Farmington 20th Dec 1857

Friend Stephen A Douglas Esq.

Sir, I embrace the present opportunity to drop you a few lines to inform you of the sense from that your late speech made upon the members of our County Court a few days ago while in Session, I was attending the sitting of said Court, there came a dispatch from the office that you had made a speech in favor of admitting the whole Constitution of Kansas to the people of said Territory, to show the effect, Judge Henry W. Taylor was presiding at said County Court and Sessions, your likeness was hanging in rather and discourse place at the time, Judge Hoelsch's likeness hangs in the center and Walter Hubel directly over him, Mr. Wood was taken from the side of Mr. Hubel and yours put beside the man you read law with in this village many years ago, and the feelings entertained by the Court were made in praise of the course pursued by you. I was acquainted with you when you at the time you were living at Canandaigua.
I was then going to school at the old brick school house near Uncle Granger's where you frequently come when absent from your studies. If Mr. Granger is with you he will tell you who I am, for your favorable consideration of Kansas. You have my entire confidence hoping that the fair thing may happen to her, be good enough to add my name to your list and let me often hear from you in the way of useful documents to be good enough to tell Mr. Granger if there is room to send me some of the common garden seeds for rail-springs use. I will pay for the last 2 weeks that public feeling has been very much in your favor may make good of it. With respect and confidence in your present movements I am your friend.

Israel F. Elison

N.B. My post office is Farmington, Ont Co, N.Y.
Cincinnati: On Dec 20th/57

Mr. Douglas,

As I have read a part of your speech in The Newspaper in which only a part was given, and desire to read it all, I shall ask you to send me a copy if it is published. But if you have plenty and will send me several copies, I will distribute them for you, among the Law Class at this place.

Yours Truly,

S. Johnson Crawford

Dear S. A. Douglas,

Though unknown to you personally, I am well acquainted with you by reputation, I have formed a very high opinion of your political principles, views on governmental affairs. Having noticed several extracts in the proceedings of Congress, from a speech of yours on “Kansas Affair,” I am extremely anxious to read the whole speech. You will, therefore, greatly oblige me by sending me a copy or two. A friend of mine also wishes a copy. Any other document that you may have or may choose to distribute among your friends, I shall be happy to share with them, feeling myself to be one of your warmest friends.


With sentiments of the highest regard I remain,

Yours Respectfully,

S. P. [Signature]

P.S. Should you ever pass this way we should be pleased to have you visit our Inst. S. P. F.
S. P. Finke
Braunton
Dec 20/57
Specimen sheet
Taylorsville, ILL. Dec 20/37

Hon. S. J. Douglass

Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading your masterly speech of the 23rd. You are in the right, and I commend you for your firmness of purpose. I don't see how you could have taken any other course and sustained yourself at home. Had you gone the other way, the Demo party in this State would have been routed horsefoot and dragoon. As it is, we can more than sustain ourselves, as a party, before the People. The Republicans know & feel this; hence they have opened batteries, in this State, against you in good earnest. The Repubs.
are more clamorous for Kansas Nebraska principles than ever the Dems were. Had you gone with the "balked swindle," they would have taken possession of our lands or beat us to death in this state. The Republicans about here are all for the same doctrine—People to vote for & against the whole constitution.

All our leading Dems in this county are with you, with one exception and I rather think after reading your speech he will be. I mean H. M. A. Erg - viz Maj. Summerville, G. R. Sturtevant, Wm. S. More black circuit court; Mr. A. Goodrich clerk, co. court; Jas. W. Christian Sheriff 5 to 10 nothing of the masses. I saw Col. Rand from Auburn yesterday & he said he was for you in the time. The Dems of his (J. R.) county—South part.

If any member from Ill. votes for that Secoemption Court when it comes before Congress, he may make up his mind to retire to private life—I don't believe a single man from any of the Southern states can be re-elected, if they vote for that Constitution. They have it in their power, like the Members of the Secoemption Court to vote & bolster up the swindle, but they will find out as many of their constituents against it as there are in Kansas—say 18 to 2. I know this is the case in Ill. and I think a good index to the ball.

