Bellville, Allen, Nov. 14th, 1857.

Dear Sir,

The first thing I will say to you is that I do not intend to trouble you for anything for I certainly want nothing, and this letter it welcome to you for another reason will be so for its singularity in two particulars, viz: that it does not beg and that it is written yourself through friendship for you.

Without a single disapproving voice (Democrats, I mean) enthusiastically approve your course in regard to the Kansas Constitution lately made at Leavenworth. We feel that regardless of consequences, the people of Kansas must be permitted to pass upon that instrument. If the matter should terminate otherwise, we cannot avoid being among us in the face most unpleasantly the fact that our last campaign in this county was an continued proclamation of our hypocrisy.
It will soon be 2 weeks, a first rate Democratic paper at this place, and will then be arranged this time that there will be no danger of being sold out again, as we now have the Indian newspaper, sold to a Black Republican, in 20. The paper we are now about to start will be issued in small sheets by a majority of the men of the County and will be under the charge of a preacher who can carry living through out of his church for 20 years. P.O. S. Dallas. He don't much like the idea of his being a preacher, but he has solemnly promised me that he will quit preaching and his writing as a man, while integrity, faithfulness, and zeal as a democrat as his talent as a writer are beyond the least doubt. This man is Bisgahin, you will probably recollect him. He is a standby person of yours and will publish of course a Douglas paper. We have already had much to say in regard to our candidate.

Addito for the next Legislature, and from partially determined on Mr. Chandler & Dr. Schott, I just met Gen'man Democrat. Our thing we have certainly determined upon and that is that the strongest and most reliable men shall be placed on the track and not they apart to remain in office. We feel the force of the fact that the B.C. have made the idea on your election, and Douglas Democracy in Dynas on times in the next fight. In conclusion I will say that I speak for the Democracy of St. Louis, when I say that anything we can do promote your victory in any way, we are at your service to do. Write to me whenever we see it as any help to you. I congratulate you here is all your own—belong to you for the sake of yourself and the cause you have carried, and it is known you will carry to the people. It has nothing in the least to do with patronage or future advantage. For this is entirely a fair time to think of them. It would be gratifying to our friends, if you could find time to write or send a doc of occasionally.

Very Respectfully yours,

John H. Snyder.
Mrs. H. Snyder
Belvidere, Ills.
Dec 14th, 1857

Politicana
Dec. 14, 57

Hon. S. A. Douglas

My Dear Sir,

Will you be kind enough to send by the bearer a bundle of your speeches for distribution to some of the prominent democrats in Ohio & to democratic papers etc.

Respectfully,

E. S. Stevens
O. L. Steers
Washington DC
Dec 14/57

Paul's Same of you
Late Speeches

Know J

Is a Great

W.
Mullera Hill Dec 14 1857

Dear Senator,

I cannot rest the melancholy I feel to tender to you my heartfelt thanks for your noble speech of Wednesday. The people and the Democratic party owe you a thousand thanks for its timely delivery. You have met the whole question in such a convincing manner and that so promptly, that it cannot fail to fall with crushing effect on the defenders of the LeCompton Constitution. For to justify the approval of or to defend the action of the Kansas Constitutional Convention is, to my mind, to ignore the whole doctrine of popular sovereignty and the capacity of man for self-government. If we must do so to save the Democratic party then as you justly remark there will be nothing left worth saving. I was as you know opposed to the idea of settling the question of slavery in the Territories for all time to come and to be carried out in good faith. We labored with sleepless vigilance in the free states to convince the many...
that our party would stand by the principle
and that our standard bearer was fit and
a man to command a crowd—it will be
found that many took it up as a flood against
us and though most of the free states, deserted
our candidates enough short to ruin its election.
It was the confidence the
people believed in the sincerity of our pledges
that carried Mr. Ploom's leg. Let us
not now abuse that confidence, but let us
act like honest men and we can stand up
like men—I am as the dance is relative to
the cause of our senator, but I have great
hopes of Mr. Wright—What can be done to
defeat the Sccompton Constitution should be done
for if Congress accepts a Constitution both
the adulation on all sides, that of pretended
party to the people, that it would be rejected
we might as well disband—the speech
is highly applauded here by all parties,
I have to much with the Federal Democrat who does
not speak of it in the most explicit terms.
If you should have a few more copies
some of your admirers would be highly pleased
in receiving a copy in lieu of your frank

I append a few names with the P.O. address:

Nome Rigney  
Rev. Asa  
W. J. Hatton  
Dana Shubock  
W. H. Fanning  
W. S. & D. Clifton  
Thomas A. Conley  
Jacob & Tomlin  
Ben. Goodwin

Mullica Hill P.O.

