

Tremont Dec^r 7th 1844.
To the Rev S. A. Douglass
Sir

As it is our misfortune
to live in a Whig district. And not bring in—
high farmers with them at this time. They neglect
to furnish us with "Documents." Not being willing
to fall too far behind the times. We appeal to you.

It was our pleasure to give you our support
when in this district. And know which heart felt
a lively interest in your success. Our great men are
fast passing off the stage. Who shall succeed them?
You have all the elements within yourself to ^{beget} ~~beget~~
with the great of ^{the} Earth. Persevere—Be consistent—
and prepare for the high destiny that awaits
You—

Very Respy
Yours Obedt Servt

George W. Fridley

P.S. If it is not asking too much
please remember I saw you of this place

M. Davis



Free

Hon Stephen A Douglass M.C.

Washington City

D.C.

*Geo W. F. Smith
Trenton
N.J.*

I have not a single letter from you since I left
 you in the month of June. I am very anxious
 to hear from you and to hear how you are getting
 on. I am well and hope this letter will find
 you the same. I am very much interested in
 your work and hope you will continue to
 do it. I am very much interested in your
 work and hope you will continue to do it.

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Mr Stephen A. Douglass
Dear Sir

26 Merchant Exchange
New York 7 December 1841

I obtain a recommendation
in the Message of an appropriation for building the
"Ball proof" iron Frigate proposed by Ret. L. Stephens
You may have observed some time since some
Experiments in England demonstrating completely the
futility of the plan of this Frigate. Successive layers of
Wrought Iron were perforated by ordinary sized Shot with
the as much facility and certainty as the same thickness of
Wood. It has also been demonstrated here that Stevens'
project fails of its object. An Experiment was made under
Circumstances most favorable to it and resulted in
ignominious failure. Capt. Slocum is an intimate friend
of Stevens' and would not perhaps be inclined to volunteer
testimony against the plan of this Frigate. Nevertheless he
has demonstrated its entire fallacy and his testimony if
brought out by reference of the subject to a Special Committee
would completely lay the Scheme on the shelf and save
the Government 200 000 dollars

As you "go in" for "glory" I have deemed it likely you
might be glad to "cheek mate" this Scheme of personal
profit the minute nature of which I will advise you
of if you think proper to move in it

