Mr. Gilman,

Dear Sir: I have not forgotten your request to put a few suggestions upon paper for your personal, and consideration in anticipation of your approaching duties. I find myself situated as in any a reformer doubtless will, who has never considered how much easier it is to find fault than to provide practical remedies for existing evils. With regard to the “Lady’s Department” of our post office it will not be very difficult to hint at some improvements. A larger room is needed, and at least half a dozen operatives for the transmission of letters. Perhaps all but one of these might be closed during the days, but, in the evening, let all be opened with sufficient attendants. A extra assistance is needed in the evening let it be female help. Your own courtesey will doubtless give its tone to the department of your subordinates. Let the lists, both written and printed, be somewhat modified. Experience can tell you how much.

I have already written my intended supplement to the article “our post office”. And I have there urged the change frpm a two-penny to a penny post. Whose influence in this matter is to be most sought yours or Mr. Pallmers, I don’t know but I think the change should be made. yet still, I avoid as far as possible the burden of sub post mistress, which even then devolves upon the housekeepers, the accomodations at the office should be all that can be furnished there.
If the building should be enlarged by the addition of its upper rooms, please let the men do all the “getting upstairs”. Any physician will tell you that our females injure themselves already in this way; and the physical disabilities are greatly disproportioned for the effort, between men and women. I do not know that I can write anything more that will interest you. If you see the impossibility or inability of anything I have advanced please let me know, if it should be perfectly convenient to you.

Sincerely wishing you a successful course and eventual happy termination of the duties upon which you are entering.

I am
Very Truly Yours
Harriet Farley

Alfred Gilman, Esq.
Office of Secretary  
June 4, 1859

My Dear [Name],

I have not forgotten your request to furnish a few suggestions upon topics for your  
consideration, in anticipation of your approaching duties. I find myself situated as many  
as amongst the citizens who have never considered how much easier it is to find  
guilt than to provide practical remedies for existing evils. With regard to the  
'Unit:' Department of our first office it will not be very difficult  
for some improvements. A larger room is  
needed, and at least half a dozen  
arrangements for the transmission of letters. Perhaps all but one of these might be closed during the day, but in  
the evening, all be opened to the sufficient assistance  
of two or three. If extra help is needed in the evening,  
it is necessary to give some thought to the department of your  
subordinates. If the lists both written and printed  
be somewhat more fluid, experience can tell you  
how much.
I have already written my intended appella-
vent to the article upon our Post Office, and
I have there urged the change from a time-serving
I a young post. Whose influence in this matter is to
be most sought among is yet to be known, I must now
But I think the change should be made.
Yet still, I avoid as far as possible the burden
of sick hired men, which ever have reached from
the Housekeepers, the accommodations at the office
should be all that can be furnished there.
If the building should be enlarged by the addi-
tion of the upper room, or let the men to all
the "giving up States" as physicians would tell you
that our females injure themselves already in the
and the physicians disabilities are greatly de-
fractured for the effort, between men and women.
I do not know that I can write anything more
that will interest you, if you see the improbability
of weight of anything I have advanced. Please let
the know if it should be perfectly convenient to you.
Sincerely wishing you a successful course, and happy
termination of the duties upon which you are entering.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Handwritten postmark]