J. A. Parker  
A. G. Long  
John Ruby  
Oscar Black

J. B. Siebler  
J. B. Becker  
J. C. Carney  
J. T. Rice

M. F. Canuto  
H. H. Hopkins  
J. A. Reeves  
J. W. Watson  
J. F. Pedricks

Dr. A. Tyler Miller  
Mr. H. Warner  
Jacob Price  
John L. Thompson  
McDermott

Paulsboro  
I dedicate myself with

great respect you find

Nathan J. Hallen
Mr. J. Estall
Mullica Hill

Sir Lees

Dec 14th 1857

Wants Specialy

[Signature]
Nov. 14th, 1857

Sir: I am directed by the Secretary of the Interior to request your attention to the following undersigned:—

Washington, D.C.

The President of the United States has been informed by the Hon. Joseph D. Piercy, of Iowa, of your kindness to him in the past, and of your general ability and experience in the public service. He desires to know if you will accept an appointment as Secretary of the Interior, and how far you are willing to serve him in that capacity.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

[Signature]

Hugh McCulloch.
Hugh Strohland
Rosco 26
Dec 14 37

Wants a Route Grant
Appointed
Lithgow, Butcher's Co., N. Y._
Dec. 14th, 1857

My dear Sir,

I was opposed to your Kansas-Nebraska bill when it was introduced. The people had lived contentedly for a series of years under the Missouri Compromise, and had quietly settled down under the Fugitive Slave law. I was unwilling to disturb their repose. But after your bill became a law, I was opposed to any attempt to restore the Compromise. I desired to see the Kansas-Nebraska act carried out in its true spirit. I supported Mr. Buchanan, because I believed his administration would quell "slavery agitation." I approved of his course in regard to Kansas, after he entered upon the duties of his office, notwithstanding the friends and border ruffianism which had existed there. He found an existing government in Kansas—a government de facto, if not de jure—a government recognized by his predecessor and by Congress. An
regard to this government, he was bound to see the laws faithfully executed. But how I have been disappointed, and how the whole country has been disappointed in his course upon the acts of the Bicentennial Constitutional Convention! The very letter and spirit of the Kansas-Nebraska act has been violated. The fundamental principle of popular sovereignty and free government has been trampled under foot.

No President ever had such an opportunity for a brilliant debut for his Administration, as Mr. Buchanan had on this question. Instead of siding with the hold of it, he has run counter to principle itself, and counter also to the Kansas act, to the Cincinnati plat reform, to his inaugural, to his instructions to Governor Walker, to his manifestos to the Connecticut Clergy—men, and, in short, to every thing he has said on this subject or the principle involved in it.

In this state of things, I am rejoiced at your course. I am glad that there is one man who has the moral courage to maintain a great principle against the threats of Executive power. My upon it the country is with you, and

You will be sustained. At the East, North, and West, there is but one opinion on this subject. In truth there is but one voice to the question. Persevere, then, in the course you have taken, neither intimidated by Executive power, nor by Union denouncements. The whole Democratic party of the East, North and West are with you. The whole people are with you.

Very truly yours,

W. P. Fuldman.

To Hon. Stephen A. Douglas.

U. S. Senate.
Chicago December 24 57

To the Hon. S. A. Douglas
Washington City

Dear Sir,

I should like to ask you what the prospects are for a situation as I spoke to you about a short time since, as Superintendent of Forts or Army things that will make a living for my family. You, plus taking as to the prospects I asked my friend S. G. Bender, a Lin in Washington to the same to see you for me. I will take the same as a lasting favor any thing you may ask for me in the present. I remain yours

With Respects, H C.

S. H. Taylor
Mr. John J. Strong
Ottumwa, Ia.
Oct. 14th

Wants copies of late speech
Speaking of it.

Oliver P. Frazer
Dec. 14, 1857

Hon. S. A. Dyer,
Ex. Sec.

Thinking you might be willing to devote a few of your late speeches in this vicinity, I send a few lines, with P.O. address, if proper, to persons to whom it be desirable to communicate. I think they would do good.

