only for your services and aid in that great matter, but also for the many ways in which you showed your kindness to me personally during the debates on that measure.

I would give anything in reason to have a long talk with you over these and many other matters about which I am anxious to get your intimate views and opinions; but that is impossible. I see no prospect of being able to get away from my post until late next fall, and then probably only for a short time. I wish very much that you could find time to write me a letter giving me your impressions as to the progress we are making in Congress and the probable course of events in the war. Will it be long? or can we probably finish it in a short time?

I am well in spite of the heavy work and my family also are well.

With the best of wishes for yourself and your family, I am as always,

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

OLLIE M. JAMES, KY., CHAIRMAN.
ELLISON D. SMITH, S. C.
THOMAS P. GORE, OKLA.
WILLIAM F. KIRBY, ARK.
FRANK B. BRANDEGEE, CONN.
LE BARON B. COLT, R. I.
PHILANDER C. KNOX, PA.
W. VERNON RICHARDSON,
CLERK.

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON PATENTS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 27, 1917.

Hon. Arthur Yager,

Governor of Porto Rico,

San Juan, P. R.

My Dear Governor:

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date, which has been read with great interest. I am pleased to note the patriotic interest the inhabitants of Porto Rico are manifesting in the part America is taking in the great conflict now going on in Europe.

I assure you it was a pleasure to serve you and the Island during the consideration and passage of the Jones Bill. I hope you will always let me know when there is anything I can do for you or for the people you govern.

It is impossible for any human living to say when the war will end. Of course, our country is actively preparing to make a strong fight and her entrance into the struggle will shorten the war and insure success to the Allies, but when it will terminate no one knows.

I am very glad to have heard from you.
With kindest regards, I am,

Very truly your friend,

Ollie M James

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June 12, 1918.

My dear Senator;

I have recently had a letter from Mr. Richardson, your Secretary, advising me of your illness, and I have also talked over the matter with my son Dr. R. E. Yager who has just come down last week; and altho both of them say that you are better and will soon be out, I am still quite anxious to hear from you and know definitely how you are getting along.

I hope you will accept my condolences and sympathy for you at this juncture. I know you have had little experience with sickness and I am sure it has been a great shock to you, but I hope you have made a good patient and that you will soon be completely recovered again and back on your job with all your usual buoyancy and spirit. I feel sure, however, that you have been working too hard and that you will have learned by your recent experience to take better care of yourself and not attempt so much in the future.

Of course you have heard of the recent charges and attacks made upon me as Governor. They have come, as you know, from the same old source, -an unscrupulous labor agitator here in Porto Rico who is the founder of a new socialist party here and is simply seeking his own political advancement.

The record here is complete, and I do not fear in the least any impartial investigation that may be made of the whole subject. The charges have not even been sent to me officially and I know what they are only from publications in the newspapers -chiefly in the little labor newspapers of Porto Rico. But of course it is annoying and I hardly know how to proceed to protect myself from the misunderstanding of the situation that may arise in the minds of the public in the United States where so little is known of the real conditions in Porto Rico and of the character of the people who make the charges. But I suppose that the President will send them to me when he thinks it necessary and give an opportunity to make complete answer to them in due time. Meanwhile I want you to know that I have done nothing in this whole matter except my plain duty as Governor of the Island and that I have no fear of the record and that the men who have made the charges are unworthy of attention from any honest man.

Please write me when you can, or have Mr. Richardson do so, and tell me all about yourself and especially the

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situation as to your campaign for reelection, and whether there is any thing that I can do for you in regard to that matter.

With best wishes for you always, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Governor.

Hon. Ollie M. James,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

The Filson Historical Society