Washington, May 1st, 1855.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,
Present,

Dear Sir:

After my compliments permit me to say to you that however much you and I have differed, at times, with regard to some matters of political expediency and without choosing to be committed with regard to my future political action, permit me to say that in your present position, you have my most hearty sympathy; and that in this matter in which there is powerful an attempt by the Administration and party to put you down you have nine tenths of Illinois on your side. There has been a powerful attempt on the part of the office seekers of Illinois, to make a party against you, and to some extent they have succeeded, but the masses are yet with you.

If you think your own cause in particular, or the cause of truth in general, would be promoted by the distribution of your speeches on the Comstock Constitution and so on in my city and county, and will furnish them to me, I will distribute them.

Your friend,

C. Ballance
of Illinois,
Washington
City.
May 1, 1858,

Political
officer to distribute
documents.

Mr.
Charl. Barry
Boston Mass.
May 1, 1858

Respected Sir,

Now that the "Kanzas Debate" is finished, will you please favor me with your autograph.

Regretting your forbearance for troubling you, I remain,

Yours Very Truly,

Chas T. Barry.

City Bank, Boston, Mass.
Knouns College
Galesburg, Ill.
May 1, 1858

Mr. Stephen A. Douglas,
Dear Sir,

I have just read your Secompact Speech and as I knew something of the Opposition you now meet, I have thought it might just do you any harm & know that I cordially rejoice in and hail your efforts as an omen for good to the Country. You know how sincerely I have opposed you heretofore. I still deeply deplore your past course as to the fugitive slave law and the repeal of the Missouri line. I am no politician and never expect to be, but as I have never known the slave power forgive a man who has boldly resisted one of its tenets, and believing that you are henceforth placed as the Corner backlite says, 'By act of God' on the side of freedom as against all unconstitutional tenets of the slave power, I am in favor of your return to the Senate and of your election.
as President of the United States
at the next election, provided
always I have not foreseen your
political course arising

As I may think you a little
new to receive a letter, I shut
the close of a political
letter but, my dear sir, I beg you
will not think me importunate when
I suggest that in a few weeks at
least we must all be in the same
together, and our state. Thereafter, I trust,
certainly depend on our treatment of
Christians, hence I wish you were
a Christian.

As I have, I am no politician, but
have always preserved and increased
the privilege of voting and thinking
on political men & things, and
until I do change I Change. Shall
within these limits not interfere
to yourself. Wishing you the health
of your party,

Yours, sir,
John B. Clark, Esq.

(Seal 3dol. J.P.R.R. Rep. July 13, 1853)
Hon. S. R. Douglas
U.S. Senate
Washington
D.C.

[Handwritten note]

St. Louis
Missouri

[Seal stamp]
Clinton, May 1, 1853,

Dear Sir,

Will you please send me a copy of your last speech, and oblige,

Yours truly,

G. W. Dorsey

Hon. T. A. Douglas
May 1, 1858,

Elected Honorary Member Alpha Kappa Society.
Marietta College.

Marietta, O., May 1st, 1858,

Sir,

I take pleasure in notifying you of the fact that the Alpha Kappa Society of Marietta College has done itself the honor to elect you an honorary member thereof.

Awaiting a reply, I remain yours respectfully,

A. M. Bosworth,
Cor Sec. A.K. 201.
Washington May 1858

Sirs,

We are gratified to know for the past and to hear that the pinch comes very fast if you use further help. The only question whether the negotiations for redress, which one admits will be made claimed, shall be made under a resolution authority the use of force of redress is refused. I am sure these particular words were inserted at your suggestion. They are perfectly clear. They make clear what was intended and it is the only mode in which to produce redress. Negotiations subject us to delay uncertainly upon the failure.

Copies have been resubmitted to Congress in regard to head. First because not addressed in Spanish (See 47 Page Report) and in an eating manner because such is the spirit of the new amendments of the Senate. After these results shall be approached here in the same way the third time over.

