Squaw-grove Ill.
May 4th 1858.

Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

Please send me an Agricultural Patent office report, & the U.S. Pension Laws.

Respectfully yours,

Florence Austin

Horace Austin
Square Grove
H.

[Signature]
Office of Cincinnati Enquirer,
Cincinnati, Ohio, May 4, 1858.

Sir:

I have watched, with unabated and unceasing interest, the gradual steps by which the President has at last attained, by indirectness and fraud, the object which he labored six weeks to accomplish by honorable and legitimate means; and I avail myself of this earliest leisure moment to renew to you the assurances of my conviction that your course, through every stage of this LeCompton drama, has been such as must secure you not only the endorsement of the present, but the gratitude of every generation to come.

I am in daily contact with politicians and you will be surprised when I tell you I have not, during the last three weeks, met one man in this city of 225,000 people, whose heart and soul endorse either the English or LeCompton proposition. Real friends of Mr. Buchanan are now here to be found; they do not live northwest of the Ohio.

I assured you, before leaving Washington, I had engaged temporarily in the editorial department of the Enquirer of this city; and that in forming such a connection, I desired simply to place myself upon a standpoint from which I could render essential service to the great cause of self-government by the people. I have not, for one moment, lost sight of
my original design and upon my own articles (not those written by others) for the Enquirer, I am willing to be judged. The proprietors of the paper are among the most honorable and high-minded gentlemen I have ever known, and I would do anything in my power to serve them; but I am perfectly satisfied that the singular anomaly is preserved of a Democratic newspaper having 90,000 subscribers (more probably than any other Democratic paper in the Union has), publishing to the world sentiments to which nearly the whole Democratic party is opposed. I do not entertain a doubt that had the Enquirer opposed the English bill, it would have been opposed by nearly every press and Congressman of Ohio.

We have the finest job office unquestionably in the United States; everything is in splendid order, and nothing is wanting. But the advocacy of Democratic doctrines to place it among the Enquirer in the front rank of the American press. This alone would in one year furnish 50,000 subscribers.

Now, as a practical man, and what I mean to say is this: I can get a number of men to take an interest in the paper, and if some others can be induced to take it up at Cincinnati, and associate themselves in the enterprise, we can secure the control by fair and honest means and strike a blow which will tell with wonderful effect on the politics of the country.

There are no doubt hundreds of bold talents, and noble men who would be glad to take part in just such a move as I propose; there is, however, not much time to be lost.

My personal acquaintance with a host of brilliant writers in every State of the Union warrants me in saying that there will be difficulty in keeping such talent as is already recognized and appreciated.

Philadelphia has a Democratic press; Chicago has one; Washington City, had one a short time ago, if it has not at present; but Cincinnati, the commercial capital of a State like Ohio and situated to the center of the great valley of the Mississippi, is not in the highest sense of the word, representative. I propose nothing that is not strictly honorable and a sound board; for I am conscious of having received nothing from the national treasury, and of having done not one thing in my life of which I am ashamed. I labored hard for Mr. Buchanan, and could, perhaps, furnish evidences of his recognition of my services; he has honored, treated near all the active labors in the vineyard of Northern Democracy as if they were unworthy to associate with his favorite servants. I will not say I should not indulge in a species of malignant satisfaction in availing myself of an opportunity to renew the manner in which one
"revered President" has redeemed his promises to the great Democratic party of the nation. In conclusion, sir, I will simply venture to claim that what I have written will be regarded as by you as confidential. I certainly should not speak this freely did I not regard you as the best friend I have among the statesmen of the land, and were I not determined to act up to the professions of friendship which I have ever made. I have not even hinted my intentions to either Mr. Seward or Mr. McClellan, whom I esteem most highly and sincerely.

I understand from northern and southern quarters, that the English propositions will be voted down at the polls by an overwhelming majority. Will you place my name upon your document list?

Anything you may write me, you may be assured will be regarded by me as sacred. I have the honor to be, with sentiments of sincere esteem, your friend,

Geo. P. Buell.

