Canal Collector's Office,
Chicago, May 19th 1852

Messrs.

Wm H. Swift,
David L. Leavitt } Trustees Ill. & Mich. Canal
Gov. Wells

Gentn:

The great increase of business on our Canal during the last two years, and the still greater prospective amount the coming season, induce me to apply for an additional allowance for clerk hire &c: The business of the office at this point is such as to compel me to employ at least two clerks, whose salaries, together with the additional expense of office rent, fuel, lights &c far exceed my present allowance ($100.) for these purposes.

I have not thus far required of the Trustees to furnish this office with a safe having one of my own which I use, nor am I disposed to increase the expenditures of the office, but I think it will be obvious to the Trustees, that under the circumstances above referred to, my application is a just

and fair one, and I cannot but hope that they will take it under their favourable consideration.

I am, Gentlemen,

Very Respectfully,

Yo. obt. Servt.

Jno. H. Kingie.

O. H. Kingie

Apple T

addit. Mills

Aug 1852

[Mg 19, 1852]