Poor Creek (Dane County, Wisconsin) Jan 12th 1849

Dear Mr. Stephen A. Douglas,

I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you to congratulate you on the brilliant achievement which has through your own meritorious labor and the good sense of the people of Illinois again elected you to the U.S. Senate; it is a great triumph. Yet—There is another greater one still awaiting you, and although a humble individual, I think I can safely say that the Democracy of the great West will hardly be satisfied with any other leader in 1860. It must be a source of great satisfaction to know that the people have sustained you and a guarantee that they will still do it. It should be an opportune present itself.

I would like to get some books and reports and respectfully request if you have any at your disposal that you would send me some of it be your pleasure. Some of my Republican friends have received copies of the Globe and Appendix for 1854 from Congres. I know not whether the Globe is furnished to Members for distribution but if such is the case would request a copy, also anything that may be that proper without burdening yourself with expense.

Very Respectfully,

Yours

[Signature]

M. E. Emerson
M. E. Emerson
Iron Creek
Ira. 12
Wis.
asking for a doc.
Lodi Station Kane co. 30. January 57

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir

Thankful for the Patent Office Report you sent me for 56. I hope you will renew your favor and send me another for 57 and oblige yours 4.

Jas. Boston

P.S. Agriculture
James Boston
Lodi Station
Rame Co.
Jan. 12. 88
Asking Agricultural
Report
I am at the Pacific Railroad
Boston, January 10th, 1859

Sir, Stephen A. Douglas

Sr.[r.

I have been absent from home for several months, having been engaged in all manner of business. I am writing to inform you that I have recently received notice that I will be appointed to the position of President of the Pacific Railroad. I am writing to inform you that I will be appointed to the position of President of the Pacific Railroad.

I have been engaged in the business of the Pacific Railroad for twenty years and have always been active in its management. I have devoted my life to the advancement of the company and have been successful in my endeavors.

I hope that you will be able to assist me in this endeavor. I look forward to working with you and making the Pacific Railroad a success.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

P.S. I have enclosed a copy of the plans for the Pacific Railroad.
ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD.

NORTHERN ROUTE.

The attention of the people of the United States is called to the importance of the Northern route for a Railroad to the Pacific Ocean. All of the Atlantic cities, and Gulf cities, may unite at St. Paul, as a common centre, or at Fort Benton, which is situated on the Missouri, at the mouth of the Teton River, near latitude 49 deg. and longitude 119 deg.

By a calculation, made on a map of North America, by one of the officers of the Coast Survey, at Washington, the distance to Fort Benton, are from New Orleans, 1705 miles; Charleston, 2485; Charleston, 2990; Washington, 2455; New York, 2655; Boston, 2610; Montreal, 3600; Quebec, 3720 miles.

These tables clearly show that the Southern States have the advantage in distance over the Northern States, if they join and make Fort Benton the common centre. From this place, by the surveyed route, the distance to Fort Vancouver, on the navigable waters of the Columbia, is about 660 miles. This point is accessible for vessels from the East Indies, and all the Pacific coast.

If a common centre be made at St. Paul,—the railroads from all parts of the Union to this point are already finished, and the distances by the traveled routes are, according to the reports of the exploring expeditions,—from New Orleans, 1195; Charleston, 1192; New York, 1190 miles, showing a remarkable equality in point of distance from these three great cities, situated at great distances from each other. The Southern States are connected directly with Chicago and St. Paul by the Great Central Illinois Railroad, and its connection through Mississippi and Alabama to Mobile.—The whole length of this road is near a thousand miles from south to north. The Northern and Middle States are also connected with Chicago and St. Paul by railroads already finished. It must be for the interest of all these roads that the Northern route be finished to the navigable waters of the Pacific Ocean.

I noticed in a recent newspaper, that "at the Chicago Post Office, mails are daily received by about twenty arriving trains. Thirty-five hundred mails are made up each day, and over five million letters and six million papers handled during the last quarter.

It is within my recollection, that the site where Chicago now stands, was an open prairie, inhabited only by prairie hens and other wild game. Another paper states "that the united wealth of the two great commercial centres of the Union, Boston and New York, is eight hundred million dollars,—New York having five hundred and twenty-five million, and Boston two hundred and seventy-five millions." From this statement, it appears evident that these two cities can easily supply the means to continue their roads to the Pacific and still increase their wealth, as they have increased it by all the railroads which they have built. It has been estimated that there are now in use railroads which have cost eight hundred million dollars. the stock of most of these railroads would be increased in value by completing the through route; an advance of 10 per cent. on these stocks will be nearly enough to pay for the road.

