June 15, 1854

Pleasantville, Marion Co., Iowa

dear Sir at this we are strangers in the flesh I hope we are not in political sentiments now dear Sir what made me write this letter to you was this

I never have been a Democrat in principal at tho I did not vote for Mr. Black Hawk for President for I feared he would not carry out the principals of Democracy and indeed from some things in his message concerning the constitution of Kansas it looks like it but I rejoice and not only myself but the democrats & Republicans as far as I can hear from the State of Illinois to California that there is one in Congress that is not afraid to tell the President nor his Cabinate the the people of Kansas aught to rule or so far as it concerns their constitution and as the Prophet Said to David though art the man now dear Sir I do not say this to flatter but it is the truth and more than that the desire of the people is that you should come out for our next candidate for President now Sir if you do I assure you I will give you my intertst so stuck too your integrity try to give Kansas the forming of her own constitution
for you have a plenty of backing for the people of the north are almost as one man for the majority too rule if the president should ever only try to force the present constitution on the people of Kansas by the force of arms it can't be done for all the north is a waiting for in the word and then you will see that there is more Stephens than one that wants the people to rule. I now see in part what made me write to you was this when ever I see a man stick up for truth and justice I ever want to let such an one know that I am his friend.

Mrs. Bacon

if you think me worthy send me a letter and let me know what affair is going on at Washington and oblige yours to direct your letter to Pleasantville Marion Co. Iowa
Meanwhile.

Mr. Bazemore,

Meanwhile.

To

Mr. Douglas

of Illinois,

a Senator

in Congress,

Washington,

Bitty

3) When I subscribed my name to the letter I thought I was done but I am not and I do writing when you read it you will think I am a simple old man and true I am lamented in education and talent & abilities for when my father moved to this Highland Co. 30 years ago there was no chance of schooling and he was a poor man and could not give his children learning but when I see with an eye of faith the great cloud of destruction hanging over our nation if that constitution is forced on the people of Kansas I cannot hold my peace for I know there will be war either in Congress or in the streets of Kansas and if all evils let the least and I know it would be better to fight it out with the tongue than with the sword and especially when I am a man for peace and also the people I belong to if you know anything a bought them they are called the Danbars. So let us do all we can for peace and union and let no blood be shed if we can help it for you may rely on it if that constitution is forced on Kansas that there will be demand for it by information the North is a watching for the word and England is jealous of the South and Sandy Minga has her thousands to let loose in the South for the preeminence of her breathing and when and the Indians & all of the war spirit but all can be reconciled if the people can only have the rule of their own constitution you need not be surprised at this letter for if I was in your legislative halls and had the privilege I should exert that feeling of good well before they voted to my dear friend do all you can for peace and union.
Bentonville, Ark.
Jan 10th 1858

Hon. A. S. Banger,

Dear Sir:

I have made application through J. M. Greenwood, Esq. of the State Senate for the appointment of one of the Judges of the Territory of Arizona. I wish you to give me your able assistance in the matter and I shall ever remember your great favor. Please to let Greenwood know.'

John S. Bright, John R. Col.
Sir B. New
Bentonville
Jan. 16
Wishes to be an
Arizona Judge
Bradyville, Iowa, Jan. 1879.

Mr. The Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Sir,

You will confer a favor upon the

hon. Gen. Douglas if you will be so kind as to send a copy of the speech which you have delivered in Kansas to the above named officer.

Yours truly,

J. M. Douglas.
J. W. Douglas
Bradyville
Tenn.
June 10, 1858.
Wants speech
Canton [Mofs.]
Jan 10th 1858
Able Ellis
Many Speeches and Political

Hon. Sir, I should be pleased to have you send me your Exclamant Speech on the Kansas Question delivered in December last. I have read it, but I want it in form for preservation & reference. I have lived in Virginia for the most part the last ten years and have always advocated free speech but have stood aloof from the Slavery question, and on one point at least agree with the Dred Scott decision that is that the constitution could not have been adopted had the Black race been considered citizens, but I am sure that free speech and a free press are not acceptable even in Virginia and have moved to this place in consequence, over
Should you have occasion
to speak again at length.
The Kansas question and
publish your speech. I
should be pleased to be
remembered also on other
subjects, if you please.

