Pثم Bluff Ste.
Feb 16th 1850

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,

Dear sir, I take
this method, and the liberty
to say to you, that I am, and all
my friends, have been your admirer as
a statesman of the Democratic
stamp, and have now confidence
in your sagacity, wisdom and abili-
ty, to counsel in this time of
national calamity. I was for your
promotion to the Residency, and I
need not add perhaps, that I repeated
my influence—though futile—till that
end. Now sir, I ask your opinion.
I have not been able to obtain your
signature in the present Congress.
Arkansas, through a portion of her cit-
izens has taken possession of the Federal
property. She is likely to succeed.
Excuse my liberty in thus asking
for a moment of your time.
Yours with profound respect,

J. W. Denby
J. W. Demby
Pine Bluff, Arkansas
Feb 10, 1861

Speeches on the Crisis.
Bury 16th Feb 1861

Dear Sir,

Accept my thanks for your kindness in notifying to my address your story written in the last. I should above all feel obligated to you for the speeches you may see fit to send me; I may then see upon the important issues before the people. But enemies (as I mentioned) sometime ago, saw happy to inform you failed to "come up to the standard". I remain very respectfully yours sincerely T. H. Gaskell
T. H. Cash
Barr, Missouri
Feb 10, 1861

Late speeches.
Feb. 10th 1861

La Grange, Macon County

My Dear Mr. Douglas,

I take this opportunity to inform you that I am reminded by many good friends in this part of the country of your virtue, general acquaintance, and the fact that we are all co-operating with you, standing on the same platform with you. Holding fast to the integration of the Democratic party, we hold that no state has any right to secede from the union on the account of the late election, and we doubt that any man daily setting for our rights and principles, and as I, in my judgment, believe that there is a gradual shift of public opinion, I desire you to send me the proceedings of the Senate, also their is others that ask the same and we the undersigned the proceedings of the Senate and are subscriber yours truly,

G. H. Hart

Sr. J. A. Douglas

G. H. Hart

B. J. Bragg

E. A. S.

H. Freeman

K. C. Star

La Grange, R. J. Macon Co. 1861

Einksville, Adair Co. 1861
G. A. Hart
B. S. Bragg
S. Courtsey
La Plata, Macom Co., Missouri

T. Freeman
Kirksville, Ausco. Missouri
Feb 10-1861
Proceedings of Senate.
Springfield, Illinois,
February 10th, 1861.

Hon. S. A. Douglas,
Washington City.

Sir:

I send enclosed a petition to Congress, which I desire you will have the goodness to present, as the plan is my own without consultation with any one, and as I am an obscure individual, never having held any office under Government, or ever solicited one, I hope it may not be objected to as a party measure, and therefore will meet with more general favour.

I firmly believe if the amendment proposed or something similar, had been made to the Constitution ten years ago, the present extraordinary difficulties would have been avoided.

You, Sir, will perceive that my plan leaves the government of the territory to Congress when it should be, because the inhabitants are supposed to be citizens of the United States, and not at the same time citizens of any other government. It destroys forever the idea of territories as organized territories, which I do not believe the framers of
the Constitution even intimated. Also it leaves the decision of the Supreme Court unaffected, and the new method of choosing electors will prevent the possibility of an election of a President by a division.

I should be happy, Sir, to learn your views respecting my proposed plan for the adjustment of present difficulties. It seems to me that it does not require any fact
ring down from the principles of any polit
tical party, either North or South.

I am, Sir,
very respectfully,
F. T. [Signature]

[Signature]
Horace Nickels
Springfield, Illinois
Feb 21st, 1861

Enclosed plan for the settlement of national difficulties.
The petition of Horace Dickson of Springfield, Illinois, to the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled,

Your petitioners respectfully solicit Congress to submit in substance to the people of the United States the following amendments to the Constitution:

Article 1st. Section 1st
Congress shall have power at any time to carve out from the territory of the United States a portion suitable for a state, and admit it as a minor state into this Union.

Section 2d
It shall be the duty of Congress to provide rules to facilitate the organization of said Minor State, and also a constitution containing a clause enabling the people thereof to alter or amend it at any time.

Section 3d
It shall be lawful for the people of any portion of the United States Territory to organise a government for themselves, and ask to be added
mited as a Minor State - Congress fixing the boundaries.

Section 1st.

