Washburn Prairie
Perry County, Mo. Nov 33

Hon. J. A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

I wish you to send me several copies of Mr. Webster’s Report on the Kansas Compromise Constitution, F. T. Stanton’s Speech delivered at New York, and other speeches connected with the Kansas question. Executive Documents in relation tonikets and what ever speeches and documents you may deem important to one highly interested in the affairs of our Government. As I would have written to my Representative, J. T. Phelps, but I was afraid that he would not send them, therefore I write to you believing that you will. Please direct to me as the heading of my letter indicates to collect your prints and admire in relation to the above subject.

Yours very respectfully,

H. M. Holcomb
Dr. James Bolton gratefully acknowledge the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas's polite invitation of the 6th inst and will be most happy to reciprocate his kind hospitality in Richmond, Va. where he will find some who appreciate his recent efforts to protect the free exercise of popular franchise.

Washington May 8, 1858
James Bolton M.D.
Richmond
Va
Joseph B. Brucato
Andrew B. Brucato
of Cincinnati
Ohio
Washington, May 1st, 1858

Dear Sir,

The following names 
constitute a few of your friends and valuable acquaintances in the city of Cincinnati:

Andrew G. Burt
A. P. Middlet
Joseph Cooper
Mr. K. Green
Mr. A. Hulbert
N. G. A. Barlow
P. W. Thomas
John T. Douglas
Henry Hanna
W. T. Barlow
Griffin Taylor
Chas. W. Black
Hunter Brooks

To Geo. W. Black
Henry Price
Chas. W. Thomas
Henry C. Spencer
J. E. Crane
O. H. C. Moore
J. B. Hall
W. T. Barlow
George W. Holmey

Stanley Matthews, Henry Iglesias
and your friend, Joseph B. Brucato

Best regards,
Andrew B. Brucato
Anne Arbor
May 8th, 1858
Mr. Douglass,

Please send me your last speech in the Senate upon the Secession issue, and such other documents as may suit your pleasure. I am, for the purpose of gaining reliable information respecting your position and the position of other Senators in the late Slavery issue.

In doing so you will oblige.

J. G. Butler
Address: J. G. Butler
Anne Arbor
Mich.
Department of State,
Washington, 8 May 1858.
Hon. J. M. Douglas;
Chairman of the Committee on Territories,
Senate.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that an appropriation of ten thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be made for the purpose of carrying into effect the Act entitled "An Act for the admission of the State of Kansas into the Union," approved on the fourth of this month.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your Ob. S. servant,

[Signature]
New Liberty, Illinois
May 8th, 1858

Sir / Mrs. Douglass, I ask your attention for me one time and asking for assistant office from government and asking through Mr. S.S. Marshall for and appointment of mail agent or, or rather coast agent and on some of these lines on the western rivers. If you will call on Mr. Marshall & give me your in influence in regard to this thing again will concur grate favor on a particular friend & another has been so much afflicted in bodily health as not to be able to work at hard labour for a living too, it is the first time in life that I have asked for and office & I feel satisfied you will act in the premises as you may think best for my interest of hoping to hear from you soon.

I remain yours very respectfully,
Mr. Douglass.

Josiah Dayhuff
Josiah Wayhoff
New Liberty
H.C.
Clinton, May 3, 1858.

Dear Sir,

If it would not be asking too great a favor, I should be happy to have you furnish me some of the Senators' speeches on the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution.

And should you make any speeches, I should be very happy to have you furnish me a copy.

Yours with respect,

Harry Greenwood

Hon. F. A. Douglas.
May 8th 1858

Mr. Hon. J. F. Douglas

Dear Sir,

Knowing how to be the great champion of popular Sovereignty, I have taken the liberty to address you this letter hoping you will try my case before the proper authorities which I will endeavor to give you as speedily as possible.

