Chicago, Ill.
May 1, 1857

Amen Douglas.

And a miserable way day at that, thank God I am writing to you simply to thank you, not for the purpose of adding the feather to "the Camel's load" who broke his back.

I refer to applicants for office, who from what I hear will, at the tail end be thankful.
for a pair of old breeches. right, right. certain at the "tail end" such gifts apply.

But, dear Douglas, my thanks, I refer to I tender you for your kindness to my friend William H. Davis, who visited you lately. I spoke to me in raptures of your generous reception of him, also of Gen.

Cap. to whom will you please present my warmest regards, and those of my family. Democrats are few I heard here. The Jno. W. dynasty has turned their heads. Diana of the Ephesians was a fool to him. Please let me hear from you.

I send me a message from the General. Your old Dem. friend from the days of your first stump speech.
in the State of Illinois when Deek Taylor was a Democrat and any man that did not work with his government.

Geo. Davis
Washington, May 1857

My Dear Sir,

My son, Silas Wright Gilling is an applicant for a lieutenantcy in the Marine Corps, which there shall be a vacancy. Will you oblige me so much as to give him a letter to the President in favor of his appointment.

Please remit to me

James King

Robert

Hon. J. A. Douglas
R. H. Gillett
Washington, D.C.
May 1st
Mark his surrender
Lt. Marine Corps
Waldorf V, May 1, 1857

Dear Mr. Douglas,

Allow me to present the enclosed letter of introduction from Col. James Mitchell through the medium of the mail, as after several weeks I find my business engagements will not admit of a personal presentation. I present Col. Mitchell has written your name in regard to my application for appointment as Postmaster Agent for the Eastern District of Vermont, and I trust you will pardon me in asking you, if it be consistent to do me the favor to call on the Secy of the Interior and say in my behalf whatever you may feel warranted in doing—Being personally a stranger, I should not assume to address you, as I do not know that your heart is co-extensive with the whole of our great glorious country—

Very truly,

Your friend,

J. D. Page

I have today addressed to
the third Secretary Marine, recommendations.
Dear Sir,

I hope you will see to it that the Republicans of our town do not gain a victory over your friends here by getting a new post office at Barbers Corners. If they succeed it will amount to the removal of Sam Whittemore, a Republican in his place for the reason that both offices cannot be supported. They are asking for the office for the convenience of the people; they already having 2 post offices within less than 2 miles of them. The DuPage and IlliCosh post offices being both within that distance.

Yours Respectfully,

P.W. Smith

P.S. I have wrote Mr. King & referred him to you.
Chillico, Ill., May 1, 1857

Hon. L. A. Douglas,
My Dear Sir,

Col. North, United States agent for this State, informs me that charges of favoritism by favoring free soil have been made against him at the Post Office Department, and that you have been solicited to advise against his re-election for office.

It is well understood that in 1848 Col. North ran for the Presidency in opposition to Mr. Van Buren. In 1849 doubtless he, as well as those who now profit by a policy of favoritism, supported a State ticket made up of free soilers & National Democrats. This was upon the vision of the Democratic party, a measure which many of us did not approve (Col. North excepted among us), but which, when it was consummated we did not feel at liberty to resist. As time passed on, the objections which had existed to the union gradually wore out. The party gradually became homogeneous, partly by dropping off from a free soil party by an abandonment by those who remained of their free soil principles, so that those who had formerly defended, or even acquiesced in the union of 1849, had no reason for dividing the party in 1853. The National union being clearly a majority, two-thirds of the party being able to control it. Should at least have wanted till then to question arose, then taken their National ground to allow the majority to decide, if they had felt it so thought to.
Notts in common with myself and many others who have given you &c. proofs before, I have been of an alteration to National Principles as any of the individuals who have not cast any upon him, as they do upon others when they have an object in doing the charge of your

[Text continues on the right side of the page]
John J. Taylor
Omeo, N.Y.
4th East 35th St.
Sat. Aug. 2d
9 O'C

My dear Sir,

I hear this moment that you are expected to arrive here in Monday or Tuesday. Permit me to say that it is a matter of some interest to me that I should see you soon after your arrival, and feeling confident that your entertainment of personal regard on my family I must add the favor of an interview before I leave the City. I need call on Sunday or Tuesday, but wish to see you shortly at the Hotel.
And I see they are Drunk.

Mrs. T. Braggs.

