Greenfield, Highland County, O., Dec 23rd

Dear Sir,

The condition of our Country must be my apology for troubling you with what I may say I am prompt to do by a statement very current in the Republican papers, that the Members of Congress belonging to their party have been assured by the Western people, that they will not only be sustained, but expected to maintain the principles of the first "pure and simple," in the effort now being made, by yourself and others, to bring about a compromise of the disturbing differences between the two sections of the Country.

Now Sir, I do not believe there is one in ten of the men of the West and North-West, who would be well satisfied with any fair and honorable settlement of those questions, and the reason why I address you instead of the Hon. G. E. Pugh, or Hon. Wm. Howard is, that I believe the doctrine of "Popular Sovereignty," in its most pure and simple sense, of which you Sir, are the acknowledged champions, is the sure plan upon which the difficulty so far as the Territories are concerned, can be settled, and the last one that believe will have any permanency. It is plain to my own mind, and I think to the minds of all ages, both North and South, that it is the duty of the States having objectionable laws upon their State books to
refuse them, and this act, the sentiment of the人民 will compel the performance of. That done, the North, will have to yield their extreme notions of the Slave question, and the South abandon their extreme notions on the same question, and thereby, they will be forced whether willing or not, to accept the "Peace Branch," which was offered by yourself and your friends in the recent senatorial canvass. I can see no hope for a lasting peace, nor have I since the important breaking of the apostacy, advertisements to this principle, except it be in assailing the doctrine of the Sovereignty of the people in the Territories as well as States, I believe, it is a great deal for my contenuing country, but when asked to give more than we have already offered, I think it too much, and I believe the conservative men of both sections. The Republican agents, to the contrary notwithstanding, will be satisfied with such a settlement.

If Sir, what I have said, will in the least particular afford you any satisfaction, or encourage you to go on in well doing, then it shall be more than paid, for my pains. How are a few others of your school, now a task before you, your ordinary character, the civilized world, is watching with almost breathless suspense, the actions and words great, who are engaged in the momentous councils of this great Nation. Our actions depend on the present, and the future, peace or war, of one of the greatest, most happy, and independent Nations of the Earth. Your principles are right, reasonable, and just, sound firm, and if it be that human wisdom, and foresight is too feeble to fathom the depths of our trouble, and show us a clear path by which we may clear the clouds from which we appear to be drifting, then let us call upon the Queen of our fathers, that he may in the wondrous ways of his providence, direct our shattered bark to some haven of peace.

With the assurance of my highest regards,

Your humble servant,

[Signature]

Washington, D.C.
J. W. Gray
Greenfield, Highland Co. Ohio
Dec 24, 1860

Nine out of ten of the people of the N. W. will be satisfied with any reasonable compromise.
Lamp Hill Dec 23, 1860
Washington, Gen. New York

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dr. Sir

I send you a
petition if it is right & proper
you will present it if not
do with as you please but by
all means save this union.

You will remember when you
was in this place last summer
on your way to Lake George
& the call you made on your
connections Mr. Richards, family
after you left we organized
a company of Little Giants. Two
hundred strong & done all in
our power for you & this town
done nobly but we had to go down
before bigotry & sanctionism of
Black Republicanism.
I shall be in Washington some time next month & will see you.

Faithfully & friendly,

Your obt. Servt.

A. Hollbrook
Nelson H. Logan

March 23, 1860

Rt. Hon. Abraham Lincoln

My dear Sir,

The aspect of public affairs has changed very much since 1848, when you and I were in the House of Representatives together. Then I honestly believed that the Union was the love of the people for the Union and the honor that all the laws were placed by the Constitution of 1787 and new laws were by the necessities, could not save the tree.

And to the states the states and the people of the Union and their unions. And I am only for one moment calculative any. This of course until the time the Conventions and the Baltimore Convention were come in being, by the resolution, the demand of the Northwest, the necessity to have a number of the Cincinnati platform by the party of the doctrine, and the the congressmen of a same vote for the two ties.

