

Private

Washington Sep. 5. 1853.

Hon. Caleb Cushing  
My dear Sir,

I have had several conversations with Gov. McClelland in relation to the appointment of some one to take charge of the improvements of the Mall &c. in place of Mr. Brackenridge, and he has said that you had some gentleman in Massachusetts in view for the place. Under the supposition either that the person you have in view may decline, or that <sup>you</sup> may have no particular individual in view, I respectfully suggest to you that I know of no man so well qualified for the place, as Henry F. French, Esq. of Exeter, N.H.

Although a Lawyer by profession, and a good one, he has

devoted much of <sup>his</sup> time since boy-  
hood, to Agriculture and Hor-  
ticulture. He is now Associate  
Editor of the N. E. Farmer, published  
at Boston, and a writer for many  
of the Agricultural & Horticul-  
tural Journals. He wrote often  
for the Horticulturist during the  
time Downing had charge of it,  
and a very strong effort is now  
making to persuade him to go  
to Albany & become its sole  
editor. He is also spoken of as  
Secretary of the Massachusetts  
Agricultural Society.

He has probably, planted more  
trees, with his own hands than any  
other one man in the United States.  
He has all the vigor and enter-  
prise of Young America, and is,  
and always has been, an out-  
out democrat. He would do cred-  
it to the Administration if here,  
and the only thing against him

is that he is my brother.

I bring his name and merits to your attention, & should be very much gratified if he could be placed in the position alluded to. The President knows him well, & has not a warmer friend than he is.

With great respect  
Your friend &  
servt.

A. D. Mearns