Dear Mr. Prentice:

In the seat of the Washington City

Dear Sir,

For general information to be obtained only from thorough members of Congress, I usually apply to the members from any own state, but as the information which I seek, relates mainly to yourself, I trust you will not regard it as presumption on my part. To add to you, I have never engaged in politics, nor taken interest in it further than I deemed it necessary to enable me to act industriously as a citizen. Engaged in the major portion of my life, as far as my circumstances have permitted, in literary pursuits, though I have by no means been an indifferent observer of the great principles of political contests, yet I have not had an irreparable thirst for political fame. At the instance of friends, I was during the paper summer, induced to canvass this country (Prentice) for the Legislature, from with many others, as an independent Democrat, and in the high cry of what was called, falsely called, a democratic, for it was made up of the fragments of any shadow of party that has ever existed in this State. Will without preceding that point further, I come to the point at which I was aiming. During this canvass, your name as the probable nominee of the Charleston Convention for President, was repeatedly introduced. I took occasion frequently to correct opinions made by these countenances, more to your prejudice in
enemy of their state platform, which, as you have long since seen, came in conflict, and continuing with the doctrine of retribution, by Congress upon the subject of slavery in the territory, which doctrine all knew to have been the most distinguishing feature of the republican party, the last ten years. An intervention was certainly intended to mean a total absence on the part of Congress from any meddling or direction in the territory. I took the view of the doctrine of non-interference with Congress just as against the opposing faction in the state, that form, I felt I desired that Senate would carry this act to it. Hence, the Senate did the act it was asked for by Congress. I am told by the Black Republicans of the North, at this present time, I have observed your concern in Congregationalism 1834-5, when you were in the lower house and were the most active in the last two years during which time I believe I was on the floor of the state house with some degree of eminence. This induced me to ask the state legislature of this act, and that is the fact. That I have long heard your first wife was a daughter of my own, not real United, Old Carolina. These things may seem trite to you, but not to me who am a member of my own sect, and feel a deep interest in that question.

At the time, I did not take my own opinion to the admission of Kansas, and I felt that it cannot in harmony with the spirit of justice to the South which you had uniformly manifested, agree to practice. But nothing little of a political character, at the time, not having reached your own aspect of your opposition to the admission, I could not determine whether this opposition was inconsistent with your popular Congregational views or not. All that I knew of the ground of your opposition to the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, I gather from your division line between federal and local authority, in one or two letters to this particular subject in your replies to your constituents. The due to your opposition in this case may properly be seen in the conduct of the dividing line. It is only proper to say that Congress, by the Constitution, cannot be exercised by Congress in the same manner as in the Constitution. The conduct of this opposition, it seems to me, will not be questioned, but my acquaintances with the matters of the Lecompton Constitution is too limited to enable me to say that Congress, by this Constitution, could not have exercised its rightful powers in the new provisions in the Constitution. It is not the point of which I speak, but that Constitution did not enjoy the will of the people of Kansas, and at a time to know how Congress could get at that fact. Will you then be so kind as to direct me your full thoughts on this early to the Congregational Globe. Attached is the act of 1837-8, which you would also do me a great favor by sending me the Congregational Globe. I am trying to make myself acquainted with the act of 1837-8, and the admission of California, the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, the agitation of Kansas with the Lecompton Constitution. I have good reason for believing that your Parker did in the last expedition to judge Black are doing a good work here. You have many strong friends in all sections of the south, they are by no means as determined as other little men who will do the duty without the command of a passion or the passion of a man of their own, I trust you, as I have always done, that I shall have the ability to do this. I am ever with esteem and high regard your friend and servant,
John H. Burton
Dear Sir,

Perhaps you will remember hearing Collel
Several times upon your return to Mr. Marshall.
And Billy Poor Belle, it was with difficulty that
she obtained favor enough to get a passage through
the two temples of Congress, and having done this
it was killed by the President.

