

~~Spencer~~  
~~Smith~~  
~~Survey~~

*asked for bill on a letter about*

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never liked Missouri, but I do like Georgia. The best is not as  
I got a copy of a letter from my good friend of the Alabama  
University I count most on, but after all they are not Geologists.  
him I got the money for the museum. The scientific support of the  
politics. In Missouri, my good friend Pres. Laws did that, and through  
has been my first attempt at lobbying a Legislature, and I hate  
I wish you to send to him direct, if you feel that you can. This  
that the Survey is to be established. It is a private letter that  
to write to Gen. Gordon suggesting my appointment, as you have heard  
the Gov. - J.B. Gordon will appoint me. I write this to ask you

(J.B. Gordon)

Athens, Ga. Nov. 13th, 1889.

My Dear Sir.

Before the war there was a geological survey which was a failure. Between 1874 and '79 there was a survey under one Little, but owing to the use of whiskey there was ~~never~~ any results, and the State got nothing for the \$ 50,000 spent. This made a new survey difficult to organize. At last, I have been working, and lobbying, and we have gotten a bill for \$ 8,000 a year through the Legislature. As long as it is my fortune to stay in Georgia I want to ~~get-h~~ hold the position of State <sup>geologist. There is</sup> ~~geologistis~~ practically no knowledge of the Geology of the State, except generally, and there are no geologists in Georgia. Although I have not been in Georgia long enough to be above outside support, yet I have reasons to believe

the Gov. - J/B. Gordon will appoint me, I write this to ask you  
*(a direct letter)*  
to write to Gen. Gordon, suggesting my appointment, as you have heard  
that the Survey is to be established. It is a private letter that  
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him I got the money for the museum. The scientific support of the  
University I count most on, but after all they are not Geologists.  
I send you a copy of a letter from my good friend of the Alabama  
survey, *which you will see is rather strong.*

I never liked Missouri, but I do like Georgia. The heat is not as  
great as I feared, which fear kept me from coming here three years  
before. Of course, I would rather be where I could continue my  
lake work, as in Toronto. But if I cannot, then I prefer Georgia.

I am sorry to trouble you, but a private expression of your opinion will  
*strengthen the Governor, and is of more value than a copy presented to me.*  
I feel perfectly confident of my position here as a Geologist, but  
as with almost all things in the South, a half qualified man whose  
relations were of political influence, would probably triumph. Here  
people are cousins even to the fifth degree. It is family connect-  
ion rather than social position.

*Yours faithfully*  
*JW Spencer*

*Gov. J. B. Gordon address is Atlanta*

*Sir Wm Lawson, P. 128, &c*

J. W. SPENCER, A.M., Ph.D., F.G.S.  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
Mineralogy of Georgia

Geological Survey of Alabama.

University, Ala., Oct. 27th, 1859

To His Excellency,

Gov. J. B. Gordon.

Dear sir; - I have just learned that the Geological Survey is about to be re-established in Georgia. I think that the State is to be congratulated upon having taken this step, and also in having a citizen, a gentleman who is eminently qualified to assume the duties of State Geologist. I refer to Prof. J.W. Spencer of the State University.

Prof. Spencer has been engaged for some years, upon geological investigations which have made him an enviable reputation both in America and in Europe. He is thoroughly familiar with the work of a Geological survey, and having recently made a survey through parts of Georgia and Alabama, in which he has made personal examinations of all the leading geological formations of Georgia, he is eminently qualified to direct the work of the Georgia Survey. Prof. Spencer is a ready writer and a fluent speaker, and would know well how to popularize his work; and he is so well known amongst Geologists of the country that his appointment to the office of State Geologist would at once give character to the Survey. Having charge of the Survey of an adjoining State, I feel the greatest interest in the geological work of Georgia, and this must be my excuse for addressing you upon the subject.

Yours very respectfully,

*Augustus A. Smith*

State Geologist.