In case any community of people sufficiently numerous for a state or Minor State applying to be admitted into the Union shall be refused for three successive years, such community shall thereafter be absolved from any allegiance to the United States Government.

Section 5th.

The condition of a Minor State so admitted shall be in every respect the same as that of a Major State, excepting its representation in Congress.

Section 6th.

Each Minor State shall be entitled to one voting member in the House of Representatives.

Section 7th.

Whenever the population of a Minor State becomes equal to the then existing ratio, for a representation in Congress, it shall be entitled to admission as a Major State.

Art. III, Sec. 15.

The legislature of each state shall
divide the state into as many districts as the state is entitled to have electors of President and Vice President less two, each of which districts shall choose an elector, the remaining two electors may be appointed in any manner the legislature shall prescribe.

Section 2nd

Each minor state shall be entitled to one elector — the manner of whose appointment shall be determined by the legislature thereof.

Your petitioners finds that his petition may be favourably considered, and be will ever pray.

[Signature]
Petition

of Horace Hickox

suggesting

Amendment to Constitution.
Grand Rapids, Mich.
February 10, 1861

Sir: A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

You can scarcely imagine the intense interest with which the result of the Conference at Washington is looked for here. Whatever our Members of Congress may do or whatever our State Legislators may do — you and those with whom you act may not agree that of any reasonable adjustment of existing difficulties shall be submitted to the people of this State. Yet it will be shown whether it be your proposition or the border State so-called or the original Cullender proposition unamended — should the Conference recommend the Cullender proposition, I trust that it will be submitted to a vote of the people — Your
I need have no apprehensions about the result. A majority of the people of this state see the necessity of saving the border slave, and will acquire no very measure while the Congress of Washington are not found meeting for that purpose. If the majority of the Congress shall agree upon anything that Congress by vote do not the better people, if Congress will do this. Let the Congress itself provide for such subscriptions. Excuse this letter from a stranger. The future events I feel in this matter must be my excuse. Knowing your public character that the subject must occupy your mind, day and night. I write you to repeat, we can carry to day, any at the polls, any measure which the Calum belief of the border slave. This may require for their protection. Upon this fact, the friends of the union every where may rely. I cannot doubt that there may a majority of the Congress will adopt some plan. The Congressmen of the abolition party are members. The Congress is of no account. No Congress need be made to them. Let the border slave State be lost. We people well the care of this matter. The border slave State, ought, if I trust at all, to be unanswerable. But the effect of the abolitionists in no act of Congress is scarcely desirable. Would such hope? Respectfully,

Lucius Patterson.
Lucius Patterson
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Feb. 10, 1861

Michigan will at the polls, approve any plan that may be acceptable to the Border Slave States.
February 16th, 1861

Hvn. J.A. Douglas

I am duly authorized by a number of your democratic friends in this section of the country to know your position on the present crisis. You received 218 votes in Union Township, Clifton, Co. O., and it would greatly gratify them very much to know your position as they cannot find out. We believe in giving the South their rights before we coerce them. We believe also that had you been elected this trouble would have never been but at the same time we believe in giving old Abe his seat.

Yours Respectfully,

[Signature]

[Name]
Date of Union Township

S. A. Douglas  218
Abe Lincoln  121
John Bell  9

15

$868
J. H. Andruzet
Union Township, Clermont Co.
Ohio — Feb 10 1861

Site the South in right,
beon a copy,
ask for copiers of
Judge D's speech.
Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Dear Sir - I have this day addressed a letter to Hon. E. D. Baker of Oregon, touching the appointment of two friends - Republicans - one in Oregon and the other in California to positions under the incoming Administration, which must be pleased to have you favor, if consistently you can do so. One, George L. Hindale of Westbury Oregon, desires the position of Collector at Keddie in that State - the other George Webster of Stockton Cal. desires the position of Register in that office at that place. Both of them are personal friends of mine, men of integrity and every way worthy and capable of filling the positions which they seek. I wish they might be successful.

