

Springfield, Nov. 21. 1853

Dear Sir. We received your letter yesterday. Our apology for the non-reception of our "valuable paper" by you is, that we supposed that it was regularly mailed to your address at Washington. But it seems that ^{when} the youngster who has charge of our packing books learned that you were over the water among "these things" he sent your acquaintance until he heard of your return to your dearer domestic home. I will have you duly entered again.

We are much obliged to you for the intellings you give us as to your future position relative to the presidency. Beyond doubt you have adopted the wisest course, in view of the present complexion

of things. We surmised you probably felt
some conversation with Gen. Shields.

Wentworth having heard from us for a
month you still express confidence that
we are "all right." In these days
six months is a long time to be ~~without~~
doubt, ^{that} any body is "sight," without knowing
it. We believe we are "where we ever
have been," though some of our contemporaries
at home have prints that they think differ-
ently. Brooks says we are "opposing the
administration," Wentworth, we are told, (he
did not send us his paper containing the in-
formation) says the same thing, and in-
sists that we are fomenting dissension.
I'm fear the public may think, however,
this unity of sentiment extends further betwixt
the two. Brooks tells his reader, in the same
paper, that Saml Buckminster looks a coo-
per that he is entitled to by Wentworth being a
side of his (Sam's) enclosure. On the latter
point I have nothing to say, but refer you

former expressed opinion," meaning, through a
 long series of years. ¹⁶ This opinion of these
 two gentlemen is based upon a paragraph
 of some dozen lines, in which we express
 the belief that the interposition of the ad-
 ministration in that circulating, never-to-be-
 ended New York quarrel was ill-advised, un-
 necessary, and productive of any thing but
the object intended, the harmonizing of the
 two contending wings. We still think so,
 and believe that we are just as good demo-
 crats, and as good friends of the adminis-
 tration as if we thought otherwise. If Mr.
 Murray and Mr. Dickinson cannot heal
 up old sores, I can see no good reason
 why the democracy of the other states of the
 Union should tear themselves & break apart.
 When the Washington Union first gave
 out that (in effect) that the New York struggle
 was to be a national one, we expressed, in
 several articles, the opinion that there was no

necessity for such participation by outsiders. We deprecated the usage, and hoped that the democracy elsewhere would give it a "wide berth." We professed to believe, and did, that the party was all right on the side of New York, and hoped that non-interference by democrats in other states would hasten such a condition of things.

I thought, and still think, that the delegation made a sad mistake, in giving Stoyne the attorneyship. We expressed that opinion, when called on, in the Register, but at the same time, we deprecated the efforts of a few men in the state to ferment discord in our ranks by creating two "sections" here - one backing the delegation and another being a set of men "schismatics for their places." We believe we contributed much to prevent the discussions sought to be created by an interested few, and with the same view we deprecated a policy

led, I solemnly believe three fourths of
the party would say - as between a quarrel
conducted on by John Van Buren & Co on one
side and Dickinson & Co on the other,
just as down "admirable," all over. The
party press throughout the nation do their
utmost, very properly, in putting a "harmoni-
ous" face upon the matter, but I tell
you they do not express the inside reflection
of the great popular heart. The great body
of the party - nineteen-twentieths - will sustain
the president in the policy of his inaugural
- will stand by him in all the great measures
of progress, which will probably be on
the tapis and receive his sanction, and
I do hope that such a course will be
sued hereafter as will make New York
politics and New York politicians con-
fess of a figure - as will let the world
know that there is a good big country
outside of the "Empire" limits, and a good

anywhere which would extend the
oars of the New York section beyond the
limits of that state. || I trust that the
party in Congress will honorize and give
New France a firm support. In our humble
way we shall certainly do so, as will
the great mass of the democracy of the
state, yet it is not to be disguised that
their prevails, to a wide extent, a full
disapproval of many appointments that
have been made. || I saw more of it
during our great fair here in October.
Not among politicians, for they were not
here, but the "solid men" of the rank
and file who were present on that occa-
sion, and as for the intervention in
New York is concerned, if that much
desires (by the Union) object, the impression
of opinion as to who is right and who
wrong in the New York trial, could be

many very excellent people living in it, having interests which are worthy of the attention of the power that be. It is very probable a controlling influence in Rep. Gov. is very necessary to bring, up, in proper racing trim, some dogs for the presidential Derby of 1856, but good democrats are unwilling to see the course cut up and disarranged by excessive use in training, and trials of speeds before the down taps for "riders up." //

We are obliged to you for your valuable suggestions, and hope to profit by them, and hope that you will find leisure during the session to place us under further obligations, in the same way. Excuse this long zigzag, if you have had patience to wade through it.