Miss S. T. Braggs.
Mobile, May 21, 1867

Hon. A. J. Sayles,

Sir: Under the duty, I am taking to despatch on your valuable time, and did the kind feeling you expressed in my behalf when in Washington be sufficient apology. The friends who advocated my claim before the State Department have all left Washington. They have, no doubt, done every thing in their power to aid me. But as the President will shortly relieve the Consular appointments, I think it will be absolutely necessary for me to have a friend than to keep my claim. It is perhaps too early to say that in the late Cabinet, among the list of the opposition to the self-appointed Louisiana Senators on the question of President's nomination and that I advocated your claims from the commencement. For this, I have not been forgiven by those who, and that opposition seems to be more directed against me than any one else. Not all the sacrifices I have made for the part of Alabama, nor the labor bestowed upon the many, speaks for the success of our principles, nor even the fact that I placed my life in danger here, by signing notice to the W. C. Central committee of the approach of danger from here, seem to be sufficient to prevent those been from offering me in my application. On this threatened difficulty.

[Signature]
as you to give me such aid as you can.

As Park so that my letters of recommendation

...
Julius Hefee
Mobile, Ala.
No. 14.

Post Office Department,
Appointment Office,

May 2, 1857.

Sir:

Curtis Lady, the Postmaster at Boisfield
County of Peoria, State of Illinois
is complained of for negligence, etc.
His removal is asked & John P.
Sheahan & Hugh Sears, are severally
recommended for appointment.

Before submitting this case to the Postmaster General, I
have to request the favor of any information you may possess, or be able
conveniently to obtain, respecting it.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully, &c.,

[Signature]

First Assistant Postmaster General.

[Signature]
Horatio King
1st Post P.O. July
May 21857
About the PM at
Bravfield Road
County Illinois
Washington, May 2, 1857.

Dear Sir,

I take pleasure in introducing to you, Mr. J. A. Offutt, a neighbor and friend of mine, who desires to consult with you concerning the appointment of his father as "Master Painter at the Washington Navy yard." Mr. Offutt, the gentleman I introduce, is engaged in the business of house and sign painting—he bears a high reputation for integrity, industry and mastery in his business. His father I do not know personally, but he is highly recommended by the oldest and most respectable citizens of Washington and Georgetown, for his good qualities, as a man and master of the business he is engaged in.

Mr. O. has expressed anxiety to have a personal interview with you, and solicit your influence in behalf of the application. I most sincerely hope you will feel disposed to give it and that your interference will have the effect of procuring the appointment. I feel satisfied that it will be a most excellent one. Mr. O. it may be proper to add, I know to be one of the most active and efficient members of the "Young Democracy" in Washington at.

Your friend,

W. C. Hambaugh

Hon. J. A. Douglas

Mr. S. Senat
S. A. Ramboz
Washington D.C.
May 23/31

To whom it may concern:

Mr. Offutt

Chas. B. Brown

Wm. D. zobowiąz.

C. D. Bragdon
May 2nd 1859

Mr. Stephen A. Douglas

My dear Sir,

I am writing a national novel and I want a hero--such a one. I can only find one--Stephen A. Douglas. He is my "ideal" of a patriot and Statesman. So you see was appointed the high resolve of subduing that "most unnatural and animatinal Monster--nationalism" which threatened the perpetuity and reposes of the Republic. You performed your high trust in good faith. You have raised for yourself and your nation a monument like a descended God which shall endure down the course of ages to the last oscillating pendulum of time. You have won a name high as Heaven, pure and stand up as a star--imperishable as immortality. The work which you have commenced will be written in a novel and attractive style. The scene will be laid in Washington City--the Congress of the U.S. The actors Congress men & Diplomats.

Any suggestions or incidents of your illustrious life that may aid and facilitate my undertaking, will be gratefully and appreciated by your

Yours, your admirer & friend,

Ogilvie Byron Young
If I am at present sojourning in the West at present and shall not return to Virginia, my native State until fall. Please address Dr. Ogelvie Byron Young.

Sacramento
Nevada Co.
Art.
Elm Tree, Tenn.
May 4th 1857

Dear Sir,

I will trouble you with the favor to send me the latest volume of the Smithsonian Report, directed to Elm Tree, Weakly Co., Tenn., and oblige your old friend,