Fort Union is situated at the bend of the Missouri, about half way between St. Paul and Fort Benton, on the route of the Northern Railroad. As Chicago has suddenly risen from the prairies to be a great city, so also will be hereafter a great city at Fort Union and at Fort Benton,—the one may be called the city of the Union, and the other the city of Benton,—receiving the trade of Asia, and transmitting it to the Eastern cities.

In view of the great wealth which is to flow into the United States through the North Pacific Railroad, I respectfully solicit the merchants and capitalists of the Union to speedy build the road.

CHARLES FOSDICK FLETCHER.
Charlton.

Jan 12.

Asking copies of Pacific R.R. bills before Congress.
Western Emigration Agency
60 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

January 17 - 1859

To the Hon. S. A. Douglas
U. S. Senate

Honored Sir,

Allow me to offer you my most hearty congratulations on your safe return to the U.S. Senate at the hands of the unflinching Democracy of your State.

Since I had the pleasure of last meeting you in Chicago, I have made an extended tour through my native country, Norway, and other portions of Europe, whence I am just now returning home. My visit thereto was made wholly on behalf of foreign immigration to Illinois at the North and with a view to establish branch agencies in Europe in connection with this office, and I am glad to be able to add that my efforts have been to a great measure successful.

Very respectfully,

[Signature]
I am now more than ever confirmed of the
force of your argument on that subject &
happily to inform you that active steps are
now being taken to bring the subject before the
people and have it properly adjusted. A
Memorial to the Senate effect has been sent
numerically signed by our influential citizens
not being any party action but the one that
went to the Legislature and the matter was
referred to a select Committee. That bill will
be presented at an early day. Have every
conceivable that the subject will be well received
there and in all that plan adopted and an appropriation made
to carry out the demand of the necessary
Establishment. Enclosed please find a
few pertinent remarks on the subject.
Believing myself duly qualified to serve the state
the State in the capacity of State Agent or Super
intendent of Native Immigration and being
therefore accustomed to those needs the agency have
after looking an expenditure of labor and money
proceeded to establish the protection of State
and Municipal authority. I intend offer myself as a Candidate for that office to
soon act the bill passes the Senate which I have informed will do in a few days. In the mean
while completion of the Legislature I feel very
encouraged that my application will be
successful if you would think fit to recommend
me. Also take the liberty of
expressing upon your time with the little outline
of my plan and asking your favorable consider-
ation of my request. Relying upon
your Experiments makes a request to the
really
Vally Popular Movement for a favorable answer at your Earliest Convenience.

I have the honor to remain

with the highest respect

for

[Signature]

P.A. Frisell

[Date]
To Honorable Senator L.A. Douglas!

Sir,

It is true, at the same time liberal policy in the administration of our State Government is absolutely essential to safe and healthy progress, and surely next to the advancement and welfare of those engaged in the varied branches of industry and pursuits of business who are already within its jurisdiction, there can be no object of greater importance or more permanent value—none certainly more worthy the attentive consideration and vigilant supervision of your Honorable Body, than the encouragement of a steady and healthy immigration from abroad.

Some immediate action should be taken by your Honorable Body to secure a share of the large foreign immigration which annually sets in to the Western and North Western States.

The efforts of the Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota Legislatures in regard to immigration to those States have been attended with considerable success, large and numerous settlements of Europeans having been made in them during the last few years, owing principally to the superior advantages which they offer to men of small means in the purchase of lands.
The late free labor movement in Illinois and the sectional struggle with Kansas will also doubtless have the result of increasing emigration in that direction. In view of these facts, the general tendency of our own native population to move westward does or not become an object of the utmost interest to take such measures as will secure a larger share of immigration to our own State than we have had during the last five years.

Chicago, both on account of her commanding position at the head of Lake Navigation and at the central point running of the great railroad system of the Western States, besides being itself a city annually, a larger number of immigrants than any other city in the Union. Being, however, to the Sandwich system of running for Emigrants, practiced by railroad and steamboat Companies and Hotel and lodging house keepers, a large number of these Emigrants are imported on board our vessels and in such a manner that they are unable to make their journey to their destination and after being thrown off at the ports by the runners and stevedores they are sent afloat to become a direct burden on the city and a tax upon our taxpayers.

