

San Francisco Jan 22nd 1853

Wm J. H. Douglass

My Dear Sir

I had designed being at Washington at the organization of the new administration for the purpose of presenting my views as to California appointments, but I find it altogether impracticable, and as my friend the Hon. Hugh C. Murray Chief Justice of our Supreme Court has determined to spend some time at Washington and very a little after those matters I have adopted him as my substitute.

I do not know whether or not you are acquainted with Judge Murray or not. Consider this a letter of introduction. He is a young man of distinguished talent and reflects credit on the Sucker State, from whence he came. He has been one of your staunchest friends & warmest admirers in California, and I ask both on his account & my own that you extend to him all the consideration due one of your own friends.

An honorable gentleman, a man of talent
and a leading democrat

My Son

S. M. Douglass

California
Douglass

1853

San Francisco Jan 28th 1853.

Am J. A. Douglass

My Dear Sir

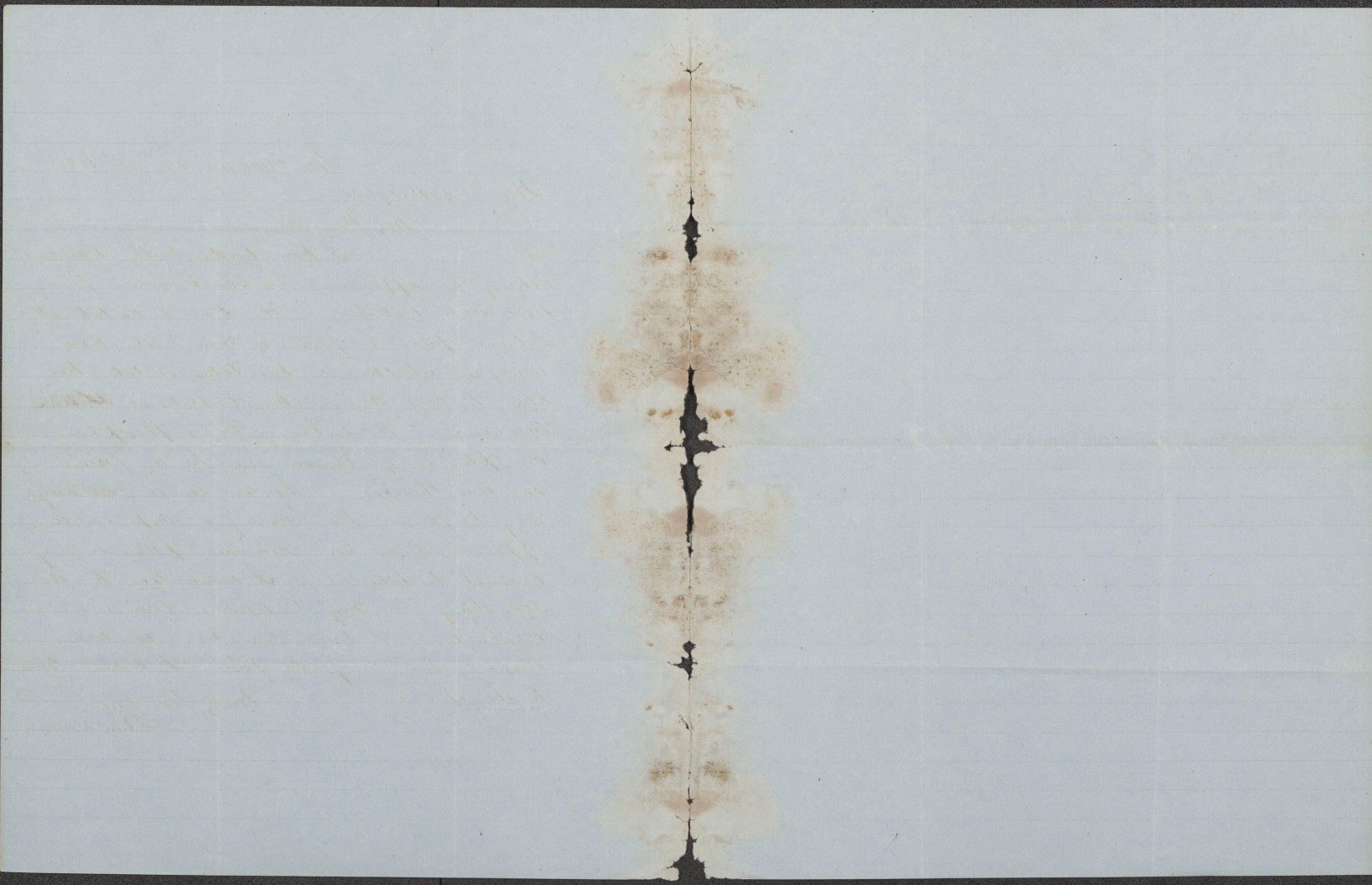
I have written to the President asking an appointment at San Francisco for Bro. Rich^d P. Ash. The Bro is an intimate & warm personal friend of mine - He now resides at Stockholm, but has taken it into his head to come down & live with us at ~~Stockholm~~ San Francisco - He is one of God's people a splendid gentleman and for a friend - "one in a thousand" - If you see or find any way to forward his receiving a respectable appointment at San Francisco, please on my account to take it, I want you to do something for my California friends at Washington - I know you will be well disposed, but my old friend I want you to do it.