In the first place I made a preemption on the North west quarter of section 14, township 27 N, range 8 E of the third principal meridian and in about two years after I commenced my improvements it was claimed as canal land when my preemption expired. I went in and staked up and entered my land and some four months after I had paid for it, the Agent for the canal lands refused a patent for it at Washington. Now the only way of the above named facts I can furnish which may be necessary to establish them as such I am now getting the land party will improve and to have it taken from my now by force is more than Old Manatee can bare patiently.
I received from you in Middletown last week a
note which I am sure you wrote me in this town, and knowing your
friendship to the South and the Northern
men I have the more readily taken the trouble
and the expense of this, and I will pass your note without the charge for it being,
in the meantime, the thing enough to let
me know what proof will be necessary
to get any benefit from it. I must be grateful
and if it cannot what will be responsible
to me for the damage which we at

Yours ever obediently yours,

Lt. Col. W. H. Beard
S. A. Kearie,  
May 3/58.

Pre-emption—What are the facts as known to yourself.

Respectfully referred to  
Commissioner of  
Bureau of  
Bureau.  

May 24/58.

Please reply to address of  
S. A. Kingsley.  
A. B. Paton.

Laborable memo  
re: Senate.  
June 4, 1858,  
The copy of  
letter within.
Sir,

I have the pleasure of enclosing hereewith a letter, dated 1st instant, which I have received from the Comptroller of Land Office, together with a copy of one addressed to you, June 4, 1857, at Bingham's Grove, Ill., which, it seems did not reach you, it was returned through the local letter office, post office department.

You will perceive from the communication of the Comptroller that your patent will be confirmed as soon as you forward to the Land office your duplicate receipt of payment. Respectfully,
Jacob Hedrick
Hayworth
May 8, 1858

Relative to his
presumption of land
fraudulently
interfered with. Let
the deponent of his
lands.
Wants Judge to
become his counsel
before the Court. To
Referred to Court
Land Off. for report
on the case, &
returns of letter.

May 1858

Judge McCook
took the case in
hand.
S. B. Kearish
May 8, 1858
(No place given
refer to former letter)

Deponent on
R. Island of Hts.
deposed to be
Complainant.

Respectfully,
referred to Court
of Land Office
for act, as known
at Hts.

Andrew Singleter
to be taken.

W. B. Cook took Chgs.
Hollowayville, Bureau Co. Ills.
May the 8, 1858

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

Sir,

Will you confer upon me the undersigned the favor of sending me one volume of the Patent Office report of 1856 on Agriculture.

Very Respectfully,
your Friend

Frederick Heintz

(Sent, May 13/58)
1858.

Finding Right Road.

We call attention to the enacted article from the Council Bills. Begle. It will be seen that the editor expresses his mind freely and we think warmly.

Every one knows the partiality of the Gazette for the Mississippi and Missouri Rail road. We have learned for the advancement of this improvement, and, here, have made enemies as well as friends by our course. We feel privileged to speak with some of our friends of freedom. Now, we have often been told again and again that the road was going on—but it would be remiss in us, of freedom, if you will, for us not to write as to where doing. If there exists a reasonable belief that there are great men in this city awaiting employment on this road, and are ready to go to the work. Some effort on the part of the M. & M. R. R. will be made soon, else we shall be obliged to come to the conclusion. When others enter into some other line, we get through first. We, too, care but little, we might say to our friend of the Eagle whether the road be built by the Council Bills or Fore-}

Burlington and Missouri Railroad.

I was told in the letter you would propone to send to the applicant in my city to the Burlington road. The journey of the twenty miles to this city. He makes the proposition upon the supposition that the Burlington road will be the first through the Missouri and Iowa. It is not intended to degree which will be the first road through I do not know. But this is not the case. You are de- intended to have a road, and will lend their aid and interest to the sale which promises the most speedy completion. This is the case in some Eastern cities, whether that road shall come from Davenport, Burlington or St. Joseph.

The road is what we want, and the road which is most likely to be made will induce us to receive our aid and interest. We hear that it is said that we have already tied up our means bringing $500,000 to aid the M. & M. R. R. to this we reply that no hands have been raised that we can change that vote at any time, so there is no fear that it is made certain that by so doing we will restore the completion to this city. in a short time is not required for the completion of the M. & M. R. R. We are determined to have a road, and, indeed, have had little difference from us what point on the Missouri it starts. If the M. & M. R. C. Company think they can feed us with promises, simple doing the work from year to year, they will find when the time comes, that they have overestimated our affection for that.