Mr. Wardell will doubtless have the copies of Senate speeches at his hand, while I doubt if it will be a bad appointment, but I don't think it can be prevented.

So far as I am able to judge, most Democrats here agree with you on the Kansas matter. The sentiment grows that nothing but your 'enabling bill' can bring order out of the confusion.

Very truly,
John J. Taylor
Granville Mahaska Co. Iowa
December 14th, 1857

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Sir,

Will you have the kindness to send me a copy of the Patent Office Report for 1856 and occasionally such other documents as you may have at your disposal.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Anne Thompson
Leavenworth, Kansas, Dec. 14, 1857

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,

Sirs:-

I have heretofore refrained from writing to you with a view to have the means of foretelling you in current events. Kansas is indeed a Whirlpool. The legislature is still in session; holding claim to right, concurrence. A terrible struggle is going on among them as to their policy. To-day the House passed a Bill, making it a misdemeanor for any of the judges or other officers of election to vote. The Leavenworth Constitution to take any part therein.

Making offenses against the act of canvassing by the Precinct Court. Its effect is to ban the other Branch which I suppose is more conservative. I will be to prevent most of the voters from voting. A strong pack is in favor of ignoring the election of 21st Dec. of voting against the Constitution in 1st term of the President, returning to Gov. their pecuniary, making them eligible to rest of selecting a sufficient State Ticket.
Clinging Legislation - They aimed then for the Free-Soil party, now to prevent a Slavery Constitution, which they would get the benefit of the office. The whole struggle of all our troubles - in the U.S. Senate, House of Representatives, Free-Soil, &c. - is a battle of the Free State & the Slavery party. Our object is about 12 sections, each with its leading points, to sectional slavery. All the Free State Democrats who have hitherto voted for the Free-Soil party, are advocating the above policy.

In the struggle of having a Republican Ticket elected, there being the defeat of the Constitution, the Free-Soil Democrats have a ticket against the new Constitution. As I am elected, I am in a right position with the Free-Soil - but of course with different ends in view. They are a party with the one end of making the whole thing a fact - to play a confined scheme before the Democratic party. Hand in hand - have Republican Offices for Free-Soil advocates. I myself - though much opposed to the plan of submission in its passage - yet I thought it might be used to advantage, I am now convinced that in the State of Kansas & the part I have letters to get rid of - In this opinion, few slave men, a Roman clock even as Judge Cato, the Boulton & James - Union who by the way voted for the Constitution.

Twenty-Five of the 30 admitted free slaves, men in the Convention declared not to vote. Some of them even refusing to sign the. Could we have a few cut out of the mass, & a democratic ticket under it - I should have acquired a certain number of those in the present Democratic organization. But I do not wish it for the sake of Southern men who wish to make a Republican representation in the U.S. Senate - especially, for the sake new - I should be exasperated. Without predicting to advance it occurs to me that submission in the face of Congress which would have been better than a new convention. By new mean the forming of their views, & I would be respectable, while it means the chance of being defeated in a new convention. If a plan of the Border States be adopted before the voting here i'd venture to bet that I suppose impossible unless it is presented -Remove a course like that be adopted - the Free election should be put on as far as possible, after the vote unless the Constitution were to join us, tendering the Union.
Against a few few-slave men who are disposed to join fault with you, as I have said, as announced in the last, is that almost a majority of the members of the Convention, better informed than any man of submission. The combined effort of a few and true—They own the "Seditious Pan." Few-slave men. It is true you are submissive men—but they freely assume a preference for full submission rather than the present. All this will remain here if such occasion offers—could be substituated to the fullest extent. The alternative was none—submission in all submission.

A fine sword is being created by the few murgers of the State. One will arise in December—all are awaiting with great apology, the message.

Gen. Trux,  
Gen. Wirr.

State of May Year  (autograph)
Lancaster, Pa., Dec. 14/57.

Mr. L. A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

Will you oblige me by sending several copies of your speech delivered in the Senate on the 9th.

Although published in the N. Y. Times and Evening Press there were a large number of persons who could not obtain it. At least 200 extra copies of the letter paper must have been sold in this city on Saturday last.

And yet, Mr. Douglas, how is it that persons could be expected by the agent.

It is the right doctrine.

