Alabama, Washington County

Hon. James Dellet. 1st Jan'y 1841.

Dear Sir.

It is with diffidence that I proceed to ask a favor of you, and the more especially so on account of not having the honor of a personal acquaintance with you; but as one of your Constituents I proceed: the history of my Case is that My husband Burrell P Cato deceased this day three years ago having no children he by will made me his sole heir, and among other property left me a negro woman and five children, and by will appointed a brother in law executor to act with me as executrix, not long after the executor with others found or rather pretended that my title to the negroes was not good, and solicited my Consent to send them to Louisanna and sell them, I at length Consented; they were taken to Louisanna, and finding no sale for them the executor Carried them to Texas, where not finding a market for them he left them with a friend and as he was determined on moveing to the Country Solicited me to go with him where the laws of that Country would protect my property; I love so far and forever shall refuse to move to Texas, and had made application to one of my friends to go to Texas and bring my negroes back, but my freind told me there was an act of Congress which prohibited the importing or bringing negroes from any other kingdom or Country into the United States, several gentlemen of the bar told me the same.

So that my negroes has remained in Texas for three years without doing me any good.

My object is to get you to try to get an especial act of Congress paped priviledging me to bring the before mentioned negroes back to the United States.

Upon a review of the history of the case it will readily occur to you whether the passage of such an act will be practicable or not; if so be pleased to give the matter an early attention; if it cannot be done be pleased on the receipt of this to inform me.

With every respect I am dear Sir

Your humble Ser't & friend

Lota Cato.

Hon. James Dellet

Mrs Lota Cato

Free.

Hon. J. Dellet, Repr. House Congress
U. S.
City Washington
D. C.