Truly Your friend
 Chas^d S. Laupheimer

Chas H. Lanphears
Springfield
Ill.

Business
& Politics

✓

(Strictly Confidential)

195

W. L. Rice, Wis
Nov 21. 1853

Dear Sir,

I am here attending
to my pre-occupation.
Our business will be all
right. Know nothing - say
nothing about our affairs to
any one. Beware of H. M.
Rice, delegate from Minnesota.
ta, or his man Major ~~Massie~~
McCarthy. They have attempt-
ed to pirate on us, but
cannot succeed. Will start
for Washington in two weeks
and see you & tell you
all. Yours truly,

W. L. Rice

Hon. S. D. Bayles
Washington, D. C.

P.S. I am here from
Fred de Lac on Thursday last.

Dr. A. Robertson,

Will be here in
two weeks

✓

Custom House, New York

Collector's Office Nov 24th 1853

Sir

I find on file in my
Office among the applications for
Office made to Judge Monson
a letter of yours in behalf of
Julius Taylor. He applies for
the office of weigher.

My object in addressing you
is for the purpose of ascertaining
whether it is still your wish
that an appointment should be
given him. If so I will un-
hesitatingly state that it shall be my
pleasure to make it at once.

I may not be enabled to
appoint him weigher, but if you
desire it I will address a line
to him and make such arrange-
ment with him as to position as
will be agreeable to him.

within my power to confer,

It will be my pleasure to ever
long address you more at length
until then

I remain

truly Your Obedt^{serv}

Wm J Redfield

Hon Stephen A Douglass

U. S. Senate,

Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield
Wm J Redfield

Wm J Redfield
Dec 5th 1858

✓

Private

St. Paul

Nov 25 / 83.

Dear friend

I congratulate you on your safe return to your native land. I hope your visit may prove highly salutary in every respect.

The country is looking with a good deal of anxiety to your course on this hard and soft questions in New York. I have great faith in your sound judgement and tact in these matters and my prayer is that every move you make may be successful, for I know it will be dictated by sound patriotism. But I need not give vent to my feelings any more, for they are known to you as well as if I should write a volume.

I am out here in this far off region among the most unsettled state of things that can well be, owing to the fact that this trick and haphazard Indian trading interest has heretofore controlled the moral, social, and political affairs of this region. A new day has dawned here, and stealing has got below par. it heretofore bore a premium.

I have only been here 6 months and I have seen more Williamism or its fruits than I ever saw in all my life before. I want you to keep your eye on Rice our newly elected Delegate. he has been and is

now engaged in the Indian trade. He has large claims agst the Govt. or Winnebago Indians. He has failed to secure me to his villainous scheme and, I am told he goes to Washington very hostile to me. He takes a Mr McCreedy a toady of his to back and complain for him. He lies & cunning and malicious. He goes to oppose the late Winnebago Treaty made by myself and Genl Hetcher. Genl Dodge firmed of Iowa.

Rice hates Hetcher mortally, because he cant use him. And I am told the same about his regard for me. He is a bitter Cass man - was raised in Michigan and you will find Stuart and Cass both sustain him.

He dont want the Treaty ratified because he got it up himself to get boot for the Indians in the exchange of land or to enable the Indians to pay him some old claims. I was approached by honest and dishonest means but declined the bait. and made the Treaty and gave the Indians no boot to buy up traders with. Judge Young can post you up fully on this matter. Rice has promised some applicants to get me removed I have been told. He may be fool enough but I can hardly think so. I hope you will hand your eye on him. as events are passing I will write again soon. So good bless you & goodby
Truly yours friend Gorman

1/ We shall have established out here two or three new land offices in the next year.

