

October 1, 1917.

Hon. Henry C. Stuart,
Governor of Virginia,
Richmond, Virginia.

My dear Governor:

I am taking the liberty to write to you concerning an appointment to the State Corporation Commission which I understand you will make at an early date. It is not necessary for me to point out to one who knows him even better than I do the merits of former Senator George B. Keezell. Yet I feel that I must not let the opportunity pass for testifying to his worth as a citizen and his ability as public officer. In my humble judgment he is eminently qualified for this position, by reason of his long experience as a farmer, a public official, and a member of various boards. Few men in our State are as well posted on financial matters as he is.

I have been associated with Senator Keezell for the past nine years, and I admire his ability, his strength, and his integrity. He has borne the storms of much injustice and ingratitude on the part of those who should have been his friends and supporters. He has rendered much faithful and efficient service to Virginia without any remuneration or the expectation of any benefit personally. I have been permitted to see some phases of his character which perhaps most people have not seen, and I have ~~developed~~ ~~for~~ ~~him~~ more than mere respect. His friendship has meant a great deal to me. It is, however, not on this ground that I would ask careful consideration of him for this appointment, but rather because of his recognized ability and fitness for the office.

With high regard, I remain,

Very respectfully yours,

P. S. The above has been written entirely without Mr. Keezell's knowledge or consent. I have just seen an article in a Richmond newspaper concerning the matter, and have not spoken to Mr. Keezell about it.

B.