Yours in the cause of freedom.

D. H. Ellis

Hon. S. T. Douglass
Canton
Mass.

Washington
D.C.
Monticello Plitt Co lls Jan 10 1848

Hon. S. A. Douglass

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I wish to obtain all Speeches made in the present campaign in regard to the Kansas question in addition to the speeches made at the Convention or any other matter which will be thankfully received and read by me in regard to Mr. Shaw's neglect in this particular matter. I wish that you in my name to instruct the Kansas in this part of the State and especially the Democracy. I was a few days ago in the central portion of this State and was very much surprised to hear the Republicans that spoke with you as to your thanks to Kansas affairs. Every stem of the most violent Kansas Thrumor.

Truly yours,

John Henry
John Mayo
Monticello, Ill
Jan'y 10, 1868,
Want sketch on the Kansas
Controversy
Command You
Louse
New Philadelphia, January 10, 1858

Mr. Douglas sir, I wish to send you your speech on the Kansas question and the reply to Mr. Bingham we have Mr. Bingham's speech and not yours.

Direct to John Howard
New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas County, Ohio
John Howard
New Philadelphia
Jan'y 10/58, Ohio
Want your Speech
Dear
St. Louis January 10th 1858

Mr. S. A. Douglas

At a meeting of the National Democratic held at the hall of the Missouri Engine Works in this city in the evening of the 8th inst. I offered a couple of resolutions a copy of which I herewith enclose. The resolutions were published in the Missouri Democrat of this city - the Leader, the protest to defeat of the National Democracy, have having failed to publish an even allude to them - and the editor of which who was present at the meeting having strenuously endeavored to defeat their passage. The meeting was a very small one - obscurely advertised and called at a remote and unusual place. It was a packed meeting - 'packed' in the federal office holders, their dependents, understrappers, employees, renegade Know-Nothing, and a fair proportion of old cunning selfish potent politicians, who have assumed to themselves the direction and control of the party here during the last ten or fifteen years. These persons opposed the adoption of
the enclosed resolutions in every possible way. They made numerous speeches and motions. Indeed, yelled, stamp'd, jigged, threatened and excoriated - all to no purpose. Judge Knowne of this city was chairman, alternately with Judge (June, B.) Boston an Ep-ang-lyman from the district - and both of them resented to the most contemptible mea to defeat the resolutions. So did Mr. Armstrong, the Post Master at St. Louis, and so on, and especially and particularly, Mr. Isaac H. Clifton a well known politician at the federal court, Treasury Office at this place. Judge Knowne and Boston represented to the meeting that they were your intimate and confidential friends - that the introduction of the resolutions was contrary to your interests and against your wishes and that the meeting would greatly oblige you and confer a particular favor upon them, your friends (themselves) by voting down the resolutions.

Understanding all which, every man in the meeting, who was not either a federal office holder, a ex-soldier, or a vessel of office, was enthusiastically in favor of the passage of the resolutions and re-echoed with the most flattering sounds of applause; every mention of your name,

I insisted upon a vote, which, after every man that ingenuity and perspicacity could suggest, was finally taken, and truly and honestly given in favor of the resolutions. And yet Judge Morgan (who was then temporarily in the chair) Judge Knowne having left it to make a speech against the resolutions) declared that the resolutions were voted down. I insisted upon a division - which was ordered and which proved conclusively that the resolutions were carried - and it was again decided that the question was closed. I then insisted upon a count of the votes, for which the chairman, for obvious reasons, refused; and immediately thereupon declared the meeting adjourned, except the clerk will of a large majority thereof, which a kingly and strictly true account of this affair.