Already are the fatal effects of this pernicious system developing themselves. intending immi-

Grants a State Agency of Immigrant Inspection and appointment of a duly authorized agent or superintendent whose duty shall be to receive all foreign immigrants on their arrival here and to direct as large a num-

ber as are not otherwise destined to the dif-

ferent
portions of our own state.

Third, the strict enforcement of Quarantine Regulations as will not only secure the necessary attention to sickly Emigrants landing here but which will also protect the people both of city and state from infection.

Your early and earnest consideration of this important subject in a liberal and humane spirit is urgently and respectfully solicited with a view to its proper and immediate adjustment.

(See accompanying Memorial)

P.S. This curricular letter was forwarded to each member.

[Signature]
Gentlemen Washington Iles. Lang 1829

I was a Capt. in the war of 1812 under Col. Mr. Buckley Paterson. I am as old a Citizen as any
the Father of 27 Children & yet am I today
(I do not depend on one of my sons
for the necessities of a miserable existence & your Town House post
in act for a small relief of the Old Age of 1812) which can come to good use
as yet few survive. Who received
the storm at that period & those which
are now doubt in a similar condition
with you. From the applications for your
aid. & great influence be staying
the tide ofunread. I shall be aspirant
who will turn edge into office & in the
Sanquinary fields of their Country
best of all. With perfect insensibility
especially b/c I do suppose
Seor Loyd of Rich. by the letter of Mr. Whom
required his vote to be registered. I must
therefore to the permit one to say, with the
sold em in the highnest to all their College
the request was stated in so, whose who's
are all ready in dilibuty tabbed on
the Hearts of every patriot & patriot
30 me. relations, friends, together, all the
all this the 3rd and one of this Great
I will refer to Dr. Nichols, the president, of the University of the South, who appears at Cusa a few of whom, at a University, and at Trinity College. I shall, as of Congress, the Gentleman who wrote, in a letter to that House, Blair in the absence of all Lord and Speaker, will not yield to the absence of such in the advertisement, as the 20th of this month, in the 15th, of Mr. Carse, and the school. Roy's church in and of the church in conclusion, the second as a Colossus, New York, Long's many others, a place, in direct and at their tips, at such a time, very act in the capacity of the Colossus, can never be a blot on your honor. I forbid a suspicion of such a crime, until I return, with assurance, that old friend a comment, your minds the sufficient for subject, to its previous dispositions.

Yours truly,

Mr. C. Gayle

Wm. E. Gayle
Wm. Goyle
Washington
June 12th, '52
Penn. Ill.
A. Laphamre
Brimfield
Portage
O.

Jan. 12

Agricultural
Report

Brimfield Portage
County Ohio Jan 12/59
Mr. Douglas

Dear Sir,

The good book says ask and ye shall receive and for that reason I write you this line to ask if you will do me a favor by sending me the reports from the patent office for the past year especially the one on agriculture.

I am a small but democratic farmer and wish all the information I can get. Ever yours,

Truly, Almon Laphamre
Amelia

Claymont Co

Ohio

How is Douglas?

I am

We have an important case pending in the patent office. It is W.W. Hopkins Electro-Magnet Gas-Lighter. We were once rejected but have appealed the case. The prospect now is that we will obtain a patent. Should we be successful we will perhaps want your influence in introducing our apparatus. Please inform us how the Hall and Senate chamber is lighted up. We will be anxious
to introduce it in both places. We can secure cut-off the gas through the day, once instantly light all the lamps at night & as suddenly cut them off. The same of a large city, thereby save a large amount of gas by not lighting any of the lamps until the proper time.

Messrs. Emme & Co. are our agents. Should we succeed before the Patent-office we wish to be in Washington city before the end of the present session of Congress to exhibit our mode of operation. We can light the lamps of any public edifice or street lamps at much less expense than in the Ordinary Way. As soon as we get our bills struck we will send you the particulars. Please use your influence in our favor. We will keep you informed as to our progress before the Patent Office. Being warm political friends to you, we take the liberty of this address to you on the subject you can perhaps see our models and drawings in the Patent-office now. Pardon this intrusion on your time, and accept our cordial approbation of your course in territorial questions.

Respectfully yours,

Hopkins & McMahon
I have been a resident of your state for nearly four years and with pleasure recollect your services in behalf of the Democracy of your state once the Union.

Yours & C.

