

Clayton, Ala Oct 22nd 1858

Dear Sir;

I learn that an effort will perhaps be made to prevent the pardon of Francis J. Cobia convicted of manslaughter at the late term of the Circuit Court for Henry County, by impressing ~~your~~ Your Excellency with the belief that the sentence of one year was the result of a compromise, by which the effort to procure a pardon was to be abandoned. Such is not the fact. I was the attorney who made the arrangement on behalf of Mr Cobia. The presiding Judge had determined to sentence him for three years. We had saved a number of points upon which we held no doubt of reversing the case & in consideration of our releasing errors, the sentence was changed from three to one year, but it was distinctly understood & expected, as Col W A Baldwin will testify, that the effort to procure a pardon was not to be abandoned but on the contrary that no pains would be spared to attain that

result.

A word as to the merits of the case. Mr. Lobia belonged to a family of most excellent people in the lower part of South Carolina. He came to Alabama at the age of about nineteen years, without experience & without friends. His character except in respect to the alleged homicide has always been spotless. He has already suffered much by three years imprisonment in jail & by the blight which it has thrown upon his life for the last fourteen years. During that time he has been one of the most esteemed citizens of Henry County & your Excellency could not in any judgment do an act of more judicious clemency or one that would give more pleasure to a greater number of the very best people in the State.

Very respectfully

Edw Bullock

His Excellency

A B Moore

Gov of Ala.

