My dear Sir,

Accept my thanks for your kind letter congratulating me upon the glorious and triumphant achievement by the Democracy of this State. I do not undervalue nor do I overestimate the importance of this victory. It is the triumph of the Constitution and the Union over factionism and sectionalism, giving a death-blow to absolutism and securing the permanent allegiance of sound constitutional and Democratic principles. There is no desire or ambition to return to the Senate unless my election should be greatly regarded as an endorsement of those great principles to which my life is devoted, and upon which in my opinion the peace of the country and the perpetuity of the Republic depends. When Mr. Lincoln first enunciated the monstrous doctrine, which Mr. Seward and
the declaration of independence and in short on all the favorite theories of the abolitionists, I took direct issue with him. Maintaining that our government was founded on the white basis, not merely by white men for the benefit of white men, and should be administered only by white men.

In the discussion of these several topics, I found it necessary to go some length elaborately into the doctrine of the right of state sovereignty, and demonstrate the necessity of a faithful application of those principles which our party has always professed and which ought to be, love it or know the devil. Carried out in practice. It soon became evident from the effects of the public discussion that the people would not tolerate the utter abolition and revolutionary grounds expressed by Mr. Lincoln and his friends. Hence it resolved to change the issue by a series of charges against me personally, and which they hoped to divert public attention from the true issues. 

New involved in the contest while
I would be contented to occupy all my time in defending myself in this species of warfare by the abolitionists were assisted by the Federal office holders who acted in strict obedience with them from the beginning to the end of the contest.

In accordance with this line of policy the story was invented in reference to the conspiracy between President Pierce, the judges of the Supreme Court and myself at the time the Nebraska Bill was introduced to get us the Dred Scott case.

So it was with Greenbush; hence my reply of a conspiracy to force a constitution on the people of Kansas against their will under the Dred Scott Bill. While Greenbush never became the law in making the charge he always relied on the federal office holders who claimed to be democrats to commit fraud against the democratic party and to make elections which if won would convict the party of treachery and infamy, and thus ensure the success of the abolition candidates.

Next came a long list of fictitious conversations between the so-called Black Republican leaders and myself which
were done to have been so confidential that thy would not be suspected without
misfortune, and was only suspected to this unless the federal office, and again
by them suspected in a manner with the view of inferring the person and producing the
future consequences without becoming responsible for the refusal of such conduct.

At length, you detected and proposed one of the chief conspirators, actors in the
infamous conspiracy— one Wm. Help, sometimes called the Strangos who held
a high federal office in St. Louis, and was very active and efficient in
organizing and repeating the alliances between the Black Republican and the office
holders in this State. These changes were
spontaneously in such locality, but were all
intended to impress my political fidelity.

While I acknowledge such version of the
story as it appeared as a great portion of
truth, thy accuse me no lenience.

On this State where I have lived for twenty
five years. I charge made by such men
as fill the federal office holders once
resting on Black Republican testimony, with
be received as entitled to sufficient consideration to be noticed. While I do not
and do not intend to make any state-
ment to the public on this subject, I will
write to you as one old friend who never
deserted or doubted me that I did not
separate myself from the regular Democ-
rat's organization by any act least
winter. I never failed to attend to
Democratic Conventions of the Senator
when notified, nor did the Conven-
tion ever fail to recognize me as a
Democrat. It is true that when the cara-
ces was about to take action on Sum-
ton I protected against its right to declare
any Measure a party Measure or to close
the door of any Senator by its necessity.
and often gave consideration the Senate
requested my objection. I then told
them that unless they desired to consult
about the Secession constitution they could
call the friends of that Measure and I should
not be there, but whenever they called a Dem-
ocratic Convention they would find me
on hand. Never loving failed to stand
by the regular Democratic organization.
I will now say to you that I love
New York in the Black Republican
Concordance No. 1. Knowing, nothing more
nor any other than a Democratic
concur in my life. I never later
twice! I the purpose not to express
the intention of abandoning my
political relations or modifying my
political creed or of abandoning
one iota of those grand old Demo-
cratic principles to which my
whole life has been devoted and
upon which I believe the peace &
perpetuity of the Union depend. I
opposed the admission of Kansas
under the Lecompton Constitution
and fought it to the death because
it involved a great violation of
the great principles of popular
coronet, self-government as
well as of the Cincinnati Platform
and the Democratic Creed. The
administration were all by all the
men on me and my friends
for the sole reason that I would not
submit what I considered a vital
and fundamental principle of
the Democratic party. Recognizing the
right of the President to recommend
the change of his judgment as freely
and eloquently as I expressed it, I
might have been justified in tooting
this trumpet as long as I could
keep it up. But if the attempt was
made to silence me into subservi-
ence, persecution, and imprisonment,
where I was contending for the rights
of the people and the independence
of their representatives, conscious
of the justice of my position as well as
for the principle of self-government,
while I would not yield a point
without a just and proper struggle
better of those greater streams
to the President pleased by my own
party on the other hand I knew for a
moment intolerable the idea of mak-
ing any concessions to abolition-
ists. The principle which I held
the sentiment to common men against
abolitionists against all my life.
In fighting for my own principles and
the principles of my own party I
was willing to receive and from
abolitionists would render it.
Dundee Nov 11th 55