Yours Respectfully
Yours at Sat
Jas P Knapp

John Stephen A. Douglass

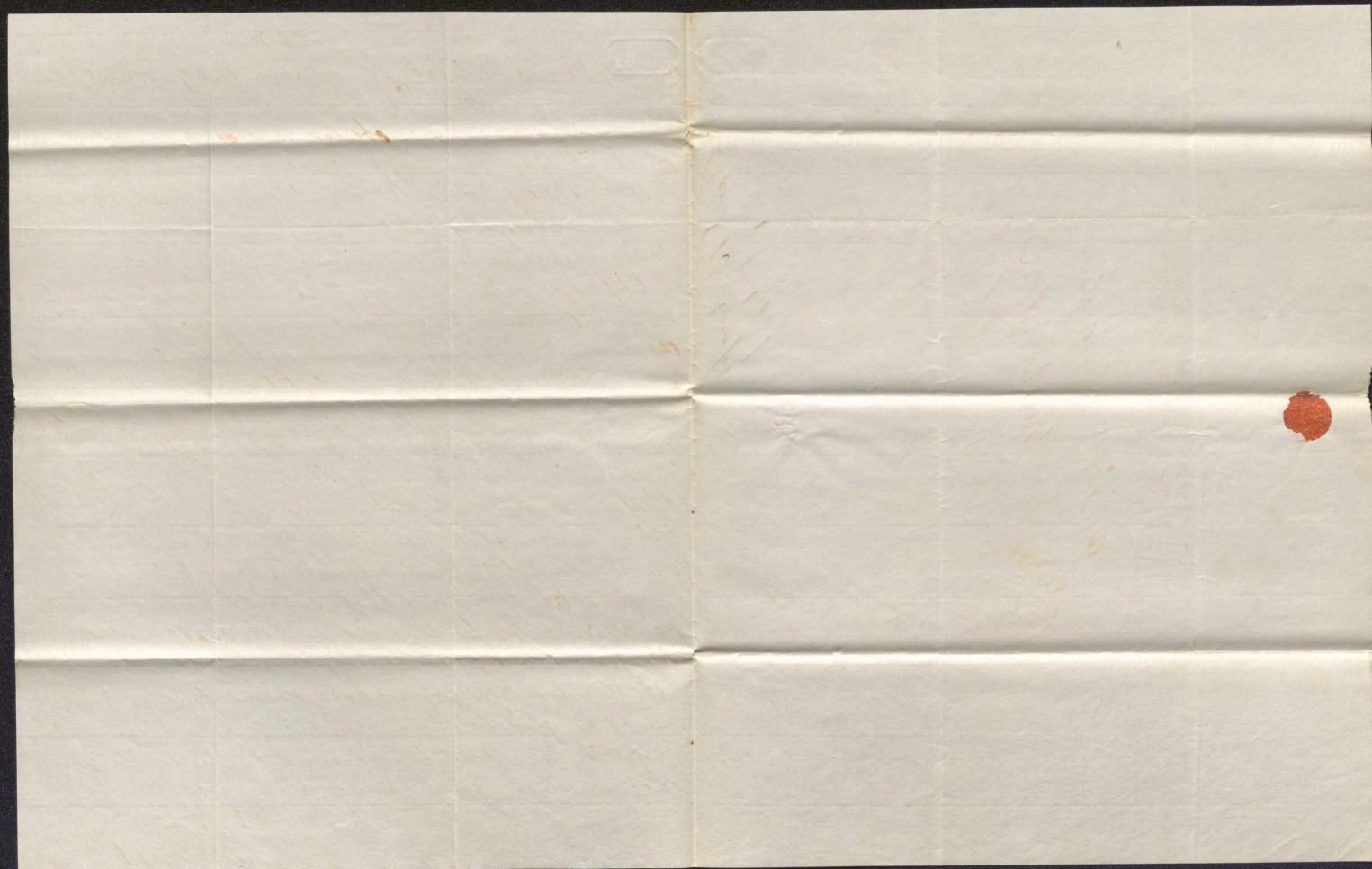
Washington

P.C.



Saml J. Knapp
Wash





Fayette, Green County, Tex.
1846

Dear Sir,

Permit me so far to intrude upon
your kindness, as to beg of you to favor me,
occasionally, with a document, during the
present session, for which you will
receive the unfeigned Thanks of your

Very humble Servt,
William A. Sumrell

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,

P.S. Direct to Fayette, Green County, Ills

Wm A Sumrell
Tazette
Green Co
Ms

Greenfield N.H.
Dec 18 3

25

Wm. L. A. Douglas
Washington City
D.C.



Philad^a Dec. 8th 1844

Dear Sir

By the Washington papers, I perceive you have returned to your arduous duties; and as I have a favour to beg of you, I hope and pray, you will not think it amiss.

After a hard fought battle, our cause has triumphed, and as it will and ought to be, those who have exerted themselves to accomplish the same, are entitled to the benefits to be derived therefrom, I beg of you to use your influence in my behalf, to either obtain for me in Washington a clerkship in some one of the Departments (an easy berth) or else should you think it more advisable, use it if you please to obtain one here; there will be some vacancies here in the Custom House, one of which the Deputy Store Keeper, I have spoken to Mr. Robt. Tyler about, he told me his idea was that they and it were pretty much promised ~~and~~ should it be so, he and you together could obtain me something in Washington, a letter from you to him on the subject or an interview with him the next time he visits Washington, would be of some service; - you will be kind enough to inform

me in regard to this subject.