N. Y. Barnet.
Cincinnati, Ohio, May 4th, 1857

Dear S. A. Douglas,

On reaching home yesterday I learned from my mother that while at Washington on the 21st, she dropped you a note in relation to the matter of my application for the appointment of Post Master at this place. Hearing that her note might bear the construction that I had relinquished my application for that post I desire to assure you that I shall prosecute the claim vigorously and with the assistance of the friends of my deceased father. I feel that I should succeed. I do not ask for the office as a reward for my services, but prefer to rest my claim upon the merits and services of my deceased...
Father & the present necessities of the family, my one thought is not for office but for the means of support to a large family who are now largely dependent upon me. I was somewhat surprised on my return here yesterday to learn of a provision that my friend had made for me during my absence & without my knowledge. It was the appointment as post-toleration for this city. The salary is but fifteen hundred dollars per an, and of course is inadequate to the demands upon me, butmuch as the community now of the Nation, the present Postmaster, does not expect until February next, I have accepted the said appointment as it will meet the present means
This appointment however as it was on the nomination of Judge Sibley, Mr. Hare, a prominent Democrat, and on the confirmation of a Democrat, the City Council is of itself a recommendation of my ability and an endorsement of my Democracy. I learn that it has been intimated to the Hon. Postmaster that I was a Whig, the above appointment is a sufficient refutation of that charge, founded as it is upon the fact that I have always acted with and for the Democracy, my joint vote being included among the majority of sixty Thousand given in Ohio for Pierce.
I would be grateful for any letter of recommendation that you might feel disposed to send me to be used here. Would that suggesting a line to New York.
Mr. Hare be asking too much of you? he understands has regarded Mr. Hare with some favor, but I think he has not much feeling in the matter. With the highest regard I remain,

John Q. Tull

[Signature]
Post Office Department,
Appointment Office.

May 11, 1857.

Sir:

The Postmaster General has ordered the appointment of Mr. D. Marsh at Millersburgh in the County of Mercers and State of Illinois in place of H. W. Thornton resigned.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Horatio King
First Assistant Postmaster General.

Hon. S. A. Douglas.
Chicago, Ill.
Horatio King
Washington, D.C.
Post Office Department,
Appointment Office,
May 4, 1857

Sir:
The Postmaster General has ordered the appointment of Wm. B. Jones at Moline in the County of Rock Island and State of Ill. in place of W.T. Williams, resigned.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Horatio King
First Assistant Postmaster General

Hon. S. A. Douglas.
Chicago, Ill.
Horatio King
Washington, D.C.
Cairo Ill May 4 1837

My dear Judge

I promised my good friend Phil Byrne of Galena that I would in behalf of his excellent son William P Byrne who desires to obtain through you an appointment of Route Agent on the Steam Boat Main Line between Galena & St Paul.

Young Mr Byrne is an intelligent well educated young gentleman & prone I am sure discharge the duties of the situation to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He is a Democrat & Dons lap on me I think it of the greatest
that agents be placed on three
Mail Packets I have so recom-
mended to the keepers. I hope
you will also urge it on the
attention of the Rt. Hon.

Your friend,

Geo. Jones

Hon. S. Douglas
Chicago
Washington May 14th

Dear Judge,

Enclosed you will find a letter from Your Friend, Wellington Sweney, of Peoria Co., on the subject of the Post Office at Prinsfield in that County, I had asked for the removal of the present incumbent, and for the appointment of Hugh Fent, who was recommended by the Democratic Club of Prinsfield Township. On calling at the office this morning, Mr. King informed me that you had directed that the matter be delayed for a short time; to this I certainly could not object, not having any other interest in the appointment, than the welfare of the Democratic party in that County, it being a part of the Congressional district in which I reside. I should like to see your friend, Mr. Sheehan, gratified in the appointment of his brother, if he came recommended by the Democracy of his Township. Which he does not, and according to Mr. Sorensen's letter he does not live in Prinsfield, but in Jubilee Township. Therefore it would be unsafe to appoint him. Mr. Sheehan interfered in the
Removal of the Post Master at Galena would be to the very great injury of the Democratic party in that place — it is not to be presumed that Batavia residing 180 miles from a point can be as well posted in the interests of the Democratic party as Galena in the immediate vicinity. My best respects to Mr. S. E. the Boy.

Very Respectfully,

James McCook

Hon. L. T. Douglas

Chicago, Ill.'
Daniel McCork
Washington D.C.
Portland Village, N.Y.,
May 4th, 1857.

Dear Sir,

You may or may not remember that at a dinner at Delaunay's in 1857, at which you, John Van Buren, Selden, Isaac Townsend, Francis Griffin and myself were present, that I told you I was trying to take the life of Thomas Jefferson. Official engagements and poor health have interrupted the progress of the work, but it is now nearly complete.

I enclose you a slip from a newspaper which will give you a glimpse at my materials. A close study of the Jefferson papers demonstrates beyond the possibility...
of a crowd, that he was, in the broadest sense of the word, what we now term a "national" politician. He did not believe in meddling, nor in agitation even as used once. He considered the secession compact void, unconstitutional, and void in perpetuity. I have the key which will perfectly solve the apparent inconsistency between this ground and his vote in action on the ordinance of the S. C. (today) His doctrine carried out would precipitate the Kansas–Nebraska bill. I have been chapter 2 vote for this—have conferred view with his family—he there can be no mistake in the matter. It is my business to represent Mr. Jefferson as he said, and I can do it according to, as I entirely agree with his view. I have not chosen to come forward with any premature partial development—cuts, because I can neither do justice to him (nor myself) without bringing everything I have to say on the subject connectedly before the public. I have avoided, too, any public declaration of the political leaning of my book, to treat a hue I only an advance, I a store of misrepresentation I falsehood I shall adhere to this course.

