Washington May 18th 1897

My dear lady,

I think directed to know a desire at Chicago a day or two ago. Yours
work of "Spence's Book" being the only copy of his books I have or we been able to secure.
The book I hope to be able to send shortly when you shall have them. You will find them a valuable acquisition to your political library, and not the least to us their family. There are probably not a dozen copies of these extant and there are in Virginia.

Since I saw you I have laid my claim in connection with the printing clerk to lend of the Va delegation and have written to Mr. Bibb and Mr. Godwin and others.

From all except one who is almost born, I have received the work acting as promises of thorough cooperation. The Virginia delegation together with that from other Southern states, and the Carolinas can be believed on unequivocally to carry out the arrangement.
While there have been some setbacks, some
from Mississippi, but few from the North, the
three

Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kentucky, and three from
Missouri can be relied on with almost equal
certainty. I am very much convinced
of the letters I have received and the nothing
in the way of its actual success. Provided
I can have a tolerable co-operation in the
North the way of Free Labor would be

there. Communicate with and endeavor in
my Senate Holland at least, principal clerk
in the Union office who is here on his
way to Texas, I am directed here to

take a copy and return it to

him. Many, with myself and others, I have
simple assistance in his ability, and think
he can be trusted.

Matters are in about the condition here in
which you left them. The administration is
fluctuating; early in the week they declined and
declined Penn. Most others have to depend
on the evidence of the expectation except its
original friends. All things are cautious, but
a long letter without a few days
since. He is very much expectant of the
condition of things and things that seem a
much will have to be made outside of the

Alton meeting.

Please Present Me Kindly To Mrs. Douglas
and ask her that when she at your convenience,
A D. Blankes
Washington, D.C.

[Signature]

[Address]

[Date]
May 21st, 1857

[Initials]
St. Charles Aug 1st 37

Hon. H. A. Douglas

SIR: Your letter of the 13th I received a few days ago. I was sincerely pleased to have you say that any friend of mine should have the appointment as you would recommend him. Which is just as good—his name is Bradley & Chambers.

Bradley & Chambers

And I think there is a vacancy now as soon will be one thing of which certain of those ought to be a vacancy please talk with Mr. Huntington Ely and give him Chambers a Commission as soon as you can for it will do us all a great deal of good in
in this neighborhood
please write me when I can
find you when I come to
Chicago and don't for
get the promise that you
will visit me in the course
of the Summer

Yours affectionately
F. W. Burroughs
Chicago, May 18, 1857

From Washington, 18 8 1857

To Mr. [illegible]

[Handwritten text in cursive]

[Signature] J.F. [illegible]

[Note]: I am [illegible] a line from you to the Park tomorrow [illegible] I see you at Frankford. Please write.

[Signature] [illegible]
Capt. D'Clere at Washington
 wants letter
To Mr. S. A. Douglas,  

Dear Sir,  

Please accept the accompanying bundle as a slight token of esteem from your friend & admirer.  

J. B. Little  

9 B Miles  

933 La Salle St.  

Chicago, May 18th, 1857.
Carrollton, Ills. 
May 18th 1857

Hon. J.A. Douglas

Dr. Sir—Some time last Winter testimonials signed by some of the leading Democrats of this place recommending me for the appointment of Consul at Matanzas, Cuba, were left with our Post Master to be forwarded to Washington in your care.

I have information from my friends in Missouri that Docks, Phelps, and Mr. James T. Green were written to on the subject. By the public prints I notice that the Consular appointments will be attended to early in June. I would be most happy to receive this appointment and shall ever esteem it a great favor could you urge the same.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Yrs. truly,

B. F. Little
Chicago May 18th 1857

I would commend to the favorable notice of the Post Office Department Mr. James E. Yost who wishes the appointment of Route Agent on Rail Road from Chicago to St. Louis.

He has been about three years in the employ as Clerk in the office of the County Judge in this City, and his department has given general satisfaction. Mr. Yost is a reliable Democrat, and a sober trustworthy gentleman, his appointment would be very acceptable to the Democracy of this district.

