

Feb. 22, 1856

Am. S. A. Douglas

Private

Dear Sir:

Our many friends in this region were glad to hear of your arrival in good health, at Washington. And, in due time, they expect to hear from you on the floor of the Senate.

The abolitionists have started off with more activity and bitterness this season than I have ever known political facts to do. Although the larger portion of them were, and are, know-nothings, they are making desperate efforts to control the German vote. They have bought up all the German papers of this State with money offered to have been sent as last year by an M. C. from New York, one of Mr. Sumner's "Knaves and Sticks". I think they will probably carry off a portion of the German vote, especially those who came from Europe since 1848, and who are higher law men, in favor of our Constitution here, and opposed to the Constitution of the United States. This class send imperial spirits in Sweden, France, &c. The abolitionists have turned the arena of ~~Sweden~~ German revolutionists, who have commenced persecuting this State, and perhaps yours, addressing the Germans. The country is the field of present war between free Kansas, meeting hostility against the Federal Government, and collecting money to aid their disunion to the Constitution advocates of the Union.

I think the time demands from you a full examination and exposition of the past and present Kansas difficulties, in order that the people may be fully advised in the only manner there is or was in the country to control an

You are to write, and there is a general expectation that
you will do so. As to the time when this should be
done, we are agreed to put as you set —
There shall be a special number in

favorable notice of the identity of Walter
Chambers, and abolitionists, showing whether
are for that and Banks done, (or up if you
please,) to Mr. Wright of Iowa.

You speak and this special shall
be printed in the German, just as in the English,
language, and distributed throughout the Country —

Republicans, I believe, are making to print &
circulate large quantities of Swedish & Swiss tracts
in the German language —

If there is a reliable national German
paper in Chicago, Iowa might supply it with
news papers for that point —, etc. For good
German speakers should be selected to campaign
during the campaign, and address the Germans
at all their leading places of settlement in Iowa,
and Illinois —

I hope you will think of this
suggestion, and make the best I have taken
in making them —

Yours very truly,
Edward Johnston

Proslavery Iowa.
Feb. 22, 1856.

I must add one thing more. I don't think it possible
to obtain answers in Iowa, if Mr. Rice is re-nominated
for the President of —. There are some ops, who can't
fight under any nominee, but the Crafts will not do so —

Ed Johnston.
about politics
Fort Madison
Iowa.

Wm. Morris Feb 23^d 1856.

Hon. S. A. Douglass -

My Dear Sir -

In reference to your position as a Statesman at this critical juncture of political affairs, it has occurred to me, that a frank expression of views coming from one of early school boy acquaintance, without political pretensions, or aspirations, and dictated by none other than the kindest of motives, will not be distasteful, or unacceptable to you, — though they should fail to meet your acquiescence -

I am under the belief that misapprehension prevails generally — at least at the North — in reference to your real position on the vexed question of Slavery — You are regarded as foremost among those most active & decisive to extend the institution of Slavery to the New Territories. The misapprehension I infer has arisen from the fact that to your influence & powerful support more than to that of any other man is

attributable the refusal of the Missouri Compromise

For my self I never have been able to see or admit - that it necessarily followed that the support of that bill, in its, was evidence of design to favor or extend Slavery - nor have I believed, that with an open field and a fair trial, that such would be the result in its practical effect

I have not ceased to believe that in the conception & support of your bill, your leading motive was not so much from a consideration as to what might be its effect either to extend or limit Slavery, as of inherent political and constitutional rights - Regarding the principle of popular Sovereignty, as of vital importance in harmony with the the whole theory, of and lying at the basis of our free government, you felt constrained to embody it as a leading feature in the organic Law of the Territory - For this which I suppose to be the head & front of your offending you have received from the Northern people indiscriminate censure & denunciation, and have not escaped the honors of martyrdom in effigy which you will not forget have been combined in little Missouri upon other men great & good - David Wisatan not excepted -