Allow me to congratulate you upon your success although you need one most damn mean when I wrote you six years ago last spring yet have I always admired your talents as a Statesman and was much pleased with the stand you have taken and I did not suspect it were possible that some of your most ardent friends should turn against you. Such men as Mr. Finlayson P.M. at Elgin and Mr. Nalliston P.M. at Alloa also Mr. Bruston our Route Agent upon the Fife R.V.R.R. especially after receiving two appointments through you. I did not think one could be so unstable I always hope you will prove true to the trust the people have and do justice in your accept my best wishes for your success in all your undertakings Yours Respectfully A.W. Hunting
And now my dear sir,
I do hope you will remember
your friends and not forget
your enemies.

A. Harding
A. Harding
Dundee Ill

Answered.
Graysville, White Co., Illinois, Nov 11th, 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

Having had some personal acquaintance with you, I take the liberty to ask a favor which I hope you will grant. Under the patronage of some friends who are interested in the Illinois Southern Rail Road I have come to this county with a view of making Southern Illinois permanently my home. I desire to become acquainted with the people in this region of the State and particularly with the prominent men in the Democratic party. A letter of introduction from you would be invaluable. Will you, therefore, please oblige me? Enclose a letter kindly perused by me, or a mutual friend, Judge Wilson of Cleveland, which may indicate the personal and political relations between him and myself. Please favor me with an early reply and oblige.

Most respectfully yours,

S. E. Adams

P. S. Please return Judge Wilson's letter with your

commutation and oblige,

S. E. A.
Chelsea, Mass.
Nov. 11, 1858.

Dear Sir:

Accept the heart-felt congratulations of a sincere friend.

You remember our private interview at the St. Nicholas Hotel in N.Y., last winter.

If there is any way in which I can serve you, in New England or at Washington, please command me.

Fraternally, on the square,

L. Wilberforce Denison.
Chicago, May 11th, 1838

Hon. Mr. Douglas

Sir,

Permit me to shew upon the enclosed letter received yesterday from a bold Democrat residing in the "Bay heel of Abolitionism," Worcester, Mass. The writer is a brother in law of mine, Rev. Superintendent of the Worcester and Nashua R.R. and always a thorough National Democrat. The letter will explain itself. It is written in that familiar style usual among friends, but still it is an index of the popular feeling, even in "Negro loving" Mass. I have no great objection to the liberty I have taken, and be leave me yours,

Respectfully yours,

J. McElligot

62 Washington Street.
Logansport, Indiana
Nov. 11, 1858,
Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir—The Democracy of this city at a public meeting at the Court House on Monday night, determined to celebrate in an appropriate manner the recent victory of the gallant Democracy of Illinois over Sectionalism, Political Abolitionism, and professed Democrats who sought to elevate such dangerous elements upon the ruins of a Democracy that never gave an electoral vote against the Democracy for a third of a century. Watch with deep interest by the Democracy of the States of the Confederacy, with an interest unparalleled in two State Contests—Millions of warm Democratic hearts swelled with joy at the grand result. In no State did the Democracy watch the contest in the Prairie State with greater interest, or more earnest aspirations for your success than in Indiana, and nowhere is the victory more joyfully welcomed.

