

General Land Office
September 11, 1855

Sir;

Your letter of the 7th Instant, this morning received, has been submitted to the Acting Secretary of the Interior, recommending the postponement of Minnesota land sales.

With great Respect
Your O^b Servant
Thos. A. Mendenhall
Commissioner

Sir,

Stephen A. Douglass
Chicago Illinois

Gen Land Office

James Smith
Wm. H. Smith

The Committee of the
Board of Directors of the
American Board of
Christianity

Wm. H. Smith
James Smith
Wm. H. Smith
James Smith

Wm. H. Smith
James Smith
Wm. H. Smith
James Smith

Chicago
Oct 19th 1833-

Wm Sheplew A. Douglass

W^d
fr,

I arrived in this City yesterday evening, and came with the express object of delivering in person the accompanying letter, which was entrusted to me by its Signer, and to make your acquaintance.

I regret not meeting you, because I think I could have impressed upon you not only the propriety but the necessity of your gratifying our wishes - We have just gained, as you are aware, a great and signal triumph in our State. We are anxious to maintain all that we have gained and ask your assistance to do it - We want to hear you and will insure you a large and respectable audience of all parties.

Consistent with your arrangements we hope you will comply with our wishes -

You might speak at Tremont in the evening after you speak at Paris, as the Cars leave Paris at 6 P.M. and reach Tremont at 7 O'clock -

If it is necessary for you to be in Paris on Sunday to go elsewhere, I have made arrangements to return you there by special train Sunday morning.

I shall hope to hear from you at Ten-Haute - send
enough to give notice and make all necessary arrangements.
If you go to Ten-Haute, I shall beg you to accept
the hospitality of my house so long as you may
wish to remain -

You will meet my brother Shudson P. Read Esq
a most excellent and reliable democrat at Paris -

Very Sincerely
Your friend

Ezra Read

Dear Friend I hope you are better
and that your health will continue
to improve for Carpenter will not
be able to come I don't believe.

Dear Noble Friend Dr. Read has come
here from Ten-Haute on purpose and is
one of the strongest Democrats in that District
and thinks you could do more good for yourself
and the party there than any other man
living. I believe so too and if it is
possible do go for it will be of great
importance to you. I have just heard him say by
the Rail Road should be in Reading for you

Write him you will come for
they will have a big turnout and
I know they will expect you for
I told him you would go if you were
able and it threw you great
pleasure on account of your old friends
and as you was sick you could not
go to Vincennes. I thought there was
no doubt you would write him that
you would come in the evening after
you had made a speech at Paris
as it was only twenty miles and on
the Rail Road as they had taken so
much pains to come to Chicago to
see you for that purpose might
as well as you will see by the letter
here enclosed I hope you will go
if it is possible to strain a point
and I know will if your health
permits write them so far
they are true as steel. I will
try and see you at Paris by
the Rail Road. Take care of yourself
and don't fail your friend
Both

J. Booth & D. Reed
Che cargo

Wharf 111 - E.
Long Island

To the Head Commissioner of
the General Land Office

The petition of the undersigned respectfully shows that in the year 1839, he applied for and procured a pre-emption under the act of the 22d June, 1838 at the Galena Land Office, to the north west quarter of Section thirty one (31) in Township eighteen (18) north of Range One (1) West of the 4th P. M. Your petitioner shows that his proof was ample for a pre-emption to the whole of said Quarter Section; but the Register and Receiver at Galena refused to allow him a pre-emption under said proof for so much of said Quarter Section as lay North of the South Channel of the Mississippi River, and on the Island of Rock Island, on the ground, that said Island was a reservation.

Your petitioner is informed and believes that at the date of his pre-emption, said Island was not a reservation.

