

Washington Feb. 25. 1862

Dear Sir

There is, I believe, no doubt that the Supreme Court may receive new evidence, in fact a case as that of the President. The fact that his cargo was spoiled, with but a small part flour, may be proved by copies of the manifests and clearance, certified by the collector, under the seal of his office. I have no doubt that such copies are competent evidence.

I am not inclined to raise any question as to the independence of Court decisions. This question I take to be settled in the case of *Thompson & Family v. Craun*, and I do not perceive any solid ground on which that decision can be overhauled.

The *Keels & President* cases nos. 63 and 64 on the docket, and the *Cott* case argued

argued was W. 35. This however affords a  
very uncertain criterion for judging when those  
cases may come on; for several have been  
postponed which must be argued before them,  
and many of those now standing before them  
will probably be taken over. There are how-  
ever several, and among those some long ones,  
that will be argued. I shall do my utmost to  
get them decided this term.

I am my dear Sir

very truly Yours

Robt. G. Harper

John Meredith Esq.

R. G. Harper  
Washington  
25 Feb 4

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Jonathan Mearns to Mr. H. P.

Baltimore

