

El Paso del Norte, December 23.^d 1850

My dear Sir

I have not forgotten your kindness to me when in Washington on the interest which you took in the organization and success of the Boundary Commission.

We have all reached here at last, after a pleasant though somewhat fatiguing journey. We lost one man a servant of mine by fever in San Antonio, and with this exception there has not been a serious case of illness since we arrived in Texas. Ed McClellan, it is true, has been sick more or less, ever since he landed, but this cannot be attributed to either climate or fatigue. All the others are strong & robust — those who were the most delicate, are now the most healthy.

I am greatly disappointed in everything in this country. Instead of the mild climate of New Orleans, we have frost every night for one instance the thermometer has stood as low as 6° Fahrenheit. Writers on New Mexico have made the valley near El Paso a perfect paradise. It might be made so, but we find a miserably poor population, cultivating just enough of the luxuriant soil of the valley to give them a scanty subsistence of corn, beans, & pumpkins. The people merely produce what they require for their own consumption — nothing is raised for export. I therefore find myself in a country with the

advantage, these means which cannot furnish the limited supplies necessary for the sustenance of our men and animals. The Gov't pays \$8.50 a fanega or about \$3.00 a bushel for corn, and as there is no prop here, you may imagine the great cost of supplying animals. Now buying from 12 1/2 to 15¢ a pound - the latter price is that of the Government's contract. There is no timber within the valley, and the nearest fires are in the mountains, 7 or 8 miles distant. Hence you could not be surprised when I told you that \$200 a thousand and is the price of Sawed lumber. I was obliged to buy 500 feet to make my furniture of at this rate, so that my fine table, stools, benches etc., cost about as much as making one do in New York.

The valley of the Rio Grande at El Paso is 3 or 4 miles wide and extends some 30 miles of about the same width. This land is all watered by irrigation, and with very little labor produces large crops. Beyond this valley and that of other small streams, there is no land susceptible of cultivation in any part of New Mexico and its offshoots. In my contemplated explorations, I hope to find some valleys of wooded or timbered land. Part of New Mexico can become, thickly settled and of any value, it will be from her mines. By a proper organization of the country, I have no doubt we shall find some of the most valuable localities in the world, and that the period is not distant when we shall see a strong tide of emigration here.

My negotiations with the Mexican (Auriferous) proceed slowly. We have held six or eight meetings, and seem no

near agreeing on the boundary, that is when we first met. The misinterpretation of the Treaty map is such as to involve as many and serious perplexities. At our first meeting, I plainly saw that the grand aim of the Mexican (Auriferous) was to secure, at all events, the valuable mineral region, known as the Copper mines. From all that I can learn, and much of the information comes from General Comte himself, there is a very large district, of which the Copper mines are the centre, which abounds in silver and gold.

On my arrival here, I found, still, the great interest manifested as to who is to be the owner of the Copper mines. The Mexicans are confident that they will fall within their territory, and I remember when in Washington, that many Senators & others feared this would be the case. This would be inevitable, were we to take an Astronomical point for the South Western termination of Mexico; and in conversing with officers of the Legation in Washington, they said this point must be fixed in this way.

The position I took at our first meeting was in opposition to fixing any point by astronomical observation, from the circumstance that, by so doing, we should lose nearly the whole Southern portion of N. Mexico, together with the Copper mines. Although I stood out for, and claimed the entire length of the Southern line according to DeSoto's map, regardless of where the line terminated, plainly seeing that this position would give us the whole of the valuable region in question & a much larger district of country than any one had imagined. The great error in the Treaty map, I meant to use for

an benefit, and on this point we now differ. I shall not give up
my position, nor concede a single point. In this, I am sustained
by the Treaty, and to which I shall adhere. Before, I have an oppor-
tunity to send this letter, I may be enabled to say something more
definite. — at least I hope so to do.

I have not yet learned whether any appropriation was
made for the exploration of New Mexico & California, but
presume it was not. Steps ~~in~~ may yet be done. It would be a
pity not to give us the means to carry on these explorations, now
we are on the ground. — The expenses of the Boundary Commission
will be very great, and I very much fear that fault may be found
with me in consequence; but it is unavoidable. I have made every
effort to economize all in my power. My estimates were based
on the prices of things in the U. S. & Mexico, instead of which, they should
have been based on California prices.