We are satisfied that it is for the interest of Council Bills to hang to the M. & M. R. road as long as there is any road. We have often been told that it was completed in a reasonable time; but it is not our interest to hang to it, and let other roads to completed to other points on the Missouri, a year or two before the M. & M. R. road is opened; when by our aid, we can secure the terms of those roads at this point. View of these facts, we would say our friends at Davenport, St. Joseph and Burlington, make your propositions. We will have to be as successful as the lines to be of great advantage, and will commence the work immediately. It is said by the newspaper that there has hereof and said, we are not tied to any particular road, although, two at least are tied into, and we do not intend to change our course until we are certain that we are to be satisfied with the change by being done of Council Bills.
In the first place, it has been the rule of the Democracy to proclaim the party's creed as it pleases, without reference to the Constitution, when the candidate for President is nominated. Like the laws of the Medes and Persians, that platform cannot authoritatively be changed by the decisions of another National Convention, and is therefore binding upon all Democrats, from the President to the meanest scavenger, and it can be changed only by a convention greater in authority than a township caucus. Whatever is not included in the creed of the party, thus proclaimed, is matter of policy or expediency, and is left indefinitely to the discretion of any Democrat without fear of expulsion from the party.

But James Buchanan has inaugurated a new and significant departure. In the play of the party, the provisions of the last National Democratic Platform, he recommends a line of policy to relieve the Constitution from those provisions of law which by some Democrats is deemed antagonistic to the Cincinnati platform, and by other Democrats, a mere question of expediency. In either event the conduct of Mr. Buchanan, who has alienated the Democratic party. All who conscientiously opposed the Lecompton wristlet, were at once marked victims of Executive disloyalty. At the convention, S. A. Douglas, was especially singled out as the chief object of attack. Mr. Douglas was the author of the amendment, which Popular Sovereignty became a fixed law and was incorporated into the Democratic creed at Cincinnati, and when he saw that vital question, on which the honor of the party was at stake, he was ready to admit it to the Constitution, but with the condition that the referendum should be held. That condition was rejected, and the Constitution, Mr. Buchanan, has pledged himself and the party to the decision of an Executive that the Constitution is binding upon the North. In the name of the party, he has clung to the measure of admitting Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution. In the end, he has alienated the entire North, that the Democratic party locked with abhorrence upon that swine, and has united the Opposition and the Democrats of some Northern States have been either silent upon the subject, or had passed resolutions against the Lecompton wristlet. With the rebellion of the North, the spirit of the temper of his own party, he has blindly urged the measure through Congress, by presenting it in every form that would secure it passage. The executors of the will of Mr. Buchanan, is the law, without changing the character of the Act.

The last expedient comes through Mr. Douglas, in the form of a vote of praise. If the people of Kansas will only vote to preserve the Lecompton Constitution, they shall have many millions of acres of public lands, as a reward for the sacrifice. This is the last fortieth step of the people towards the preservation of the Lecompton Constitution. The conflict for Popular Sovereignty has been a long and arduous one. The people of Kansas will cling to it as the brave mariner clings to his ship as long as the ship is being swallowed up in the ocean. Every State election will be effected by the law. Every Northern State will feel the effect of this law, but will it not be a victory for the weak, for the powerless? Can one rely on a single Northern State for the Democracy? Who dare affirm that while forty-four of the Northern Democrats have signed the Lecompton wristlet, the other will readily sanction or approve this sad error of Mr. Buchanan? But will Kansas adopt Lecompton, even with the glittering bait of lands? I think not. If not, how much will be gained by this prolonged struggle to fetter away the doctrines of Popular Sovereignty? To what end are the votes of Kansas going to wind up? Let the past be a warning for the future.
Davenport, May 8th, 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas