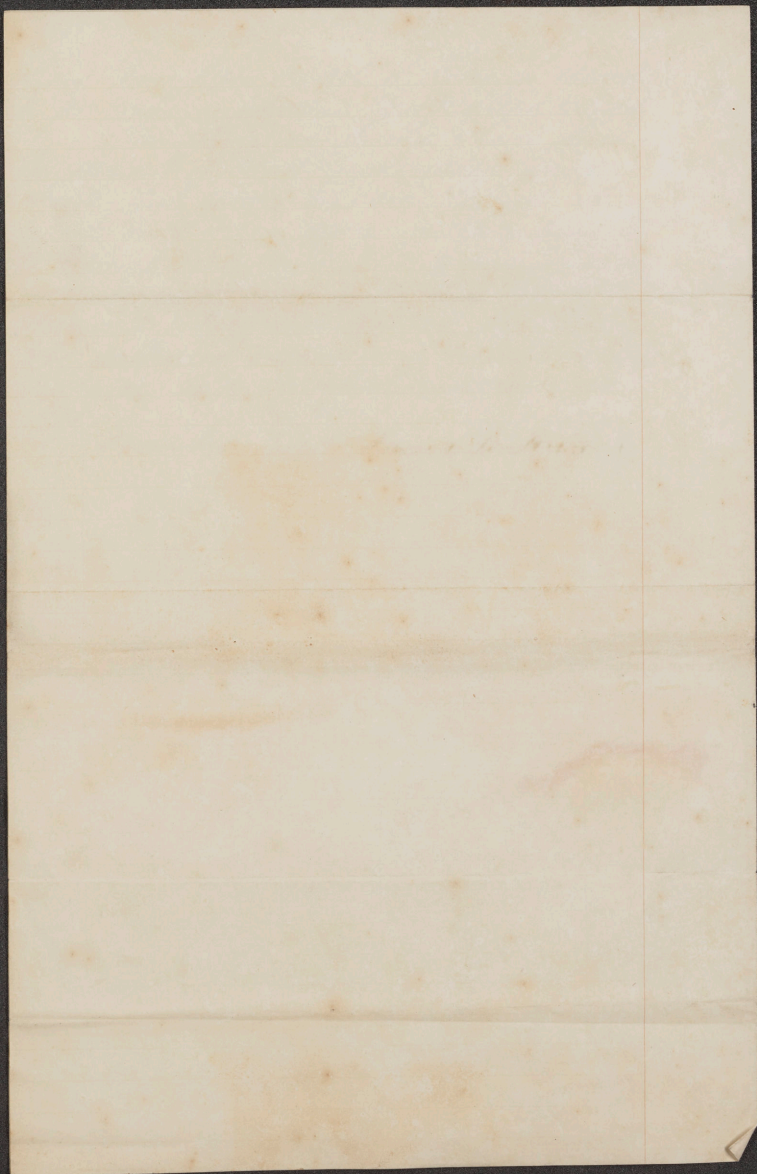
Your petitioner is informed that said refusal of said Land Office was erroneous, and he prays that said pre-emption may be allowed to the whole of said quarter.

Your petitioner further shows that said Island was abandoned as a military reservation in 1836, and that George Carrabot and David B.

Scars, have been by acts of Congress allowed
to pre-empt or purchase parts of said Island.

Your petition further shows that
the amount of land included in said
certain West quarter on said Island is
about forty seven acres, for which grant
he believed he is entitled to a pre-emption
under his proof filed with said Registry
Officers, which was decided by them
to be sufficient evidence of his cultivation
residence and occupation under said
Act.

November 1835 Lewis C. Underwood



Monticello N.Y. Nov 4th 1833-

Honl S. A. Douglass

Dear Sir

Dr H. B. Witter

I am informed, will apply to be employed
as. Superintendant of the estate and business
of your children and wards, in this state.