To Hon. S. A. Douglas
Washington, D.C.

[Signature]

[Postscript]
Harnett, &c., N.C., May 14, 1857.

SIR: I received your speech, on the Kansas question, and other, you were pleased to send also the minority report, for which kindness I beg that you will receive my grateful acknowledgements.

I read with much pleasure your speech, &c., and add that, apart from the present controversy, I receive much information. I regard your position, on the Kansas question, as the proper position. The only one that can be maintained by facts, &c. arguments, I am no politician belong to no political party do not mingle with political matter. But surely the President did commit a great blunder for a great, &c.

[Handwritten text unclear]

The great mind may err.

What ever may be your course, success, or defeat, in future, I must believe that your views are national, patriotic, and just on the Kansas bill. With my sincere desire for your usefulness, &c. happiness in this life, and immortal felicity in the life to come, I remain.

T. F. Chaffin.

Hon. Mr. Derr, Young.
In great sincerity.

any address, &c., Harnett Co., N.C.
Providence May 4, 1858

Dear Sir,

Please send me two copies of your excellent speech on Secompson & oblige

Very yours,

H. C. Randall.

Yours, L. A. Douglas

U. S. Senate

Washington
Chicago, Ill.

May 4th, 58

Mr.,

I have lost a picture of my library before lately. I

wished to have a copy of the Pacific Rail Road Map.

Please get me a copy for you to send me.

A very useful thing to have the whole map under great

obligation
to

How S. A. Douglas.

Respectfully,

C. S. Engle

Washington, D.C.
Hamilton Hancock Co
Illinois May 4, 1858

Hon S. A. Douglas
Dear Sir,

You would confer quite a favor on me if you would send me a copy of Vol. 4 of the Explorations and Surveys of the Pacific Railroad published under direction of the War Department.

There was a very large and enthusiastic meeting of the Democracy in our County a few days ago, which fully approved of your course this session of Congress.

Yours Truly,

Samuel Gordon
Paul Gordon
Hamilton, Ill.
May 4/58

enclos'd Vol. 4,
Pac. R.R. Rep't
Weitzslock May 4, 1858

To the Hon. Stephen. A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

I wish it would not be too much trouble that you will send me a full set of the reports on agriculture of the late session and I would be very glad to receive some of the different kinds of seeds from the same office that Mr. Thomas, does not seem to know that he has any constituents outside of town or the villages and then he will send any quantities that certain and no receiving anything from him after being requested is one reason of my asking this favor at your hands and any other documents that you may think of service to me.

Yours very respectfully,

Robert Green

Seal & Alg Rep.

Dated: June 11th, 78
Larrabeet Ft. Addison Ca Oct 4th May 1858

To S. W. Douglas

Dr Sir feeling quite an interest in the Pacific Rail Road I would be under great obligations to you if you would send me the Survey

I believe my

Yours respectfully

A.B. Kelley
Dear Sir:

Will you please send me a complete copy of Pacific Survey, and I will lend you my assistance in the next Presidential Election.

Your friend Oct 1st May is here and is making you numerous friends.

Yours truly

David McKernan
David McKerman
Indianapolis
Ind.
Mishawaka May 4th 1855

Mr. Stephen B. Douglas I
have been a thinking of Thaddeus
Law. I am in fact have always
had some thoughts, ever since
I was twelve years old, of some
day or other of becoming a
Lawyer. But to my misfortune
I have never had the opportunity.
And now, I am nineteen years
old & it is high time now, that
now is the time or never.
But Mr. Douglas you must excuse
me for my holdings, although
Sir, being a Stranger to you
But Sir having that iron will
which when I undertake a thing
it shall be accomplished in
which I always ensue myself,
& I am sure of one thing that
there is no harm done in writing
to you, in regard to any crime,
& even ask your advice.
I am at present in a hardware store in our own town, which is in the rural part of the city, and my object is in writing to you as to find out if I could, this coming summer, study Law under you when you return home to Chicago, or if you could take me, even find me a berth, where I could accomplish my desires. But this method I should not put you to any trouble on my account, but I feel you will be truly rewarded in a tenfold ratio for all your troubles. I must satisfy myself that I could not get proper attention and right training make a good lawyer. I have studied most all the English branches, which are taught in schools, and I have also studied the classics to some extent, such as Caesar, Commentaries.
Wyoming Ill., May 17, 1858