My Dear Sir:—Enclosed I send you another of my outspoken opinions upon the subject of Presidential tyranny, and the Secompton rascality. In this section of the Country, and I may add in this State, Administrators, Democrats, are confined solely to Office holding or their would be Success. You have the great Democratic heart, beating in unison with the pulseations of truth, thundered out to you in the corrupt atmosphere of the Federal Capital. In the passage of the Secompton Constitution your firm and just Commercers to glorify with richer effulgence. Kansas has not adopted that fraud, and if in the end, one in 20, the Secompton is passed, then what a glorious victory you will have gained on behalf of truth and popular Sovereignty. Go on, Sir, and the gratitude of present and future generations will embalm your deeds in an aroma of a glorious remembrance.

Your Test. Geo. W. Badell
Geo. Hubbell
Davenport
Iowa.
May 8/58
Political
Canonsburg May 3d 1853,

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

Will you please send me a copy of your address delivered in the Senate on the Homestead Bill (or Homestead [legislature]) if you can conveniently? If you comply with the above request you will confer a great favor on me.

Respectfully yours,

John J. Powell

December 24th, 1858
Miss Douglas Massey

you will perhaps be somewhat surprised by the receipt of a letter from me presently known to you. But I hope you pardon my presumption if my request does not meet your approbation. Said request is that you would aid me in a quick, means to give myself a good education. I am nineteen years old & poor as "Bob's brother" & have to work for my living but what makes it worse I have to aid maintenance of several brothers. You who have doubtless contributed largely to different churches, colleges & monuments as well as numerous other public works certainly will not be so avaricious to contribute a small amount towards erecting a monument to your own greatness that will endure forever in the minds of the American people.
If you are too stingy to give any money any advice useful to beginners in life will be thankfully received.

Yours truly

A. J. Jones

Decatur Ill.
Shipman, Macoupin Co.
Illinois May 8 1858
Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

If it is perfectly convenient with you to oblige me by sending a copy of your last speech in the U.S. Senate on Kansas matters.

Respectfully yours,

M. W. Seaman
Macon, May 8th, 1858

Mr. J. A. Douglas,

Sir:

I should be pleased to have you come on and join my name as a place upon your list for favor in the way of senatorial documents. I am not an Illini, but claim to be, in some respects, your constituent.

It is supposed in this country that the English proposition for the admittance of Kansas will pass, or rather that it has passed both Senate and House. Douglas Democrats will contend that, although you voted against it, the success of the new measure is a barren victory to you opponents. The principles of opposition have been vindicated, and this is what it was the purpose of my Buchanan to defeat.

I am, Sir, Very Respectfully,

[Signature]

George L. Miller
Geo S. Miller
Omaha
Shady Bank, near Sacramento City, Calif.,
8th May 1856.

My dear Friend,

Many years have passed since I have seen you or corresponded with you. But it has occurred to me that at this interesting period in our national history, a line from the State of Nebraska might have some interest for you.

I have observed in silence your political movements, my sentiments, even your approval. The introduction of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, which in the Senate in the form it appeared was a triumph of principle. But in its magnitude, in its power to show the firmness of its author, this strict adherence to principle, its power to show the firmness of its author, this strict adherence to principle, its does not compare with the responsibility you have incurred of sustaining that measure in the spirit in which it was passed, in opposition to the President and his cabinet and the Southern Democracy of the U.S. - The wise discrimination which you have shown in this as well as other occasions points you out for...
a higher position on which I doubt not you will in a few years obtain. A constant
Can say there, that no consideration
Can be more gratifying to me than to
She is on the present President of the
U.S. Whether the affection of your
Mind would or this result or not is
Not material now to acquire Public Sente-
ment through the nation, jointly to
It, as with the finger of destiny. Public
Men must yield obedience to will of the
people.