I write you this morning to ask whether you
will join me in your influence to favor a resolution to
The President: objected to it, and proved not that
be done. If they should be done it would be to alter
the states to apply the land grants, also to estab
lish colleges therefor the prevention of epidem
ics and the mechanics arts, or in some other form
I thought, way as get the men of the South might be
reduced, and also to to make it obligatory upon the
mourners to issue. I stand, in conclusion, say
one fifth of them, answer, the other, whether it

I have no doubt that you can secure
the President's cooperation in such a measure
as you know, it would be very peculiar with the
people, both South and North. Besides one to reg
geri it would be safer for the South to advocate
so. It would be throwing a lot to the Whales
and it would be easier to unite the two sections of the country, unless a thorough Union were the object. As it be necessary that legislation at least, should be conducted with reference to the best good of all concerned, every man's eyes will be fixed on the future with interest.

I think you are entirely wrong about the Tariffs and Postage in the manner of a few rules of these propositions.

If I have persevered in much difficulty by writing to you, or advice, be good enough to attribute the reason to the fear of many a decent life as a good. What think you of the many adverse propositions in your favor? The best we must have can be making the public property.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Postmark]
Amr. Brown
No. 42 East 29th St.
Dec. 20c N. Y.

In reference to a
Land Bill
Rockford Ills, Dec. 22rd 1859

Mr. J. A. Douglas

Dear Sir:

You will please to send me the late Patent Office Reports of the Macarickle Branch, by so doing you will oblige your friend;

Yours very respectfully,

J. Donaldson
J. Donaldson
Rockford
Dec. 20. U.
Mechanical report
Patent Office
Portland Dec 20 1869

Hon. O.H. Douglas
My Dear Sir,

Pardon me for again writing to you, and other me the thanks you for the kind letter received from you.

Your friends here are very great anxiety for your health for the past few months and now require that you will soon be able to move your country in the Senate.

Politics are very quiet here, no effort will have made to get up a Union meeting and none could avail for the depression in Prince. Turmoil, the meeting there as an endorsement of the Administration and Treasury for nothing will be done here.
Mr. Brown, we can thus be assured
ourConvocationforchoosing
Adjudges to Chafee's until
we cannot tell when it will
as our PM &c Chairman etc
now, but think we left fair
place we still and from the
fittest and coolest men
there, the Admiration of
men trying to compromise
by dividing one of the many
pits that will not be interested
I do not know yet
Mr. Douglas I do not know yet
I do not know yet
Mr. Douglas it does seem to me
Pitt unless the Convocation at
Chafee, I do not see we must
be rejected of Mr. the whole of
there written on our next
place - no human boy on our
Draa is not but not can carry
one single New England child
and 1 year not my William
child, war y the South paper
to be a Black Republican to

All I can be a Black Republican
Then my name to the very my
every name is the very
name will be spoken, let it be
name your paramount,

Washington, I am going to
Philadelphia in your best and
Best and if I can lead my
Business long enough still
with Washington - if I do
still be speaking, let your
make your paramount,

Mr. Henry, using make for
your health &c. And success
Pryes are si with Exten

[Signature]

Dean P. D. Douglas
Washington D.C.
Cincinnati this December
Hon. J. A. Douglas
Hon. Sir will you be
Kind enough to send me Some of your
Speeches and some publick Documents
as by complying with the above you
will oblige your
obt Serv
John Melvile
6th Ward
Washington, Dec. 20, 1857

Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Dear Sir:

Discourse of complying with many requests from constituents of mine, asking me to furnish them with copies of your Harpur Magazine article—your Cincinnati address and the other articles you have written upon popular sovereignty. I beg leave to ask you, if you have any extra copies to spare, to let me have some, in order to satisfy the demands I have upon me.

Hoping that your health will be soon restored.
That you may excuse me for this liberty I am in. Very respectfully, Your obedient servant,

Mr. A. Otten
Bel. to N. Mex.

P.S. If you have any of the "Citizens" or R. E. Thornton's article I shall be much obliged to you for a piece of them.

Vale.