Mr. Hindale was formerly from this State, though a resident of California and Oregon since 1849. Mr. Webster is from Edgar Co. Illinois, and informing that I might ask your interest in his behalf, he says in his letter to me, that
Douglas, that I am a pure native from Edgar Co., Illinois, and as a genuine stump speaker will stand no theses at all for offices in this State, Eastern men having the State and court organizations, and have put the word, "up" on us Western boys. He will, however, strongly resist any petition and accede that if the President but very wisely concludes that it is necessary to have the friendship of Col. Baker in addition to your friend Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Fairchild, is not consistent with local recommendations, and exhibits an unselfish and reliance upon my individual aid which I am apprehensive will be of little avail to him, and state would be all the more gratifying to me if I could successfully aid him. Perhaps it may be inconsistent with propriety to be anything more in politics to express my thoughts on the matters as your between the North and South, and if you could assist your new friends in any manner for any friends, but it is not so, and you could aid them in any way I should consider it a great personal favor.

Our State Convention was a complete success to the Douglas party. In everything but his position, and there are so many--that while they will do no good, they may not do any great harm. I send you the list of resolutions adopted--their patronage is given to Mr. McEaton--his opinions are radical and peculiar, that it is not safe in every instance, in any opinion, for the Democratic party to follow them. This is already great opposition made among our friends in the first and firmest resolutions, which I have marked around. The Democracy of this State are in a condition more than ever to reject your opinions and views upon the matters at issue between the North and South, and if you could prevail for one thing, every friend of public or private use, I would hazard everything in following it, though it might crop and clash with the elect of the Convention, that gave us
dissent to them. While there is an outward semblance of harmony in the action of our convention, still its results are underlaid with a volcanic feeling. The Bolts are not satisfied with their score in nominating a ticket of our own liking, and taking seven out of the nine members of the State Central Committee. Besides their first frame was otherwise unpleasantly disturbed. Suffering they would have everything their own way, it was evident to re-nominating Gov. Seymour and them in a long letter prepared for the occasion have his name withdrawn. Filled up however, that the delegates were from the various districts would defeat any such arrangement. They next professed to withdraw Seymour's name, and pass a complimentary resolution endorsing his Democracy, &c. This led them to be obliged to abandon, notwithstanding all the leading Bolts, Eaton, Dunn, Osborne, and others fairly begged for this cumulative favor. Their next scheme after complimenting Seymour was to put Henry C. Fearing on the ticket for Gov., but the very fact of his being proposed by them as a duodecim man, and a man on whom they would concentrate their strength, gave rise to great and intense suspicion to the convention and he received the most direct demand for his speedy last fell every
Douglas an an evil hing and his name was scarcely mentioned in the Convention. Finding that the Douglas strength was concentrated on Leornis, and deniers of defeating it, at all hazards, they went associated the prominent names together, Ingerson and Hayard. For the purpose of defeating us, under the circumstances, the name of Ingerson could not have been better in an Convention, particularly when associated with so true a man as Col. Hayard. But the bill was to big for a Douglas an an to swallow – Ingerson being President of the Bolters Convention in this state, and he too received the rebuke of an indignant Democracy. — Lorris was nominated and Col. Hayard taken for the position preferred with Ingerson. The bolters now claim that Lorris was a Breech ridge man, but whether he was, or not, no one can state positively, and it is unsafe to know that he got his nomination from Douglas an an in the face of stratagem and
And strong Combination proposed by The Bolton. These are some of the causes for complaint among The Bolton, and dissatisfaction exists among The Free Democracy in regard to The Resolutions—Under these circumstances, and added to The fact that Eaton made himself so prominent before The Convention, I do not believe that We shall poll so large a vote in the State this spring as we did last year. However much they may talk about union and harmony, it does not now exist, and will not during The campaign. The leading Bullies must first be laid on The shelf. Besides in this District an attempt will be made to nominate Deering for Congress in The room of Alvin P. Hyde, and if successful against Mr. Hyde's wishes or that of his friends, there will be a serious difficulty ensuing, insomuch as any expectations of success is concerned, for in right usage and custom, Mr. Hyde is entitled to a re-nomination, and it must be ensured to him if he wants it. Though both of them are put down as Douglas men, still there is a difference between them, and a preference—Deering is capable, and ambitious while Hyde is straightforward and true.

Please let me hear from you. Truly yours, [Signature]
Resolutions at the Democratic State Convention.

Owing to the haste necessary in getting up a very lengthy and intimate report of the proceedings at the Democratic State Convention at New Haven, a few arrays were made in copying the resolutions agreed upon by that body. Although they did not materially affect the sense of the resolutions we think it proper to republish the resolutions with the necessary corrections.