It is my intention to call another meeting of the Assembly (not the Black Republicans) this week - at the residence of the Court House in the city, therein which will there no doubt remove the false and thankless decision of the above-mentioned solvent of the 8th inst. - I can assure you that from a long residence in this community, and a thorough
Intimate knowledge of the means of the people, that nine-tenths of them are healthy, sanction your recent course upon the Kansas question. The people are with you, the office holders and office seekers (until their hopes shall be disappointed) are against you, so a man. There is not one exception here— at least I judge so in my belief.

I trust you will pardon the liberty I thus take in writing to you. I could introduce to you one of the Planters House in this city, the only acquaintance I can call a claim to. I never sought to impress that acquaintance because having all friends and no enemies here, I thought (and still think) you could very well afford to dispense with the friendship which people of good fortune of so humble a person as myself would not have me willing to subject myself to the suspicion so often well founded which attaches to the professions of true friends.

I must say, also, in justice to myself, that I would not trouble you with this hastily and painfully-written (I am now sick) state, were it not for my anxiety to ascertain, whether in what I have done in the premises, I have acted against your wishes, inclinations or interests. If so, I pray it will not tend to compell me to assure you, that in what I have done or may do, I am animated not only by the desire of doing what is right, but also by the desire of serving the cause of justice and true Democracy.

James L. McRide
Dubuque, Iowa, June 15th, 1858

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas;

Dear Sir:

Although I have not the advantage of a personal acquaintance with you, yet having been an ardent admirer of your political course, especially since 1854, having at all times, to the extent of my power, advocated the correctness of your views in regard to the doctrine of popular sovereignty, and your claims to the position which another [illegible] I take the liberty of writing you a few lines, and asking of you a favor. It is this, that you would be kind enough to send me all your own, and as many other speeches as you deem advisable, made on the Lecompton question in the Senate, from your first remarks on it to the present, and also all reports (whether one or the other of the question) in relation to it, made to either house of Congress, together with any other documents bearing on the subject, from
Which taken together, a complete truthful history of the Kansas Controversy, from the introduction of your Kansas Bill to the present time may be gathered.

Your views on the subject throughout have precisely invited me, and to see you triumph, which I have no doubt will ultimately be the case, is one of my highest political aspirations. Nor shall omit, as I have not heretofore, to contribute on all occasions, as far as I can, to the accomplishment of such a result. I desire in this view, that you confer upon me the favor above requested. I am only in the third part of my problems here and discover that, although the great mass are in favor of your views and against those of the administration, yet there are many hearty office-holders and cabalistic politicians who swallow any data prepared by those in power, and advocate before the people for pay, its continuance and efficacy. Under such circumstances a person cannot be too well posted on the history of the leading measures of the Government or of leading men.

I introduce the following, into the House of Congress. It is not a measure which the Administration has been proper to introduce, you would have justified in my opinion, all the charges of Black Republicanism made against you and your friends in introducing the Kansas Bill in 1854. And believe every stump speech, every denunciation and every pledge of your foes, made North of Mason and Dixon's line, in the campaign which placed Mr. Buchanan in the Presidential Chair.

Hoping that you may favor me with an early reply, and you may be able without personal inconvenience to comply with my request, I remain, very respectfully yours,

Thomas B. Pearsall
Omaha City, A.T. Jan. 10th 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Sir Sir-

It is with extreme pleasure, that I congratulate you upon your present position in regard to Kansas. At the act and Do, so as it is in my humble ability, I desire to preserve the Union and the Democratic party and to perpetuate Democratic principles, and as it is now time for Nebraska to speak in a voice of sympathy and cheer to you—your able standard for popular sovereignty—I have only to say that if in the event the Constitution of Kansas is not submitted to the people for their approval or disapproval, we fear the precedent. And in conclusion I have to ask your legal opinion in regard to a different subject whether or no the Capitol of this Territory can be moved by a two thirds vote of the Legislature.
that it may be so done under the organic act — yet it has been disputed. There is at this time two legislatures in this Territory one at the town of Territorial — and one here together with the Governor of which shall it be — and I think if the Capitol is not moved it will always be the case — Then will do me the honor to answer — at your earliest convenience —