Truly your friend
J. A. Douglass

And the
for the
and

Postals

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Mr Douglas
California
1853

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San Francisco Jan^y 28th 1853.

Mr Stephen A. Douglas

My dear friend -

I have written to you by
some of my friends that have gone & some that are
going to Washington letters of introduction and
recommendation - These letters have been given only
when I particularly desire assistance, I have
several warm personal friends that want appointments
and they are all your friends - they are valuable
friends, and if you help after them, you drop a
strong anchor in California. They are your friends
preliminary to the recent Caucus & but for being
decided by those who claimed to be your friends
would have sent in a Douglas delegation to
~~electing~~ Baltimore - We will do better again.

Judge Murray, Jas H. Manning
(a brother of the Doc. who I think you don't like, but
don't charge that to his acc.) Wm B. Thacker, Lansing
B. Mizner, Blanton McAlpin, Richard P. Ash
are not only my particular personal friends
but they are the men upon whom you can
count in this State - Murray wants nothing

He is Chief Justice of our Supreme Court & has
a Superior Reputation in the South to any other
Judicial officer in the State. He wants simply
to see that things go right - Making want the
Post Office here or Mayorship of this Port - He
is the best working Democrat in the State. Bothwell
is an old Southerner friend & controls a strong
influence in the Northern Section of the State
McAlpin is a regular Iron Sided Democrat, a man
of talent & determination and great personal influence
Ash is one of the wisest specimens of the "genus
homo" - I must be to help them, all
of them if you can - You will become a party
of valuable & devoted friends & you can
count on their being heard at Baltimore in
1855.

This letter I write to you
Confidentially - I have jumped into the
Political Arena & intend to stay in it - My
friends shall be your friends & I must be
so to consider them - I intended to have
been at Washington at the installation of the
new Administration, but have found it impossible
not being able I have recommended my
immediate friends to you - Trust them
kindly

Truly yours

J. M. Douglass

private

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Margarita Jan 28. 1853
Homosassa P.O.

While you my friend are all the while engaged in the busy scenes of Washington life, I am enjoying the quiet happiness of rural retirement and repose. You know what is passing, and can form a better judgment of men and things than I can who am absent and secluded. But yet I venture a word of suggestion.

I have learned recently, in the only letter I have received from Washington, that Bright has approached you, and hatched up a "grass reconciliation". It is well to be on polite terms with all who are not utterly unworthy of intercourse. But I wish you to be very guarded. He is your enemy. I know it. and you can never make him otherwise, for you cannot serve the purposes he indulges. I refrain from expressing the opinion I have of his character; but am impelled by my interest in you to beg you to be cautious not to put it in his power to thwart the policy of your friends. The plan which should mark our campaign is plain. The events in the Baltimore Convention, turned the eyes of the country fully upon you. ~~Now~~ the very cradle of your National popularity you had strength to crush all the old combinations and organizations, and to open the way to the dynasty of a new generation. Your course since then has been creditable and masterly. The heart of the Democratic party is warmed towards