We are at present keeping up our organization in each ward and district of the City and Co. and forming beneficial societies to assist our friends who have and may be discharged from employ by our foes for having voted as they in their judgement thought best for the whole Country; - it is my humble opinion that this system of proscription adopted by the Whigs, will, if we manage all as we ought to do be the means, of our obtaining over them here next fall as great a victory as our most sanguine friends elsewhere could wish, time will prove if not my conjectures are not right.

Your state has done nothing; ours we all are, as we ought to be, proud of, she has nothing sustained her favourite son Geo. M. Dallas as well as the principles she has always sustained for, the Whigs used every means in their power, many of the manufacturers put on a double number of hands, the merchants even employed extra clerks to obtain their votes, with the intention to keep them no longer than until the election was over, and then discharge them, but it would not do the Democrats so employed, knew all about it, and stood firm

but hundreds have been discharged, and the Whigs now say such would not have been the case had Clay been successful, but I assure you, had he succeeded they would have done just the same thing, as they would have had no more for them do, then than now. It aggravates them much that with all their deep laid plans, to entrap the staunch Democracy, and all their expenditures of money, that they could not succeed in electing their "great Embodiment" the "mill boy of the Slashes," and therefore are more openly proscription than they would have been, had Clay been elected.

Please if not taking too much of your valuable time, let me hear from you.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglass
Washington

Your affectionate friend
Thomas Graham
No 289 Market St
Philad?

Morgan



Hon. Stephen A. Douglass
Washington
D. C.



Wm. Graham
Care of
Richmond

House of Representatives

Decr. 8th 1844

Dear Friends,

I recd. your letter of the 10th inst a few days previous to my departure for this place. I did not reach here until the house was organized and officers elected in consequence of sickness in my family and the loss of one of my children.

I suppose you will see the officers of the House announced in the House papers before this letter reaches you. Our friends appear to be in fine spirits ~~at~~ ^{reference} & well united. There is some manoeuvring at this time with, to M. S. Senator, in addition to Gen Simple & Col. Taylor, Mr Trumbell is on the track, & I should not be surprised if he should break into the feud & look arrangements very considerably. & you need not be surprised to hear of his election of some other person who has not been talked of. Many of your friends may go for Trumbell if they are satisfied that it will not interfere with your future prospects. Trumbell says he is for you now & will go for you if your friends bring you out.

and that he will not be in your way
hereafter, so say most of his friends. You
could have been elected without any
difficulty if you had desired it, but
it is understood here that such is
not your desire. Temple has a good many
friends here, but they are not very active.
He will probably have the most votes on
the first ballot, but most of them will
probably go over to Trumbull & the
contest will narrow down between him
& Trumbull, & your friends from the
military tract, will decide the
matter, & I think from present
indications that a majority of them
will go to Trumbull, but this
is not certain.

There has been a report here to day
rather prejudicial to you, but which
your friends has or will stop. It
is reported that after bledging your
influence for Taylor, you wrote to
Trumbull, saying to him that now
was the time for him to make a push &
I saw Trumbull on the subject & he
says that it is positively false, &
is trying to find from whence it
originated.

The election comes on next Wednesday.
Let me hear from you as often
as convenient, & I will occasionally
give you items of what is going
on at this place.

Yours Respectfully,
L. M. Rife

Wm S. H. Douglass

7c



Wm
Hon S. A. Douglass
member of Congress
Washington City



Wm
Douglass
Hon S. A. Douglass

Springfield Dec^r the 10th AD 1844

Dear

Win the Election of invited States Senators
has gon off this day it terminated in the Election
of Gen^l Semple two motives influenced my action
on that Subject— first Semple is a good man and
worthy of the confidence of the party and of course
timed as he was it was Every way right—

(secondly) The Eye of the people of my Section
of the State are turned on you for that Station
at the end of two years — do not think I
flatter you when I say to you as many of the
papers, and publick prints have said that your
talents are second to no man in the nation

Consequently ~~and~~ it will shortly be.