By your

[Signature]
Her do other people dare will harm? Since the
promulgation of this resolution in the Senate, we have authentic
intelligence that Napoleon has been successful in a negotiation with
Russia and France. We know the situation at present.

The peace cannot now be made in a manner (Cabinet
has the end in view) with a Brazilian squadron that
assaulted on the mouth of the river, as we fear.

The facts of our claim are undoubted.

The correspondence printed with the report shows this reason
of the British concerns of 

The documents show his partial
above the Mississippi. The
river is always under the
channel of the Mississippi. It
believes, by international law
are its channels. Track of the countries it divides for purposes
of navigation. The American Confederacy authorized the survey

The device upon which he assumed to break up
our enterprise are given with our memo. They like this
are arbitrary story contradicted with his claim of mutilation to

It must indeed be a burning theme
that a claim ought the honest, prudent, approved
by the department of state. The Executive, by which claim
of foreign affairs should removed by any reluctance in any quarter
be known you will have none. Can you not

Constitutionally, Quot: upon the floor, give us some notice, & decrees its passage.
C S Bradley
Washington, D.C.
May 6, 1858.
The Paraguay Question.

W
I take much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your speech of 12th March. After giving it a close and careful reading, I am happy to say that I entirely endorse the sentiments embodied therein. I have watched your course from the time the country was so conducted by your Act doing away with the "Comproviso," and though the first part of your speech delivered at the State House in Springfield, 12th 1857, may not in the opinion of some, be consistent with your last speech, I am at no loss in seeing the consistency of both. I think the course you have taken last winter has been more than gained from one party more than lost from the other.
Should you run for another term, I think you can be elected independent of either party, you have many warm friends in your own party who will vote for you, who are kept under merely for the purpose of retaining the office, they hold under the administration for instance our Post Master was one of your strongest advocates until he became disillusioned of the danger he was in, of losing his office, but now tochine his vote has been turned to late I think, such unprincipled men must be paid according to their deeds, I would like to see coming the day at the next election in your district

Yours Truly

J.W. Caldwell

J.A. Douglas.
Chillicothe, Nov. 25th

Honorable A. Douglas you will please send me a copy of each of your speeches as I have not been able to get one anywhere may from this as the Representatives from this section are all your opponents I ask the favor to remain your friend in all time.

Jesse P. Clark
Hastford Cent. March 1, 1858

Mr. H. Conger,

Uncle, Cousin.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your address against the admission of Kansas. It meet my approval, as well as the course you have taken on the whole affair. For thirty years, I have been an active member of the Democratic party. I was the first person who voted the Bobbsey name before the convention as candidate for Congress in 1835, when he was elected. But to help me God, I will never sanction this most outrageous act which was condemned yesterday in Congress. More than three months
Of the Democracy in this state are
with you heart & soul, aside from office holders. I
know you will stand firm. The
time will come when the peo-
ple will give an expression of
your coming. I know the
fear of the result.

Yours Truly
Most Respectfully
David Clark
Großes Gruß, Senator!

[Handwritten text in German, possibly discussing a matter of importance or concern, with references to an unspecified senator or official.]
H. Binford
Washington D.C.
May 1, 1858

Appeal to

Wants assistance
to return to
Philadelphia.
To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The memorial of the undersigned respectfully represents:

All the printed Journals and Documents of Congress from the beginning of the Government, in possession of the two Houses of Congress, having been destroyed by the burning of the Capitol in the year 1814, much inconvenience was constantly experienced during the sessions of Congress from the want of printed copies of the Journals and Documents for daily reference.

In consequence, both Houses first caused their Journals to be reprinted; and to supply the destruction of the Documents, the undersigned, in the year 1831, proposed to Congress to collect and reprint an edition of them in a compendious and improved form, and down to the current period. This proposition met with the approval of Congress, and an act was passed directing the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives to subscribe for seven hundred and fifty copies of said reprint, stipulating that the work should be compiled and executed under the direction and supervision of said Secretary and Clerk.