You can I have thought not altogether analogous to that of Ex Gov. Seymour of this state on a different issue - The Governor who is a temperance man and of high moral tone, was soundly abused by

temperance men for his veto of a prohibitory enactment, on the ground of constitutional objection, while the liquor men slapped him on the back pulled him & called him their man. Willing or not willing he was obliged in self defense to stand forth as their representative & the consequence was he was thrown upon the wrong side which proved fatal to him -

In like manner have southern men rallied around you, and my greatest fear has been that you would in self defense be driven over entirely to them - what I should deem equally fatal - embrace -

Having visited Kansas & been there at the time of the first election of delegate to Congress I know something from personal observation, in respect to the troubles there & the character of the men engaged in the conflict - The settlers from the eastern & middle states are not the shabby set of hangers & fanatics their enemies would represent - but as a class combine as much intelligence & enterprise as are to be found in any equal number to be found in the poorest part of the country - They are earnest men & many of them have gone with their families from the hard sterile lands of New England seeking a home mainly for the purpose of bettering their condition where they might find a more generous soil and genial climate, encouraged

perhaps I should say misled by that law of Congress which guaranteed to them a voice in the laws by which they were to be governed and a hand in framing the Constitution of the state - but they have been over awed & borne down by non-residents, mostly from the neighboring State of Missouri. Who have ^{by violence & fraud} usurped the control of the ballot-box & the government & are now endeavoring to impose a code of laws contrary to the wishes & repudiation to the feelings of a large majority of the actual inhabitants of ~~the Territory~~, & to oppress ^{them} wrong & drive out with force of arms from the Territory - Backed by the President, they have a fair prospect of success - Will not the moral sense of the Country be shocked by such outrages? - Such monstrous perversion of the doctrine of popular sovereignty?

Under these circumstances has not a favorable time arrived when in justice to yourself as well as the great interests of the Country, you may openly take ground against the invasion of the rights ~~guaranteed~~ guaranteed by that act of Congress to the actual settlers of the Territory, & denounce their usurpation, by men whether in high places or low who are seeking to subjugate Kansas for the purpose of extending Slavery? or I may?

not add for any other purpose?

Am I in error in supposing that such a step would not be inconsistent with your former course? Relying upon the justice & merits of your cause — might you not safely leave to the better judgment and good sense of the people of every section of the country to rally around & sustain you?

I am offering these suggestions which I have little faith in that class of politicians whose "occupation" is maintained by agitation. Am I mistaken in supposing that the man who may have the wisdom & ability — and I know of no one more competent than yourself to undertake the task — to bring order out of confusion — to restore harmony to the country, by arresting the threatening aspect of Territorial affairs, in a peaceful adjustment so as to protect the just rights of actual settlers, will be a national benefactor, deserving the gratitude of his country?

I am concluding permit me to express to you my very sincere regrets at your recent, serious & protracted illness — hoping that you are quite restored, & congratulating you on being permitted to resume

your duties at Washington & retaining many kind
remembrances of you at the old Acad-
emy at Canandaigua I am very truly
Your old friend
and old Servt.
Saml J. May

P.S. Can you favor me with your speech in
Pamphlet form to the Common Council & Citizens of
Chicago upon the compromise of 1850. Also your speeches
in Senate in the debate on Kansas & Nebraska bill?
I could use a few of them to a good advantage