I will not trouble you with further remarks. I supposed you would like to know something of the sentiments of this strong Demo county—will you please send
me your speech in Pamphlet form for preservation. I believe I saw a notice that it was to be published. Set but a fair expression of the People of Pennsylvania be secured in their constitution for or against the whole or the World court beat the Democracy.

Your friend truly,

C. Goudy.
A. O. Hewitt
Cambridge
Dec 10/57.

Thanks for your favor
In every way it will be
Glad to be continued

Rainbridge O
Dec 20th 1857

Dear Sir

For several years you have been placing
Me under personal obligations
To yourself by sending me
Congressional documents
If you will place me under
Additional obligations if you
Will continue your favor
during the present session
Keep the accompaniment
Of my high personal regard
Esteem and believe me

Yours Truly — A. O. Hewitt
C. E. Hutchinson
Summit, Pike Co.,
Mississippi
Dec. 20/57.

Wants Speech

Summit, Pike Co.,
Mississippi

To Dear
Hon. Hebrew Douglas

Sir

Will you be good enough to send me a copy of your speech on the Kansas Constitution. The same unquestionably right.

May I also trouble you for a copy of the General Land Office Reports.

Very truly, Mrs. Frind

C. E. Hutchinson
Kent Post Office December 20th 1853

Mr. S. A. Douglas
Sir,

Desirous of obtaining all the political information possible, I would feel myself under great obligations if you would be kind & generous enough to forward me all documents of importance, which may come under your observation, such as speeches, reports, &c., if you could send me the Patent Office Reports. The Mechanical Journal received it as an especial favor.

The great majority of our party deplore the tendency of the Administration especially the individual course. The present is about to assume relative to the Territory of Kansas. I hope you will ever be found in the Senate of your country, as you have been in the House through which we have got post, standing up manfully for those great principles of State rights & popular sovereignty which are the great cardinal of our government.

Yours truly &c.

John W. Winans
Rep. Co. & O. Stephenson
County Illinois

Horace D. Ingles
Washington D. C.
A. W. Jenkins
Kent
Dec. 20, 57
Wm. B. D. Patenoster
Report. Speech
Dec. 6
Racine Wis. Dec 20 1851

Dear Sir,

Have you seen the latest issues in Pamphlet form?
If so, you will please do me the favor to forward me a few copy of your past and present productions.

Very truly yours,

M. W. Lewis

Formerly from Waybridge & Co.

To, The Hon. S. D. Langley
Mrs. Washington
Racine, Miss H. 20th Oct. 1857.
Sister N. Jewett, Racine.
Wants a copy of your speech.
Moline, Illinois,
Dec. 25, 57.

Mr. S. A. Douglas,

My dear Sir: My patience is nearly exhausted by your delay to answer my last note.

I am well aware, that the Kansas imbroglio demands your attention and that insuperable as is the point you have taken, your whole strength is needed to defend it. But, given my "hobby" an hour's drive, I see if you do not pronounce him a fellow of middle & blood!!

The land enterprise is not a whim behind the "squatter sovereignty" one, in honor, justice or magnitude. Give'd the lift I asked to refer to me the result, at once.

Yours truly,

Thomas Lindsey
Thale Sunday

Urgento?