December 28. Since the foregoing was written, the joint commission
has agreed on the boundary between the Rio Grande and the Gila
and I am happy to announce to you that I have carried all my points,
gaining for the U. S. the whole valuable region known as the "gold and
opium mines", and a district of country, west of the Rio Grande extending
thru degrees from the point where the Southern line of New Mexico strikes
the Rio Grande, i.e. $32^{\circ} 22'$. There was an error of two degrees, in
Giddermelt's map between the Rio Grande & the Western limits of New
Mexico, this I would not lose, but claimed and have secured it west of
the above limits. I have sent full particulars to the Dept of the
Interior accompanied by maps. These maps will show you what
the Mexican Commission claimed under the 5th article of the
Treaty, and what I have secured.

I am, with best respects, Yours &c &c &c
John R. Bartlett
Hon. S. D. Douglass, U. S. Senator

(Confidential) N. York Sep 21. 1850.
 Dear Sir

A few weeks since Mr. Holbrook suggested to me the propriety of my becoming President of the great Illinois Rail Road - That I should regulate the Company & reside in N. York. &c &c I have considered the proposition, but desire to consult you on the subject.

My practice in the Supreme Court, is becoming of great value, & as I am resolved never again to become a candidate for any public office desiring to remain in private life. I prefer the pursuit of my profession - Nevertheless this would not be a public office, & besides saving to myself a few per cent remuneration I might possibly aid in accomplishing two objects - First in building up a great city at Cairo - Second - In so managing the finances of the Road its ways, & lands, as to ultimately to secure to the State of Illinois an immense annual income -

Under these remarks I should greatly prefer to any public station - Mr. Holbrook desires to consult freely with you & so do I -

Yours truly

R. J. Maclean

Hon. S. A. Douglas
 U. S. Senator

R. A. Walker

21 Sept 1880

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Private.

New York. Sept. 21/50.

My Dear Sir,

My name has been presented to the President for the U. S. District Judgeship for California, which after much consideration I have decided to accept should it be tendered to me. I am satisfied that it is the best move I can make to retrieve my fallen fortunes - it is a serious matter for me to break up the cherished associations of fifty years. but it opens a prospect that I do not feel at liberty, in justice to my family, especially my sons which I cannot refuse to embrace. The President has letters from our best judicial officers recommending my appointment. I am confident that thousands of our former college men manifest an interest for me. I will be successful. I shall be at N. York next week. I will see you upon my arrival - In the mean time, I would be glad to have you in this important movement, in such

in answer as you think best —
with sincere regards
cordially your friend.
John Quincy Adams

Wm. S. L. Briggs.

My being a candidate is not publicly
known — I do not care to have it
promulgated —

John S. Graham.

1850

The Honourable
Stephen A. Douglas
(aux soins de la Legation Americaine)
a Bruxelles



590



0403



Hotel de France
Paris Sept 21 1850

Dear Douglas - You cannot
imagine how much pleasure
your truly kind and friendly
letter has given me. I could
never doubt, however, that
you would be glad to hear
of my appointment - as you
had given proofs too sincere
of your desire therefore. It
came after I had long
given over all pursuit of it -
and all hope of it; but it
was very grateful to me when
it did so. I was just leaving
my bed after an illness
of two months when I first
heard of it; and it will
probably be the means of
prolonging my life. My
constitution has been long giving
way under the pressure of that
turbulent, excited, over-wrought
existence I am obliged to lead

and I should not have been able to stand it much longer. This little affair will give me rest, new ideas and a little money. It is in every point of view the best thing that could have happened to me. I shall return home long before the waters begin to stir with the tides of the next great Presidency, and will ~~lose~~ lose nothing by being absent during two years of dead calm or of internal dissension.

You may perhaps like to know how I disposed of the Examiner. I made an arrangement more favourable than I could have hoped.

Sold it to R. N. Hughes (an old writer for it, and one of us) for the small sum of \$6000, cash, reserving in the deed of sale,

by a special clause, the right to
repurchase the whole for the
same sum (\$6000 cash) on my
return if I so choose; and this
agreement or condition I made known to the public in my valedictory. By this arrangement, I can lose nothing in any event. I have the interest on my money, and ~~the~~ the profits of the paper; and when I come back I can get the property, free of all debt, and delivered from all editorial responsibilities.