W. Mills
on politics
generally

1845

1845

1845

Polo Hg Co. Ill

Feb 23, 1856

Hon. Steven A. Douglas

Sir

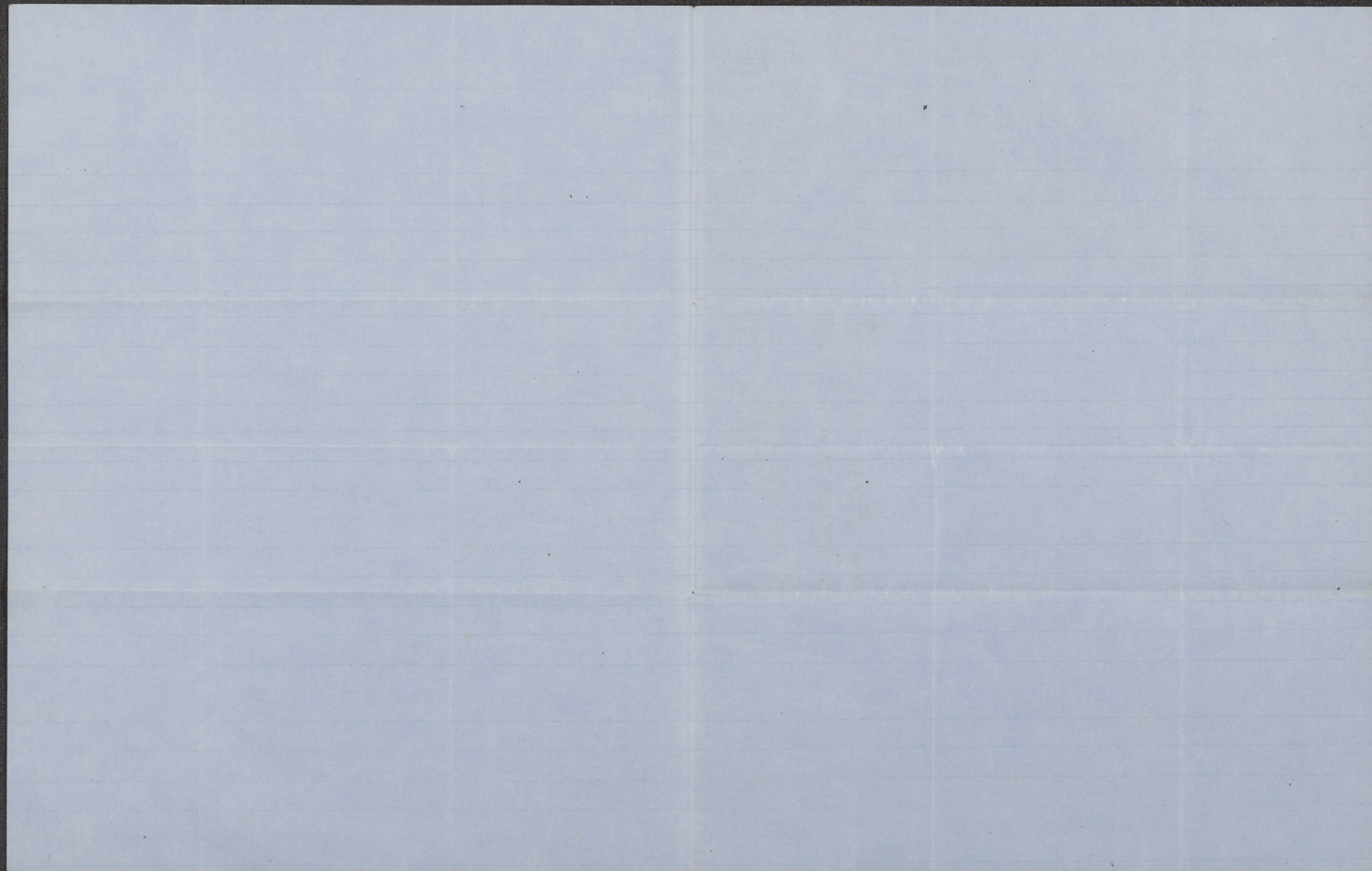
There will be presented to the Post Office Dept a petition asking for the establishment of a new Post Office at Buffalo Grove which will be less than one mile from this Polo Office. The Petition was gotten up by the most literate of persons in the Administration that we have in this Section of the County and should they succeed in getting the Office it is to be left in the hands of the most dirty Abolition holes we have in this Section of the Country. There would not one tenth of persons who have signed the petition get their mails at that Office if they should get one.

There is no more call for a Post Office there than there would be for the establishment of two more Offices in Chicago - you may confer a favor by returning the fact to the Department.

Respectfully,
Geo. D. Mead
P.M.