Stephen A— of the west— instead of Harry
of the west— — I sent to ~~the~~ Genl
B. B. Fisk the Claims (of John Scott my
Father) for a lost horse and Equipage lost
in the Revolutionary war I wish you to
fit it up a gain ~~and~~ press his Claim

The victory achieved in the presidential Election
was glorious - and will produce a glorious change
in the affairs of this nation - I fear that we
may meet with many disappointments as to men
but I hope not in measures I mean in relation
to officeholders. I find that many recommendations
are now proceeding here - I have never
presented my name for any office within
the patronage of the president - some friends
have spoken to me in relation to U.S. Marshal
for Ill. - I feel so deficient that my hand
trembles whilst I attempt writing these few
pages of insulting your feelings - I always
wish it to be understood that I do not seek
pay for doing that which was my choice to
do - true you might say to (president Polk)
that Tennessee ~~was~~ is the land of my nativity
there were my infant foot steps

it is Equally true that I used all my
power to affect and secure his Election

But, it is Equally true that I do not seek
for pay by way of the office hinted at
for so doing - you have been long acquainted

with me, and you know my unflinching ^{love} in the
Democrat Cause - I do not make this appeal to
your knowledge of these facts - to originate a claim
or under the color of claim - but to let you
know that if vested with the power vested in or
by that office that Every disposition under it should
be of Democrat- Character so far as politics
are concerned

I am apprised that there are a number of
applicants for this station, who will not approach you
in person but by the great men of the state
if you are my friend I must I will speak to you
and of this I have not the slightest doubt - dispose of me
as you may

this letter is two long above and because I had not
time to condense it and have written in two grate
a hurry to make it short

yours Truly

James G. Scott

Genl Scott
Springfield
Ill.

Wm
Hon^r Stephen A. English
" "

H B Washington
" " City

Spfld Dec 10th 1844

Hon Jas. A. Douglass

Dear Sir - I suppose you will have been already informed that Sample was nominated in Caucus last evg, & that he has this P.M. been duly elected Senator. This result is said on all hands to have been wrought about by the Gov who had influence sufficient it is generally supposed to effect the withdrawal of Taylor & in that way destroy the opposition to Sample. Mumbull withdrew only the day of the caucus as I understand - Had it been supposed that your name could have been used I do not doubt but that you would have been elected - The Northern delegation were not very well united on Sample, but thro' the influence of some of the more prominent members the opposition was finally brought to an end. Amongst others Arnold of our County was quite strenuous on behalf of Sample, particularly after it was ascertained that Ford desired it -

In other matters things of course remain in statu quo. As to the present Judiciary System, the Gov not only insists upon its being continued, but

also upon the election of his nominees - Shields
Caton & Thomas - of course there will all have
to be done.

I hear from Chicago that great efforts are
making to organize an opposition to Mr. Newton
& to endeavor to take the control of the affairs
of our district out of his hands at Washington.
I do not doubt that you have prof. been made the
confidant of some of their designs ~~and~~ for they
will attempt everything in order to secure your
assistance, it being pretty generally conceded that
your position at Washington is one so far as this state
is concerned, & indeed the West generally, of
paramount influence & importance. I have nothing
to say as to these efforts, they may all be correct enough
for ought that I have to say, I can only remark that
they do not meet with my concurrence, nor do I
believe that they will be in unison with the wishes
of the great mass of the party in our Congressional
District - & thinking so, I have thought it only proper
for me to say so to you -

Should your leisure allow I should be most
happy to get an occasional line from you, directed
to me at Chicago where I hope to be in the course of
a fortnight or so. Resptlly &c. Mark Shinn