you. You have multiplied friends everywhere and in all respects your progress is gratifying to those who are solicitous in your behalf. Now what I wish to say is this. You stand well with the State rights men - with New England - with the South - & with the party at large. The North West has always been true to the Republican cause, and not only true but serviceable. The N.W. has always been true to the South and serviceable. The N.W. is powerful in numbers & wealth, and becoming more so. The N.W. has never had a President. Her weight in the Union, her services in the party, her fidelity to the Constitution and the Country, her friendly bearing towards the South, her connexion with the North, the good terms she is upon with all sections, will give her strong and, if well presented, insuperable claims to the Presidency next term. If the North West unites upon you, and asks your nomination, the standing you have now with the party everywhere, will bring an instant and acclamatory nomination. The policy I have been looking to has been first to warm up the feeling of the party towards the N.W. by frequent and deserved references to her fealty and services - and 2nd to consolidate that N.W. upon you, so that she may enter by a separate convention present you to the Country, or by a united delegation at Cincinnati ask your nomination. If the N.W. is divided, and has therefore no distinctly claimed candidate,

your chances will depend upon your successful
 rivalry of the pretensions of all the various candidates,
 throughout the land, of which there will be many -
 especially with N.Y. & Penn^a - press for the honor.
 If the N.W. is united, your claim will be yielded
 to at once, and your nomination effected
 without contest.

Now why do I say all this - That you may be
 duly on your guard. Bright will defeat this desirable
 "Solidarity" of the N.W. if he can; and he will be all
 the more likely to do it successfully if you open
 yourself to him, and give him insight to your
 views and feelings - thus enabling him to mingle
 with your friends in the garb of sympathiser. He does
 not mean that you shall rise if he can prevent it -
 and his professed friendship will be more dangerous,
 than his professed enmity.

As I have been in hand, I will add a
 few more words. I will say that if practicable,
 Pierce's cabinet officers from the Northwest should
 be your reliable friend; and none of his cabinet should
 be your enemies or your rivals. If you can have
 a friend in the Interior and Treasury Departments
 it will be important. The Interior Dept., thro' the
 land & Indian systems, has great influence in the N.W. -
 The Treas'y. is particularly potent in the large cities.

I gave or rather sent to Dodge Mays, a letter
 of introduction to you. I wish you to pay him
 particular attention. If you have not done so, seek

him out. He is the bearer of the electoral return ^{for President} from Florida, and you can learn his whereabouts from Judge Butler of whom he is a connexion. He was one of ~~the~~ your advocates in Florida, and his continued adhesion is important. He wished to make your acquaintance. You will not do amiss to assist by your influence his recommendations in respect to officers in Florida. His recommendations will not unlikely conflict in several respects with those of the delegation. But you will be safe in talking freely with him as far as Florida is concerned. //

My address is Homosassa, Hernando Co., Fla. -

Yr friend &c
D. L. Gulee

Hon S. A. Douglas.

//
Gov^r Duval writes me that he will be recommended by some of his friends for Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Support him - he is your friend -
//

Ed. Gulee
Hernando Co.
[Fla.]

Mrs Ritchie
Jany 1853

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Brandon, Va.
Jan^y. 25, 1853.

My dear Sir

The heavy blow you have received has reached me in this manner: I feel for you. You have been so kind to me during our eight years' intercourse at Wash: that I cannot but deeply sympathize with you on this sad & unexpected calamity. - On her account too, that I had not the pleasure of a very intimate acquaintance yet I strongly feel her loss. One thing alone, if there had been no other, would fit her in my memory. You recollect the noble note which you drew from your pocket at D. Green's one evening - It was marked by a spirit and magnanimity which were worthy of her character.

The last night I saw you at the Festival at Jackson Hall the sad loss of Gen. Pierce was mentioned in much pathos - And it was then said as in the case of Gen. Jackson's loss, he must make his Country his Son. - You must expect

yourself, Douglas, and do the like. //
I shall see you in Washington
in the course of ^{the next} week - when I
hope to see you - In the mean time,
accept the best wishes of
Yours Truly,

Thomas Ritchie

Stephen A. Douglas

New York Jan 31st 1853.

My dear Judge.