George D. Read
P. Martin Fol. Ills

Protests against the Establishment
of a Post Office at Buffalo Grove
Ills



Private

Wausville Indiana

January 23^d 1856

Hon

S. A. Douglas

Sir

I am
 glad to see by the public prints
 that you again occupy your
 seat in the Senate - and
 are measurably recovering
 from your long illness - We
 are here commencing our
 political campaign - and
 will give you a good account
 of Indiana - both in the State
 and National Elections - We
 got nothing at the Convention
 on the 8th - although we
 send from the South - the only
 two democratic representatives
 in Congress - Not even a delegate

from the State to the National
Convention at Cincinnati
I was unanimously recom-
mended by the only two demo-
cratic districts represented
in Congress - but there were
reasons, as well known to
you as me - why I was not
selected - I am however
fully compensated by the
fact, that the democracy
here - were more indignant
than I was at such an
utter disregard of their wishes
"W'imparte" I will be there
any way.

There is a bill in
which Miller our Representative
and his constituents - and
some of yours along the Wabash
feel a deep interest - It is
to reestablish the Land

Commissioners Court at Vincennes
The act of 1854 only created
such a Court - but confined
its operations entirely to
Indiana - The citizens in
Illinois along the Wabash - as
well as those on this side hold
under the same conceptions
from the Government - Commissions
acts of Congress granting donations
of Land for militia service
and settlement - but the
act of July 12th 1854 - only
confined the bounty as to their
rights to patents to those on
the East side of the Wabash -
I venture to say - there is not
in Lawrence County for instance
a single patent for a survey
or location ever given - And
there are at least one hundred
claimants in that County
The Commissioners of the General

Land Office

in his Report to the present
Congress - recommends the
reestablishment of the Commission
vide his report - Allen in whose
District these claims are situated
also feels an interest in it - he
has written me - See him

It is proposed to introduce
the bill in the Senate - if so
please give it your aid

Yours friend

John Davis

Mar 23/56

Cincinnati Ohio

John Davis

Office

Chicago Sunday,
Feb. 24.

Dear Judge.

I enclose a letter from Brawley recommending some P.O. changes. They are all right. I have refused all applications for such things, unless they come sanctioned and asked by such men as he is. The changes asked are -

That Peter J. Ellis be appointed P.M. at Jackson P.O. Stephenson, Co. in place of C. Van Brocklin, and that Jacob Ekley be appointed P.M. at Rock River, P.O. same Co. in place of Samuel J. Davis. Be kind enough to have it done for us. I would be glad if before you make any changes, you would let us know we often have pets. I hope you will have Henderson retained at Wilmington, Me. Co. and Dennis at Albany Whiteside Co.

The fight goes on vigorously. We yield not a grain of our principles. We accept the issue made by the enemy. I am I think never over sanguine, but I will be much mistaken if we do not have a victory. I will telegraph you the result, but fear it will not reach you till next day. The cry of the enemy is "anti Douglas", we will beat them on that cry. Breckinridge is perfectly furious. His paper is infused in its impotent madness. I want you to ask Harris to have my article on Woodworth's chance to

"Our member". Hayne is doing glorious service. My
arrangements with Cork are not perfect. But
is tight. His necessities alone induce him to
listen to anything. He will not abate one cent
in his price.

I have no time to write one. He is in
seven halves a week now - & that nearly
all the time.

I still claim 800 man's.

Yours truly
J. W. Phelps

Do oblige us with a letter. As I wish
you would write one ~~that~~ that I can show
to the noble fellows who are with us in
the fight. Hayne, Dr. Richard, Carpenter,
and all others.

Yours

Attested
March 21/1836

sent down to

Clerk's Office Kane Co.,
Feb 25th, 1856,

Col Richardson;

Although not
your immediate constituents,
I hope you will not deem
it intrusive in me to ask
of you a favor. There has
been considerable trouble about
the Burlington Post Office in
this County and it is charged
here that Senator Douglass has
recommended the removal of
the present incumbent and the
appointment of John Green
in his place. Will you be
kind enough to accommo-
date a friend and ascertain
at the Department whether the
petition for the appointment
of John Green Esq. to be Post
Master of Burlington, Kane
County, Illinois, has been
received, and if so, what
action has been had up-
on it, if any? Mr Doug-

lap has been censured in
my office to day about his
action in the matter and
I tried to defend him,
but to no purpose. I know
he is full of business, ~~being~~
having no special in the
Senate whom I will ag-
ree in this matter. I will
not trouble the pages
of Abolitionism in the shop
of Woodcock. Will you,
to have you time to see
to this?