Look for previous
letter

Ana Mitchell Aycliffe

Washington

D.J.
Dear Sir,

Some one, under your auspices, has been so kind as to send me a copy of your speech delivered in the Senate a few days ago, and I have read it with a good deal of interest and care. I have not been able, as you are aware, I suppose, to be much of an admirer of the doctrine of your Kansas-Nebraska bill; indeed, I was originally violently opposed to the whole thing; and have said not a few hard things against you in connection with it. Since however, the Supreme Court has decided that Congress has no power to legislate for the Territories, I am disposed to acquiesce, and to fell in with your doctrine. But in doing so, I can only justify myself, by insisting upon the doctrine of popular sovereignty in its broadest sense. I saw nothing while in Congress to satisfy me that the true doctrine of popular sovereignty was destined to become as distasteful to the Ultra men of the South, and it has been to the Ultras of the North. And I have been anticipating a rupture in the Democratic party on the subject, but did not expect the announcement so soon. But it has come, and I rejoice to know that you have taken position so early
in the fight. I write to congratulate you, not only on an
account of your position but especially for the able and
entire manner in which you have maintained it. I am
pleased to find, I am with you heartily, and although
there is a great public difference in your position
between the parties, I am anxious to see you stand
in your position. The Unionist, our American organ,
under your name and I know what it says. In the hang
your speech published entirely in it, and we intend
to stand by you. The Democratic paper here is also with
you and is publishing your speech. But there is a little
truth ahead, which I hope to be overcome, and which is
true of the true, any bitterness, can do, and a newspaper
to aim at convincing. He is free, the man for him
who are disposed to bear the brunt to the powers at the
West end, on his particular states, and they threaten
to crush him. He has consulted me, and although from
the position which can bear heavy pressure, he had
the right to expect any aid from me, I have taken him like
in and be thinkers not talkers in front of friends. And he
will do so. So far as I see a newspaper on me, you will be fully strong backing in this county. I am
not with you were with you, and the Union of the Democracy
leaders. Republicanism does not flourish here to any
great extent, but win the Conservative faction of the
area with you. Indeed, at present, you are supported in
your position by seventy one or of every hundred of all parts
in this region. Hoping that you may do all to come out
of the fight so gallantly as you have commenced it.
I am yours truly in the New Year

C. L. Moore
Portsmouth, O.
May 20th 57.
O. Z. Moore.

Has read your speech and article,
his former opposed is now entirely with you.
Beaver Dam, Dec. 30th, 1846
Dodge Co., Ohio.

My friend Stephen A. Douglas,

You will perceive one of the objects of this letter is to assure you that your conduct in the public eye has been well sustained in the position you have taken in relation to the Kansas question and is very generally approved of by all of the Democratic party in this section of the State, and having been one of your ardent supporters for some length of time, I have another object to which I wish to draw your attention, that is, the appointment of the Post Master, which has been made favorably to one of the applicants for the office in our little city, and who is one of the department's strong petitioners, signed by the Circuit Court Judges of this section, and at the same time my son-in-law, E. M. West, Milwaukee, and one also from that city and by the man who is one of your ardent friends, also my son-in-law, at Rochester. I was sent on a petition signed by some of the oldest and most prominent citizens of this city, and your Deseret for several years, but not withstanding all that, the Hon. Martin C. Hobart from this section, was the means of giving the appointment to E. C. Elwood, who was one of his partners in law, and who did not ask or expect the appointment, and Elwood, another Judge Mortged, signed my petition...
Dear Mr. Lincoln

I am free to say I do not think it is of the same time for to favor of my having the appointment that Mr. Roosevelt, and the Hon. George Smith of Madison, any in favor of my having the appointment, but the Hon. Mr. Woodbridge, with the appointing officer, now in your request, and for this matter straight should you wish to learn more about me, I will refer you to the petitions now on file in the department, and very much of those who sign them are your friends. Again thank you to pardon this intrusion upon your notice.

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Hon. L. A. Douglas
Washington D.C.
Joseph Thomas,
Onarga, Ill.
Dec. 20th.

Onarga, Ill. Dec. 20th 1857.
Hon. L. A. Bunce, Esq.