Many of our citizens have earnestly solicited me to extend an invitation to you to honor
us with your presence on the 15th inst, and in
compliance with your earnest and heart-felt wishes
I address you with the assurance that the
Thousands of Democrats, who love the Democracy
of Illinois and know you as their representative,
would welcome you as an earnest and unflinching
advocate of National Principles, which all Democrats will sustain.

Please to favor the Committee on whose
behalf I write, with an early answer.

Respectfully yours,

F. W. Hall,
Secretary of Communications.
S. A. Ball
Logansport, Ind.
Nov. 11, 1881
Mr. Stephen J. Douglas
Dr. Sir,

Will you for

Met an old Democrat of West

Standing to do a noble act

I have been for the

last year what is termed

an "Administrative Democrat"

but an As I am and as I

stand by the Administartion

as long as and as far as I

Conser it to be a necessity

very hard words to write

I mean well but good and

I think you could bear to see

a Mr. Condorner or or

in the due should be very

disfluence but for the last
last few months I have
watched your Court, and
especially since you annexed
the nation. I have prayed
night and day for your rec
and that you might be
placed at least on equal
footing with the administrations
I shall soon have. More
prominent than ever, that you
shall be maintained in the
right position you now occupy
for it never occurred to me
that the other man living could
do as much in the American
patriot, as yours, and if all
the others maintained well as good
Caucus, general, no power in
the world can beat us in 1860
with your name at the head
Yours truly
A. S. Haskell
Dear Sir,

Trusting that the successful issue of the well-fought battle of Illinois will allow you a little leisure, I again approach you in the hope that you can once again accept our sincere invitation to visit this city and deliver an address under our auspices.

I can assure you, Sir, the acceptance would be highly gratifying to our citizens (irrespective of party) — all would cordially unite in giving you a hearty welcome.

I rejoice to hear from your lips, dear Sir, on any subject which the broad patriotism of American Statesmen might suggest.

Should you desire a more extended invitation than our association can offer, I should be pleased to wait upon you with one from our prominent citizens, V. O. S.

With sincere respect,

C. S. Molineaux
Congressman, Ill.

Astor Place and 16 Nassau St.,
Nov. 11th, 1858.
Dayton Nov. 11th 1855.

Mr. Stephen A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

Being a friend of yours from the first I have pleased to express to you my congratulation your recent success. I have taken a stand in this election of county in your favor, with some others but one congressman Willard of Woodstock took a stand against you when you just defeated him in the election of the President and his party.

Your going to succeed your course is the proper one, your friends are multiplying fast, and it is my opinion to have you as candidate prestation of 60. The longest men and myself have had some trouble which was just brought about by my favoring you last the beginning of this year. He was your bitter enemycircler [illegible] speech [illegible] he says Camdem in you throughout this district expressed your great speech and some in one unites for publishing your speech in the Empire (Amesville) printed we made up a long petition and carried it to appearing in that paper last night until last week after it was delivered and then unen for it. I presume you have now your speech before this time. I speak of you will, with all possible regard for your future success, remain your friend.

C. S. Allen Chairman of De Co. Lithographing Co. 1855.
If you answer the which I hope you will, caused Mr. P. Bolan returning at four
Dayton Ohio
M. P. Bolan.
Erie County Treasurer's Office,
Buffalo, Nov. 7, 1858

Dear S. H. Douglas,

A few of your friends held an informal meeting last evening and appointed a committee of eight, who are authorized to take measures to celebrate the Democratic victory in Illinois and give you a public reception in this city. The Committee will be published this afternoon and I could send you a copy. They will commence to act at once and I think could succeed in the same duty. I shall write you soon, but only to congratulate you on your victory, which I consider the most remarkable and important personal and political achievement ever known in this County, but to assure you that now at least you have hosts of friends here, who will give you a most enthusiastic welcome if they can hear from you of your arrival.
If you ever throughly experience the joy of the moment, do let me know. Would you accept the honor? If you answer yes, then we can proceed with the arrangements.

Please be kind enough to present my warmest wishes to your esteemed lady. I will ensure she is informed.