Truly yours
James Summerton
Att of Mass & Cal.

It may not be im-
proper for me to say that
in my opinion the removal
of the present incumbent, John
Elliotson and the appointment
of Eg. Green is demanded no
less by the interests and wants
of the community, than that
of the Democratic party. J. M.

Jamus Harrington
Ch Kane Co Illinois
Dec 25/50

Relative to the appointment
of a Postmaster at Burlington
Illinois

Will Judge I look
into this matter &
see what it is

Wm Nicholson

(No. 14.)

Post Office Department,

APPOINTMENT OFFICE,

Feb 23. 1856.

Sir:

John Gray, the Postmaster at Miles
County of Cooks State of Ill.
resigns in favor of Wm Horner.

Suspended

Before submitting this case to the Postmaster General, I
have to request the favor of any information you may possess, or be able
conveniently to obtain, respecting it.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, &c.,

Horatio King

FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Wm S. Douglas,
U. S. Senate,

PO Dept
the PM at
Nils M. Ridgway
Sub 28 56

Peoria Ill Feb'y 25 1856

386-1

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

My Dear Sir,

I am aware that
you are trouble very much by your
friends asking favours through your
influence. I have not troubled you
much heretofore. But under existing
circumstances I am compelled to call
on you for a little of your personal
attention and influence. Ever since I
have held the office of P.M. at this place
I have had to contribute (to sustain the
Democracy) so that it has almost taken
all the income I have received from
the office. I have been keeping the office
in the basement of the Peoria House at
a small rent. My lease will expire
the last of March at which time I
will have to leave. They are about
building on the House so it will ruin
my office. I cannot get an office
in any convenient place in the City
short of from six to eight hundred dollars

per year, to pay that amount and
fix it up, pay Clerks and other con-
tingent expenses and contribute
what I will be compelled to do in
the next Presidential campaign
would take more than I would
realise from the office. I think
the Department should make this
office a salary office as it nets
the Department more than any
other office in the State except
Chicago. I herewith send you a
statement of the last four quarters
I think with this before you -
You can induce the P. M. General
to make this a salary office. I wish
you to attend to this in Person and
I will reciprocate in any way you
may call on me - I have for the
last year attended to the appoint-
ment of P. M. in this part of the State
You can rely on me in any of these
matters. Will you please attend to
this the first convenient moment
as I will have to leave this office
the last of March.

I remain your friend
and most ob^{ly}
Peter Sweet

Peter Smart

Prono Ills

Feb 28/56

Encloses an a/c with the
Post Office Department

Peter Sweato Asst. with the P.O. Department,

Rec ^d for first Dr ending Apr 1 1855	710 19
Dr " Second Dr " July 1 1855	718 02
Dr " Third Dr " Oct 1 1855	690 02
Dr " Fourth Dr " Dec 1 1855	725 72
	<u>\$2843 95</u>
Rent of Office Clerk hire & other contingent expenses for the 4 Drs. as above	15 50 00
	<u>\$1293 95</u>

Paid over to the Department	
First Dr April 1 1855	1058 48
Second Dr July 1 1855	1042 27
Third Dr Oct 1 1855	988 24
Fourth Dr Dec 1 1855	1077 78
	<u>\$4166 77</u>

You will see that the net income the last year has been 1294 Dollars I remember paying 200 Dollars rent for the Office If I have to pay 800 which is as low as I can get a good office that will accommodate the People It will only leave me net 694 Dollars I cannot get through the next Presidential Campaign with that amount I am the only Person that holds an office of any importance in this Congressional District Therefore I have to stand various claims It is not outrageous to make a man work for nothing and find himself not even a little glory but many curses I have every confidence that you will get this office a salary office as the Department are giving quite a revenue from it

Your friend &
Most Obedt, &c

P. Sweato,

House S. Douglas

J T Disney on
Political matters
New York

Feb 1856

26
✓ strictly confidential

Asa House
N. York

Feb 26/1856

Dear

I find that the Buchanan men profess to be thoroughly posted on regard to Virginia & they claim that the delegation from that State will be for him. Without being able to detect the prearrangement I am nevertheless satisfied that some influential parties in Virginia are at work for Buchanan and are suspicious from to Wade. In view of these facts it will be well to call

The attention of both Sumner
& Pierce to this condition of things
in that state so that they may be
counselled to defeat the movements.

