Feb. 6, 1858

Hon. Judge Douglas

Sir,

The circumstance which induce me a perfect shall thus to address you, in the independent course you have marked out for yourself and exhibited in the Kansas business, to cast off the shackles of party which so firmly bind the most of our prominent men and assume an independent being, having conscience and sound discriminating judgment for the rule of action, is seen in these degenerate days, that do view it as a refreshing cause in the great schemes of the present political parties. I am glad to see your course so generally advocated by the press. I cannot but hope you may be sustained in your honest position, and that Kansas may be admitted with the Constitution approved by a majority of her citizens.
It is so much regretted that so much of the time of Congress is lost to the country by spending it in action which does not tend to its real legitimate good. In this way many very important objects are neglected or lost and either the country or individuals suffer in consequence. Among the most prominent I would clap the Bill in relation to the offices of the revolution. Every upright constituent and well-wisher of his country would agree to see this measure consummated. But how has it been thrust aside and lost, for want of time or inclination to examine it in its true and just light? Some objected to it last session because the men were not included (as I was informed by Mr. Bigler). But if they had refused to act upon it at the close of the term, they would have seen that Gen. Washington in recommending the province for the officers, viewed their case in a different light from the common man. The latter would find it easy to return to the more common connections of life, but the form taken from their professional county rooms to would find it difficult to resume themselves in the business which in theirs absence had passed into other hands or which they could not again assume from loss of property or some other inability.

Another measure I would mention is the "Pinkish Shirt" Bill. This debt the Senate assumed and is therefore in common honesty bound to pay.

Now sir, if you will permit me to recommend these important measures to your special consideration, so that by giving them that attention which is necessary by your influence to bring them to successful issue. I am sure you would have caused to be kept a kind providence that you were made instrumental in bringing gladness to many a desolate heart in reminding the province for the officers, whose return from the war southern of our country a black spot which has for too long disgraced it.

Pro. Bigler, Pa., June 18, 1807.

Mr. Bigler, Bladensburg, Bucks County, Penn.
New York 6th Feb. 1858

Mr. S. A. Douglas
My dear Sir,

You no doubt will remember that at the close of the 31st Congress, I called upon you to pay my respects prior to my departure from Washington, when at that interview you expressed a desire to be possessed of certain of our New York State publications. On my reaching home, I forwarded to you by Express, a box containing such books as I had at command, the receipt of which however has never been acknowledged.

Among others, I think I sent you the "Documentary History of New York." Since that time nine additional volumes have been published, leaving one (the 21st) yet to come from the press. I take the liberty of enclosing a receipt of "Adams' Express Co." for a box, in which you will find the four nine volumes, of which I beg your acceptance. I will forward the others as soon as it comes to hand.

I sympathize in your efforts to maintain the principles of your Kansas Nebraska Act. Your final speech on that subject this session I read with great satisfaction. It was an approval of the principles of that Act. I was induced in Congress with a large portion of the Conservative WIng of New York, Pennsylvania, and other States to pursue such a political course, as insured the success of Mr. Buchanan, and evidence to support National Democrats, whenever opportunity presented, particularly in our last State election, and I have felt encouraged to do this, from the
hope that election day, the Conservative mind of all the old parts throughout the Country, would be brought to rally under one banner, and thus be formed a great National party. We ought to face and own that there are too many extremists North and South.

There was a remark you made in response to Senator Ruger in which you fell a personal attack. I believed you were not under the statute of limitations. It reminds me of your voluntary promise to furnish me with national documents, in whatever form, off my state publications as I requested you. Not having done so, you have forgotten the circumstances, and since the statute is not to be used against me, my hope has vanished.

Having a Congressional Library complete up to including the 33rd Congress, I am naturally desirous of perfecting it. My commander's Representative to whom I have a right to look for some copies only have entirely failed me even, and it is only occasionally that some of my old Congressional speeches have me in remembrance. Mr. Hanson of the 33rd Congress, once it to me to send a copy of the Senate's report on the Japanese expedition. Foreign Commerce, I believe you did. Perhaps they both are all distributed and I am too late. It's too bad I couldn't say I am ready to reach for the fact that no statute of limitations will ever operate with you, whenever you give me opportunity to do.

With great regard, I am
Your very obedient,
(D. U. B.)
New York
27th Feb. 38
D. Riker.