Joshua Rucker
Joshua Enckee
25th May
Commends James to Gov't for Rent Agent.
St. Louis, May 18, '57

My dear Sir:

I have failed to answer your letter sooner, because I have been at the "Conference" at Alton, battling against one regiment of the "three thousand parishers." The fanatics introduced their treasonable resolutions, and were led by Samuel J. May of Syracuse, Leonway (formerly of Washington City and now of Cincinnati) Billings of Quincy, Ills., &c. &c. It became my duty to express my views very freely, about "political person," and I did not shrink from the task. The result, I suppose, you have seen—"St. Louis" withdrew.
from the Conference in St. Louis until the second week in July. I presume I shall not be absent from the city during the next six weeks, and shall be very glad to see you here. Gov. Walker has not yet arrived; and if I know when he comes and where to find him, I shall call upon him. I must confess that I have less personal confidence in his soundness than you have. After he entered Polk’s Cabinet, he was untrue to the friends of Texas Annexation, especially in Missouri, where the severest battle was fought.

I continue that from that hour I have never spoken to him, nor thought that he would “do to tie to.” He has, however, a difficult task to perform in Kansas, and if I can be of any service in causing the pending question to be settled on right principles, I am willing to render such aid as is proper.

As I shall expect to see you in a short time, I will defer what I have to say on other matters until your arrival.

Yours truly,

Sam. J. Beck

Hon. L. A. Douglas
Washington, D.C., May 18, 1847

Mr. L. D. Douglass

Ceo. S.

The course of events that have surged around you from the date of your arrival in the city to that of your departure from it prevented me from occupying so much of your time as I should have been necessary for a proper understanding of my course as Editor of an old and faithful Democratic journal, since the inauguration of President Pierce. — After his first׳sominister course about the Harmanibur Post Office, it was estimated that I could get a Foreign appointment of equal or even greater value than the former office, and accordingly I determined to ascertain through some friend what Foreign appointment was the vacant, paying to your kindly attention, I should have troubled you to make the inquiry for me but that I had seen by the paper that you had gone off to Illinois. I then addressed a short letter to Mr. Buchanan seeking for the desired information and forwarding in regard to one of the points which I refer to to which is simply repli\textcuted that there was no office vacant which I would have to take occasion to add that it would afford him pleasure to come me at any time that opportunity might occur. Now since I have arrived and in order to test the sincerity of your words of the advice of my family physician, I have sought the appointment of Harmanibur as a small affair it is true and one of less value than any friends desired but the climate he recommended to me as the most suitable to my wife's constitution which has been impaired for several years and at this I am assisted by my whole delegation in Congress and by all other prominent Senators in my state, it is doubtful whether after laboring as Editor of the oldest and most prominent Democratic journal in my state...
for more than these ten years, and I have yet now more.

It is true I have no personal claim on the Executive, having been in Congress at the request of the Congress. On the other hand, having violated the act of Congress, it is not advisable to petition the Governor in the first place. This is also advanced.

You can I think to be a service by forwarding the

of this place to the President or to some member of the Congress. In 1843, my opponent, I believe I learned to believe in the idea of revenge, and have a special hatred of it in my name. The last time in the Congress of 1843. I have not returned and my earnest voice for the recognition of all your views.

Philip J. Bonham.
P. J. Burch
Washington
D.C.
Chicago, Illinois, May 18th, 1857.

Wm. Harrigan King

Respected Sir,

Being credibly informed that some change or changes of route Agents on the St. Louis, Alton and St. Louis Railroad may be made in consequence of improper conduct on the part of some of the present employees, I am induced to make application for the office; and should the charges which I am advised have been preferred against Keepers Evans and Davis, be sustained, I trust that the accompanying recommendations will prove satisfactory as to fitness, qualification &c.

Having always been temperate in my habits, and strictly attentive to my business, I dare hope that no complaint will ever reach the Department of unfaithfulness or dilution of duty.
should I prove successful in securing your favorable action in my behalf.

My step-father Joshua Rucker Jr. of Shelby's has always been a staunch Democrat and I trust his guarantee as well as my own opinions and action will not do discredit to the Administration which I would desire to support in the line of my duty.

Respectfully your obedient serv.