Broadhead will be effective
to that end with both of them.

New York City as well as Philadelphia
is thoroughly Buchanan. But the
Administration ought to have power
enough to change this. It is perhaps
of the less moment as the Delegation
from this state will doubtless be against
him. By delegation I mean both heads
& tails; nevertheless this line on
this City should be checked and
changed - at once - because of the effect
to be produced on orators - Cannot
Pierce be alarmed into an effort
to that end? The nomination of

Fillmore at Philadelphia will doubtless
bring to the aid of the Know-nothings the
main body of the Silver Grey Whigs
in the Free states - This will be a position
told to us. It will probably also
alienate from us the Know-nothings of
the South who otherwise would have
been absorbed in our ranks -

There will be doubtless now an
apprehension between the free soil Know-
nothings & the "Republicans" and to
this extent their strength will be
increased - but the severance of the
national Know-nothings from the
apprehension will weaken the combination
so that while our vote will be largely
reduced from what it would have
been if the Know-nothings had remained
an abolitionist still we are abundantly
compensated by the consequence which
reduces the power of the "Republicans".

We must however now anticipate that
the Republicans in their administration
will also avoid taking an ultra
man of their stamp. But of this we
shall see -

To return to ourselves - I find that
the activity of the Buchanan exceeds
my anticipations and in my judgment
should be counteracted - and so
counteracted as to make the indignation
of Buchanan's friends & their efforts
be directed to destroy the party doing
it. With these views it seems to me
that ~~some~~ others than yourself or
friends should be induced to do
it - Pierce seems to have no
friends either here or in Philadelphia.
Can he not be induced to achieve
operations in order to develop some
strength in these two places? It is
important.
Yours
L. J. Disney

7th & 10th May 1856

A. M. Harrington

Gen. Ills

Feb 26/56

Rel to Pm at Lodi of
Wants Pat Office Report

338
Name G. S. A
Gen. Feb 26 1856

Wm S A Burlap
Dr fr

Two of your friends
wants the last
patent office reports
please find them
to me & I will
see them for you
dearest -

How how
about that summer
at Lodi in this
country. the good
cause is photography
fully your friend

A. M. Harrington

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

De Kalb 26 Feb 1836
 To the Hon^{ble} Post Master Gen^l of
 the U. S. Highly Respected
 Sir we the undersigned Petitioners
 beg leave to say that we are
 Administration Democrats
 furthermore that our present
 Post Master Jackson Hightland
 is a fusionist who does not by
 his acts recognise our political
 organization and is grossly in-
 -justice to our cause by withhol-
 -ding democratic intelligence and
 acting as agent to all our oppo-
 -sition. And we pray to have him
 speedily removed and T. C. Wetmore
 appointed in his stead. and we
 cheerfully vouch for his Stability
 as a democrat and a responsible
 reliable friend.

DeKalb center

Post office

DeKalb County

Illinois

Stephen K. Hays
 Geo Burroughs
 Bester Pierce

Franklin Hopkins D L Dedden
 C P Young

W D Burt

L. C. Burt

John Burt.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in cursive script, likely from the 18th or 19th century. The text is written on aged, yellowed paper with visible horizontal fold lines.]

[Continuation of faint, illegible handwriting. The script is consistent with the upper section, though some characters are more distinct than others.]

[The bottom section of the document contains very faint handwriting, which is largely illegible due to fading and the age of the paper. There are some darker ink marks and smudges visible.]

New York

Feb'y 26. 1856.