I think that the objectives were, if it were adopted, to defeat the party or of men a substitute place to divide the party by leading and thus secure the election of Lincoln by its defeat in that way, in order to give Thursday a pretext to go out of this union. The necessities have accomplished the final object and become a peace treaty to accomplish the Wilson in the last contest, I emphasized you hoping that if we can see not clear you, the mighty at least clear them and the Republicans before the people I give the election to the House of Representatives. The Republicans have become even accused, and here to whom they are indebted for their
are the bloods same tainted, right figures? "The county in the fact, reedy, that White and to the president.

This is my judgment, if you seem to me whole subject should be the Islam to the Sec.

You have in Washington a little bit of being sold out, who are doing to place harm by those lice

There are a law to be a little more on the line and not to do it, to the people to the whole.

The people joined with a few hundred, thousands of people, not in the whole.

Can it be possible, that there are not political and an interest

The people cannot be in the danger of being told, to say,

The hands, and they become, they don't.

Must one of the living, be the political between two being

The whole system to be said, or to take high way

Men as these? 

Should one individual and collective

Total, once a position, and his speeches be the president

This time I will not, be the president of the United States and the world

To degrade the people of Wisconsin, and the world,

Of the Republic county and very glorious line, who

If by this word obedience, I dislike in some way

The miserable arm, was needed, to give the world

Did not specialize to planning compromise of the land, well that do, and you in the aid

Of your own ground, not did, and consideration of the line.

Is it done? War and the death will not accomplish it, but approval by peaceful means.
Jas. W. McDowell
Hillsboro, Highland Co., Ohio
Decr. 23d 1860

Political &c. and
hopes that something
can be done to save
the union.
Morgan Co. Mo. Oct. 1860

Mr. A. D. Houglas:
I have been receiving occasional documents from you, for which please accept my thanks. My residence is now changed, and I would be very happy to receive any thing from you, especially good speeches on the present condition of the county, and a copy of the Census Report.

Yours truly,

W. A. Pepper
Versailles
Morgan Co.
Mo.
W. A. Peffer
Versailles, Morgan Co. Wd.
Dec 28 1865

[Initials]
Dubuque, Iowa Dec 23d 1860

Hon S.A. Douglas

Having had the honor of an introduction to yourself by my husband, at the Jubilee House in this city, and like yourself truly regretting the election Lincoln with all its evil consequences, we still hope that these evil consequences may be averted by aid of your wise counsels. By request of my husband (your old friend), I send this for your perusal

Very Respectfully yours,

Mrs. John A. Hague.

Stephen A. Douglas.
Mr. John X. Hague
Dubuque, Iowa
Dec 23, 1860

Hopes that the wise counsels of Judge D.
will save the country
from the bad effects of
Lincoln's election, &c.
Portsmouth, Va., Dec 24th 1861

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

Sir,

I write you this letter for the purpose of asking of you a favour. I have been dismissed from the Navy Yard ever since the day you arrived here, and simply because I preferred you as my choice for the President and have not been able to get employment since. I have served my apprenticeship in this yard and have got a family to care for. I am a Coppermith by trade and all of that business is employed but one. If you can do anything for me you will oblige one who is persecuted for exercising my right when voting for you.

P.S. Humble Servant

James, Courtney
James Courtney
Portsmouth, Virginia
Dec. 24th 1860

A coppersmith was discharged
from the Navy Yard because he
around himself in favor of Judge
D. at the time Judge D. was
in Norfolk & co and
wants employment, etc.
North Belgrade, Mr. Dec. 24, 1860

Hon. J. A. Douglas,
Dear Sir,

As I am a Democrat also, a very respectable member of my town, men, and not only a Democrat but a Douglas Democrat—what mind I vote again for Stephen A. Douglas in four years from last fall “should you live to spared, or God grant that it may,” I take the liberty to ask a favor of you to send me occasionally when you can do so conveniently some public documents; although a farmer, I like to hear from Washington by the way of our railway, but as you are well aware our Members of Congress from Maine are all Republicans, they do not take trouble to send anything to the Democratic friends as far back in the county as Belgrade—very fourteen miles south of Augusta, the capital of our state.