And very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Name]
S. B. Smith
Buffalo
Nov 11/81 N.Y.
Cedarburg, Wis. Nov. 11, 48

Mr. S. A. Douglas
Chicago

My dear Judge — Among the thousand and letters of congratulation you may receive — how can it be more sincere than my own — I wish you joy a hundred times over — our district sends a straight Douglas man (Frank) to Congress — you have seen him before this. The Mich. papers are speculating as to his LeCompton or anti-S. sentiments. Finally one of them has his tail on the head when it says, that, "the friends of Mr. Horn would have never nominated and elected him if there had been the least doubt about his position in regard to the LeCompton question or Mr. Douglas" etc...

The fact is there are not 100 Buchanan Democrats among the forty thousand
Democratic vote this district contains. My enemies cast about 30 thousand of these votes—my opinion will find Tarasac true if I can believe in any man's protestations and professions—if he never fail me it will be his greatest and last trip to Washington.

To show that Douglas speeches are here above poor I will say that I was elected without opposition to the assembly although the Shanghay can cast and did cast a very respectable vote against other candidates in my district who ran for county offices. I got nearly the whole vote—but no lady support me of catégorie Black RI principles—look out a charge for the old idol raised in Washington—he may buy my seat of your member—It ought to be impractical.

Yours ever true,
Fred. W. Story.
Nov. 11. A. W. Stearns
Calumet
Wis.

Marched Nov. 12

11-11
BUFFALO, Nov. 11, 1858

Mr. S. A. Douglas,

Dr. Sir,

I am glad to receive your letter of the 11th inst. and very glad to learn that you are about to enter upon your campaign for re-election. I can not avoid congratulating you upon your recent victory in Albany, a victory unequaled in the History of the County. the tact, perseverance and moral courage necessary to overcome the Combinations against you. Some points to you as the proper Candidate for the Democracy for 1860. the North-West holds the Balance of Power, & if the right & proper choice be made a demand for the Presidential Candidate for 1860, the people love success. Now Candidate, you have ever succeeded in your many Political Contests. Therefore your Name is a Tower of Strength. With you as Standard Bearer, the Democracy will regain & retain their former pre-eminence in the Councils of the Nation. without it they will fail, for I firmly believe no...
To other Democrats, can carry the North. You know will not only allow to reunite the dissatisfied they are pressed, but it will also draw largely from those who have heretofore been clasped among the opposition. Trusting that you will receive the Charleston town nomination, I pledge myself to use whatever influence I may possess to secure delegates favorable to your nomination. And also when nominated to secure your unanimous election. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you personally. A@ acquaintances. Know on your way to Washington, please consider this scrawl as nothing but for the present when the time for action arrives upon you may count upon me every time.

With sentiments of sincere respect I remain truly and faithfully,

Yours truly, Steadfast

[Signature]

Chicago, 17th
Prairie City, Ill., Nov. 11th, 1858

Hon. J. A. Douglas

Dear Sir—The fall election is over, and we are sure of the re-election of our Senator, but the fight is not yet over, nor is the success of the Democratic party at all certain for 1860. In the past campaign, the Black Republicans, as a party, have used twice the exertion, and spent ten times the money, in order to elect their men that the Democrats did. As you are aware, they, during the last session of Congress, and up to the election day, flooded the whole state, and particularly the Democratic counties, with Black Republican literature and documents, while the Democratic delegation in Congress, with the exception of yourself, have neglected the important duty of circulating the documents.

I do not desire to trespass on your time much, but, for the success of our party, hereafter permit me to make a suggestion, which you, occupying the position you do, can carry out so easily, and which, in my opinion, will be attended with the best results. It is this: that the Democratic members of Congress, from this and other States, be furnished with a list of prominent democrats in the State, and particularly in the counties now represented by Black Republicans, and that they send documents franked and without direction, to these democrats to be backed and circulated among the young men and wavering republicans. Major Conyngham, and Mappin, of Old Fulton, (who are here with me) agree with me that much good may be done
the Democratic cause by this course. You will readily see the object of the suggestion, and should it meet your approba-
tion, I hope you will effect an arrangement by which it may be effectually carried out.

Our Democratic friend, Col. Green, who has just been elected Coroner of Fulton, desires me to say that he has just held an inquest over the defunct Black Republican party, and that the verdict of the jury is "died from a surfeit of more wool."
Dear Sir,

I send you with pleasure the accompanying diploma constituting you an honorary member of the Philogetetic Literary Society of Western Reserve College.

Yours, with much respect,

H. I. Douglas

Chicago, Ill.