In the meantime, you must not let me be rejected by the Senate. By my editorial course I have made many personal enemies - they will upbraid me. Cato & Houston will write with such whips as Foxes and Badger in abusing me. I shall be called a Disunionist (which I never was). I rely upon your ability, courage, and friendship for my defence, and I feel

certain that they will not fail.
Paulus Parnell in the House
knows my whole history and
will give you correct informa-
tion as to any thing you would
like to know of me.

It would be a bitter mortifi-
cation to me if I were to be
defeated in that arena. Do not
let it happen for God's sake.

You say you will be here
on the 28th. I had intended to
leave on the very day I got your
letter, but will wait if I can.
My younger brother comes by
merchant vessel to Marseilles,
where I should now be to meet
him. If he gets sick, or into
trouble there (he is only a
boy) I must go when I hear
of it. But I am extremely
anxious to see you face to
face, and will wait if I can.

Belmont is here, and is also
very anxious to see you. He is
compelled to go in a week. Can
you not antedate your arrival
here?

Truly your friend

John M. Daniel

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

My dear Sir - I need not say that I feel a deep interest in the bearer of this, Col. Henry Connelly, and that I will be glad and grateful for any aid you may extend to him. He is a candidate for Marshal of California, and I do not hesitate to say that if our friends in that State want a steady, courageous, and constant supporter, he is of all others their man. Can you not induce the Senators, and others to help his cause? He is a whig and a gentleman; and as it is to be supposed that no one but a whig will be appointed, I am sure ~~that~~ they could not get a better one than my friend Connelly. Help him, and help me, and you will oblige him, and especially

Yours friend truly

Thos. Forney

Washington, Sept. 18, 1850.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglass
Senator
Washington

1850

Thos. C. Smith

Received of Mr. J. H. ...

Private

75

New York Sept 15. 50

My Dear Sir;

When I last saw you in W.
I returned to the Senate, to chat with you,
but you were out. When you were
here, I was on the Hotel several times, but
did not find you. I was told you would leave
at a particular hour, & went to the Boat, but
did not find you. I fear we shall not meet
before the next session. I had wished to say to
you something of what I heard while mist, but
have not been able to do so. The way is open for
you, to high success. Attention to the real business
of a senator, without drawing any more cargo
riding in it, leaving the people to do for them-
selves, & in due time, your chances are likely
to be met. Time will do what exertion cannot
accomplish, as Clay, Webster, Calhoun & Co
have found out. New York is fast coming
to the Senate, & in 56 if not in 52, will
do his duty to the Democratic party.

The vote in 52 depends upon the wisdom of
those who make the nomination for Pres-
ident. A strained horse cannot run here.
One with a full certificate from Old Nick-
ony, will glide over the cause like a sword
thru the air. The Chief Justice is
the man who can certainly succeed, if joined
with Gov. Gardner of this state. Such
a ticket would rally the old Jackson party.
There is no man living who can say aught
against it now - they are free from the im-
barassments of pending & recent questions
& nobly competent. The Chief is more
like Old Nickony than any man living - His
strength is as good as it was when he was Old
Nickony's main support in trying times
when Clog & Co. would not allow him to
be confirmed as Secretary because he was
opposed to the Bank. It is a safe position
to be for him. A little says a head, the most
cords & will do for his Statesmen who

have sought the elevation of such pure men.
I shall put these suggestions before you for
consideration, as you are part & parcel of the
politics of the day. They have the approval of
my judgement, tho' I do not appeal to profit
by them. Until the union is complete here, I
must stick to the Lead, & remain quiet, if I
do not continue so for all time to come.

I wish to see my party, & the ascendancy
& my friends triumphant. To accom-
plish these results I will labour
hard, at any time, but not at all to
aid in divisions & family conflicts.

I shall always be glad to hear from
you. As this is confidential just
burn it.

Garrison truly
not filled

Wm. S. Douglas

P. W. Gillett

15 Sept 1850

Tuesday 11 Sept 1830.