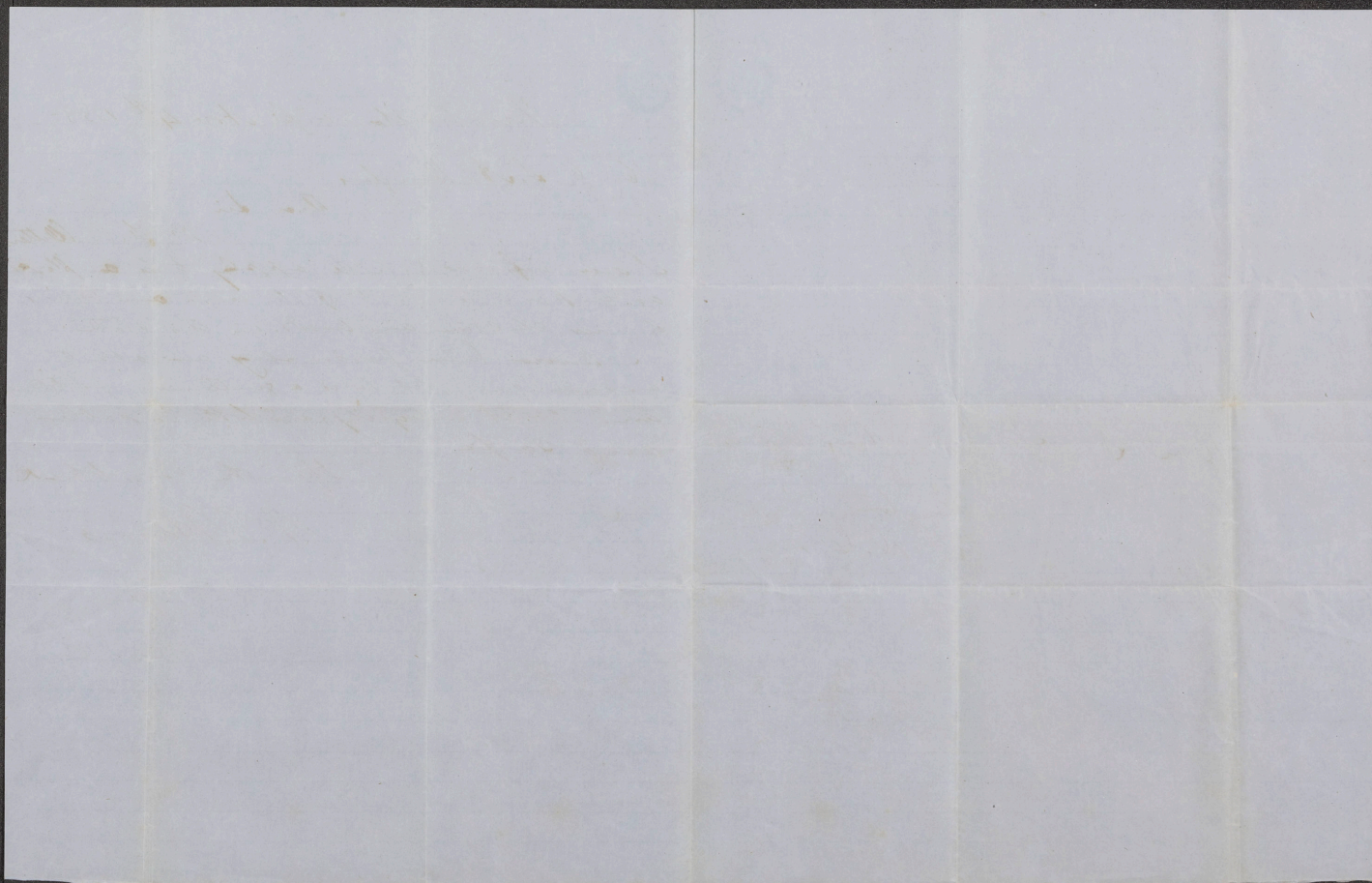
I know him personally, and able to
assure you that he is a gentleman of intelligence
and strict integrity, and both capable
and safe.

Yours honorble

H. B. Witter

Mr S A Douglass U.S.S.

Washington
D.C.



New York. Nov 6. 1855.

Dear Judge.

It is not much a matter of consequence which way the election of today may "go". I have sent you several newspapers. I have "the means" and appliances to boot. In 1856 - this State can be made all right so far as you are personally concerned, or for that matter publicly concerned.

You will find me no false friend or pseudo prophet. Please reply -

Yours Truly -
W. L. G.

over

New York. Nov 6. 1855.

Three months after date, value Received,
I promise to pay to my own order
One hundred and fifty Dollars.
\$150. 00.

Wm. Gardiner

Wm. Gaudin.

Post Post from Nov 6th 55

Hon S A Douglas

My Dear Sir

Enclosed is
a Petition I wish you to
Present to the P O I
I think it very essential that
the matter be before on the
next be Ordered as Reported
Proposed in the Petition
I hope you will attend to it
Yours truly

William Wood. PM
at Post Post from Ill

I filed the petition Nov 15th 1855
S. A. O. Sept.

Wm. Gray.

Mail matters
at Pau Pau Grove

1855 Nov

Charleston 18th Nov 55

Hon. S. C. Berghs

My dear Sir

Give me word a few days before you start to Chicago, that I may meet you at the cars or else stop with us all night.

Indications now force us to understand one another in regard to the election of 56 & by all means we should avoid guard against blunders similar to those of George S. Landis.

We will have a full & free Conference on meeting.

My kindest regards to Dr. Reed & family

Yours truly
O. B. Picklin

O. B. Franklin
Hartford



per

Wm C. A. Douglas
Sene Hunt
Ja
u

Smith, Bradley & Co



Chicago Nov 15th 1855

Mr. S. A. Douglass

Dear Sir

I left the Parkman notes (which I now have) I hypothecated to the Bank of St. Louis & gave a note at 30 days from Oct 26th signed E. R. Smith for S. A. Douglass.

The deed of land I had executed by Mr. M. - but his wife being absent did not record it until the 1st of Nov.