Nothing can exceed the excitement here as to the man who is to go into the Cabinet from this State. It is thought now that every thing is open. Dickinson is to send on in a day or two a Certificate signed by 10 Senators & 6 Members of the Assembly and 67 of the late Syracuse Convention! It strikes me that now is the time for you to take some steps or have them taken to get a man in who will be with us and that man of all others is Frank Anthony - he is not at the head, in the middle or at the tail of any clique and is fresh

and vigorous with his sympathies
and tendencies all with us - As
his name occurred in your con-
versation with Munter I think beyond
any doubt if the latter gentleman
is in a condition to advise
W^m Kim he can by cutting
selection avoid these old Cliques
of 30 years standing and give
us a fresh start. Do take
hold of this. If Dix is in -
then Blair, Benton & Van Buren
are in - If Mancy then the
Albany clique - If Dickinson
then the d - I know who -

Take nothing and then the whole
thing is avoided and we have
them - I have not conversed

with him on the point but if you
will drop me a line whether any
thing can be done thro' W^m Munter
I will do so.

I consider this a matter of
great importance to you &
hope you will agree with me.

I have the Brandy which I will
send you - also a barrel of Wash^g
County Potatoes of the finest quality

W^m West is attending to the
domestic matters & expects to see
the woman in a few weeks per-
haps - I understood you to give
up the idea of a housekeeper
for the short period you remain in
Wash^g - If Sunday was delighted
with the conversation I had with him
in regard to yourself - I attended fully
to the Bright affair. Let me hear
from you in the first subject of this letter
Always yours. E. C. West

I am sure that my presence in cutting should not be known at present.

Oct. 17th 1861

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Confidential

Newport, Jan. 16, 1833.

Mr Stephen A Douglas,

Dear Sir:

I read with great pleasure your address on the inauguration of the statue of Jackson. It was eloquent, classic, and beautiful. It did both yourself and your great subject honor. It was fortunate that the choice fell upon you for the orator of the occasion.

I suppose you are fully ~~posted up~~ ^{the} at Washington with regard to the cabinet and the policy of the new administration. We know nothing about those matters in New Hampshire - I mean we outside. I suppose there is a circle to whom the ~~elections~~ ^{elections} of the President elect are known; but I do not happen to be in that circle. Since it became known that you were my first choice for the Presidency, and after I manifested that choice by voting so or now

notes for you in the Baltimore Cen-
tralist. I have been under the
bow of a custom eluded a New
Hampshire. I expect, therefore,
to have nothing to do with the
N. H. administration which is
about to accede to power, ex-
cept to give it a support from
principle, as every association is
bound to do. That I shall, of
course do, and with patience,
until another, exalted by more
elevated influences, shall succeed
it.

I infer from the speculations
of the newspapers, that the cabinet
is to be made up of all shades of
the Democratic party. The Free-soiler,
it would seem, are to have place
in the person of Mr. Dix. And it also
appears, that the ultra States Rights
men of the South, are to be recognized
as the only true branch of the
Democratic party in that section
of the Union. Whether such a com-
position of the cabinet will be
now acceptable to the country,

now one made up of ~~the~~ sound
Union men, remains to be seen.

You will see that abolition
is to be the right hand man of the
President elect, and, of course, to be
the head of the administration
in the Senate. Of course, you need
Dr. Gwin, Gen. Rush, and many
other worthy gentlemen in that
body must stand back. You
will all have to take your ease from
abolition. Mr. A. may be equal
to the new position assigned for him
by the President Elect, but we, in New
Hampshire, although conceding his
highly respectable abilities, do not
believe him quite equal to the ~~very~~
~~very~~ important responsibilities that
are soon to devolve upon him.

If you have any intelligence of
Washington in relation to the coming of the
administration, you would oblige me
by giving me a glimpse of the clouds
that are to come. //

Truly yours
Amos Burke

Edward D. Smith

A. N.

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(Private)

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St. Louis, Jan'y 17, 1853

Dear Sir: The few intimations which we have in the papers as to the probable composition of the Cabinet, give not much insight into the views of Gen. Pierce. If you have any information upon that point, I would be glad to learn what is going on. A few days ago I took the liberty of writing to him generally, concerning the obvious demand of the country that sectionalism should be discountenanced by him, both in his measures of public policy and in his appointments. It seems as if the Van Buren men are insisting upon having John A. Dix in the Cabinet. Such an appointment would be very injudicious. The position of Dix in the Campaign of 1848, and subsequently, forbids his being trusted in a high and influential position. It is always worse than useless to make a Missouri Cabinet - without unity or consistency of views or action. It must

lead to disastrous results. I hope
Gen Sevier will escape such a car-
cavity - that he will make a straight
out, consistent and energetic Cabinet,
of true, sensible and hard-working
men. He can afford to disregard
the clamors of those whose com-
munion with the Democratic party
is doubtful - whose complaints will
injure no one but themselves.