Hon^{ble} Secy of War Washington City

My Dear Sir,

As a member of the Democratic party, I should dislike to see you charged of a Greyedot for another term in the Senate. I believe things ought to be very near your service and help in the year continued in the place you now occupy. Your long absence from the War and duties in Congress, may prevent you from keeping advised of the nature of affairs at home. Then I was a General of a force in the Military tract against you and that force is divided between Genl McClellan and Col Ripley. The first has considerable strength backed really by a number of papers. The "Herald and Times" & "The Field Union" would be very against you in an emergency together with other papers in this section of the States. It is useless to disguise the fact that a force is gradually being organized for your capture if the people are with you, but the politicians are not. I hope you will spend some time this fall in this part of the State. I have no unkind feeling toward the gentleman named but I should dislike to have the Military tract go for either of them again. If you, Mr. Warren will doubtless be elected to the Anti-Slavery from this & Pike County and I understand him to be your friend. I was very much his letter of a friendly hint and as confidentially to yourself I feel I can be very personal obliging. I understand your views are sound. Yours truly C. C. Schenck

O. F. Skinner

Hon. S. A. Douglas

My dear Douglas— Allow me to introduce to you my particular friend, Col. Harry Connolly, one of the most distinguished whigs of the state, and at the same time Mr. Cooper's most intimate friend. He is a gentleman of high honor and unquestionable veracity, and you may place full confidence in all his statements. I have seen the letter that will be handed to you and others from our eloquent friend of Boston, and though written for him by an uneducated man, I know they contain his honest sentiments.

Yours Truly

Wm. F. Connelley

Phila. Sept. 10, 1850.

John W. Torrey

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Dear Sir

I have been thinking of you very much lately
and wondering how you are getting on
I hope you are well and happy
I have been very busy lately
but I have managed to find some time
to write you a few lines
I have been thinking of you very much lately
and wondering how you are getting on
I hope you are well and happy
I have been very busy lately
but I have managed to find some time
to write you a few lines

Yours truly

Fourth Hill Philadelphia

Sept. 7. 50

Dear Sir

If I had thought
of it when I had the pleasure
of meeting you the other day, I
should perhaps have mentioned
to you the case of Mr. Lewis Morris
nominated for our Collector, whose
first, and as I hold inescapable
acts the very day he was appointed
was to remove 67 subordinates
seven of whom I got their place,

from, and to ^{not} one of them is there
the least objection but that Mr
Lewis wants three places for
partisans, with whom it is his
scheme together with Mr. Lewis
to defeat the democratic party at
the next election when the State
Legislature and U.S. Senate
depend on this county - twelve
members - and in all probability
the next Governor and President
If Mr. Lewis & Mr. Lewis can
win the Voters and Whigs
as was done for Taylor, the

democrats will be enough beat
here - by ten thousand perhaps
as for him - to carry all he
fire them

If a democratic
Senate choose to do this -
so be it. I am no longer a poli-
tician and can bear such
things as well as my neighbors
But as you are talked of for
high place I think you will
take care how you become
participate in them

I am very truly yrs
C. J. Ingersoll

C. J. Ingersoll.



New York Dec. 24. 1850.

Hon. S. A. Dwyer

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

We yesterday paid
your note endorsed by Mr. Dwyer \$4,200⁰⁰ and inclosed the
same to you Enclosed. And we changed the Amount to 90
cts. We have received a letter from Branch Williams & Co.
authorizing us to draw upon them for your acct. for \$4,300
at 60 or 90 days. And we have to-day drawn upon them
for that amt. at 60 ds sight for your acct. which draft
we sold at interest & 3/8 p exchange off. and have placed
the proceeds \$4,428³³ to your credit. the balance of
which \$228⁹⁵ is subject to your draft at sight. We
shall be glad if you have occasion to require our services if
you will command us.

We remain your obs. Svs.

Radson & Shelden

P.S. I have forwarded Mr. Jas. G. King a copy of the
bill which I wrote you I would do. and I hope you have
conferred with him on the subject. You will probably find
some parties opposed to this plan. but you will easily trace
them opposite to an interest in some scheme of an
individual Company for the purpose of securing a charter
and a fast speculation out of the State.

I am truly Yours

Julius Radson

Hon. S. A. Douglass
U. S. Senate
Washington
D. C.



Unpaid
Dec 26 1850



John Hancock
Dec 24