McDonnell

Mr

Hon Stephen A. Douglass
New City
Washington
Dist Columbia

Springfield
Mass

Mr

Springfield Ill
Dec 11, 1844
Hon. J. A. Sargent
Dear Sir

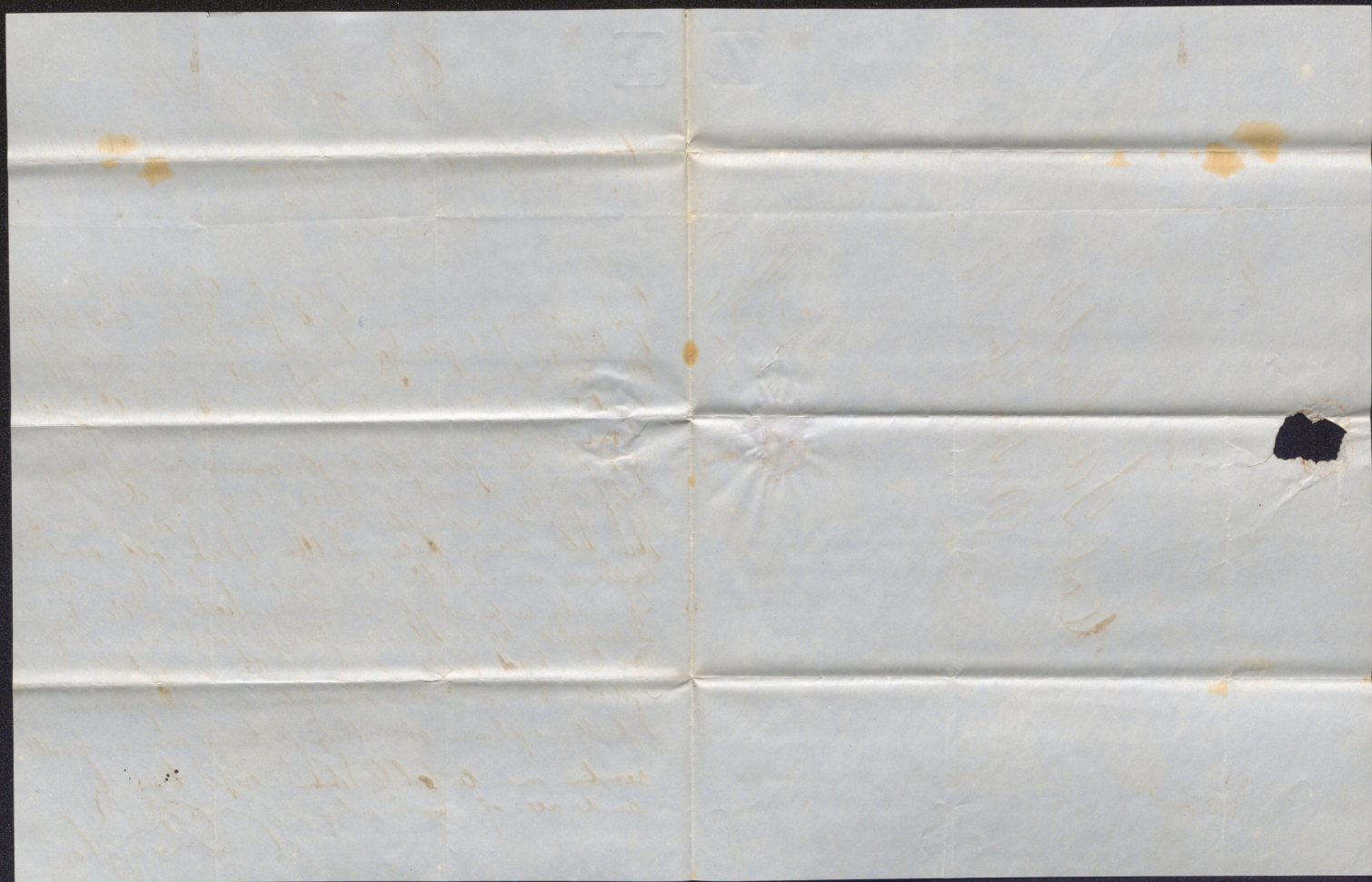
I regret that Mr Sumner
had acted a very bad part in this matter
by letting his name be used as a candidate for
the Senate. It was all going well
until his name was mentioned that made
some confusion and drove some men from
me on Seneca. Ford became uneasy and
his friends thought Sumner and went
off for Mr Sumner. Many of our friends
and the Sumners, I then saw all and
lost and I left the tract as between Mr
Sumner Sumner & Sargent. I think
I would have beaten Mr Sumner easy if
Mr S. had kept out of the way.
I will be at Washington in May when
I will explain all things to you in particu-
lar and ask you to let C. Schenck and me
and all of our friends
O G Saylor