Whereas, The confederacy of the States is now endangered by imminent danger, threatening not only the dissolution of the Union, but irreparable injury between its antagonist sections, and whereas, it is the duty of all political parties to exert their utmost influence to preserve intact the Union of the States, and to restore that spirit of federality and conciliation which characterized our whole people; and whereas, it is due to our humanity to every State that a full, frank, and frank expression of our views should be connoted; therefore

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Democracy of Connecticut in convention assembled, that this government is a confederacy of equal and independent States, based and founded upon the equal rights of the States as the legislative department, tending to their equality, in a master constitution, the spirit and letter of the constitutional compact.

Resolved, That the present imminent dangers to the country, indicate that both foreign and domestic constitutions and sectional spirit of a great Northern party, the presidencies andRepresentation deny to the people of one class of States, the enjoyment and exercise of the same political rights claimed and enjoyed by the other class of States; thus ignoring and destroying the great political truth, that national laws, and the will of our government, and the vital principle of the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved, That a restoration of confidence between the different sections of our common country, should be, and is, the earnest and enduring sign in every patriotic heart, to that great object which should be sacrificed to the spirit of faction and the spirit of partisanship; therefore the Democracy of Connecticut earnestly commend to the attention of Congress the views of venerable and distinguished senator from Kentucky; believing that the adhesion, or those of a similar character, would greatly contribute to harmonize the spirit of discord and strife, and make the progress of concord, and lead to the reconstruction of a now desolate Union.

Resolved, That the pernicious doctrine of conciliation instead of consolidating with the several States, which is now advocated and urged by the leaders of the Northern sectional party, is entirely at variance with the exercise of right reason, matured judgment, and the principles of the Constitution of the United States, and should be sternly resisted by every lover of our common country, by every well wisher to the best interests of the Republic, just as it was opposed to the progress and civilization of the age, as a sure precursor of an national war in which would be sacrificed the lives of hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens; the expenditure of countless millions of treasure; the destruction of the moral and commercial interests of our people by the prostration of the government and the financial ruin of all, and by the defeat forever its ancient and lead to the reconstruction of a now desolate Union.

Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives from Connecticut in the present Congress of the United States, being hereby charged by virtue of their office with the duty of presenting and preserving the United States Constitution, have utterly failed to meet the requirements of their high position in this time of imminent dangers; that they have manifested an insuperable indifference to the welfare of the people, by steadily refusing either to support any proposition looking towards compromise and peace, or to vote for any such offer when presented by others, and have given countenance to the just expectations of the people of this State, who had hoped that they would conduct themselves in the present crisis of their country as statesmen rather than as politicians.

Resolved, That the so-called Personal Liberty bills shall upon the statute books of this State, and which are the fruit of the exclusion of the poor of under the distinct avowal that its object was to prevent the execution of the Federal Constitution, in the clip; a violation of one of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, of which our Southern brethren have complained, and the plain, and that good faith, honor and patriotism demands its repeal.

Resolved, That we confidently present to the conservative voters of this State the ticket for State offices, nominated by this Convention, as in every respect entitled to their vital support; and we hereby earnestly entreat all of those who desire a peaceful settlement of our present national difficulties in securing the election.
DEMOCRATIC UNION TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR: JAMES C. LOOMIS.............. Bridgeport

FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR: A. G. HAZARD......... .Norfield

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE: NATHANIEL B. STEVENS....... Norfolk

FOR TREASURER: THOMAS H. C. KINGSBURY....... Franklin

FOR COMPTROLLER: HORACE TAYLOR !...... Vernon

A Word of Warning.

If our friends of the press who favor the election of the Democratic ticket earnestly and honestly desire its success, they will discontinue, during the campaign, their discussion of the influences of men, and beset all the influences of the new Registrars, and so on, for all, that their style of proceeding (as it is known) is New Haven, Registrar of the 7th inst.) is not that which is either calculated to produce or to sustain harmony in a united party. Sacrifice has been made of opinion—honorable sacrifices; but, however desirable, they have not been made at the instance of men; they have been produced by the dictation of a popular judgment independently of, and beyond the direction of any man—and especially of those whose positions as a leader the Registrar arrogates in a manner so free and aspcnsious manner.