To Hon. A. Douglas
Washington, D.C. Respectfully Sir,

Your kind favor in the shape of reports of Commissioners of Patents came duly to hand for which please accept my thanks, also for your own and Mr. Crittenden's speech whilst I have been distant I am truly glad to see the contest of our Convention in regard to your cause and the course of our Democratic friends from this State. The delegates from this County were my brother and B. Thayer P. M. J. B. Coulod, our own postmaster in whose favor I used, I am sorry to see an administration man and try to follow the path of Cook, Warley and others of their proceeding you an doubtless apprize. We think other will not accomplish anything our P. M. is the only man in town of village and I may safely lay in our native neighborhood after I think or pretends not think the second.
Fraud should be tolerated, Mr. Tate. (From my own personal point of view, I'm greatly pleased with your course and plans.) That our friend Buckman must have felt it with some very bad advisers or he could not have taken the course he did. We all regret this course in regard to the Pardee affair. We hope and trust that all will come right among the democracy of our own brain trust. Some said they yall off, but we feel quite confident that they can do nothing.

Me and now having as we have had for the last 10 days cold rain weather a line of regular Northeastern wind and rain and farmers back very much. What looks fine and after promises an abundant crop in this part of Illinois. Our corn planted here yet four will be up for some 10 days.

Of course, yourself at your
Of your friends,

James McThomas
Jan M. Thomas
Leavenworth, Ill.
May 14, 58

Thanks for putting off Rep. [illegible] and political
May 4th, 1858
Mr. Douglass: Please send me the Mechanical Reporters for 1856 Direct to Elysium to the Henry Co, Ill. E. Thompson.

E. Thompson

Please send to

Ps. Please send me the Agricultural Reporter for 1858 yours with respect E. Thompson.
C Thompson,
Aylesbury, PHS,
May 4, 1858.

Want Navel Report

Want Agricultural Reports
Plymouth, Hancock Co., Illinois

May 4, 1858

Dear Sir:

I take the liberty of sending you a few names hoping you will remember in the day of public favors and then will ever be found advocating your cause in every place or at the ballot box.

Yours Tr.

H. W. Hier

Names

Henry Swicegood
Capt. John Swicegood
W. B. Mannlove
Capt. Barnet Hieer

Wm. Hieer
Alex. Michael

John Shiles
B. B. Bacon
Beverley Whittington
James Whittington

Assist Robert and
Ant. Ebenezer Hames
On New 22.

To each.
S. D. Wier,
Plymouth, No.,
May 4, 1855.

Want Speech to send name.

Entered on the Record M. Cook.
Hon. Stephen A. Douglas
United States Senate
Washington

Dr. sir

For the want of proper management the weekly newspaper at this point has become defunct, and the office is now for sale at less than half its value. If it could be purchased I will become responsible for its management, and the proper indication in or through it, of your political views. A paper of this kind at this point could do much towards bringing the vote at the next Presidential Election on to the right side. I have no means to invest in such an enterprise but, if the office can be secured, will do my best to make an useful opponent of the true Political Faith. It will take about $500. in cash to make the purchase.

If you think sufficiently favorable of the project, either to communicate with me yourself or to place me in communication with some of your confidential friends on this subject, I will furnish any information or references that may be required, or if some able political writer can be found to take charge of it, I will aid all in my power. I have but recently located here from Wisconsin, and am very anxious to have a paper of the kind. Steere started here very respectfully Your obt. servt. E. P. Wood
E. P. Wood.
New Boston.
May 4, 1858.

Propose to lay
Newspaper.

A very desirable
position.

mcl.