I have the honor to be yours very truly

A. M. Pratt
Omaha City
Nebraska Territory
Jan'y 10 | 58

A. N. Pulw

Congratulations asks my legal opinion, as to whether the Capitol of Nebraska can be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature.
East Monroe, Highland Co.
Jan. 10th 1859

Hon. S. A. Ingles:
Of the U.S. Senate:

Dear Sir: I have been trying to think if I could send you a word of encouragement, and have concluded that I could say nothing more appropriate than the sentiment the following quotation conveys:

"The hand of Ingles is his own."

It is true I am but a humble citizen; but my heart swells with gratitude toward those men who I believe are striving for our country's welfare, especially so when I consider the opposition they have to encounter.

If you receive this in the same spirit in which I wrote it you will readily pardon the presumption I have made in thus confiding myself upon the notice of a stranger personally.

Yours respectfully,

W. R. N. Simmons

Hon. S. A. Ingles
Washington, D.C.
W. M. Simmons
East Monroe, O
January 10, 1855
Approves your course, and offers a sentiment.
Dr. Dana Jan 10th 1858

My Dear Sir,

I have been in this City for the past 80 or 10 days attending the U.S. Court, and have endeavored to ascertain the opinions of the people from different sections of the Northern Counties, also the opinions of the people of this City, (Democrats I mean and from all sections!) I find that your course upon the Kansas question is approved and endorsed by the people, a few Office holders who are afraid of their bread & butter are of course against you, but they are so few and far between that they are scarcely worth mentioning.

I have had a long conversation with Judge J.M. Love of the U.S. Court, and he assures
me, that in Lee County, there is scarcely any accession among the Democracy, opposed to your course in this matter, the great masses go in for sustaining the Kansas Nebraska Bill and the platform of 1856. At Burlington, in Monroe County, you have not seen the proceedings of the Democracy headed by Coolbaugh and others. In my own county (Buchanan) I have conferred with nineteen trustees of our friends, and have found but one Democrat, who is at all disposed to doubt your course, he reads, in other papers, save the Union (of Washington) and the North West of this City, and before I left him, he was all right, and I sincerely believe, were the Democracy of Iowa, to vote on the question, of whether the entire Constitution is formed by the Convention of Kansas should be left to the people of that Territory, that not fifty votes outside of the Officers' holders would be cast against the reference, in fact, outside of this city, but few of the Officers' holders are against your course. I do not consider I am capable of giving you any advice on this subject, but I will say this much, so long as you keep within the scope of these two great resolutions of the Democratic party, the K. S. Nebraska Bill and the platform of 1856, we will sustain you to the end, and I defy the time serving to read you out of the party. I regret, indeed, deeply regret, that the President has felt himself bound to pursue this suicidal course, he has caused a disturbance in the party, that year
May I have the pleasure of saying that Mr. Hunter of Virginia, talking about reading the people out of the Union, it is certainly a presumption that people have not at his expense whilst in the other wing of the Capitol, you will do better to advise him how he has come Speaker of the House of Representatives. He had better take the beam out of his own eye before he attempts to pluck the mote from the eye of him, who has always stood foremost for the rights of the South, of him, who has never known any North, any South, any East or any West, but who has always sustained the entire Union, almost sacrificing himself upon the altar of his country, for his Country's good and the welfare of the Union. If, in addressing you, on this subject speak and write so feelingly, it comes from a heart that knows no guile, and from one who has ever held that great and cardinal principle that the Majority Shall not believe me to be

Fraternally and sincerely your friend truly

James Bayard Thomas
Independentville