Please excuse the liberty I have taken to trouble you about so small a matter—

Very Respectfully yours,

Thos. Eldred
Thomas Eldred
North Belgrade, Maine
Decr. 24, 1860
Want document, &c.
Boston Dec 1st 1860

Dear Sir,

Will you have the kindness to favor me with a copy of the report of one of the various exploring expeditions, fitted out by the United States, if you have it to spare, or a copy of some of the Patent office reports.

And much oblige,

Your very Respectfully,

Jacob E. Fiske

To the Hon Stephen A Douglas U.S.S.
Washington
D.C.
Jacob E. Fisher
Boston, Mass. 5
Dec. 24, 1860

a copy of anyone
of the U.S. Ex. Eq.
Great Valley, Batavia.

December 24, 1860.

Dear Sir,—I wish to receive the Reports of the Smithsonian Inst. for 1858-59, and any others that can be procured.

I suppose it is a Senate Doc. and I see that you are one of the Officers of the Inst. and on the accounts I take the liberty of addressing you.—I wrote to one of the Members not have said as much—

If you can furnish me with any of these shots you will very greatly oblige me in my studies.

Very Respectfully,
Weston Field, Q.B.

S.S. S. A. Douglas.
Weston Flint
Great Valley, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y.
Decr. 24, 1860

Smithsonian Report for 1858-59.
Barry Mc Dec 24, 1860

Honor S. T. Douglas

Dear Sir:—In obedience to the solicitations of my friends Mr. J. W. Rogers & Major Lane, together with my own personal feelings, I adopt this method of ascertaining where your various addresses may be found esounding the great principle of popular sovereignty, not only in your memorable campaign with Mr. S. T. Colman in 1854, but also as far as you can those delivered upon the subject during the late presi.

dential canvass. If we have here before ardently & earnestly supported you in the bold, fearless stand you have taken, as an honest man for your country—preferring principle rather than popularity—upon the grave & momentous questions you have been called to investigate. Strange as it may seem a public meeting is to be held in
this place for the avoided & delayed
junk future of arresting your political
character through the meridian of the
great principle herein above stated.
It is my determination to defend you
at all hazards—this whatsoever of that
ability—no may present & even at the
expense of our hearts blood of
necessarily. We are mean of
our circumstances & lose all the
reason, being only formers & breeders of the
community. But we trust we are honest & sincere in our love
for the country & for those who stand
by it & defend it. Hence we shall
ever feel grateful to you. If you
will forward—to any address any
thing in manuscript or book John
looking upon the important
subject the question. Hoping to
hear from you soon. I am yours
myself yours
O. F. D. R. 
T. R. Bask
J. R. Jack
Barry, Misso nie
Decr. 24th, 1860

urge to have sent to him
Judge A's speeches on
Pop. yrs. '60, as
they are to be a meeting
to appear Judge D. '62.
WASHINGTON, December 24, 1860.

“A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.”

The following is an extract from the proceedings of the Senate, Thursday last, as printed in the Globe of Friday, the 21st instant:

"THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

"Mr. SLIDELL. Before the Senator from Ohio—who is entitled to the floor on the special order—proceeds, I desire to offer a resolution, of which I gave an intimation yesterday, in relation to the reporters of the Associated Press. I have received a letter from the agent here, which satisfies me that, individually, he had no concern in this matter; but there are agents all over the country who belong to one body, and a common responsibility should attach to them all. The agent here has given me no such assurance as is satisfactory, that the true author of this fabrication will be exposed and punished. Under these circumstances, I offer the following resolution, and will allow three or four days to elapse before I call for action upon it, in order that they may have an opportunity of explaining:

Resolved, That the Vice President be requested to exclude from the reporters’ gallery of the Senate any reporter or reporters who may be employed, either partially or exclusively, by any agent or agents of the Associated Press.”