To Hon. Horatio Linzy
First Aft. S. N. Yn.
Washington City, D.C.
James E. Fort
Chicago

Wants mail Aquizy.

Is xcommaned at the Dept.
Augst 8th 1837,
Chicaps May 19, 1857

Hon. J. A. Douglas &

Chicaps

Dear Sir,

After a residence of

ten years in this city, your honor, and

having been a somewhat careful observer of

your political career during that time, I

have in common with your other humane

friends has much to reflect on. By your

expression of the glorious principles of the

Great National Democratic Party —

whether in the Senate — on the Canvas —

or in vindication of the attacks of

Rutio’s Republicans — Minnesota

Wiscars — or Rampant Parsons —

and having been the best six years

a humble, but unswerving adherent with

the party — a poor, plain man; have I

seemed to ask a favor at your hands —

My dear, good, wife has recently

assisted me with our third son & seventh

child, and nothing to better my condition

by a removal farther than — have before

removing to this city the liberty to ask your agent
I have only one word which is of course in answer to your letter of the 11th instant. As you say, I am heartily sorry that I have not had the pleasure of seeing you in London, but I trust that the circumstances which have prevented me from doing so will not in any way affect our correspondence.

I have been much interested in your letter and I am very much obliged to you for the information you have given me. I shall, of course, be glad to see your book and I trust that you will send it to me as soon as it is published.

I am very much obliged to you for your kind words about me and I shall be very happy to correspond with you on any subject that may be interesting to us both.

I hope you will accept my best wishes for your health and happiness, and also my apology for this underrating in your account of the weather.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Date: 24th June 1850]
C. Mortett
Chicago
ans.
Confidential

Mr. S. A. Douglas
U. S. Senator
Chicago

Sir,

I am happy to inform you that representations were made at Washington during the last session of Congress, to the effect that I had been sent to Kansas to convey to the Territory the express purpose of suspending him in the office which he holds here — that all the other proceedings have been pursued a course in the territorial courts which sat at the time about the time of his arrival, highly detrimental to the integrity of the Democratic party of the Union and that the office he holds here personally with the country. And that you believe such representations entertained from me — I assure you the nothing could be farther from the truth. If you will pardon me for attending upon you your private affairs. I will state forcibly truly the paper I refer to which brought me to this country. Some few years since, I embarked heavily in a Marble Road Enterprise. The debt paid in was insufficient for the completion of the work. To have my stock advanced $20,000 on fees. The enterprise turned out a bad one — the company failed owing me $20,000. Besides the debt paid in as my stock...
The road was too far for me, - Carried me down my things was no time up entirely. I was made - I appreciated every dollar of property I passed including every family barbecue, which gave me

I thought hard of my future in Louisiana. Without finish and friendly, I couldn't. It was not to regret to me of the territory as time to retrieve my fortune in some degree, by the appreciation of Judge hands - as I might acquire at true price. The only piece

I was used to my father and all he possessed. I had no one fall back before in my declining years. I had been here more twenty years from the war and could not return to my profession with marshall help of the sort. But I had been heard of the men after the brush that had lost their arm, so I was forced to do determined to return. On the death of Judge Furr, I was told supplied for the vacant seat. My application was notified by the appointment of Judge Stutz. Mr. Steel. Mr. McCollard for

Judge Pratt. I was well. However, that the President had determined to take the advice of Judge Be from the same state from which he came. Pratt I had selected the individual - Mr. McCollard. Mr. Steel then asked me to return to the inanity to the long way in which I directed to little, keeping that

If I could, in case of the winter & spring transportation would be attainable, which would afford me an

Mean of living but writing of them attended - to Judge B. to the office which he held. I went to see my office in the president - Mr. Steel, said that privately another Judge Jones would create that a vacancy might come in there Indian agency in which could I might perhaps obtain one of the other

