Niles, Michigan, Nov. 25, 1837

My dear Sir,

This will be handed you by the Rev. Mr. Smith, President of the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, in Northern Indiana, who will stop at Washington a short time on his way to Europe upon business, and who desires to become personally acquainted with the President of the U.S. and other distinguished Members of the government, for whom he entertains sentiments of very high regard and friendly consideration. Though differing with him, both in political and religious opinion, I take great pleasure in recommending him to your kindness and friendly consideration, as a scholar, a gentleman, and a Christian, who has the good fortune I believe to be loved and esteemed as much by all who know him as he has. I think personal acquaintance with Mr. Clay, whose kindness has been shown under obligations, which he remembers with gratitude, it would be to acknowledge in person, using Civilities you may explain to show them will be worthily bestowed and duly appreciated.

With much respect I remain your friend and
dedicated

Thomas Fitzgerald
Notes, Michigan, Nov. 25, 1851

Charles Sumner Esq.,

My dear Sir,

This will be handed you by my friend, the Rev. Mr. Boring, President of the University of Notre Dame, who will be detained a short time at Washington, on his way to Europe, and would like to make the personal acquaintance of Henry Clay & others, together with that of the President of the U.S., though differing with him in opinion in many respects. I take pleasure in saying that I consider him second to no man in the West, either as a debater, a gentleman, or a Christian, and such I believe is the general impression where he is best known. May I ask of you the favor to give them an introduction to Mr. Webster, and also to the President & to Mr. Clay, if not too much trouble? I have had the honor of having a notice of your Appointment as Private Secretary to the Secretary of State.

Accept the assurances of my sincere regard & believe me to remain very truly your friend,

Thomas Jefferson