The Registrar ought to know that oftentimes

"Men are the sport of circumstances when the circumstances seem the sport of men; and knowing this, and having very good reason to believe that the late Democratic State Convention is not to be saddled with any implied endorsement of men, or of things nonspecific. Yet, in its proceedings, it would be wise policy in the Registrar and other papers to let their ideas of the superiority of a certain individual and of his position alone. We warn all these papers that we shall not feel "harmoniously" inclined to let them or their protos "slide," if their game is at present, or until the close of the campaign, further pursued in the direction they have commenced to run. We have no wish to lower his level one inch—or to interfere with their private estimates of its altitude; but their opinions are not ours, and they shall not be at liberty to cram any man’s pretensions over our throat when we are ready to swallow them.

The Precedents of Coercion.

The word ‘Coercion’—as it is applied to the position of the government in relation to the seceded States—means to have all manner of interpretations. It would appear, by the arguments of our Republican friends, that their view of coercion embraces no preli minary of conciliation. Its quality is solely that of force. They hold it up as a remedy for evils that exist, along with the presumption that there has been no good cause for their existence, which presumption is wrong. Whether Republicans admit it or no they cannot go into coercing the seceded States with clean hands. Their unconstitutional proceedings have furnished the South examples of rebellion against the laws and the government; and if the South has gone further in its opposition to the law and the executive power than they have done, instead of shooting for coercion, the Republican party should shew the South the way back from their secession. When they have done so—
J. W. Setfield
Hartford, Conn.
Feb 5, 1861

Politics in regard to Conn. Convention.
In regard to the appointment on Western Coast, has written to Senator Baker in regard to them.
P.S. Feb 10th 61.

Sir,

Please be so kind as to send me one of your speeches on the "State of the Union," delivered last month in the Senate, and adjourned you.

J.H. Scruggs

Hon. J.A. Longfellow
Washington, D.C.

P.S. I sincerely hope this Union shall be preserved, and if so, the Republicans have achieved their last victory and will never put another executive in the chair of the Presidency, until the last inglorious chief begins to feel their error in relying on the election of the president to rule against the will of the people, he would be victorious.

J.H.G.
J. W. Steenrnan
Pella, Marion Co. Iowa
Feb 3, 1861

Speeches for circulation

Pella

C. O. G. M. W. D.

Wallingford, Conn.

FRED
Dear Sir,

[Handwritten text]

Yours truly,

[Signature]
Standing between the Dominions of the
U.S. on any occasion with the Prince
Abeiny of the Great Chief
Half-Leet Dominic a small amount
Indicating the presence of the Dominies
and about the coming commercially
and politically outside any such things
enjoying Churay for the own their
importance Success in the continued
To part from the time again the
Over Commercial with the Great
for the last turn more than one attending the
attentions of own leading Clinton
in the Commercial
extension having and

July 18th 1861
J. Madsen
10 Pine St. New York
Feb 10, 1861

Introducing Mr. Rich.
Hastfield of Buffalo,
a person thoroughly
acquainted with the
making of Naval Vessels,
on what the commercial
and political requirements
of Canada demand.
Bullewoc Feb. 10th 1861

Mr. Stephen A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

As one of the Great “Douglas Democratic Party,” I take the liberty of asking you if you have the leisure, and can without putting yourself to too much trouble to aid us in dealing out just Retribution to a preceding traitor from the Dem. Ranks J.W. Mc tục, the past master at Bulleway Jackson County Iowa, Who has formerly acted with the Democratic party, and who got his appointment through Democrats, has just now, a few days before the 14th of March made the extraordinary discovery that the Republican doctrine is the true and genuine doctrine, and has openly avowed himself to be an out and out Republican — A few of us Democrats held a meeting last evening and have sent in a petition to the P.M. Govt.
Asking him to appoint Andrew J. Woods Postmaster in place of the present incumbent. Done if you can aid us in any way in this matter, we will be greatly obliged. I am not unmindful that our Post-Office matter is very trifling compared with the vastly important interests of our country with which your attention is engrossed. Yet it is a matter of some moment to us. But if we can get Mr. Woods appointed, he is so strong in the affections of the people that the Republicans will hardly attempt to meet him.

The map of the people here endorse your course this winter, and more a canvass for president to come off tomorrow. I have no doubt but you would receive three-fourths of the votes of Iowa. The people have taken the “Hawk & ober” second thought.

Very Respectfully,

Yours...

M. W. Winthrop
A. T. Wyukoof
Bellevue, Jackson Co., Iowa
Feb 21st 1861

Recommending Andrew
G. Wood as P. M.