

St Stephens Washington Co.

July 13th 1864.

His Excellency Gov J. H. Walter:

Sir:

Mr Ross who
will hand you this is the jailor of
our County & he is under the impression
that the late action of Congress on
the "Exemption Bill" (I have not yet
seen their act), empowers the Gov's
of States to exempt persons holding
such positions from military duty.
If this is so you would confer
a great favor on this community
by exempting him - as his services
to our Society - are incalculable
in the tribble capacity of J. Walter
jailor & Shawmaster - being the
only Shawmaster within 20 miles
of this place. Mr Ross formerly
held exemption papers on account

of his trade; but he is told, that the
restrictions on expositions lately placed
by Congress make his papers useless.

I make this application for the great
good that would accrue to this
community if Mr B. is allowed
to remain here & send it in the
capacities before mentioned, "Only
this & nothing more!" I have the
honour to be with high regards.

Very Respectfully.

Wm. D. Ash.