Dear Sir;

I learned to-day that a gentleman of our City is speaking of a Correspondence with you in which he represents you as stating to him that you are a Candidate for the nomination at Cincinnati, and a number of other matters which would stamp him as an unsafe repository for Confidential Communications. Now my Dear Sir, let me say that I have doubted the assertion that you have thus committed

yourself, and to add
that you have in New
York many, very many
warm and influential
friends to whom you
are first after Daniel
S. Dickinson - you have
reason from the past,
to know that I am a
true friend, (as witness
my support of you in '52
when you were not even
personally known to ~~me~~^{me})
and allow me to warn
you against the many
game faced politicians
in this State, who try
to destroy. Some who
were your supporters in
'52, are not to be confided
in now - the nomination

of Willmore should have
our friends to cautious
action.

Respectfully Yours;
How
L. A. Douglass } Alex. C. Morton
Washington }
D. C. }

✓

Alex. C. Morton
N.Y. name
you wll. contain
Patience

Wormsset Ky
Feb 28th 1836

Wm A. Douglass

Dear Sir

You will confer a great
favour on me, if you will
send me your speech, delivered
in the Senate, upon the final
passage of the Nebraska bill.
I once had it, but most unfor-
tunately lost it. I have use
for such a document, and
considering it the greatest
effort of your life, must have
it, if it can be possibly found.
If you will do this, you will
confer a lasting favour on
your friend and admirer

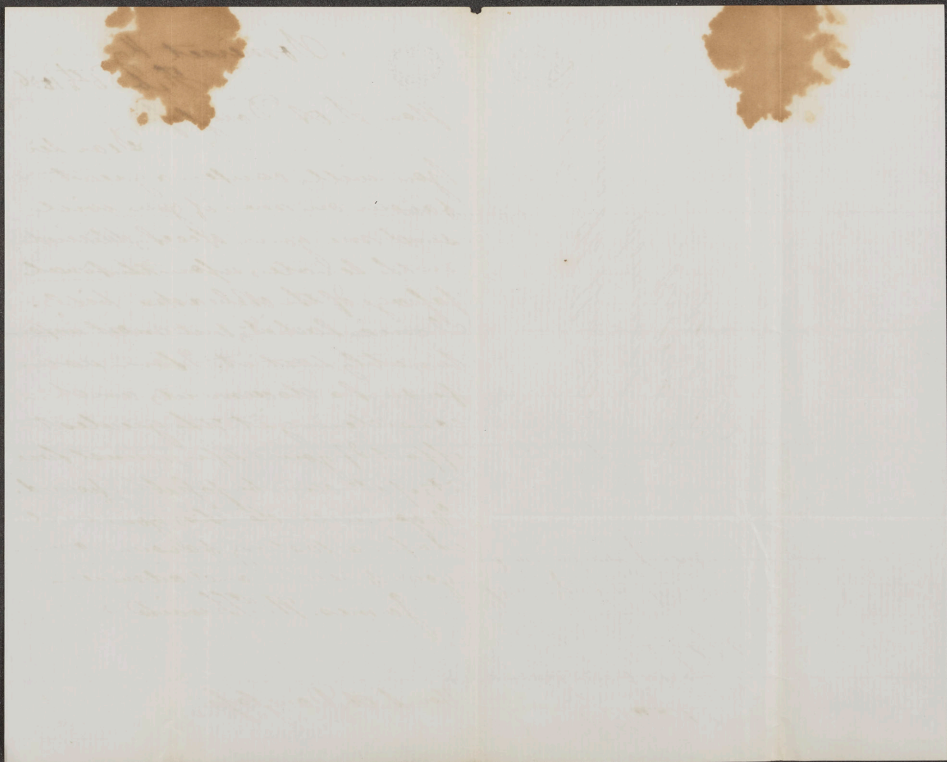
James W. Thwaites

Wm A. Douglass

Direct to.
James W. Thwaites
Wormsset
Kentucky

Wm A. Douglass
Wormsset Ky

James W. Thwaites
Wormsset Ky
Feb 28th



Madison,

Feb. 27, 1856.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,
Washington:

Dear Sir,

Will you be kind enough to send me numbers of the Globe containing any proceedings of the Senate relating to that infamous measure, the Navy Reform Bill? I will esteem it a favor if you will do so.