I regret much to hear of your illness - I have also been confined to my house for 10 days - To night I go 15th where I shall rest from my labours a little season -

We have not closed the trade for Geo. and Mitchell - but have sold 1/2 share for Geo. to Charles Richman of Ky. and the money is due - I suggest that if you are entitled to any part or all of this money that you address our house a line or see Mr. Bradley or Monro, who will I think put you near it on its arrival.

Dear

Rich has just written to ask to deposit
it in his name & send him Certificate to
St Pauls. Hoping you may soon reconnect
with strength of a Giant - Richard
again

Yours
By Proxy
G. W. Smith
G. W. Smith

Smith Brady & Co
Chicago

Gen L. A. Douglass.

[Min.]
Jackson 15th Nov 1855

Dear Sir

I receive your esteemed favour enclosing a copy of the resolutions passed by a portion of the Democracy of Illinois. They breathe the true spirit, perfectly satisfactory to the South and if carried out by the Free States will insure Union and harmony. I am perfectly satisfied that the Union of the States and the integrity of the Constitution, depend exclusively upon the success of democratic principles. The Democrats of the free States are the only true friends of the South and to them and in their success depend our safety. We of the South have ever looked to Illinois as our friend, relying upon the firmness of her leaders to sustain the Constitution. The wild hurricane of destruction and bloodshed that swept over the whole North last year brought the whole South to the stern determination to submit to no more wrongs but upon the first opportunity to resort to the last argument with Unionism, Separation or the sword, and for a time our hearts were heavy with the thought of dissolving our blessed Union cemented as it had been by the blood of our great and glorious Ancestors. But the skies are now looking bright, thank God. Old Virginia like a rock in a tempest typhoon waves the banner as it called South and all the Southern States (but one) have followed her glorious example. Maine, Pennsylvania and Indiana have followed up the good work at the North and if the " sober second thoughts " of the people of Illinois acting under your good Councils will only carry out your resolutions, let the Territories settle their own affairs without the intervention of Congress the whole land will be covered with peace and our hills and valleys all be vocal with the rejoicings of a prosperous people.

We have just passed through the severest contest with Know Nothingism, that the Democracy of Missi have ever had to encounter. When our Campaign opened the first of July, we found all of the old Whig party, and a large majority of the Democrats of the State in the Councils of our very worst enemy and for some weeks it looked like an impossibility to make an impression upon this mass of ignorance and corruption. But we fought it to the death and when it once began to give way the whole thing dissolved leaving the Whigs with their usual strength. We carried the State by about 6000 Majority and all of our Members to Congress except Singleton. I took the stump in the very beginning of the contest and traversed the whole State only closing two days before the election. I interrupted such efforts by both parties or such an excitement amongst the people. But we attacked their principles and identified them with the abolitionists of the North. We proved that Northern Democrats were the only true friends of the South and that the safety of the Constitution and the Union of the States depended alone upon the success of Democratic principles and that the Democratic party was the only National and truly conservative party in the Govt. In this way we broke down this Cast Galeb ~~don~~ in Mississippi but the struggle was desperate and I pray God that I may never witness such another. There were riots at La Louisvile to displace the State Guards from their arms and it was not unusual to hear the click of a dozen Pistols in the course of a speech. One shot fired would have cost fifty lives at least but nothing unpleasant occurred during the Campaign and we whipped the Rascals so badly that they have not held up their heads since the election. Our Majority in the Legislature will be at least thirty five which ensures a Democratic Senate.

Shall we not see you in Missi this winter, our Democratic

Conventions will meet in Jackson & I may take a short run from Washington by way of an oration to your plantation and give us a call about that time. Our Legislature will be in Session and we could give you not only a fair specimen of Missi Democracy but prove to you how Missi appreciates your efforts in supporting her Constitutional rights.

I should be glad to have your views (in confidence) in reference to the most Prudencey. Of course I do not expect you to speak in reference to yourself but in view of certain contingencies who are we to have Not Clay or Marcy that is certain Not Pierce that is still more certain. Buchanan, Richardson or Douglass. We would select with a man from the mighty West but suppose we should fail in him then what Northern Man is safest and most available. We intend to have no third rate man as a compromise this time but intend to fight the battle squarely with a champion that will honor the Office in the event of success. As to the Vice President Davis, Lincoln, Brown or Monro of Va are the prominent men Missi will go for Davis first last and all the time. My heart is set upon seeing him Vice Pres and we talk strongly here of a Ticket composed of Douglass & Davis. It would be a great Ticket and carry the whole South except perhaps the Yankee State of Kentucky. I was a little afraid of the Abolition question whilst the whole North was in a ferment and parties in the South excited, but it is now the great question and will bear you in triumph over all opposition. Excuse my gossiping and set it down to the score of my friendship alone. I thank God that I am not a great man but I feel some interest in those who are and still more in the safety and prosperity of my Country. If

When you have time and inclination let me hear from you

Very truly
Your friend C. S. Tinsley

C. S. Tarpley
abt. Providence, &c

Nov 5th 1855

✓

J. S.
Washington City
J. S. Tarpley, M. D.



5112 5110

HARMAN G. REYNOLDS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, LAND AGENT,
County Judge and Justice of the Peace,
KNOXVILLE, KNOX CO., ILL.