I have no doubt, but you receive a great many more letters than you can give your attention to, but thinkning occupied a great time that I could not vote for you at your last election halicin to my duty as well as every other national democrat duty in the State of Illinois to write you at this particular time, and say to you, maintain your position that you have taken do not yield me inch, It is the doctrine of the organic act of Kansas as Nebraska and you have taken a bold stand and it is right, and the only grand you can take, stand by it and the deep roots of Ill as well as all the Northern States will stand by you, but if you do not stand firm, your goes the party in this State and you harmful with it so
The Republicans here say you are right, but that you will not stand firm that you will have to yield to the administration; now in the truth is they hope you will retrack for they know and acknowledge that if you carry out the doctrine you now advocate, they will support you, but they would rather any other man had taken the position you have. It is the strong position and, if you stand firm, you will make more friends than you ever made. By any one act of your life and the Democratic party will be stronger in 1860 than it has been for many years past; I do not know but you will consider me unpatriotic, but I feel that every democrat ought to unite at this critical crisis. That you may know that the People feel I have a great many of both party express themselves and know how they regard the position you occupy at present, and I as a democrat know too what I should have to meet should you yield to the administration nothing but a fair vote by the people of Kansas on the last settlement will carry out our promises and that vote must be so that they can reject and adopt the constitution as a majority may by their vote. This is what we have and everywhere to the opposition. This is the promise of the Democratic party, and you are only carrying out their promise in taking the position you do and you will be sustained, have no fear.

Respectfully Yours,

Joseph Thomas
Browns Hotel.
Dec 20th, 1857

Hon. S. A. Douglas.

Sir,

If agreeable to you it convenient I should be pleased to have a private interview with you at any hour you may appoint either to day or tomorrow (Monday) I am on my return from a visit to Virginia and shall have for Indiana on Tuesday.

Very Truly,

John C. Walker.
Browns Hotel
3rd 28th Oct 37
John K. Walker
Requested an
interview
The text on the image is not clearly visible due to the handwriting style and paper quality.
Chicago Sunday m.
Dec. 24th, '57.

My dear Sir,

Your friends will have
written you of the good meeting last night.
Now it is apparent that it ought to have been
held two weeks ten days ago. The whole senti-
ments of the meeting would have been the same
then as now, so I think it would have been
more encouraging - more gratifying - to you today
had your friends at home espoused your
views as soon as your position had been justly
announced. But Buckland & the judicious &
true friends of yours this is better to have a little
more publicly what the case was - as is stand-
seems the more regret with one that the
meeting was not held on Wednesday of last week
as was talked.

Phinly attempted to make a little "sum-
come" in the event of a real position between
you & the Republicans, but he was greatly pleased
by a little playful ay of started by Omer M. P. Ford
- who by the way, O'Meir was rather against us, but
he wanted the R.O. in,

If you didn't well, I meant
I could have done you good, my friend, at any all.
to yourself, to know the real thing. That there is no mistake, there was considerable effort to create discord. But it was not so. It was Douglas throughout. They were, as I think, a mistake in anything; some restrictions or a long distance of a few miles. Also, as far as I know, not to imply, absolutely his remarks that there is a difference between you and the Lord. This, in turn, may not act or give you an instance to be admitted. It is time enough for that where there is anything of the sort, you will be made.

One is bound to strike to good principles come what may. Your friends glory in this fact, but it is unfair to not express your friends of yours to allow anything more of difference between you and the Lord, as present, than is absolutely necessary. And I do think that will do no more difference to acknowledge in the future. For my self, I have to much esteem upon your candidness unmanagable as well as sound Statesmanship. That I believe, as you are bound to win. I have just made Walker’s letter a or something to me in your hands

I know you old Demo. notion of the meeting. Mr. Bingham is in an urgent fix since 25 and the Homes dimming of a pills so that he can jump into the Demo. party.

That Bingham was your chief dinner. Mr. Davis, what he saw his mistake, must have been letting you a first hint, and to join Bingham, I do not believe there has been such a demonstration in the Senate from Senator’s using up of “Rottier or Allen’s” to the time I saw that, a Senator’s day is

and was half of it, but then I can be too

gone round to Bingham when you made the presswork in Arkansas; that as a gentleman, you must not after you would not indicate

true joke his back then evidently, all his colleagues offer was a little tinkering of the helps.

C. P. Trigg.