

Springue, Rev. W. B.

Albany, N.Y. December 12. 1831.



Dear Sir,

I fear you will think, and not without good reason, that I am presuming too much upon your kindness in troubling you with one more inquiry in connection with my favorite pursuit of collecting autographs. I have at length succeeded, tho' not without great difficulty in obtaining a letter or some other document in the hand writing of each of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, with the exception of Button Gwinnett, and I have the prospect of being able soon to procure something (at least a signature) of his. I am now attempting the same thing in respect to the signers of the Federal Constitution, and have already succeeded to a considerable extent. Among those in which I am deficient is John Blair of Virginia. Will you, my dear Sir, if my requests on this unimportant subject are not already past endurance, be so good as to inform me to whom of his descendants or correspondents I ^{may} apply for a letter or note from him, with the prospect of success. I have a letter from a person of the same name who was Gov^t of Virginia some years before, and whom I at first identified with the signer; but I have since discovered my mistake. I have only to say in apology for troubling you about this matter,

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that I could think of another person who would be likely
to have it in his power to give me this information; and I
confess I have presumed a little upon my recollection of your
past indulgence.

With every sentiment of grateful veneration,
I am, Dear Sir, I trust, Dear Madam,
Your obedient Servant,
William B. Hoag.

To be: Mr. Madison.