Will attend faithfully and promptly to all business
entrusted to his care, either professionally or officially.
Office in the Court House.

JOURNAL, PRINT.

Knoxville Ill. Nov. 23rd. 1855.

Dear Judge;

I desire to call your attention to a matter of
a little importance at Princeton, Bureau Co.

Doct. W. H. Winter, the present P. M., under the
influence of a quasi promise when he was first ap-
pointed, and a little vexation, arising from the quarrels
of two or three cliques, to none of which he is in any
way allied, has resigned the office, which I understand
has been sent to you - I am personally and well
acquainted with him, have the run of his personal
and political history, and know that he is all right,
that he is a popular post Master, and to accept
his resignation, will get a bad state of feeling in
that County. We need to nurse what remains.
In the hour of our utmost peril, the Doct never
quailed, but fought the foe to their face.

Allow me therefore to suggest, as a well wisher
of our party, that the Department pay no attention
to the resignation, or in other words that the resig-
nation be refused, and if rejected, Doct Winter
will keep on as heretofore - Bureau Co. has just
elected the Dem. ticket, and Lovejoy has resigned

his pastorate, and is going away - His Know Nothing
proclivities, in connection with his intensified
abolitionism and anti masonry has used him
up with some of his parishioners & Dr Winter
has contributed largely to that result.

Respectfully Yours,
Harman's Reynolds

Hon S. A Douglass
U S Senator,
Washington, D.C.

Harman's Reynolds
Letter
abt. P.O. at Knoxville
96
Wm's immediate reply
1855 Nov. 23

Wyandotte City
Nov. 27. 1855

Dear Douglas

A few days after my return to Kansas I learned that a meeting or Convention had been called at Leavenworth City for the 14th of this month. I called upon ^{Mr} Stramon & Whitfield to learn its object and from the tone of their conversation and from what I heard from different portions of the territory I was led to believe that the pro-Slavery party would now be willing to abandon their distinctive organization and place themselves upon ground which would enable all democrats and state rights whigs to make common cause against abolitionism and its revolutionary designs. I attended the Convention and mixing with the two or three hundred delegates that were there I discovered that they were very willing that I should shape the platform on which they should hereafter stand. The result was, the adoption of the resolutions you have seen, placing themselves distinctly and clearly on democratic grounds and agreeing hereafter that the only organization known in Kansas in opposition to the Abolition

and free soil party should be the "State
rights" party of Kansas. The name of "State
rights" was adopted because many southern
Whigs yet felt a little prejudice to the name of
"democratic". It is however, as its resolutions show
a purely democratic organization and next year
will assume that name during the Presidential
Campaign. This crisis is what I have been striving
for ever since I came to Kansas and I did
not even hope that it would come so soon.

Two points I made with the pro-slavery men
before going into the Convention. 1st the abandon-
ment of their pro-slavery organization was to
enable free state democracy to act with them
and the repudiation of all foreign influence
from every quarter in elections. This makes it
a democratic party upon the pure principle
of the Nebraska act. Another thing they agreed to
do and that was to abandon any attempt to ex-
ecute the others provisions of their fugitive slave
law. The next session of the legislature will place
that law upon its true basis. Thus order and
consistency are established by the democratic
party in Kansas and the extravagant follies of
Atchinson and Co. are repudiated. The views and
objets of this organization I explained in a speech,
not only to the satisfaction of all parties interested
in the new organization, but to the perfect delight

of the free-slavery party who flocked around
me with a thousand congratulations that I had
opened the way for our cordial co-operation against
a common enemy. In my conversations with them
I took the ground that it was decidedly more
important to make Kansas a democratic state
than a free or slave state; for as a slave state it
might be a whig or know nothing state, and as a
free state it might be an abolition or free soil
state; and that while they were struggling to make
it a slave state upon an organization which
prevented free state democracy from acting with them
they would be very likely to throw the power into the
hands of Riden and the abolitionists and thus
make it an abolition state. This had its weight
with the democrats and as they constituted four
fifths of the party they carried the whig along with
them, and when I had got done speaking the
resolutions were passed with a shout. From this
day you may count Kansas right. Riden and
Johnson's affiliation with the anti society men
of Mass., their repudiation of the laws of the Legis-
lature, their abolition spoken convention will
all be crushed now with an overwhelming force.
There is not on earth a more democratic people
than the Kansas settlers. Whitfield told me that
he had desired to run as a national democrat
but that he could not control the sentiment of his