For the same thing. I did not come here with a desire to displace Judge B., for I did not know here at all, so that the same which he held was located in this territory. We had had the highest knowledge as to who was its incumbent - in truth, Mr. Whitaker had been dropped very much till I accidentally fell in with I became acquainted with Judge B. at Memphis. He was very war - from Mississippi to this place. And, I thought twice in company. I really broke me to become to feel serious as we fell in with the way. The last of all arrived. At the meeting of the conventions the first day after I arrived here, that only, without hesitation in your job, invited me to take a seat with them, to participate in their deliberations to add the gifts which I did on was exceedingly professed by the central election given me by the president. The Court had once called as "the slavery of laws." Only the resolutions were reported by a Convention for that purpose. Hearing for their part a reconciliation, as a National Democratic party under the favor of the Thomasville Platform. When their resolutions but to

[Further text on the page]
Man he was also a national democrat standing firmly upon the Cincinnati platform, that he
responded to the spirit & object of the revolts that
with his whole heart. It gave me the highest possible
pleasure to the the road runners of national democracy
in the union, substituted for one in three years
which I believe was hardly in my newly adopted home. I too
addressed the court in support of the revolution.
I stated all these facts at the time, to many of my
dear friends in Nushi. & Steinwe & friends who later
to Mr. Mr. Wilson - [illegible] Capt. Mr. Stearns. I found the
quarterman gave me extraordinary letters to Gen. Chase.
I came at the territory, strongly prejudiced in his favor
& unfolded to him, my peculiar condition at the
meeting, which led me here. Yet however, until I had
been here several weeks - the me of the largest in
where I had with Gen. G. he told me that Chase
had been prepared against Gen. Chase. He also said Glad
Lincoln would be removed, I advised him to apply
for me or the other of these places - I personally told
him that there were especially the judicial are un
if vacant be very desirable, but that I could take
no stage to offer the removal of any there, in trans-
and who wished in the territory. No such state can
was taken in my behalf to any department
late in Feb., hearing that the office of Superintendent
of Indian affairs for Nushi, Nebraska was about to
expire, I called on Gen. G. I told him in case the
President should decide to make territorial appoint,
ments, as in the States, from residents of other
from territory in which he is to be filled.
I should very much like the Superintendent
attained to & requested him to write to Mr. Buchanan.
Resuming my appointment, as the incumbent
lived in an adjoining state. He again proposed
that I should apply for one of the other offices, I
again declined doing so. I repeated the request
I had made. He then said he would write by the
next mail, I afterwards told him what I had done for
I subsequently heard that Col. B's time had not
expired. So I heard nothing further upon the subject
until I had information to be sure.

I have stated these matters, most sincerely, that
you may perceive the precise position I have
occupied in relation to them.

You will not fail to perceive that this commis-
scion is designed for your eyes, I can
alas. I shall therefore submit it to the inspection
of Geo. Colburn.

Most respectfully,

Yours,

[Signature]

[Postmark: ]
Arms Office
Rock Island May 19, 1857

Dear Sir,

Permit me to introduce to your favorable consideration Mr. W. Muller, a German friend who has commenced the publication of a national German paper here. It is the only paper of the kind in this region and we hope will be a means of doing much good among our German population. Its circulation is not small and it means quite limited, but if it can live a year we hope it will then be able to support itself.

Mr. Muller recently visited Chicago on business, helping to get some subscriptions and advertisements for his paper. Any attention you may be pleased to show them will be highly appreciated by him as well as to our German friends here.

Very truly your friend,

W. D. Dangaldy

Hon. J.R. Deuel
U. S. Chicago
Cincinnati, May 19th, 1857

My dear Mr. Douglas,

I send you a ticket for our grand opening on the 4th of June.

I sincerely hope you may be able to come to Cincinnati to join us and if you can come here on the Saturday before I am confident that we can enable you to help the intervening time agreeably.

Many of my Washington friends will be here. Amongst others, I expect Pratt, Bayard, Hayler & probably Steele.

Yours very truly,

Franklin M. Barklow, Esq.

Chief Engineer.
Washington May 19th 1857

Dear Judge,

I wish you to read the articles in the "State" from the 16th and onwards on the Panama R. R. Co. Read also the Washington letter under the telegraphic head. The subject is becoming very interesting, and as you have been so entirely identified with Central American affairs it must be interesting to you.