Dove

Wm L. Douglass
Washington D.C.

Wm L. Douglass
Washington D.C.



Mr Stephen A Douglas

Dear Sir I congratulate you on the late
presidential Election and wish you give my
respects to that man who the whigs did not
know before the Election but it seems from
the returns he had a general acquaintance
with the dear people now friend Douglass
I am about asking a favour of you and in
doing so I feel assured I have one friend
I am an applicant for the Marshalls office
and I ask you as a democrat to stand
by me to you I shall not attempt to plead
service to my principles and party I am satis-
-isfied to leave it with our friends hoping it may
be favourable - The Election for United States
Senator came off yesterday ~~Example~~ was elected
the whole seat of Government influence was
against him at the start it was thought
he had no chance but he run them
all out of water I observed one thing there
was a wish manifested to lug you into the
field with no good intention towards ^{you} but
Daley Goodridge and your humble servant
met it by stating you were no candidate
now but two years hence we probably
would not say so it was at the heel of the hunt
and improbability you would have been
beaten I thought so, did Daley and our other
real friends that. ~~it was to injure you~~
make a scramble and bring out a new
man from the north which would be an
obstacle two years hence as the public
mind has it seems settled settled down on
that there is nothing but death or what
I hope never will take place, that, a division
of your friends can prevent it. it is my advice
it is the wish of all of your real friends that
you remain where ^{you are} and fill out the time
and just fit the time for the six year
or full term in the Senate excuse my
admonition do what you think in my case
it deserves I D Wood is Messenger and
gave me assurance he would serve me
it he dont get in his bank notions there are
other applicants and they got the -

start of me for until the election was over
I would say nothing about it to my friends
your old friends as far as have seen them are
well generally and we all hope you may
enjoy the same blessing as I remain
your friend

Springfield Dec^r 12th 1844 Robert McFarland)

Write soon to Delhi To
J A Douglas



J A Douglas
M E
Washington D C

Robert M. Eastland

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]

Wm. friends

Springfield 12th Decr 1844

Wish You to use Your influence
in getting for me the little Office of Pension Agent
of Illinois. I well know that You are aware of
My qualifications. You know them as well as any
man living. I think it useless to get a recommendation
to send to You You know me. We have lived in the same
State County and almost door neighbours in the same
town for several Years and that on terms of friendship

the present incumbent is Col John Dawson,
if I were to get the office at present I do not think
any of the friends here would make any effort to
turn me out. When Our Democratic Chief James
B. Folk, comes into the Presidential Chair on 4th March
next I only want the office for a Year and half.
My intention is to go to Oregon, next May a Year
and if I can take Oregon, in as a territory this winter and
make a Judge for the Circuit there You may hand
My name to the President for appointment to the
Office of Marshall. there will be nothing made
of the office but I would like to have it

Now My old friend I want You to do for me as You
think honour and Candour will dictate with reference
to the agency, of Pension, I write me as soon as convenient
if there is any chance now. if ~~not~~ will You go for me
after the 4 March next if I cannot go for me I will not
trouble further.

Respectfully Complied James F. Reed



17
Jm

Mrs. S. A. Douglass,

M.C.

Washington, D.C.



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Jm
Jm
Jm