Mr. TRUMBULL. With the consent of the Senate, I desire to say just one word in regard to the personal matter alluded to by the Senator from Louisiana. I have received a note from the agent of the associated press stating that the dispatch the Senator yesterday alluded to was not transmitted through the associated press of this city, and that he is altogether ignorant of the source of the dispatch. It is due to him, I think, that that fact should be stated.

"Mr. SLIDELL. That is the fact."

From the above extract it will be seen that the Hon. John Slidell is satisfied that, individually, the agent of the Associated Press "had no concern in this matter," and that the agent is "altogether ignorant of the source of the dispatch" of which complaint is made. Notwithstanding, he has offered a resolution to exclude from the reporters’ gallery "any reporter or reporters who may be employed, either partially or exclusively, by any agent or agents of the Associated Press," on the ground that "a common responsibility" should attach to all persons everywhere in the employment of the Association. From these premises, the undersigned, representing the general interests of the "Associated Press" in Washington, respectfully maintains:

First, That no privileges of the Senate have been violated by the reporter of the proceedings of that body, action cannot lie against him.

Second, That as the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States expressly prohibits Congress from passing any law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, the action which is now proposed, if consummated, would effect by a mere resolution of one branch of Congress that which both branches concurrently, even, cannot enact!

Third, That as the parliamentary law is clearly not applicable to such a case as that now presented, and as the undersigned is not able to give the "assurance" to Mr. Slidell "that the true author of this fabrication will be exposed and punished"—the statement not having originated with any person connected with the Association, either here or elsewhere—it does not appear to the undersigned that the resolution can pass the Senate.

Besides, the newspapers generally of the country receive reports of the Senate’s proceedings through this agency, and in times like these surely no one could desire to abridge the "freedom of the press" in the exercise of its constitutional rights.

The undersigned wishes it to be expressly understood that he asks for no favors, but he may be justified, under the circumstances, in submitting this statement to impartial consideration.

L. A. GOBRIGHT,
Washington Agent Associated Press.
appeal of
Solright, agent of
associated Preps, against
snide's attempt to
abridge the freedom of
such data as the Preps.
Philadelphia, Dec. 24/60

Dear Sir,

I lately took leave to write to you expressing the hope that you would take advice conveyed against administration. I hope that what I said was not misconstrued and that I may now be allowed to invite you to the Senate to witness the conclusion of your remarks before the Senate Committee.

Within the last few minutes they formed the subject of conversation in my presence between some of the first men in point of intellect in the city, and I think it will not be disagreeable for you to know that while they had generally been opposed to you in the late Congress, they are now unanimous in their opinion that your last remarks proved you to be as far above most, if not all, others in the Senate as a friend of Abraham, as you are in point of intellect. They deemed especially the surprise and shock, that you have had no more of political usage to speak of than that you would not let your own opinions, however clear, influence the flat points, or make fort principlie, if these were done to in the way of such fair compromises, you would sweep as the good man of your whole country now demands. Believe me, my dear Sir, when I

Steph A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

I lately took leave to write to you expressing the hope that you would take advice conveyed against administration. I hope that what I said was not misconstrued and that I may now be allowed to invite you to the Senate to witness the conclusion of your remarks before the Senate Committee.