Miss Otten
Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Dr. Sir:—You will pardon a political friend for this chirographic intrusion when you are informed that we are all impatiently anxious to read every word or line you see fit to either speak or write concerning the great principles you advocate. Immediately upon the issue of Harper's Magazine for Sept., containing your well-defined Popular Sovereignty doctrine, I sent to N. Y. and obtained a copy. Since the publication of that, several collateral articles (or pamphlets) have appeared from your pen—besides a number from the pen of others who hypocritically oppose you (for any true thinking man who cherishes the American Coe... is a People's Sovereign in belief.) We are all very desirous of reading all that's said upon this subject, that we may be well prepared to meet our foes with argument, and controvert their nefarious political principles and consequent designs. Our news dealers being principally,
Black Republican, we cannot get, though there, the required documents. Could you do me a favor by sending all your answers to Judge Black—all of Judge B.'s "pamphlets," and also, Senator Grinnell and Homer Delaney's articles against you?

I would suggest as the best engineering document which could be brought to bear upon the campaign of 1860, a compilation of your own literary writings upon that subject, and the answers from opposition headquarters. With such a document, freely circulated throughout the whole country, no one would see more than two-thirds of our States for the Territorial Popular Sovereignty by democracy. Please send the above to (care of Box 188) Shelbyville, Shelby Co., Indiana, and much obliged.

Your most ob't servt.

Charles Pool

Shelbyville Ind.,
December 26, 1859

P.S.

As a Black Republican, A.G. Porter now represents us (i.e., a sectional majority of us) in Congress, we shall, perhaps, be "scoops of documents" during the coming season. If I knew such would be acceptable, I would accordingly transmit it to you (or some one of your friends) the names of former democrats, or old Whigs, who have not as yet embraced Abraham Lincoln, such as might become by conversion sound on the question, and therefore vote for the Charleston nominee in 1860. Please be careful to direct as requested, to Box 188, P.O.—in twenty.

Your's ve C. P.
Charles Pool
Shelbyville
Dec. 20, Ind.
Siccehes
Mon[day] Dec 20

Hon[orable] Mr. Douglas

Dear Sir

I take this opportunity of [illegible] of the Democratic party, and after a lengthy speech, the whole party of passengers, without a dissenting voice, acknowledged me to support him in the coming Primary to support him as you must be the only representative that can possibly be elected by the Democratic party. and sustain the dignity of our Constitution, by which the North and South are one brotherhood.

I am as your friend, take pleasure to send you our cordial wishes for your victory.

Most Respectfully,
Your Mt. E. B. M.

[illegible] and other messengers

[illegible]
Nashua, N.H.
Dec. 21st, 1859

Hon. J.A. Douglas

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your reply, resigning me to Judge Black for which accept my thanks. Any P.R.O. you can send will be most thankfully received.

The meeting of the E of J is fixed next to adjourn to Charleston for this (Hillsborough) County. And I think we shall send A.P. Hughes of this City. He has
promised me to use his influence & vote for you - and he will do it, I think.

Yours very truly,

E. P. Brown

From J. A. Douglas, 1811.
Burlington, Iowa.
Oct. 21, 1857.

Rev. A. Clay Dean

Dear Sir,

I ask your attention to the enclosed report of a sermon delivered by Rev. Mr. Saltier in the Congregational Church of this City.

It is eminent. It is political and partisan, and as such should not, I think, have been preached from the sacred desk, while its whole tendency is to excite sectional animosity and to divide between the States and people of our Heaven blessed Union.

In view of the excitement growing out of recent undecides events, we regard the present as a time when all patriots should indignantly proclaim the first sign of any attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enshrine any sectional ties which now link together the various parts and unite their best efforts to support the laws, Constitution of the United States.

We therefore respectfully invite you to reply to Mr. Saltier, and publish this sermon at such time as may suit your convenience.

Your obedient,
A. Dodge

Your obedient,
R. G. Crocker

This letter is addressed to Reverend A. Clay Dean in Burlington, Iowa, on October 21, 1857. The letter discusses an sermon delivered by Rev. Mr. Saltier in the Congregational Church of the city. The author of the letter expresses concern about the sermon's political and partisan nature, which he believes should not have been preached from the sacred desk. He emphasizes the need to unite against sectional animosity and to support the laws and Constitution of the United States. The letter concludes with a request to publish the sermon at a convenient time.
Hon A. Douglas

The within is intended as an invitation of a general Union demonstration all over the State.