And it was my pleasure to advocate...
At a time when the "home organ" of Mr. Buchanan was as silent as the grave in regard to it.

I have no doubt that the C.S. from this district would join him in his friend in his country, but a large portion of the Democrats will be deprived of it unless one Senator should take it.

Yours, Very Respectfully,

[Signature]
Cambridge Mass Dec 14th 1857

My S. A. Douglas,

Dr. Sir:

Please accept my sincere congratulations for the very able and truthful views contained in your speech on the Kansas Constitution. And if it is convenient, will you, during the session of Congress, send me such public documents as will be at your disposal. I much oblig, your well-wisher.

E. S. Whittemore
E. S. Whitney
Cambridge, Mass.
Dec. 14 57

Admit your Corner

W.D.

Send
Horace Wheaton
Syracuse, NY.
Dec 14, 57.

[Signature]

Syracuse Dec 14, 57
Hon. S. A. Douglas
Sir,

I feel it my duty
as a Member of the Democratic party
to say to you that the position taken by you
in the recent debates in the U.S. Senate is
honorable to you. I cannot see how
any person claiming fellowship with
the great Democratic party, can subscribe to any other doctrine in this
matter of the Kansas or Lecompton
Constitution. The Democratic doctrine
would be to submit the Constitution to
the people for their approval or rejec-
tion, not as is proposed by the framers
of the Lecompton Constitution, you shall
take it anyhow, but if you do not like
one section you can strike it out, but you
must take the remainder however odious it
may be. Well I do not propose to go
into any argument on this subject.

[Signature]
No did I intend to say more than this, to go on maintain the position you have taken on this question, and you will be sustained by the whole Country, surely the whole North.

I have not time to say more this evening, but should be glad to hear from you occasionally.

Very truly yours,

Horace Wheeton

HR
Dear Sir,

I tender you my thanks for your bold defence of popular sovereignty against the unwarrantable opposition given by President Buchanan to the proposition and wicked mode proposed of submitting to the vote of the people of Kansas, a constitution framed by an unauthorized assemblage purporting to be a convention of representatives of the people. Congress ought to rebuke any attempt to interfere with its exclusive constitutional right of admitting new States into the Union. The admission of new States is the most important right given by Congress.
and its exercise is fraught with great dangers, as our history is fast proving. If not the government, then, violate the fundamental principle of self-government at the very birth of a State! Let us stand by the principles and the forms of our government, and strive to have in this country, a practical politics which ignores the old political doctrine of necessity of State to help us in emergencies. As a pro-slavery man, I do not want Kansas or a free State, against the wishes of a rightful majority of its citizens. Especially.

I do not wish her to be hacked into slavery. I voted for Mr. Buchanan and with his administration may heal the wound of the country.

But I confess I fear the result of his course in this Kansas business.

My apology for writing to you, is simply, that my opposition to your course is so hearty, that it forces me from my professional retirement as a lawyer to bid you stand by your principles.

Your old servant,

Samuel T. Tyler

From S. T. Douglas

A. T. Yerulet
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Hon. Stephen A. Douglas
Washington C.

Dear Sir

In case your late speech on the Kansas Question should be printed in pamphlet form, please send me a copy.

Having always approved your course, I feel in this instance that your position is the true one both for our Country as well
Joseph M. Wilson

[Handwritten text]

As for the Democratic Party
I can assure you that myself in connection with other Democrats will put nothing from your friends.

Yours truly,

Joseph M. Wilson
Joseph M. Wilson
Philadelphia
Dec 14/57
Nants Copy of you
Later Week
New Haven, Monday
Dec 12th, 1857

Hrn. S. A. Douglas

Srn. Sir,

I have had a meeting in my law office of a majority of the leading, ranking men of the party. They unanimously support me in the position you have taken, and readily whenever it shall be deemed expedient to take a public stand. The integrity of the party depends entirely on the North upon following the course you have marked out. I have arranged to circulate in this state 5,000 copies of your speech as soon as it shall be published. I would be obliged if you would send me about twenty of them franked (not prestamped) I will send them to certain parties who would feel complimented in receiving a copy directly from you. I enclose an extract from the Independence Messenger
published in Missouri democracy in the
atmospheric terms the Deacon in Constitutions
must faithfully
Mrs
Thomas Bealman

Sent 20 Sept. 1857
Aug 14 1857

[Signature]