

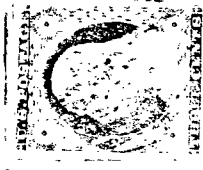
Dear Sir

Baton Rouge La July 24 53

I wish to call your attention to a notorious fact, which is this S W Downs, when appointed Collector of N Orleans, was living openly & admiringly with a ~~convict~~ Prostitute in the City of Washington. Altho he has a lawful wife & a most estimable Lady she is now living on the Plantation on the Chickata River, it is also known that S W Downs brought this shame woman to N O & took room at the St Charles Hotel, it is further known that about two weeks since he took this same ugly piece of Humanity with him concealing her in the Lake to one of our most fashionable watering Places, when the House was filled with Gentlemen with their wives & daughters, he was seen so coolly that he vanquish the Parole before sight, now Mr. Lusk, I address you as a New England Man, I am a N E man by Birth I live N E. I have fur Rocks & Hills, I have been in the South of your, but a Yankee man forgets the Land of his birth, I do not profess any very nice code of Morals, I am not as moral as I was 27 years ago I wish I was, but I do think our Public men should be above reproach. Why put such men as Downs in office he does

not see the salary he is to receive, why not put
 a Poor & Nasty Man in Honor man in
 office, I mean because he is a Strong
 Party man, Am I asking you to
 allow that your wife & daughter should associate
 with such men as Mr Down, is it possible
 that Mr Pease did not know some character
 do you believe he would have allowed to put
 a man in to a high & responsible office in
 in England with Down's character, no
sin never but one of the Southern men with
 to a man's Morals, I do not believe that
 you are aware of the Private Character
 of Down & I address you the way that
 you may know his real Character, as far
 as I know you I have stated facts, but the
 half is not told, ^{no} the putting such men in to
 high places setting a Bad Example to the
 rising Generation, this same Down has
 given office to some of the vilest scoundrels in
 the State, I know that he was appointed to the
 office of Inspector of Customs Professor Sumner,
 man of no Character, what a Character they
 will have to steal or escape Prizes, I am in
 office I know. I do not state these facts because
 of Disaffection I am a Whig, but I want
 to let you know something of the Morals of
 the South
 Respectfully
 Berkeley Hill
 Lexington

O.



Honl Mr Rushing
Attorney General
Washington City

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