Yours truly,
W. H. Clean
Henry Clay Dean
Monuto Pleasant
Iowa.
51 Dec, 1859

Enclose, call on
him to attend at
Union Meeting
a Speech made
by him. It asks
for - Dear Scott Dean
Randy Johnson your
Ralph Palo Judge E.
Marie the Delegate,
to go to Charleston -
he was one of the number.
L. J. Dupree
Memphis, Tenn.

Memphis, Dec. 21, 1857

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

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a copy of the Memphis Bulletin

The great organ of the Opposition party in this portion of Tennessee.

You will observe with that degree of astonishment which kept the reader of this journal in this city when a change it has undergone with reference to yourself. I am inclined to believe that the only change to elect a Democratic President.
is for your friends who will constitute a majority of the Charleston Convention to continue to vote for you till the Convention adjourns, failing to make a nomination. Then you are properly before the people, to demand your withdrawal after the course you purport towards Mr. Buchanan in The Civil Convention 1852. The Mobile Register is the only Southern paper advising you effectively. The Appeal of this place have both "let down" since your death. There should be a "Straight" Douglas.
organ in this city it would soon secure a wide circulation throughout the district.

Very Respectfully,

John Smith

L. J. Dupree
Carlisle Dec. 21st. 1859

Honored Sir:

The great & high respect I entertain for you, banishes all hesitation I have heretofore had on the score of requesting your autograph. I now ask it from you & by so doing you will confer on me the highest favor imaginable. May you be blessed with success is the prayer of

S. M. Eckman
Carlisle
Pa.
C. M. Gates  
Greece, Ill  
Dec. 21.  
Political

_\_

M. W. Henry,  
Iles, Dec. 21st 1859

Hon. J. A. Douglas  
I am the  

I take the liberty of addressing you although I have been  
a constituent of yours  
never being and never having had the pleasure of meeting you except upon the  
occasion of your visiting one part of the State last year.  
I have the  

to learn that your  

I have been appointed a delegate to the Springfield convention and

My principal writing is to learn who can carry your message far enough at Charleston. Your House the man of the State the extent of their acquaintance & influence as well as their capacity to manage please to tell me (Confidentially) if you choose) where you want in the Charleston Convention from this district and from this State.

Some of us feel as though in want of some relief to return strong against James Bushman & his Administration but we will next attempt.

If you would prefer to have it otherwise or not.

Wuth uu Strength desire that your way may be open for you to make fully your healthful and useful Campaign may open sight progress properly and results in your triumphant election to the presidency.

I remain truly yours.

C M Gates
Mr. A. Douglas

Oakland Dec 21 1859

Respectfully sir I take this
method to drop you a note.
I wish to take some paper
that is in good standing giving
boungtonal news in full.
please send to me what
& notify me of the claim &
price & I will remit the
same to you or declaror
please send to Mr. W. A. Smith
some news there is no
news hear from either house

Note: If you send anything to
mail it to Rural Retreat
Douglas & Mr. B.
your truly,

A. W. Fairsone
W. O. Smith
Oakland,
Coles Co. Ill.
A. B. Sissamore
Rural Retreat
Douglas Co
Ile. Co. Ill.

Wishes you to
subscribe to
paper for him
Dec. 21, 1858
Washington, D.C.

Senate Caucus

Mr. Chief Justice

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Sir,

You are requested to attend a caucus of Democratic Senators on Friday morning at 12 o'clock in the Reception room of the Senate.

Respectfully,

D.R. McChesney

By order of the Senate

U.S.
New York Dec 24th

Now S. A. Douglas
My Dear Sir
I learn that
Dr. Edg. to day and
he states that you
contemplated coming
up to spend a few
days and that Mrs.
Douglas would accompany
you. I was delighted
to hear it and would
be glad to have yourself
and Lady stop with
us if agreeable to you.
Hoping that you and
family are in good health.
I remain
to Trust you

Jas. B. Smith