James McMahon

Hon. A. Douglas

Jan. 12, 1859
New York Jan 12th 1859,

Hon. J. A. Douglas,

My dear sir,

I have just received the following letter from Dr. Jennings of LaBague, a very intelligent and worthy gentleman. Dr. Jennings' letter is a little round-about, but you may rely on the accuracy of his statements, and the information he gives you of this man Gen. Jones, may prove of use to you.

I enclose you a slip from the "Indiana Daily Sentinel" a paper that claims to have
supported you. It seems disposed to take badly Philadelphia. Your apology for holding Philadelphia in Pennsylvania.
I am sorry to see some of the paper publishing the same meaning on your reported words: In the "American" of this week I allude to those rumors in a way that I hope will meet your approbation.
I am by no means sure that the Convention at Charleston will be representative of the Democracy of the Union. If it be packed against us, and representing only a faction of the Democracy, we cannot recognize its right to dictate to us a nominee.—but

we are under no obligation to assume beforehand that such will be the character of the Charleston Convention, nor to tell what we might find it best to do under such circumstances.

With respectful affection,
I remain,
your dear sir ever yours,
J. A. McMaster.
Recorder's Office, Decatur Co.,
GREENSBURG, IND.,

January 12th, 1859

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas:

Dear Sir:

About the beginning of the Canvas of 1858 and about the time of your return to Illinois I addressed you at Chicago on a Subject of much importance to me, and knowing that you would be engaged for some time, I have, until now, refrained from again urging an answer from you. But notwithstanding the importance of other matters to you, this is of much more importance to me, and I must again strongly urge from you an answer to my inquiry. Whilst you were a practicing lawyer in Springfield Ill. in perhaps 1840, I left in your hands two notes...
on Joseph Wilson, who was deceased, and his estate being administered upon in the Sangamon Probate Court. The notes amounted to—principal and interest—six hundred and thirty dollars, and were payable to Wm. Morgan. When I went into your office, an Ex-Judge, by the name of Logan was in your office, and the notes were executed in Nicholas County, Kentucky, and were of seventeen years standing. The Judge contended that the notes were barred by the Statute of Limitations; but your Contended that in as much as Wilson had absconded from Kentucky, he could not avail himself of the provisions of the Statute. The Judge was about to strike, and I hurriedly left, making a Mr. Wm. Langridge, who lived ten miles north of Springfield, my agent to operate.

with you in the collection of these notes. Since then, although I have repeated by written letters, I can obtain no information concerning these notes further than a few days ago I received a letter from Delah of Sangamon County, stating that Wilson's estate had been settled in that court and was perfectly solvent.

The consideration of the notes was real estate in Nicholas Co. Ky—

I have therefore to ask that you will refer to this matter and refresh your memory in some way or other so as to write me what was done with these notes, and what became of their proceeds, if collected, and oblige an aged, poor client and friend.

Abel Morgan
Adolph Myers
Plymouth, Ind.

January 12, 1839

Notifying you of my election as a member of the Plymouth Lyceum.

To
Mr. Stephen A. Douglass

Sir,

I take the liberty to inform you that your name has been proposed and that you were unanimously elected Honorary Member of the Plymouth Lyceum at its regular meeting of the 11th and (please to accept my most sincere respects.

Adolph Myers
Corresp. Secretary of the Plymouth Lyceum

Answered.
Washington Jan. 12th 1859

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dr. Sir,

Immediately preceding the nomination of James Buchanan at the Cincinnati Convention, I addressed you a letter strongly recommending of my opposition to the selection of the present incumbents.

Said letter was stated at Williamsport, Pa., I am under the impression, it was only a few days before the assembling of the Convention.

Mr. Cutts informed me a year ago, that he had seen this letter filed among your manuscript correspondence.

As I do not retain a copy of it, I am anxious of obtaining the original, will you be kind enough to allow the bearer of this to deliver the letter to the bearer of this, I oblige ye.

Respectfully,

Ellis B. Everts.
L. B. Schnabel
Washington
Jan. 12 37 D.C.
asking you to return
his letter.
Phil Nov. 12th 1859

To Mr. A. A. Douglas of Ill.

Respected Sir,

You must excuse me for taking the liberty of writing to you. I also hope you will not think me importunate in asking of you the following favor. Please send me all of your printed speeches that were delivered in the recent contest in your state of Ill. and any other printed document that you may see fit to presume of. Send them to the address below. By complying in this favor I will be

Thrice your friend,

A. Barnes Sloaner.

Attorney at Law.