I have sent you a box of books -
attaches W. Cause.
Yours truly,

M. W. W. Hoar
Books sent
Hon: David A. Boker
New York.
Pacific R.R. Surveys
Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
Commercial Statistics.
Vols. 1, 2, 3, 44.
Coast Survey Reports 1855
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
1856.
Commercial Navigation 1857
President's Message 1856
in 3 Vols.
Belmont O. Feb 6. 43.

Right Hon. Stephen A. Douglas
Washington, N.C.

If you could consistently bestow upon a warm political friend a set of the Public Works in our "Commercial Revolutions," my most heartfelt thanks would be due to your honor. I have been unable notwithstanding a great part of time on my part, to come in possession of this work, which I am very anxious to add to my private public library of political works.

Hoping your favor will pardon the request, I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient servant, A. Moore
Wm A Brown
Belmont, Ohio
Feb 6/58,
Want the Report
on Commercial
relations
Preamble and Resolutions
IN RELATION TO THE SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION AND WAR OF 1812.

Whereas, more than forty years have elapsed since General Jackson fought and won the last great battle of the late war with Great Britain, at New Orleans, on the 8th day of January, 1815, and few of those who participated in that eventful struggle are left to tell the tale of their sufferings and services; by far the greater number, with mutilated limbs and broken constitutions, have gone down to the grave; many of them in penury and want; now and then we see an old survivor, too proud to beg, with shattered frame and mean attire, walking through our streets or retired to some humble cabin in the mountains, sustained by his descendants. The war of the revolution achieved our liberty; the war of 1812 secured for us and our posterity our free institutions forever. In less than forty years after our revolutionary struggle a grateful congress of the United States passed a general pension law for the benefit of the surviving officers and soldiers of that immortal conflict, at a time when the public treasury was empty, the nation poor in all its resources, and heavy war debts hanging over us. Now the nation is rich, its resources almost infinite, and no debt pressing upon us for payment, is it unreasonable to ask that similar justice be done to the gray headed survivors of the war of 1812, and to the widows and children of those who are dead?

Be it therefore resolved, That, in our judgment, the present congress of the United States ought to extend to the surviving soldiers of the war of 1812, and to the widows and orphans of those who are dead, the same pension system adopted for those of the revolution.

Resolved, That every principle of justice requires that the pensions of those who were wounded, or otherwise disabled during the late war, should commence at the date of the disability.

Resolved, That the pension laws in regard to the widows of revolutionary officers and soldiers, as construed and executed for the last twenty-five years, ought still to be administered with a fair and liberal spirit, and not according to technical precedents in civil or criminal cases.

Resolved, That in our opinion the pensions granted to the widows of officers and soldiers, dying or being killed in the services of the United States, ought to be extended years.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to the President and Vice President of the United States, and to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, with a respectful request of their early and favorable consideration.

DANIEL P. WHITE, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN Q. A. KING, Speaker of the Senate.

Approved February 6th, 1858.

C. S. MOREHEAD.

By the Governor—
Mason Brown, Secretary of State.

Note: Draft both House,umnoimmediately.
My dear Sir,

Help the old soldier, as you hope for half now or hereafter. The few are active, but their suffering renders this thought to be for aptitude and services.

Yours truly,

Capt. B. Comly

Hon. L. B. Douglas
Leslie Combs

Resolutions in behalf of soldiers of war of 1812

Drafted by Legislature of KY

Hir aid asked.
Cincinnati, Feb 4 1839

Henry S. A. Dunlap

Inclined please find
a petition asking to improve harbor of Michigan City
suggesting other things. It is proper to locate the
U.S. Coast lands at Mackinaw for first light house
so in hands of Hon. C. E. Stuart of Michigan
and a copy of it in hands of Hon. Clark of Indiana
which please see if deemed
appropration are sought for; for many superior unimportant
Lake shore tracts, or by which, if needed go
by by Mackinaw City, must necessarily pass, are the
Lake connected, hence of the greatest general intent
men and 300 miles from Chicago Detroit Collingwood
with the few good intermediate harbor at anchorage
point. This fact of commerce demand the improvements
asked for. The port has much to make needed
performing its duty to the commerce, that forms
a great natural ferry to the Misissippi R., Indiana, and
Canada. The point of important R. is
make a nucleus of which must radiate
influence giving value, Dale allegiance to Govt
land & developing the valuable property of
great general intent
In court of a new Lake Mohican being entirely surrounded by an Plaines it would afford a safe retreat for vessels. Situated near the Lake City of Lake Huron and intended as a spot at that point affording ample protection and being in the boundary line a Custom House should prove that trade to lessen.

