

John Belson

11, Madella Street, Birmingham  
18<sup>th</sup> of Oct. 1863

Sir

Your letter found me, as ill, and  
as unwell, as you can be. This shall  
be my last intimation, on so painful a subject.  
I am deeply sensible of all the trouble, and of  
that I have no doubt, whatever upon your very  
distress, and misfortune, in life, led you  
first, to honor me with notice, & ever since they  
remain in full force, and I hope, you will  
not give up, or my cause up, till I obtain  
something, to support myself, and family, in a  
decent way. My Commission will wait, and  
if I could go, to Newcastle under Lyme, every day,  
<sup>I have in mind</sup> I shall get a Certificate, as Col. Elliot desired  
me, and I shall <sup>have</sup> pay, on joining, from 22<sup>nd</sup>  
of July, deducting five of Commission. I have  
very little, that can be got, in these times, ready,  
and, dead, or alive, will go down, if I had the  
means; I have not a copper under Heaven,  
or could soon to have you.

In a word, 10 £, will enable me  
to go down, receive back pay, and have 10 £  
a year, if you release it, all is lost, for I  
have no friend on earth. I am in yours

debt now 48, what object, even 10 £ would  
be, on so trying a situation, I implore  
you, on my knees to send it me, there  
is no doubt of this 1000 £, ultimately; do  
them what, I have said, ever in your mind  
and, for the last time, give me a line  
I am with grateful respect

Your much obliged  
obedient servant  
John Pollock

I cannot write to Col Elliot, till I hear  
from you, will you forward a letter, then  
to him, if I include it to you.