



**TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAGISTRATES OF THE COUNTY OF WILTS.  
MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN.**

IN consequence of the death of my late Father, the APPOINTMENT of SURVEYOR for the COUNTY held by him for many years, has become vacant, and I take the earliest opportunity (after the public advertisement of the vacancy), of offering myself as a Candidate for the Appointment.

I have now been engaged for ten years in my late Father's office – during the latter portion of the time as his partner, and I can refer to many person who are aware of my having taken a fair share of the duties and responsibility attaching to the office.

Having been so constantly engaged with my Father, will prevent my being able to bring forward and such numerous testimonials as may be produced by others whose engagements have been more varied and of longer standing than mine. But on the other hand, this has given me the opportunity of acquiring a more intimate knowledge of the works already carried out and now in progress than can well be possessed by any other Candidate ; and I trust that his fact will have some weight with those gentlemen who have been pleased to express their approval of the manner in which the works have been conducted under my late Father's superintendence.

I am aware that objection may be made on the ground of my youth, but perhaps I may be allowed to suggest that I am in my 26<sup>th</sup> year, and that the duties of the office, consisting principally in the superintendence of Buildings and Bridges, situated at wide distances apart, require a considerable amount of activity on the part of the Surveyor, as that Superintendence is expected to be constant and personal.

I hope I may be permitted to express the regret I should feel in having suddenly to cease all connection with an occupation in which I have always been engaged, and can only say, that if I shall be so fortunate as to be appointed your Surveyor, it will be my ambition that all work entrusted to my charge shall be carried out in the most satisfactory manner possible, both as regards efficiency and economy of construction, and that no efforts on my part shall be wanting to the attainment of this end.

In conclusion, I cannot let pass this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks for the general sympathy which has been shown me, and in particular to those gentlemen who have kindly expressed their belief in my capability of efficiently performing the duties of the appointment, and their intention of supporting my application. Furthermore, regretting that the duties of the office (which I am compelled temporarily to carry on), will prevent the possibility of my calling on all the Magistrates previous to the sessions.

I have the honour to be, My Lords and Gentlemen, Very Respectfully, Your obedient, faithful Servant,  
*HENRY PENISTON.*  
The Close, Salisbury, June 15, 1858.

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