In proceeding to execute this task, those officers, (Messrs. Walter Lowrie and Mathew St. Clair Clarke,)

instead of reprinting the Documents promiscuously, as in the original volumes, very judiciously determined to arrange them into classes, which greatly facilitated any search, and also to reprint them in the folio instead of octavo form, which gave them much more compendiousness and ease of reference. They also exercised the wise discretion not only of omitting all papers relating to private, transitory, and unimportant cases, not likely ever again to be referred to, but went further, and selected from the manuscript files of the two Houses such papers of importance and enduring interest as had by omission or inadvertence not been previously printed—thus imparting great additional value to the compilation as a work of reference and historical importance; and to effectuate this object more completely, the Senate removed the injunction of secrecy from its confidential files, and also from all documents and correspondence returned to the files of the Department of State, relating to our foreign affairs, in so far as there might still remain no objection to their publicity, all of which were included in the new work. The new series, thus arranged, was comprised in twenty-one volumes, under the general title of "American State Papers:" embracing one hundred and twenty of the old octavo volumes together with the additional papers from the files; and the judgment with which it was edited, its completeness, and the fullness of its analytical indexes and tables of contents, rendered the work so acceptable to Congress that the entire edition has been long since exhausted, the publishers not having been able to furnish a single copy for many years past, nor is there a copy remaining even in the Library of Congress. In consequence of this deficiency, it has occurred to the undersigned, the originators and contractors for the work, that Congress would be glad to authorize not only a new edition of the first series, which has been found so important and necessary in the duties of legislation, but would deem it expedient to direct, under the same official supervision, a continuation of the work on the same plan down to the present Congress. It would then, with the Journals, embody the Official, Legislative and Executive history of the Government from its foundation to the present time. Under this impression, and encouraged by the expressed wishes of many members of both Houses, the undersigned respectfully offer to contract for an edition of both parts, to be executed in a style equal in all respects to the first edition, and at the same price per volume which they received for that, although the chief expense of printing (composition) is now one third greater than it was in the year 1830—wages being that much higher.

Praying the favorable consideration of Congress for the above proposition, the undersigned remain,

with profound respect,

Their faithful servants,

GALES & SEATON,
Publishers of the American State Papers.

WASHINGTON, MAY 1, 1858.

P. S. Should it be objected that the state of the Treasury is inauspicious for the object at this time, it may be answered that the execution of the work will require between two and three years, and the payments will be distributed in small sums through that long period; indeed there will be no payment required for the prosecution of the work during the present year; and before its expiration the Treasury will be again overflowing.
For the information of members not personally familiar with this collection of the Congressional Documents, it may not be amiss to cite the annexed opinions of its value, expressed by several Senators at the last session:

Senator PEARCE said, "I have been directed by the Committee on the Library, to whom the subject has been referred, to offer this amendment in the shape of a separate section, authorizing the publication of the State Papers."

This subject was brought to the attention of the Committee on the Library by a resolution submitted by the Honorable Senator from Michigan, (Mr. Cass.)

The original compilation of State Papers was brought up to the year 1835, so that from that year to the present time, a period of thirty-one years, we have no comprehensive collection of those important papers. They are scattered through a series of volumes of executive and legislative papers, numbering several hundred, not convenient of access, not arranged numerically according to the subjects or chronologically, not separated properly or indexed separately, but in a vast bulk of some four hundred volumes.

"Every one who desires timely access to the performance of his legislative duties most of course desire to have them in that form in which they are most convenient and accessible. But there is an additional reason for this measure. We have had numerous memorials presented to us from various public institutions, desiring very much to be furnished with public documents. In the ordinary documents of the session, there are a vast number of papers no one accuses the House in which the business is transacted to which they refer. These Papers, containing all that is important, if made on the plan of the former compilation, will supply the wants of those who are so urgently making these requests."