I have suggested a solution to the whole difficulty—viz. take advantage of the 8th Art. of the Gadsden Treaty, which gives us the right to transport mails, goods &c. across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec—order a mail route to be established and that moment it comes under the protection of our flag. The same art stipulates that Mexico will enter into arrangements for the transportation of troops and munitions of war—in any negotiations with Mexico it is easier to impose on a treaty existing than to begin de novo. By ordering a mail
over the route & immediately comes under the protection of our God; and whatever revolutions may occur in Mexico—our God can say—"you must not steal our mails"—never mind who the grant may belong to—whether Haywood or Hoo or the representatives of either; but we the US claim that the mail shall go over this road.

The name of Hoo has been a dead weight to this great enterprise; his conduct is often to the service. I have nothing to say on that. Others are in my view considered.

We intend to comply with all the stipulations Hoo made and we intend to put the thing through—but the great thing is to have the protection of our God, by making it a Mail route as the PM is our do under Secrectary [sic] [3/18/1853].

We have now a board of Directors who are determined to put it through. You know many of them:—La Salle & Bros. Smith, Mr. Bell (our friend,) T. Peas, Ex S. W. Elston, Duncan & Kenner; Starkie, Bennedigos & Penn; Smith, &c. They have gone to work in dead earnest—their labor will be much help if God will extend a kindly help by throwing over us the star of Stripes.

By opening this route we become independent of the free southern ones to near home by far the best.

As a great political question and national policy, of vast importance—please think it over and if you think it worth while, write to any member of the Cabinet your views—Judge Black would no doubt like to hear from you. I have assured with Mr. Benton and others they seem to like the idea but you can convince them in a few words. We can then relieve our fleets at Panama & continue it—but read the States for a few days. If you write to any of them please both me a line at the time so that I can strike at same moment.

Kind regards to Mr. Douglas & the boys.

Very truly,

A. Harris

Yours of 15th day rec'd.
Albany, May 19, 1857

Mr. Stephen A. Douglas,

The following Democrats have signed my petition, asking the
Post Master General to appoint me to an
office in the State in the Postal Depart-
ment. If you can aid me in this matter I
will be deeply appreciated. That you may
fully understand the character & standing
of my friends, I have noted their names &
positions, opposite their names:

D. H. King, Attorney at Law. Prairie, Ill.,
H. J. Hinson, Merchant & Real Democratic Club.
A. J. Knight, Real Estate Broker, Prairie.
H. W. Strand, Ex. Mayor, Prairie.

J. E. Grimes, Clerk

W. W. Carroll, Justice of the Peace, Prairie.
A. H. Hafford, Editor Democratic paper.
W. Johnson, Providence, Ill.

J. A. W. Allman, Burton, Ill. Baptist Church.

John H. Cone, Hardware Merchant.

W. W. Casey, Post Agent, P. & M. R. R.

John H. Casey, Attorney & Mayor of Prairie.

B. B. Cary, Post Master

David Smith, Farmer

John S. Pay's Physician

Marine Hotel, Merchant.

Malott & Harrison, Reporter, Daily Journal.


Isaac B. Gale, Lake Post Office, Georgia.

M. L. Case, Post Master, Beloit, Wis.

The faithful manner in which my character, both moral & political, has been let forth to the Department of three friends, ought to be a sufficient guarantee for an opinion of my conduct.

Albert Shepard

P.S. I shall obtain the name of Brown P. McFarland.

Geo. Bartlow and farm is my last settlement by the middle of the month of July.
Liturgic
Rōmus National Institute
Washington D.C.,
May 19, 1837.

Honorable Sir,

At a meeting of the N.L.I. on last evening, you were unanimously elected an honorary member, and the following Resolution passed: “Resolved, that the Secretary inform the Honorable Stephen Arnold Douglas, United States Senator, that he has been elected an honorary member of this Institute.” It therefore becomes a duty as well as a pleasure devolving upon me, to transmit you this resolution and to assure you of the high esteem in which you are held by the members of this Institute.

I have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully,

Geo. W. Towle
Sec. N.L.I. Institute

Hon. S.A. Douglas
Sec. N.L.I. Institute