I have been importuned for letters
by various persons desiring office; and
have refrained from giving them, save
in a very few cases. I have written
in favor of Maj. George M. Beatty for
Receiver of the Land Office at Jackson
Missouri, and that is the only recom-
mendation I have made. As to the
proper course to be pursued in Mis-
souri, and the persons to be selected,
I will write you fully in good time.
I think that we should ^{not} ask the Presi-
dent to overlook the Benton men entirely,
- but merely that such offices as carry
power and influence should not
be put into the hands of Bentonians
to be used against the National Democracy.
They may properly receive a due share of

appointments, but nothing more. On
this, however, more, in detail, will be
written hereafter. Judge Birch has
desired a letter of introduction to you
which I have given to him. I con-
jecture that he visits Washington for
an office of some importance. Judge
Atchison can inform you correctly
with regard to Judge B. and his expecta-
tions. You are aware that I think
the Secretary of Interior should come
from the West of the Mississippi, but
that I am not able to suggest a name
of sufficient weight. Judge Napton
of this State, the late Chief Justice, would
fill that office well. He has a clear,
methodical and logical mind; and as
as inflexible in his Democracy as
Gen Jackson.

The follies of Ragsper and clan at
the 8th of January meeting here, you may
have seen. The more of such folly
they exhibit, the weaker do they become.
Very few Democrats of this City think of
attending such meetings, or care what
resolutions are passed.

Permit me to congratulate you

upon your re-election to the U.S.
Senate, with so great enthusiasm,
I think that there will soon be
more unanimity in Missouri than
there has been for years. If the
incoming Administration is correct
in its policy, it will contribute
largely to the union and success
of the whole Democracy.

In haste

Yours truly

Chas. L. Treat

Hon. S. A. Douglas

May 1853

Chas. L. Treat

Chicago, 18th Jan^y. 1853.

Honorable Dear Sir,

Having been informed that my friend, Rev. Dr. Charles C. Rice, is to deliver a course of lectures before the Smithsonian Institute, I take the liberty to introduce him to you as a gentleman highly deserving your kind attention. I permit me at the same time to recommend to you favor his Brother in law, Mr Chas E. Benson, who is at present an efficient & faithful Clerk in the Custom House of New York, hoping that through your influence he may be retained in office under the new administration.

Dr Rice is well & favorably known in the D. C. & will deem it an honor & a great favor to share your acquaintance, whilst any attention shown him will be gratefully acknowledged by him who has the honor to be with great respect,