friends. By the action of the Convention at
Haverworth he is now the representative of
the "State Rights" or democratic party of Kansas, and
not of the Pro-slavery party, and you can con-
sider him as such; and he is authorized by the
new organization to say to you that you are their
first choice for the presidency whenever you may
pleasure to call upon them. This however is no new
thing, for the pro-slavery men of Kansas have
always sworn by you. The only embarrassment we
have hitherto encountered has been their pe-
culiar organization as a pro-slavery party. That
is ^{now} dead, and ^{all} the true Democrats of the territory,
whether for free or slave states, now stand on the
same platform. The objects of the Convention were as
you ^{see} to express public opinion upon restoring the
laws of the territory. The opportunity was a good one
for effecting all that has been done. Tho' not a mem-
ber of the Convention I was appointed one of the Com-
mittee to draft an address to the people of the U.S.
Gov. Shannon and myself have got one up with
great ease and it is now being printed. I will
send you some copies next week. I wish you would
look at it carefully. Ellsbery has gone clear over
to the Resistor party. I send you the last number of
his paper to call your attention to a "Notice" which I have
marked, among the advertisements. It is signed by the
principal leaders of the Aid Society's operations at Law-
rence. The meeting, ~~center~~ and the acts contemplated of

in the notice, are not spoken of publicly; and it was placed where it is, doubtless, for the purpose of escaping the observation of the general reader. The Reader party in this territory are known to have adopted an organization similar to the Know Nothing organizations. They are really a secret society. The notice alluded to was only intended to meet the eye of the initiated or it would have been heralded with editorial flourish and spoken of publicly. There never was upon earth a more unscrupulous and rascally party than that which has been established here by the Aid Society of Miss. Money is the basis of all their operations, and with that they are buying up an organized resistance to the laws, and striving with Reader, promoted to their leadership, to get the power here and to make a crisis at Washington while they hope seriously to disturb the relations existing between the North and the South in the next presidential campaign. The whole affair, embracing the election of Reader, the Topeka Convention and the proposed election of state officers as they call ^{it} ~~them~~ are all of a piece, and had their origin in more scheming brains than Reader's or the small instruments ^{the abolitionists} ~~they~~ have here in Kansas. I will send you in a few days the laws and journals of the Territorial Legislature.

(Very respectfully,
 Yours etc. Amos
 J. Leathrum)

Letter fr. J. Calhoun
abt. Kansas matters

Nov 1855

27



Nov. 28 1857

TO THE HONORABLE

The Senate and House of Representatives.

OF

The United States in Congress Assembled.

THE undersigned, Inspectors of the Revenue at the Port of New-York, in continuation of their application for an increase of pay, made in 1853:

Respectfully represent that their present compensation was established by law in 1816—nearly *forty years ago*—when the expense of living was but trifling in comparison with the exorbitantly high price of every article necessary to the support of a family.

That in addition to the difference of living, an increase of labor and responsibility have been added to the duties of the Inspector more than throbbing those defined by law when their pay was established, to which they respectfully refer as follows:

FIRST. *The Bonded Warehouse System*, itself, has more than doubled the duties of the officer; inasmuch as previously the goods for examination in "public store," and those subject to "general order," were the only goods for which we were held responsible; whereas, now, it not unfrequently occurs, in addition to those, that goods are warehoused, from one vessel alone, to *twenty* different warehouses, all of which we are by law required to send specially directed (each load) to their respective warehouses, and with, at times, a portion of the "general order goods," directed to be sent to Atlantic Dock by lighters, with an accompanying manifest. For the safe conveyance and delivery of all these, we are held strictly accountable.

SECOND. The ocean steamers, lately introduced in the commerce of the world, and rapidly increasing in numbers in this port, have greatly added to the already onerous duties of the Inspector.

These vessels, not contemplated when the Revenue Laws fixed the compensation of its Inspectors, are so constructed as to render them impossible of securing by the ordinary fastenings of locks and seals, as the law provides for us on leaving our vessels, requiring therefore our constant confinement on board from sunrise to sunset, until relieved by the night officers, whom at sunrise we again relieve.

