

April 7, 1952

The Honorable James H. Duff
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

My dear Senator Duff:

I am extremely happy that you have been good enough to consent to come to our campus and speak to this interesting crowd of boys. I sincerely hope there will be elements of pleasure in the experience for you yourself. I believe your day is Monday, April 28, and if you find it possible to drive, you might have a pleasant trip down through Virginia's Shenandoah Valley the Sunday before.

Mrs. Gaines and I will be much happier if you can bring Mrs. Duff and if both of you will be our house guests. I believe you know that this University, though relatively small, is old and lodged deeply in the American tradition. George Washington gave us \$50,000 in 1796 (hence the first part of our title), and General Lee was president for the last five years of his life (hence, the second part of our title). We live in the home which General Lee built and occupied, and I think in that home we can make you reasonably comfortable.

Mrs. Gaines would write herself to Mrs. Duff, but at the moment has a painful, though not serious, case of arthritis in the fingers, and has asked me to plead that you and Mrs. Duff will take this letter as coming from us both.

Cordially and gratefully yours,

Francis P. Gaines
President