But now mark what wide awake I busy people, you have to deal with! These years, since in a private conversation with the members of a book-selling firm—old and early acquaintances, I supported personal friends...
I allowed the political tone of my book to handsomely; that is to say, I told them what Mr. Jefferson believed, that I should paint to the life without let or stint. These amiable gentlemens at once saw a chance to cater to fanatization I know are honest men! They proceeded at once (under distinguished editorial advisement it is said) to employ Richard Hildreth of Boston, author of a History of the U.S., etc., to write a rival life of Mr. Jefferson. This work is to be small so as to go into more hands. To steal a march on me, the whole thing has been kept a profound secret, and I now
obtain any information of the fact through the confidential channel to have the thing named abolition. Hildreth is a furious abolitionist, as you have of course observed, if you have now looked into his history. He is also a thorough hater of the old State Rights Republican party. Without being a profound investigator, or able writer, he has enough latent to reap for both. It was the discovery of Hildreth's work, I suppose, that induced the receiver of the within printed letter to throw it before the public. He thought it would shrewdly tend to head off the abolition geography, by

letter thinking I reading man at least, see what an adroit I must paper as original materials now any other man. The article has pretty well run the country, the Southern papers. It has appeared in all the leading ones of Va. I have not a few of them called out additional condemnations. It has also spread over this State, New England. How far it has appeared in the papers of the West, I have no information. I would like it to appear in the leading democratic newspaper of Illinois. I have enclosed it to you, to ask you if you will able me by procuring its insertion. If started there, I presume it will spread of itself, for it contains matter not without
interest - I though dashed off in the freedom of colloquial writing, it shows the tone of the "Dook" (as the African hunters say) of its keen and powerful author. - Re good enough, should it be published, to send me a copy of the paper containing it.

I could as well have trouble some smaller man in your state with this matter. But the spirit moved me to write you. I thought that a fact or two I have named would not be a matter of indifference to you. I desired on my own hook to lead you a friendly hail. Perhaps (who knows?) I am additions of acquainting myself with "giants" in the I in pose! At any rate, I am, dear sir, with great respect, yours at hand,

Horace S. Randall
A List of Wisconsin Reformer

The following is a list of some of the leading reform measures which have been before the legislature in Wisconsin during the past session:

1. A bill to prohibit the sale of liquor in the state.
2. A bill to establish a state university.
3. A bill to proportion the state taxes.
4. A bill to prohibit the sale of tobacco.
5. A bill to establish a state park system.
6. A bill to permit the sale of alcoholic beverages.
7. A bill to establish a state library.
8. A bill to establish a state prison.
9. A bill to establish a state farm.
10. A bill to establish a state college.

These bills were all referred to the proper committees of the legislature, and it is expected that they will receive careful consideration before the session closes.

It is believed that the people of Wisconsin are alive to the importance of these measures, and that they will support the legislature in the passage of these bills.

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Racine (Wis) May 4th 1857

Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Sirs,

James W. Mansfield, is an applicant for the appointment of Post Master at Delavan, Walworth County, in this State. He is my warm personal friend, and I know him to be your friend, he is a strong Democrat of the right stamp, active, energetic, and influential, and he possesses the confidence of the whole party in Walworth County. I have great anxiety to see him succeed and to this end, I have taken the liberty to solicit your assistance in his behalf. Mr. Mansfield merits your confidence, and will not abuse it if consistent. Will you give him a letter toTell, General? I shall esteem it a personal favor. Mr. A. and myself will fully appreciate the kindness.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obt. Servt.

H. T. Sandels
For Hon Stephen A. Douglas
The complements of
John Weidman
of Lebanon
Penn a
May 4, 1857.
Washington
John Heidmalk
Lewanon
Pa,
Washington, D.C.,
May 27th, 1857.

Dear Judge,

My name is by
unanimous consent of the Demo-
ocracy of Iowa, presented for
a second rate mission to our
foreign government. Judge Black
had suggested, that Chadbourne
procure a letter of recommen-
dation from you, addressed to
the President, as you know
me, in the West.

As I know you are much
important as subjects of
this kind, it is with reluctance
I trouble you.

Your compliance will con-
tree a favor.

Very truly,

[Signature]

of [City]