THIRD. *These vessels* not only impose on us the necessity of this constant attendance during the working days, but after the unceasing toil, confinement, and anxiety of the laboring hours, the HOLY SABBATH dawns upon us with the same obligations of our duty, leaving us *no relaxation*—no exemption from duty as the law provides, but one continued period of anxiety and watchfulness, from their arrival until their departure.

FOURTH. The Inspector is frequently called upon to perform his duty *after sundown*, (never contemplated by the laws fixing his pay,) which not unfrequently extends to *twelve or one o'clock at night*, (on arrival of steamers late in the day,) for the purpose of discharging Passengers' Baggage, abolishing entirely their hours of rest and relief, contemplated and expressly provided for by the Revenue Laws, namely, Sundays and nights.

FIFTH. The mental and physical labor, the vigilance and activity required in discharging cargoes of *steamers and packet ships*, the exposure and suffering on a vessel's deck, or on the bleak and unprotected dock, at inclement seasons of the year, as well as the diligence and application required to examine, compare and correct the receipts of the various stores, bonded warehouses, cellars, etc. The care and precision required to make out the *duplicate returns* of a cargo of 1,600 or 1,700 tons, in time for the vessel's clearance, occupying from twelve to eighteen quarto sheets, closely written, with minute statements and details of the disposal of the whole cargo, have, from the increased tonnage capacity of our modern vessels, rendered the duties of Inspector of Customs oppressive, irksome, and severe in the extreme, and claim relief by at least a *fair compensation* at the hands of government, whose treasury is enriched as much from the *incorruptible integrity of its Custom House officers as from the prosperity of our country*.

SIXTH. The increased and increasing mercantile business of our Port, have for some *years past* rendered it incumbent on us to perform the duties of *another separate and distinct branch* of the Revenue department, namely, the Measurers, who are allowed by law, \$1,500 per annum, (nearly \$500 more than the Inspectors,) while the Inspector, for performing *that*, in addition to his complicated, arduous and responsible duties, receives no additional compensation whatever. This, we beg leave to submit, is a gross injustice to officers already burthened with important addition duty without extra pay.

When we call the attention of your Honorable Body to the fact,

That we perform our duties daily, from the rising to the setting sun in our busy port.

That we are *not exempt* even on the *Holy Sabbath*, which other employees of Government who have been favored with an increase of pay, are exempt from.

That we are exposed to the inclemency of the weather, as well as the extremely hazardous duty of boarding vessels in our crowded (and at times boisterous) harbor, incurring also the risk of *Ship Fever*, and other contagious diseases from infected vessels.

That we are the guardians of the Revenue in all seasons and all weathers, scaling the vessels' icy sides, 'midst the wintry blast, and the wild wind's roar, or scrambling up its slimy sides beneath the scorching summer's sun.

That through the vigilance, activity, and uncompromising integrity of the Inspectors, frauds on the Customs are detected, and the honest merchant protected.

That the seizures and confiscations in this Port lately would contribute much to that additional compensation which our accumulated duties and the exorbitant expense of living fully justify.

That we have patiently awaited the action of Government since 1853, suffering the most harassing annoyance, from the *insufficiency of our pay*, for the *support* of our families, in this *expensive* city, prevented as we are from the diligence our duty demands, as well as by law, from resorting to any additional employment to increase our resources.

That the clerks and employees in the departments at Washington, who are engaged but a few hours each day, have received a very liberal consideration from your Honorable Body, during the Session of 1853, when our extreme necessities urged us to apply, but with a less fortunate result.

We therefore respectfully ask an extra allowance of pay, from that period when we first made our appeal to you, and which this continuation of our appeal will we trust, satisfactorily explain.

We approach your Honorable and Intelligent Body in the full conviction of the justness of our application, and a firm belief in the *convictions of right* which a calm consideration of our claims must establish. Relying upon your sense of justice,

We respectfully ask such an *increase of compensation* as you, in your wisdom, and from the reasons herein set forth, shall conceive to be equitable and just,

And for which we most earnestly pray.

NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER 28, 1855.

Charles A. Brown,
T. Montross,
Geo. W. M. Briggs,
Patrick Boyle,
David Wood,
Peter M. Dermot,
Geo. B. Woodbridge,
John Vandervoort,
William Town,
H. McNally,
S. R. Scott,
George W. Roome,
Geo. W. Schureman,
Charles Grauger,
W. F. Van Wart,
James H. Roosevelt,
S. W. Manwaring,
John Aston,
Wm. Fitzpatrick,
Wm. S. Armigh,
Daniel B. Boden,
Thos. J. Brown,
Jno. Z. Hart,
Nicholas Kline,
Ensign Driggs,
Henry Chavins,
Charles Mills,
John A. F. Douglass,
Manus Kelly,
George W. Ditchett,
Wm. Drew,
John Pettit,
G. L. Fredeenburg,
Wm. Miner,
Anthony Woods,
Wm. M. Green,
S. J. Barnside,

