

Boston. Mass.

30th Sept. 1879

My Dear Sir

I have nothing to do with the navy yard nor with its politics, and do not intend to interfere concerning it or them.

But having represented that district more or less since 1852^(27 years) and all that ^{time} when not in the service of some other dept of the government, the men who work there. mechanics & nothing but mechanics, ask me & beg me to say something about Mr Cook, who is now Foreman of Shipwrights.—

To oblige them, and to express
 my own opinion as well. I
 ask your permission to say that
 according to my honest conviction
 he is not qualified for that
 position; that he cannot
 properly discharge its duties,
 and if he could would still
 be unworthy its confidence
 & support. You know something
 probably of the manner in which
 he secures the support as he calls
 it of the men under him.
 That is a specimen of his
 administration. — Permit me to
 say also that I write this note
 to discharge my duty as a

Citizen ^{only} and to serve men
 that I know are honest
 patriotic and skillful mechanics,
 nor do I desire unduly to
 influence you a ctas. by
 any act of mine. - So you
 will I hope understand this
 note.

Very Respectfully

Yours as a

A. P. Banks.

Honorable

R. W. Thompson.

Hon W. P. Banks

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