"I beg to say that the Library Committee have not in this instance departed from the rule which they have laid down generally in regard to the publication of books. The principle they have adopted is, that the Government is not only justifiable but entitled in publishing such papers as relate directly to its affairs. These may be added to such books as reflect light on our history, or are of some special importance in the consideration of great questions. These books will accomplish both purposes. They will give us a knowledge of our legislative history, which no one can obtain except by access to these papers. They will throw light on many of the great questions which must continue to be discussed here; and they will answer the public demand, which has been pressed on us at this time, therefore no violation of the principle which the Library Committee has adopted."

Mr. CASSELL said: "I consider this a very useful and almost indispensable work to members of Congress, and therefore one for which an appropriation ought to be made. You call it a book, and so it is, but it is a legislative document, indispensably necessary to members.

Nobody objects to the printing of bills; nobody objects to the printing of what is necessary to put subjects before us for our own action; and this is one of the most necessary documents we can have. The Honorable Senator from Maryland has well described it. It is impossible to get at the information which is necessary in our legislative duties without having some compendium or abstract of this kind, unless members are willing to devote an unconsiderable amount of time to the examination of questions."

Mr. BENJAMIN said: "The necessity for the continuation of these works has been forcibly impressed upon my mind in the discharge of my duties as a member of the Committee on Private Land Claims. Repeated instances have occurred in that Committee, where the former action of the Government, on matters of exceeding importance to the nation at large, have required investigation, and that investigation has been almost impossible, by reason of the mass of volumes through which the documentary history of the country is spread. There is a new pending before the committee (and it will be my duty, in the course of the evening or to-morrow, to ask the Senate for permission to retain my clerk during the recess) a claim for a tract of land, which is stated to belong to a private individual, derived from the Hudson's Bay Company, extending over an area of territory sufficient to make two or three States of the Union. In the examination of this claim, it has become necessary to examine the early diplomatic history of the Government, the correspondence which took place at the time of our early treaties with Great Britain and France, and even to go back much further and examine into the origin of our title to the Northwestern Territory. In examining this subject, which is one of great labor, I have found it almost impossible to get at the facts, in consequence of the insufficiency of the publication of the State Papers. A large number of reports have been made, and acts passed, and disposition made of portions of the public lands by different Congresses since 1815. We have, hitherto, before us private land claims; we have constantly before us applications for some change in the laws of the country in relation to lands. We cannot find the necessary information for the purpose of guiding the action of the committee by looking it before the Senate, because, as I stated before, and as the Senator from Maryland stated at first, we have to look over six or seven hundred volumes. You will find many volumes scattered on the shelves of this room of what the Senate has done, without reference to the action of the Departments and the action of the committees of the House. These documents are indispensable to the transaction of the legislative business of the country. They are not a printing job. We all know how rare and valuable the former volumes have become. I have one set of them, and I know no money could buy them of me, because I could not spare them in the discharge of my legislative duties. I know that gentlemen who want duplicate sets are required to pay enormous sums for them. This fact shows their great value. This mass of matter can in no way be gathered so conveniently together as by the executive officers of the two Houses of Congress. I trust there will be no objection to this. The collection of the information is indispensable, and the longer we go without it, the more urgent becomes the necessity."
Gale & Seaton
Washington City
May 1, 1858.

I propose to reprint "American State Papers" to continue the work down to date.

Gale & Seaton present their respects to Mr. W. Douglas, and beg that he will do them the favor to read the within paper.
Greenburg, Westmoreland County, Penna.

May 1, 1858.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

Sir,

I am esteemed

fever of the 28th April, in accordance to my letter of the 30th of January last relative to the appointment of Queen McCullough of Rock Island, Illinois, as Commissioner to take the acknowledgment

ments of Deeds for the State of Pennsylvania, together with the McCullough's letter to Governor Packer, soliciting the appointment, was forwarded to me from Harrisburg this morning—your kind endorsement

ment of the McCullough fitness for the office, I have this day forwarded to Governor Packer, and I have no doubt, but that

the Governor will immediately issue a Commission to Mr. McCullough.

be pleased to accept my thanks for your kindness in this matter.