Humble Dear Sir,

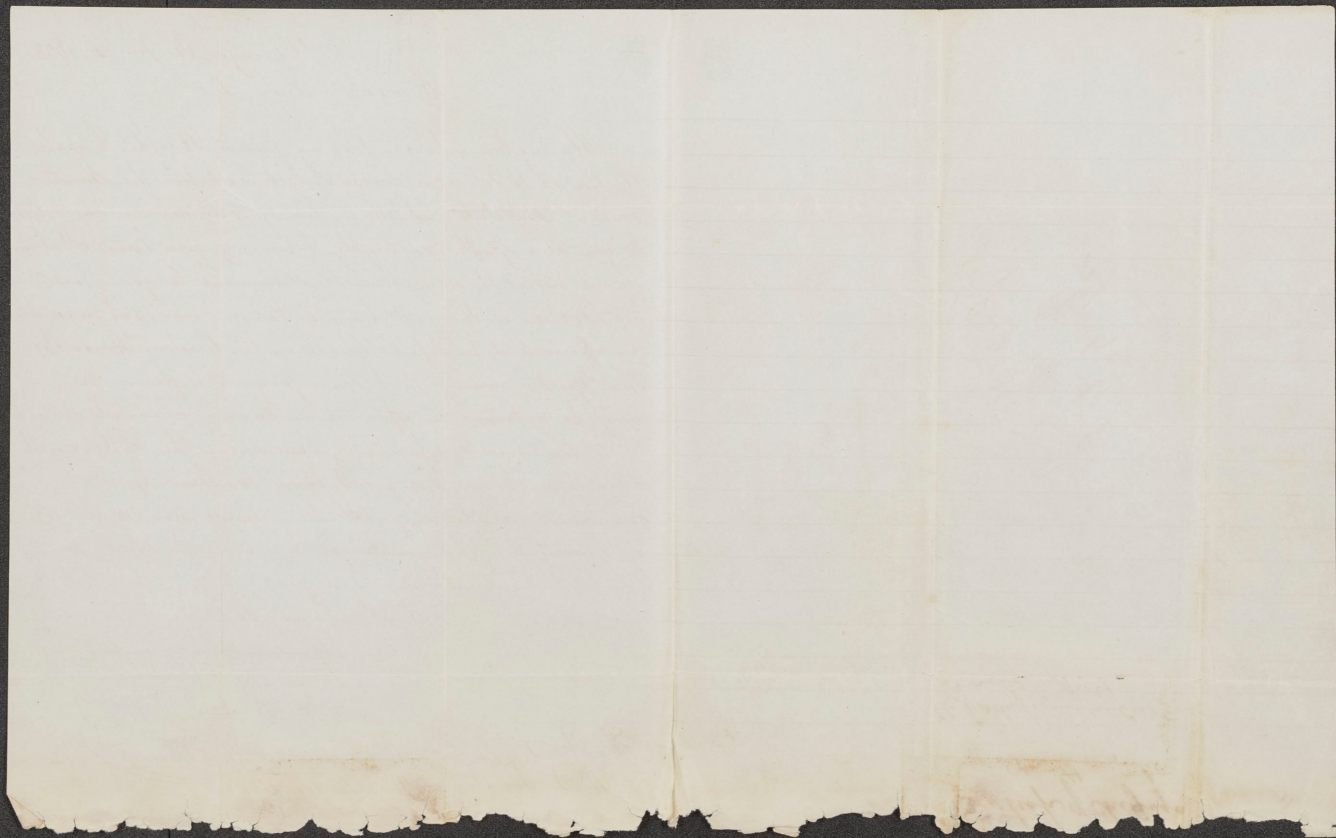
Yours devotedly in C^t
 Wm C. Selder
 By Chas.

Honble S. A. Douglas -

U. S. Senator - Washin^gton city
 D. C.

Richard D. Rogers
Postman to
Custom House
New York, N.Y.

Honble S. A. Douglas,
U. S. Senate
Washington
D.C.



45 Portland Place

London January 28th 1853

My Dear Sir

There is no danger I presume of Congress rising without making appropriation for the usual outfit for a new Minister to this country. An appointment will naturally be made before next winter. The conversation you were so kind as to have with me on our journey from Washington must form my apology for the present appeal to your friendship. You then I think intimated an opinion that I ought not hastily to throw up my commission on the arrival of the 4th of March but retain it, say for about a year from the time of the appointment and then submit to the President the nomination of a successor. We both of us regarded the event certain of the Election of General Pierce, and feeling towards him like sentiments of personal regard and esteem of

the highest character, desired to shadow out a
course that might be perfectly agreeable to him.
This inauguration is at hand. Allow me to ask
of you the favor of an opinion for the future.
I have no desire to retain the place a moment
beyond the wishes of the new President. At the
same time I should be most unwilling by any
early movement to manifest distrust, and especially
to give ground for a supposition that I am not
proud to save the Country as it will be administered
in its National affairs in the early future. Whatever
is most delicate and becoming I shall be most
happy to do - and feeling that desire, and desiring
anxiously to carry it into Exercise I shall believe that
your suggestions are wise. I will at an
early day place in the hands of a friend a paper
to be used whenever the proper time arrives and
the occasion may call for it. In the mean time
and always believe me

fathfully and respectfully yrs

S R Higginson

Wm: Stephen A Douglas

For J. A. M. M. M.
Austin
England

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