

"UNITED STATES MERCHANTS"

Higgins & Cox, Attorneys,

A. FOSTER HIGGINS.

JAMES F. COX.

NEW YORK Apr. 15th 1873

Chas. E. Melbourn Esq
157 E. 57th St

Dear Sir

Some time since you expressed a great desire to own a glass like that remarkable one of mine - and you will recollect that I intended then to try to get an opera glass of great power which I had accidentally seen at Merris's place - when in Munich - I have since that time succeeded in getting the latter glass but it turns out to be a compound glass - exactly like the old one having no advantage except in being a little shorter - It has only half the power of the first - & is much more costly - Well, the conclusion is I do not need both of them - and I intended

To let some one else own one of them -
I have many friends who I am sure
would jump at the chance, but I
have some recollection of promising
you the opportunity, if I succeeded in
getting another -

If you are willing to go to
the extravagance of \$300. for one
you saw I will sell it to you - but
there will never be another one made
by any one - and when I think of
it I almost concluded to keep it
myself anyhow -

Yours very truly

C. F. Higgins

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged, yellowed paper with horizontal fold lines.]