I am now in this place making a short visit to my family.

and I am happy to say, that the Sterling Democracy of this your old County, are much pleased with your course in behalf of your great State on the vital Kansas question.

Wishing you health, and a prosperous future. I remain with
great respect your very humble Servant,

Randal J. Laughton

Clerk in the Treasury Dept. at Harrisburg, Pa.
Randal McLaughlin
Greenburg, Pa
(But officially
Harrisburg, Pa)
May 1, 1858

Relative to
Perry McCauley's
application for
Commissioner of Pa

Commissioner Geo. from Gov. of Pa

At Lewis McNichol
May 16, 1858

Copy of letter
within
Judge Douglas, I apprehend, in regret that your letter of 31 January last to had been mislaid, that he should have before answered your courteous inquiries which he has now by stating that Mr. McNeill, he believes, would be worthy of the favorable consideration of Gov. Packer in the matter of appointments solicited.

Judge Douglas
enclose. Mr. McNeil,
letter received in yours
of 2D D. Jury. I request
response may be
forwarded here.
Washington City,
April 28/58,

On 8th May I rec'd from
Your Packer Letter of advice
Prorogation for Mr. McNeil.
which enclosed I sent to
him with letter as follows:
Judge Douglas, I regret, that he has not had it before in his power to enclose the within commission as Commissioner for Pennsylvania. Your application has, at your request been forwarded here for reference. I having been endorsed, Judge Douglas, take great pleasure in mentioning the result of the application.

Washington

Dunlap McNeil
May 10/58
Rock Bluff
Ills.
Carthage Ill. May 12th 1858

Honor. S. A. Douglass

Dear Sir:

If you have any Documents or Seeds from Patent office for distribution will you please send a few to Dr. George W. Hall & myself. By so doing you will greatly oblige me. Knowing that you are so often troubled by such letters I trust you will pardon me for this request. Your Cause & the Cause of the right is in a flourishing condition in this County & part of the State & it has become a difficult matter to find a Secrecy in it her.

I remain yours truly &

Wesley H. Manier.

Could you send us the Japan Expedition

W. H. Manier
Carthage, Ill.
May 1, 1858

Respectfully,

[Signature]

[Handwritten note: rent]
Joseph Moore
Sycamore, Ill.,
May 1, 1858,

Wanted: Pack R.
Survey.
Sante Fe, May 6, 1858

P. O. Sycamore
De Nalla
Illinois

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas
Dear Sir:

I saw by some one of the papers that all the books for the
Survey of the Pacific Rail Road Survey were all expeditious
for this District.

Now if you could find one let it
Send me you will confer
a favour on me

Fraternally yours

Joseph Moore
Sycamore, May 11, 1858
(Sent Oct. 6, May 11, 1858)
[Handwritten text]

You will find: I shall be much obliged for copies of your church on Kansas for Library. Yours truly,

Leonard S. Thurber
New York City

May 1, 1858

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas
Washington
Samuel Illustrean
New York
May 1, 1858

Wants Speed
for Library
Office of LUDLOW PATTON & CO. No. 19 William-St.
New-York, May 1st, 1868.

NOTICE.

A. B. Hutchinson retires from our firm, and Alex. S. Clark becomes a partner therein from this date.

LUDLOW PATTON & CO.

We give our particular attention to the purchase and sale of Stocks, Bonds, and other securities, on commission; to the discounting and negotiation of Business Paper and Loans; buying and selling Exchange and Land Warrants; collection and payment of Interest and Dividends, and to the transaction of a general Banking and Brokerage business.

Mr. Patton will represent the firm at the Board of Brokers, and will give special attention to that department of the business.