George Weir,
Patrick Dee,
S. A. N. Wright,
N. B. Shaw,
David Garthwaite,
Coll. N. Campbell,
Geo. Elliott,
Wm. Fagan,
Alexander Isaacs,
John M. Arthur,
Thos. H. Ferris,
Edward Murray,
Wm. S. Leach,
E. Martin,
Fred. A. Hackley,
P. Campbell,
William Morphy,
David H. Kelly,
George W. Bleeker,
L. M. Bucklin,
Henry Tice,
A. L. Storey,
Chester Fox,
George W. Siemer,
William H. Baker,
Wm. S. Brown,
A. Brady,
Ja. Thorne,
John C. Roach,
Patrick Murphy,
J. T. Dorton,
Henry Liebenau,
William Rielley,
W. D. Scally,
A. G. V. Wagener,
John Townsend,
Chas. B. Childs,

Joseph W. Lamb,
Samuel Graham,
James Wright,
Joseph M. Manus,
John A. Post,
Daniel Meehan,
Jno. Bulver,
Isaac De Forrest,
John M. Connell,
Howland Macomber,
La Fayette Tompkins,
Casper C. Childs, Jr.,
T. H. Knower,
Adam C. Flanagan,
Francis Master-on,
James Reel,
Alfred Winsor,
Stephen A. Dodge,
O. Vandewater,
James Farley,
John Farren,
C. W. Oakley,
Richard A. Locke,
S. D. Gardner,
John Lawrence,
Edw'd Brown,
S. Brewster,
W. F. Weeks,
Stephen Maxson,
William Cagger,
W. Ryer,
J. H. Smith,
Thomas J. Ridden,
George White,
Thomas W. Hall,
Robert S. Slocum,
Alex'r H. Stewart,

Edwin Brownell,
Eugene M'Grath,
John F. Burling,
Sam'l Reynolds,
Peter F. Burroughs,
Jacob Bittel,
John Bree,
Daniel Green,
Stephen D. Layman,
George D. Davis,
Sam'l S. Conklin,
Joseph H. Moulton,
John D. Kellogg,
Joseph Geery,
Edward Pollock,
J. C. Lowler,
De Witt C. Graham,
W. F. Goffrey,
George Pearson,
Henry D. Johnson,
George Whitehouse,
J. D. Olmstead,
H. Oadertouk,
F. M. Lodewick,
C. Deklyn,
James M. Oakley,
Rob't Donald,
D. P. Root,
Cyrus Riell,
Charles A. Reilly,
S. Van Nostrand,
Andrew N. Doig,
W. J. Wiswall,
John D. Murdock,
James B. Archer,
J. J. Bailey,
Sam'l D. Walters,

Nov 28, 1855



V:6

Columbus, Ohio.

Apr 29, 1855.

My dear Sir,

I wish, if you can do so, you would ascertain whether the Treasury Department wish my services at Leelleo. I have an opportunity to embark in another enterprise; but if Mr. Guthrie is tending to employ me, I would decline any other engagements.

The Presidential question is becoming the absorbing topic and it is impatient that we should have such an understanding as will prevent clashing in our operations. What shall we do? We have the power to do as we please. We can control the vote of States. Ought we to make a demonstration for any candidate, or should we secure the delegation and leave the question of Candidate in abeyance? In my judgement, we ought not to

express a preference for any one
out of the State. I am in favor of
getting through a resolution
requesting the delegates to act as a
unit, and instructing the majority
to determine for and how the vote shall
be cast. Something of this sort, with
the right kind of men, to manage
the instructions, would be better than in-
structing for any particular man. I
want a majority of Douglass men
in the delegation, so as to prepare
for contingencies. If "Stens" can
be nominated, by all means let
us do it. If he cannot be, let it
be understood that he is not a can-
didate; but to protect his future, and
the interests of his friends, he must
have the power to dictate the nomi-
nation. If Douglass cannot be nomi-
nated, who would he prefer? I
am aware that it will be very
difficult to ascertain this - for ^{he} is
too discreet a man to disclose
his preference, except to such

friends as he can "let his bottom
bottom on".

Do you desire to
be a delegate to the Con-
stitution? You must not have a com-
mittee for it.

Give me your views
on this question and tell me
what ^{you} think should be done
by one friendly to the Legisla-
ture in the Senate. Over
thirty nine men will have some
power.

Very truly your friend
James B. Shedden.