Within the last few minutes they formed the subject of conversation in my presence between some of the first men in point of intellect in the city, and I think it will not be disagreeable for you to know that while they had generally been opposed to you in the late Congress, they are now unanimous in their opinion that your last remarks proved you to be as far above most, if not all, others in the Senate as a friend of Abraham, as you are in point of intellect. They deemed especially the surprise and shock, that you have had no more of political usage to speak of than that you would not let your own opinions, however clear, influence the flat points, or make fort principlie, if these were done to in the way of such fair compromises, you would sweep as the good man of your whole country now demands. Believe me, my dear Sir, when I
From your that such sentiments, if you do, as I am sure you can and trust for you, we, all our friends, and from them, with all our love to our dear land, the place of freedom we have gained back. My people, all peace at all times, will not be more than properly, may be, the man who, from the heart, may see the light, sacrifice, but he may wish only his joy, by which it is in danger. I meet to the personal part that it could hardly hold back his snow from the fate of a day, we must to range his jealous grief. But the effort to the fault with his country, with the hope, while he may be scenes, for suffrage. I must be a free and true, patience of not receiving money, did he know, that it can be beyond them, who sit at home, the enemy, because, and the low, their precious self, for with, as far as I can, him to make you all, where it lived as a free man, here remains and thank you for the kindness, you have attached, and yet they now look to you for them a family, of their alliance. With the Mississippi men of the South, the law, or worse, what will control them? Let them pray as little as where popular justice, at the North as the South, and then say in form, well. And what has joined them? What, to require, let there be the faith, with a connection, the first, to me, and let me out fill further that is...
there they be so oppressed that the Supreme Court itself shall not be able to decide who is right for that would have often
The whole freedom of contention. The Republicans would keep up the war on the old pretext that it was
wrong in its construction & I had it must be continued. But enough of this. I only mean
to let you know what able & good men think of your effort & to tell you the people here are some
of more political. They are now for the full
real charter to be issued to some one of higher
power & a stated manner by one who will speak as a friend of both factions & one who may be
followed with honor by all. Favor me, my dear letter,
I write it in my office while some one on the stairs
They the heavy east peaceful people enjoy

This is the advent of the Prince of Peace. Let me conclude by saying you six many return of this happy town

Faithfully your friend

[Signature]

J. C. F. Rush

St. Louis, Mo.
Filmington, N. Y.
Dec. 24th, 1861

Mr. Douglas:

Please favour me with your last speech-delivered in the Senate.

Yours truly,

C.W. Farison

Hon. S. A. Douglas, Ill.
Bot. 1948

48 Pine St.
New York
Dec 24 1860

My dear Sir,

Will you do me the favor to send me a copy of the Pacific R.R. Bill that has passed the House, as I would like to analyze it a little before it comes up for the action of the Senate.

I am yours,

S. Douglass
Edward Learned
Dec 1948, New York
Dec 24, 1960

A copy of Pacific C.R.
Bill.
Lexington, Rockbridge County, Virginia,
Dec. 24th, 1860.

To Stephen A. Douglas,

Dear Sir:

I take the liberty of addressing you a line, enclosing the proceedings of a recent meeting of the Northerners, men, mechanic, & farmers of our county, which will show you that the Douglas Democracy are "up and doing" for the Constitution & the Union. Pardon this intrusion upon your valuable time. A member of us considered it our duty to enclose you the preamble and resolutions adopted by us; make any direction of them you may think proper.

Hoping your laudable efforts to preserve the crumbling fabric of our Union may be rewarded with success, I have the honor to remain

Respectfully yours,

Wm. C. McClure.
Mr. C. McClure,
Lexington, Rockbridge Co.,
Vig. Dec. 24, 1860

Enclosing proceedings of a Union Meeting etc.

See within.
Birmingham, Mich. Dec 24, 60

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

Sir: It has been my settled and deliberate opinion for the last ten years that the framers of the Constitution of the United States made a fatal omission when they failed to incorporate in that instrument a section allowing any state to go out of the Union in time of peace by a vote of two thirds of the Electors of the State. Let an amendment to the Constitution embody this principle be made as I think it can be made with proper effort, and the present boiling caldron of deception and revolution will be quieted and perhaps South Carolina and other seceding States may be induced to return and take their chances again in the union. I hope you will not be frightened at the above
Suggestions, but will give them due consideration before laying them aside as impracticable. You will find in them a wonderful field for investigation and you are just the man to take the initiative and make a powerful effort to save our beloved and common country. If you have a desire to know whether I am a Democrat and a true friend of your recent President who resides in Washington, was last session of Congress engaged in some business in the Senate Chamber. I have never had the pleasure of making your acquaintance but I cannot on that account deny myself the satisfaction of being permitted to subscribe myself Very Respectfully your Friend

E. Raynall
E. Raynall

Birmingham, Michigan
Dec. 24, 1868

Proposes to amend the Constitution so as to allow any state to decide, if two thirds of the Electors of that State so desire.
Respectfully Ind 24th. Nov. 1860.