Much Lake Territory is near to the place to build a Bettion for which especially as it is largely interested in the vicinity. As for the letters to the county and for the whole County, the Court had granted you with the petition and trust you will as pleased you think proper in forming the object.

The Respectfully,

[Signature]

C.L. My cousin of the Bar, you have before this name is made of the thing need. That point is near the Court. Part of Emmett Co. Move to this author. Deplorable must grow up quickly with the great highway of the Lake Huron.
Cincinnati, O.
Feb. 4th 18...

Edgar Soukling—
Enrolling petitions
for the improvement
of harbors at
Mackinaw City...
To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The undersigned Petitioners, residents of the State of Ohio, would most respectfully request of your Honorable body to seriously consider the importance of affording facilities and security to the vast and increasing Commerce of the Lakes, by improving the Harbors of Mackinaw City, at the Straits of Mackinaw, and State of Michigan.

MACKINAW CITY

Naturally occupies an important Commercial position, commanding the Straits through which must necessarily pass a vast Commerce, at the natural ferry, connecting the Northern and Southern Peninsula of Michigan, the terminus of important Railroads, and central to extensive Agricultural, and unprecedented Mineral wealth, with every facility of becoming an important Manufacturing City; hence its growth must necessarily develop great National interests, and should receive from United States Government that attention which its interests would seem to require, and security to the Commerce of the Lakes, and other public interests should demand.

It is near 800 miles from Chicago, Detroit, and Collingswood, with but few safe intermediate harbors.

Your petitioners do therefore pray your honorable body to provide for the improvement of the harbors of Mackinaw City, suited to the wants of the Commerce of the Lakes, and also to consider the importance of erecting thereon, a Light House, Custom House, &c., and also a Fort to protect the Cities of Lake Michigan, and the Lake Commerce seeking protection in the event of a foreign war.

A. McLeary
John C. Tharp
Joseph Pierce
W. J. McIntyre
J. W. Haskell
Isaac B. Copeland
Geo. W. Copeland
J. H. Hennings
Ed. Woodward
A. Davis

Mr. H. L. Ekeland

Prs. Ferry
By R. W. Corey

E. W. Williams
Lewis Colman
Chas. Drumm
Rob. Cascadu

Mr. L. H. Anderson

T. A. Whitney

E. J. Martin

E. J. McLean

Rev. Corner

W. A. Affegeate

W. H. Skinner

T. C. Carter

J. H. Herron

John Kirby

W. W. Whitman

[Signatures of other petitioners]
To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

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It is near 300 miles from Chicago, Detroit, and Collingwood, with but few safe intermediate harbors.

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J. H. Cheeser
W. S. Hooper
As M. Glenn
J. W. McLaughlin
A. Hamilton
J. M. Laughton
W. Parnell
A. D. Breed

McC. Mitchell
W. B. Stewart
W. F. Wallace
W. G. Rusk
R. C. Philips
W. B. Anderson

All who are friendly to the object of this petition will please secure signatures, and forward the same to Washington City, immediately.
The undersigned, Trustees for the Proprietors of the Lands of, and adjacent to “Mackinaw City,” have the pleasure of presenting for the consideration of capitalists, business men, and others, what they conceive to be, upon investigation, the most reliable point for investment and settlement, now available in the West or North. Mackinaw evidently occupies the most commanding natural position for a city of the first class; surrounded as it is, by a widely extended territory, abounding in elements of the greatest wealth, affording the utmost encouragement to the manufacturers and mechanic in their widest diversity of employment, and without the possibility of a competing city in any direction nearer than Detroit on the south. They feel, from what has been so truly and ably said by H. D. Mansfield, Esq., a gentleman well and favorably known for his ability and habits of close investigation and comparison, that nothing more is left to be said, but to set forth the policy which they have adopted, and design to carry out, the more efficiently to promote the interests of this location, and at the same time to aid in the development of the vast resources of the surrounding region. From the map it will be seen that lands from the greatest depth of the grounds of the Old “Fort Michilimackinac,” sacred in the history of the country. These grounds, now in their natural condition, are unequalled for beauty of surface, location, scenery, soil, trees, etc., by any Park in any city in this country; and when the skillful hand of the horticulturist has marked its outline and threaded it with avenues and foot paths, pruned its trees and carpeted its surface with grass, it will present the perfect perfection of all that constitutes a Park delightful. The character of the soil, (it being a sandy loam, with sand and gravel underlying it,) renders it capable of the easiest and most economical improvement, securing walks always dry, hard and smooth.