Money received on deposit, payable on demand, and interest allowed as per special agreement.

For parties desiring it, we will make investments in such securities as, in our judgment, will be safest and most productive, and will be ready and willing to furnish information in regard to any securities offered in this market.

All business entrusted to our care will receive prompt and faithful attention.

LUDLOW PATTON, \\
ALEX. S. CLARK.

REFER TO

Ocean Bank, New-York.

Also to Hon. John M. Wood
Portland, Me.
LUDLOW PATTON & CO.

STOCK AND EXCHANGE BROKERS,

No. 19 WILLIAM-STREET,

LUDLOW PATTON, ALEX. S. CLARK.

NEW-YORK.

A GENERAL BANKING AND BROKERAGE BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

The Post-Office at Harrisonburg, the seat of Government of起重
Doctor George H. Porter appointed Post Master
11th May 1857, his confirmation by the Senate.
It is asked for by the Governor of the State. (See his letter)
The Secretary of the Commonwealth.
The Auditor General.
The Surveyor General.
The Superintendent of the School Department.
The State Librarian.
The State Senator & Member of the House of Rep.
The Resident Judge of the Court.
The Chief Sheriff of the County.
The Coroner of the county.
The Register of Deeds.
The Recorder of Deeds.
The members of Town Council,
and nine-tenths of a community of nearly twenty-

Thousand souls doing business through that office.
There is not a whisper of complaint or charge of official misconduct against him that he is aware of.
Geo W Porter
Harrisburg
Pa.
Colchester, 3 May 1858

Dear Susan,

I don't know that I said to you when I had the pleasure of meeting you at breakfast time that I expected to return to Massachusetts and edit a paper there. I have the same Editor of the Boston Alta and I go back among the foils. This is the last letter I shall write in Ohio, as I leave here on Monday morning. I write it to you, to thank you for the notice I am to send you. You have thought of good parts and have kept the parts and your mind profited well.

Yours, F. A. Brush.
be yours, if not in 1600 Society in 1644.

There are Old Times and I should impart you tomorrow for any office in the Governent.
I deplore the policy of the Massachusetts democrats in this House. Especially Mr. Con. He has only changed himself but his bills plug his grane. They must have been Alcedated. And he stood with you. True to the End, he would have been Excluded by a larger Majority than a man ever got in this District. As it is, he is "A Dead Con in the pit." I digest this, but it is "yes so."

I have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Brodewell but I have heard his name. And he been

He is among more famous than the Gold of California. Only yesterday a great of his Themen was speaking of him in the Red House and they all said that he would get the Democratical. And they would all willingly vote for him. But, he that as it may, he must say "The Lieutenant before the Arsent.

The time is fast coming when true men every where will unite and put down their troubles, and Reconcile and give their Country to the Rule of White Man.

Please remember me to Mrs. Longfellow. (I hope she has not been gotten me)

If you ever unite me with the Boston Bee Office and put me in the correspondence by your friend

Your friend,

[Signature]
Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

Will you render me a favor by sending me your speech or speeches on the Kansas question— I am yours very respectfully,

L. G. Rollins Jr.

Washington, N. Y., May 15, 1858
W. C. Rollins
Hanover, N.H.
May 1, 1858
Want, Speech
May 1, 1838

Hon. J. A. Douglas

I hope you will receive this in a friendly and happy spirit. I have not heard from you since the time you visited Honeymoon and I wish you a happy and prosperous life. I hope you will remember me as an old friend.

The Hon. W.A. Hathorn has been here for a short time. I hope you will remember me as a friend.

This is the time of the long and hard winter. It has been very cold and snowy. The President and the Senate have been very busy. The Senate has been very busy. They have been very busy. The President has been very busy. They have been very busy. The Senate has been very busy.

I hope you will be happy and prosperous. I will write again soon.

Yours truly,
Thomas A. Osborn
Thos P Smith
Smithville H.E.