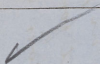
Now my friend. The President sent me here without my solicitation. He directed me to investigate the Ramsey fraud, agst my remonstrance. This latter has placed this Trick & Trap Indian trade in opposition to me. The President wanted that thing investigated. I done it. and now I want the President to sustain me here. I want him to allow me to control their appointments to land offices &c &c. It is due to me under the circumstances. I do not want and I must not hand my energies crowded into offices here to foil my Administration and take me personally. He ought not to allow it.

it would be unjust and unfair and suicidal to his Govt officers whose success is in part his own. I want you to see the President for me. dont fail by any means. and go to him & Davis at an early day //

Truly yours
Gorman

Gov. Gorman
Minnesota

In relation to his
business &c



Paris Rue Bonaparte 12 November 25th 1853

Hon. Stephen A. Douglass

Dear Sir,

In a late communication to our papers "the Cincinnati Enquirer", I could not resist giving one of your interviews at least as related to me by a gentleman who happened to be present & must I did not encroach on important, or indelicate, ground in so doing. The whole scene was so comfortably good, I could not withstand the temptation of giving it to the public. If it cannot have officials to represent us, as we are - it is with a Democrat gets abroad now and then. If I have done wrong pardon me as you see fit.

Your kind letter, dated Liverpool, came safe to hand. and I have to thank you for your kind assurances. What is the prospect at the present writing - or rather I should say at the present trading - for there will be quite a difference in the two. McKean writes me that the President assured him I should receive my appointment. But I notice a letter in the "Tribune" of the 10th in which I am mixed up with Gen. Dix that may give offence. If so it would be very unjust. To hold one responsible for all the gossip letters writers, in Hungary despatched, pick up about Washington is more than unjust it is absurd.

I hear glorious news from ^{now} in reference to our friend May's prospects for the Senate. When you see him next, give him my kind remembrance, and, ask him why the devil he does not write to me. Should you find a spare moment to drop me a line direct to yours sincerely

With respect Wm. Piatt

Cor. Livingston's Hall & Co.
Paris

John Riatt
Parris³⁰ Fr.
Nov 28/53

Political

✓

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the left page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

[Vertical handwritten notes on the right page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Olympia Dec. 5th 1853
 Hon Stephen A. Douglas
 U. S. Senator
 Washington City
 Dear Sir

The surveying expedition under my superintendence, has at length reached Port Vancouver, in good health and spirits, animated by the complete success which has attended their labors.

The question of the feasibility of a Rail Road to the Pacific Ocean, is no longer a matter of doubt, but is a fixed fact. The route is eminently practicable, and offers no serious obstructions. Each of the various Mountain ranges afford two passes, through which a Rail-Road can be built. The intermediate country furnishes favorable connections, having inexhaustible supplies of wood & stone for building purposes, and being admirably adapted to settlement and cultivation. The amount of tunnelling ^{probably} throughout the whole route is small, not exceeding two miles in all, and, the rivers and streams, are such as to be easily bridged. There are fine harbours for the terminus of the route on Puget Sound.

There is not time for a detailed report
to be made, so as to reach Washington by
the 1st of February. I shall however send
to-day to the Secretary of War, a report of
our operations since leaving Fort Benton
which in connection with prior reports
will I trust, be sufficient for the purposes
of Congress this winter.

Yours,

George D. Stinson

Geo. Stevens
Olympia

In relation to
his expedition



[Dec. 8, 1853]

Dear Sir //

The extending of the Mobile, Chicago and Dubuque rail road through Minnesota to Lake Superior, will be completing one of the greatest works in the world, Its political, Commercial and Social bearings will be unparalleled, You was the originator of this great work. - You have thus far advanced it with the extension of settlements north west; You can send the iron horse through to the Great Lake and thus cement the people of the states by ties of intimacy that will develop interests mutually beneficial to all. Will you do it? You can, comparatively, with little labor - the route, the country - its resources - in fact all points having bearings upon the subject you have in your head, You know the men to call to your aid in procuring the grant - you know the men to build the road.

Should you consent to undertake it, it will be necessary to have a charter drawn and sent to Minnesota anticipating the grant. The Legislature of that Territory meets on the first Monday in next month and will continue in session but sixty days -

By giving a favorable response to this you will confer an additional favor upon the people of the north west and save me from the regret of applying elsewhere for doubtful aid //

With great respect. Your friend

Henry M. Rice

Washington December
8th 1853.Hon: S. A. Douglass
U. S. Senate

Washington
Henry M. Rice

In relation to a Paul
R. Lee Munster

✓