In the state I speak advisedly when I
say your present position is desired
by a large majority of the people. Your
County in particular had an election of
County Supervisors. The Candidate on
the one side was Republican and Democrat
on the other side was Douglas Democrat.
The latter ticket succeeded by more
than 200, so you might strike off all
the Republican vote still leave a large
majority left. The vote of your county
was always been with a majority in the
State. It combines Commercial, agri-
cultural and mining interests, with
greater equality than any other county.
This result may therefore be looked to as
a clear indication of the wishes of the
State. Alger Broderick will still too-
may that of the field be judged when
they believe of meeting the hearty and
satisfaction of their constituents.
I have eaten my residence within
East of the city of San Francisco where
I reside in quiet devoting but little
summon or attention to public
life shall I perhaps to advance the in-
terest of friends whose names I look
upon as pleasant North American
blooms. In the event of your being
an adjutant for the situations in
vention I might expect some influence
in your favor I shall appreciate all care.
I think if amendment of our
work much when I appear to hope that
you may find inclined to the will
of your engagements to succeed.

Your friend,

[Signature]

Hon. H. F. Nastin.
A.S. East.
J. H. Calston
Shady Bank
Near Sacramento
Calif.
May 8, 1858.
Noble Sir Douglas Fife
Washington City May 1st 1858

I have read your speech on the Kansas question with the liveliest satisfaction and must by law tend to render you my sincere congratulations on the independent position you have assumed on this grand question.

I am a Southern man with the administration at the head in favoring the negro question too much.

Every subject must or will be proposed to congress must assume a sectional attitude.

I had hoped that the election of James Buchanan would give quiet to our country, but he appears to be an almost dead man, yet the leading men in the Independent or self reliance are ever opposing the administration. I thank God that I am not in the back (responsible for his election). I fear the temper of the "ruffin" bill will cause the people to check the most ultra men with such material what will become if our country?

Thousands of men trust and are looking to you to guide - I trust you will not disappoint their expectations.

"Dark ages backwards" your course is just.

You have married a Carolina lady - From north to south, you can compass the whole Union being alike interested in all.

With best wishes for your future prosperity

Sincerely yours, Fred L. Roberts
Fred L. Roberts
Columbia, Mo.
May 8, 1858

Political
"Take no step backwards."
Muncy, Lycoming Co., Pa., May 8, '58

Hon. J. A. Douglas,—Dear Sir:—I should be happy, indeed, to receive from you a cut of Anti-Secession speeches. Without doubt, I could distribute them to advantage.

Very Respectfully,

R. G. Rogers.
R. B. Rogers,

Muncy,


May 8, 58

Want Speeches

to distribute
May 8th, 1838

Sir: I am in receipt of a package of your speech for which I thank you. I shall give them the proper direction. Your course on Lexington is universally received as correct amongst the magistrates and such who contribute the funds. I am a part of the remains of our old Whig Whigs, but still retain that old principle on the question of slavery. I deny Congress any constitutional right to interfere with that subject in any other form than to provide by law for the punishment of fugitives from labour when as escape from one state to another. That question rests in the interpretation of our national constitution. To the people of a state or of organized territory in their sovereign capacity to settle for their relief in such a way as they may deem proper and expedient. It can not be decided in our form of government, as indicated in our national constitution. The great principle and right of self government is lodged in trust with the people in each state and territory respectively in their sovereign capacities. And this question is one over which each sovereign, respectively, have exclusive jurisdiction and when any controversy is brought about, causing our national Congress to interfere, between the people and their sovereign rights on this question. It is an infringement on their constitutional right and directly at war with the great principle of self-government. Congress has the exclusive right to acquire and dispose of territories. Can we bid its settlement by the Americans? Can we reserve it for any other purpose? But when by an organic act, provided for its settlement by the American citizens and they settle it, the mantle of self-government by constitutional descent falls on them as true and valid as the mantle of property fell from Elizabet to Elizabeth.
Such is the genius of our government shielded by the great principle of its combination. There is a motto common to a great part of the globe, viz. that "slavery is sectional, not national." This motto defines no right, as it should be. Slavery is sectional, it is a property of the state. This defines both duty and interest.