Dear Sir,

I have the Patent Office Report for 1857, presented by Hon. James Hughes, here and being as the P.M. was writing to Mr. Bright his Representative for a copy of 1868 and 1879. I thought I would apply to the man nearest my political sentiments for the above named copy. I may be asking more than is usually customary if I beg to be excused. I have been the busy P.M. the last years but believing that the people had a right to legislate for the favor. I must ask Mr. Bright to look for the favor.

 Truly yours,

James R. F.
Port Royal City, Dec. 24/63

My dear Douglas—

Now I come to another point. The presidential election is over and the contest has been as eventful and severe as I have looked on with great anxiety and some unhappiness at the result. But being nearly a stranger here, I have not participated in the strife. The battle was fought as manfully as likely here, I'm sure, as in any part of the N.S. Very truly, law or husband of this city, has been most actively engaged for you. So much to hear you
and had a personal introduction to you at Detroit—
be has been highly pleased
with you, your speeches and
course throughout the contest.
I have only to say, as one
who honestly differs with
you in politics, that you have been
most obedient, most
especially by Buchanan,
Breckenridge & that it
now do I justify the Repub-
licans in their course
toward you—Mr. Clay
made a most brutal
speech against you here.
And it was as weak
as brutal—
And the crisis is before us,
I fully concur with my
uncle, Mr. Slavon, of Spring-
brook. Let me say that this
should no sympathy felt for
the South in this trouble for
aided by the present infam-
ous Executive. They have
brought it upon themselves.
I could not see any chance
for your election after the
secession at Charleston &
Baltimore. But your
course was plain impera-
tive. And I accord
to you, in the main, consis-
tency & a good fight.
I also agree with you that
the idea of the succession
of states without war or
bloodshed is delusive.
But how can it be helped
unless you take the ground
of Genl Jackson that the
states are red, but the Nation
is sovereign? I think there
is your practical difficulty.
in the present crisis.

But I would not detain you with discussion —

Suffice it to say that Mr.

Buchanan has made

the very worst of this
difficulty — his good

and — good — devil.

Policy should excite un-

equalled the contempt

and indignation of the Country

and the world.

National Sovereign State

Rights in Subordination

seem to be the only theory

our Government by which we

can be explained from

the present discussion.

Wishing well beyond the

Country I am Yours etc.

Geo. B. Sampson
Senator Douglas,

For RECEIVING from this Envelope, that I am now in the Snow—

And let me say that any business in that line will be promptly attended to.

Your friend &c. Wm. B. M.

If this City has retired from the Toilet, so my family will get their mail and get settling in this City. As my family will get our mail and get settling in this City, I concluded to come here and spend the rest of my days.

My best recreation is Natural History, mine especially the Study of Ornithology. Read me the "Smithsonian Institution."
has Published "A Catalogue of Birds" and as you are
connected officially with
that Institution I was
very much obliged of you to put me in
the way of obtaining
that Catalogue.
I have written to Wash-
ington for it but have
not been able to get any
trace of it since I
drew the first notice
of its Publication.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Signature]
Guy C. Sampson
Patterson City
Decr 24, 1860

Political &c.
want a "Catalogue
of Birds" - a pamphlet
published by Smith
-sonian Institution.
Funnstown Dec 24th (60)

Dear Sir,

Will you be so kind as to send me the last mechanical report of the Patent office as the decision stands that he took in your favour at the last Presidential election has deprived us of all favours in the way of public documents except your kind generosity favours us in that way to send us all documents that may tend to keep up our organization as we intend to fight them to the last.

Yours Respectfully,

To the Hon. A. Douglas

Wm. South
Henry Gower
Joseph Williams
Dr. Johnson
Committee for this District

Direct to William South
Funnstown Washington County Md.
Mr. South
Father-in-law
Funkstown, Nash Co. Md.
Dec. 24, 1860
speeches.

Fucks Town
Hickory in County
Maryland.

Mr. J. S.
Henry Sower author
Frank D'Alonzo.