This Park, with suitable blocks and lots for county and city buildings, market houses, schools, etc., will be duly appropriated to these uses, whenever the proper authorities are prepared to select suitable sites; and lots for churches and institutions of learning and charity will be freely donated to parties contemplating early improvement. Thus the Trustees propose to anticipate, by avoiding the errors of other cities, the waste of Mackinaw City in perpetuity, and free forever to its citizens from taxation for any grounds required for the public uses of this city. They also desire, by the power of the Federal Government to secure, by like donation, an early day, the grounds necessary for such Fortifications as the want of the country and commerce may require, on the simplest condition of speedy improvement. This liberal policy, it is believed, will best promote the true interests of the city and country, and at the same time be productive of the greatest pecuniary profit, both to the original proprietors, and to all others who may make investments at this point.

It is also within the purposes of the Trustees, to expend a large portion of their income from sales, in providing for the public wants, by the creation of docks at the most important places, and by the establishment of Ferries, in view of which they have secured the land on the opposite side of the Straits. And they will also, as their means will justify, make loans to aid parties in the establishment of manufactures, etc. Building materials of great variety and in abundance are at hand. Lumber can be had for mere cost of preparation, and the soil at no very distant point, is suitable for making bricks; while for immediate use, Milwaukee can furnish the articles of the best kind in any quantities. The shores of Lake Superior abound with exhaustless quantities of Granite, Sand Stone, Marble; and Lime Stone and Sand are on the spot. There are three harbors, the most eastern of which, is well known to navigators, as affording perfectly safe anchorage at all times; and when suitable docks are built, they will offer unusual advantages to commerce.

The surface of the city itself is unrivalled, having a natural grade suited to city wants, and the soil being a sandy loam with sand and gravel underlayment, it will form the cheapest and best foundation for streets and a range.

Evergreen and other trees of full growth now cover the grounds, affording a healthful and delightful shade, and capable of varied embellishment, without the delay incident to artificial growth. The grounds adjacent to the city are of the same character, gradually ascending until an elevation of seventy-five or a hundred feet is attained, affording the finest views in all directions and never disturbing the eye.

The following are the terms on which the Trustees propose to sell the property which they have subdivided into lots, as represented in the subjoined plat of the city. Notwithstanding the superior facilities of this point over hundreds of others in the West, where lots have been readily disposed of at ten, twenty, thirty, and even fifty dollars per foot, the Trustees in order to give impetus to the growth of Mackinaw City, and to afford a margin for others to profit by proposing to all settlers who will immediately improve the property by the erection of mills, houses, dwellings, manufacturing and printing establishments, docks &c. &c. to donate the lots necessary for such purposes, subject to the choice of the parties themselves; and to those who desire to profit by the inevitable advance of property contiguous to their own improvements, the Trustees will sell lots on long time, if desired at the unprecedented low price of five dollars per foot, interest.

Capitalists and non-residents, desiring to avail themselves of the advantages of such a developing policy, and to invest upon a real estate basis, promising a rapid appreciation in value, can possess themselves for a very limited time, of lots at the same low price of five dollars per foot.

The title to this property is unquestionable, having within five years, been derived directly from the United States Government, as will be seen by reference to a Title paramount issued by the undersigned for the information of parties interested. Applications by letter will receive prompt attention. Asking a careful perusal of the annexed report on the subject, from the pen of H. D. Mansfield, Esq., (a copy of which will be sent to any party asking for it,) we submit the matter to the public investigation.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 1857.

EDGAR CONKLING, (Principal Office, Mackinaw City Company.)

Mackinaw City, July 27, 1857.

A. M. SEARLES, (County Real Est. Commissioner.)
Edgar Coupling
Cincinnati, Ohio
Feb'y 14, 1858.
Colonial Petition
for improvements
of Harbor at
McKeeous City.

Letter to Petitions
in Senatorial file.
Madison, Feb 6, 1858

Hon. J. P. Holcomb, Dear Sir: Noticing by the public papers that you have introduced some matter into the Senate for H. O'Reilly, Esq. I presume you know where he is or where a letter may reach him, and having some business with him, not knowing his address, I will be much obliged to you if you will forward the enclosed letter to him.

Very Respectfully, your friend,

J. C. [Signature]

Letter sent to New York.
W. S. Curtis
Madison, Wis.
Feb'y 10, 1858

Send a letter to Henry O'Reilly,

Sent to N.Y.

Now Steph & Douglas,

U.S.S.