City, Pa.
A.B. Hunnaker
Jan'y 12. Phila
Wants Illinois
Speeches.
Answered
Send document.
Dear Stephen,

Send me "Constitution of U.S. I charge -- I congratulate you on your success, -- I and my house are miles until after 1860 until then.

Yours, Affectionately,

A.M. Stratton

"Stationery high"
A. M. Shattuck
Decatur
Jan'y 12 Ill.
Asking for copy of
U. S. Constitution
Kingsville Jan 12, 1839

Hon. S. A. Douglas, Sirs,

Please send me the Patent Office Report of 1837.

(Agriculture)

and Oblige,

O. P. Stutesworth

Kingsville. Respectfully submitted.
C. W. Stanton
Naperville
Ill.
Jan. 12
Agricultural report
St. Louis, June 12, 1857

My dear Sir:

I presume you have been too much occupied to find time to write to me, and my last letters gave fully my views upon the Kansas question in its then aspect. I was afraid the course indicated by you would lead to just such a state of things as occurred. Now, without reviewing the past, it becomes important to look to the future. It is supposed that on the 4th, just a large majority of the votes thrown were against the Constitution in any form. If so, is there not an easy solution of this subject? Nitherto, the
Main difficulty has been, that at every step in connexion with the Constitution the sole authentic expression of the popular will has been in favor of that instrument. The illegal, unauthorized, irregular expressions of those said to be opposed, could not be officially noticed. Congress could not go to clamor, uproar or rebellion for the cause of official action. The fact, if it were a fact, that a majority refused to vote, and had been and were still opposed to the legal action had, would not justify Congress in upholding the rebels in their illegal course, or in recognizing it.

Now, as there is, at length, a legal and authentic ex-
Compact concerning the public lands, and their taxation is necessary, etc. There is no constitution fairly before Congress for its action, etc. Then pass a bill to take a census, submit the question to the people, whether they wish to form a State constitution to be admitted, provide the terms of a compact concerning the public lands, etc.

I am beginning to be more strongly convinced than ever that the admission of Kansas into the Union as a State will involve far more disastrous results in that Territory than any heretofore witnessed. Lane with his militia is virtually ousting of the rights and interests of the Conservative people there, has inaugurated a reign of military despotism. If a State is formed, will he not have control, and his
be triumphant, without any direct power on the part of the Federal Government to check his outrages? If the majority succumb to him, or are with him, then the majority in Kansas are just as much rebels as the Mormons in Utah, and should not be formed into a State of the Union any more than the Mormons under their Constitution of Deseret.

I trust, however, that a speedy and satisfactory solution of some kind will soon be adopted. The clamor of the Black Republicans, aided by your enemies within our party, has been directed to the creation of the impression that you were not disposed to act cordially with the Democracy. That was an old trick. Both knew that the praise of the enemy was even worse than the denunciation of friends. Some unreflecting may have
been misled. But the Black Republicans have entrapped themselves, by declaring for "popular sovereignty" after having warned against that doctrine from the inception of the Nebraska Process. If that fact good use can be made thereafter.

In writing now, it is not my purpose to argue any of the points in dispute, but merely to urge upon you to confer at the proper time with Green and others, and in Committee to have framed a bill on which all can stand, then if you and Green lead off for it all will be right - the ranks of our party will be closed up for new battles and victories. At all events we cannot afford to have any scheme in the party with respect to any new phase of the Kansas difficulties.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Hon. S. M. Douglas.
Sam'l Treat
St Louis
Mc
Jan'y 12 58
Political
"Private"
N. W. May 1934

My dear,

You have been very kind at all the objection. Had you not been

informed that I am in a letter for the bill,

please do the best you can. I am at

the earliest day. I am constantly fearful

of losing all in that fortune. Every
dollar for from this is to be insured.

Please try hard for the whole having

in that form. What am I to do?

It is impossible for you to obtain

for me the follow. I am sure.

I want them very much.

Ex: Doc No 44. House Ref. 2 Sep 29 Conf.

Ex: Doc No 1. Senate 1 Sep 30 Conf.

Ex: Doc No 59. House Ref. 1 Sep 30 Conf.

Ex: Doc No 60. Do 1 Sep 30 Conf.

Ex: Doc No 65. Senate 1 Sep 30 Conf.

If necessary, please get me two

each. Our own rule is a favor.

Truly,

P.M. Melrose

W. Johnson
Wetmore,

Long due? Wanted

all sent that can be.

To

Wetmore

[Signature]

[Stamp]