Why is slavery sectional? Because it belongs to the people of a state to maintain it or repel it as the national interest of the people may determine for them without admitting its interposition from without. Hence it truly is sectional. Why is it sectional? Because it is sectional. Its cause is sectional, and its constitution is sectional. Its rights, however important, and security, to the several states and property should be alike on all of the states, and this is made sectional by the several sections which each state owes to the other as this union. And is the utmost guarantee to the rights of slaveholders in their property.

Here we see the plain of the South with their action which is in error. In not appropriating this great constitutional right. But we daily learn the north to set up of this reason when they can force slavery on their people against their will, and the recent vote on Louisiana, with the English compromise seems to have cast the climax of their folly. The South is sincerity to the institution of slavery is its sectional protection. The foreign states and foreign territories have the exclusion right to establish it, and when done by the people. The nation is bound to protect it by the act of the foreign state, or its people. This is what the South should desire. The sectional men of the North can not get the people to carry out this national obligation. While the North continues to seek by that to force the institution on an unwilling people.

Which is manifestly manifest to the English proposition. I cannot view the vote of the South on that question not only as destructive of the national interest but destructive to the success of this instrument. Who defend their rights? To maintain among their friends the importance of and full statement of this national obligation in protection.

All efforts of the South to prevent slavery were not so much as an excuse for manifesting their desire to destroy this sectional inquisitorial and protective nature where it does exist. The cause has been pursued by the south against the admission of their national friends. Nor tell some eastern states will not sustain an man of the is superior of a fugitive slave law much less the fugitive slave laws.

This principle is denying ground in the west, and nothing has been done to remove this principle. Than the business of trying to brave Louisiana with the English compromise is to the union. Slavery in one county any where is destructive when you break down its sectional protection. The propositions you have proposed if carried by the north and south would totality the north and hold them in check so that their sectional North should be induced.

But the North has now refused to adopt a different policy, and the only result that can be relied on by the people on that patent English proposition is to promote the north to sacrifice the doctrine of protection. When cannot be avoided, the South they have gained. And the thought of all is, he cause you will not join them in destroying their own interest. They have read you out of their party. If the people will they will make it known. So there is nothing guiding to the South in the passage of the act, but a defect of what
which will be visited on them more or less in a defiance to return the fugitives from labor. Your proposition would have settled the question and secured the rights of the South. The great northern vote showed it. So that point they will have to come and hold yourholds.

Keep the question out of Congress and no meddling can arise in regard to the preponderance of power in representation from either the north or the south, as this question cannot be effected by it in any way. If the question is out of Congress this is what the South should devise as stead of voting congressional interposition as evidently done in the English proposition.

Please excuse me for transcribing, and accept the respect of your humble servant.

[Signature]

You have relied the foundation of the Republic as founded by the Fathers, and if our union holds it will be on the principles laid down by which the American people must come.

[Signature]

Hon. S. T. D之后

Washington City
Washington May 8th, 1858

Mr. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

I have received letters from three personal friends of mine from Phila asking me to procure for them a copy of your last speech on the Lecompton Constitution. I have been unable to procure them and I hope you will send them to the gentlemen whose names are written below.

And oblige,

Very Respectfully,

Robert Smith

Mr. Denis Donovan Phila City Penn
Mr. George McCready Goldsmith Hall Library St
between 4 & 5 Phila Penn.
In care of Markley & Creasy
Mr. Felix W. Keating 533 North 13th St. above Lydon.
Hon'ble Smith
Washington City
May 8, 1888.

Wants Speech.
Charl A. Spaulding
Boston, Mass.
May 8, 1858

Boston, Mass. May 8/58

Sir:

Will you favor me with your speech on Leamington?

Yours Very Respectfully,

Clll. Spaulding

Craig [illegible] Maynard C.

Hon. S. A. Douglas
Mr. Douglas,

Being a resident of Philadelphia, and a lover of literature, I ask all favors of you, hoping that it will be granted. That is that you will send me the latest Patent Office Report, if you please. If there is any other (that is 1858) they will be received with pleasure from your family.

Your obedient servant,

Geo. M. Waterman

Williamsville

July 27, 1858