In regard to the action of that famous Board of Reform I have never heard, East, West, or South, any other expression than that of indignation at the principles & manner of its organization, & the mode by which it arrived at the results published to the country. The professed object of its creation being to weed the service of inefficient and unworthy officers, it concluded its inquisitorial labors, after a very brief session, leaving unnoticed many notoriously incompetent men in every grade, and furloughing, or dropping from the list, some of the best officers that ever served on shipboard. Very low indeed must be the character of some of the gentlemen dropped, if other officers, left in the Navy, are worthy to remain in it.

I trust that the Senate will not sanction this out-

ragious act of injustice, and hope and believe you will do all that can be done by one Senator towards a repudiation of the whole affair. What could President Pierce have been thinking of when he signed his approval to the finding of the Board?

I am personally interested, through considerations of relationship with more than one of the unfortunates, in the action of Congress concerning the matter, and will feel myself much obliged if you will drop me a line, saying what are the prospects of any operation at the hands of the Senate & House.

Very respectfully,

Yours,

Alex^r. J. Bray

Please address any reply you may favor me with to

Janesville,

Rock Co.

Wis.

Alexander T. Gony
Madison Wis
Feb 27 1856

Trans Copy of Globe containing
the proceedings of Senate on
the Naval Reform Bill

Confidential

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Chestnut Cottage near Elizabethtown N.Y.
Feb. 27. 1856

Wm Stephen A. Douglass

My dear Sir

Since my return from Europe in 1854 I have often expressed my views of the propriety of your being the democratic candidate for the presidency in 1856. My observation through a period of personal acquaintance of your ability and political course & character had impressed me with these views. Subsequent observation confirmed them, and very decidedly when you introduced the repeal of the Missouri compromise. I was so much gratified by the role then taken by one whom I regarded as an old acquaintance & personal friend and whose political course I had so long admired that I wrote you a short letter simply expressing my congratulations. Not that I considered my approval of much importance to you, but because it afforded me pleasure to express my gratification.

The Campaign of '56 draws near and I do not now despair of seeing my expectation of nearly 10 years past realized. I regard the recent nomination of Fillmore as adding largely to these expectations if your own wishes and efforts accord with them.

If you get the hard delegation of New York admitted (as you can do) to the Cincinnati Convention I confidently believe you can carry the whole thirty four. If you

desire the aid of the Daily News of this city (N York)
I am ready to pledge it to you although others have
bid for it. But they cannot have it if you want
it as you are my first choice and the first choice of
those with whom I am associated.

Although residing upon my "place" in Jersey 14
miles from the city I am in New York almost daily and
in constant communication with personal & political friends.
I therefore speak advisedly and I have chosen to speak
frankly and directly to the point as most in accordance
with my habits and the nature of my sentiments
towards you, of and the cause of this Union whose interests
are jeopardized by faction, fanaticism & folly.

You will doubtless be approached from various quarters
and by names more notorious and common to New York politics
and to the political charade of the time but believe me Judge
there is none more disinterested and more sincerely and
faithfully your friend than he who now addresses you.

I should like to aid (and I am apt) in bringing about
your nomination and election, but cannot do so as under-
standingly & effectively as I could wish without so under-
standing directly ^{from} yourself and not through third parties
of your views on the premises. I therefore shall hope
to receive a frank reply such as its sincerity merits to this
communication from

Yours sincerely
Wm. Fairbanks

D. P. Washburn

the Editor of
the NY daily
news wants to hear
from you

✓

Dr Hall 27th Feb 1856

Hon Stephen A Douglass

My highly esteemed friend
I address you at this time an account
of a meeting (had last evening) of the
administration democrats of this place
it was their unanimous choice that
I should be appointed postmaster and
herein I send you the petition to the
postmaster gen^l to that effect.

Mr J Higland is an avowed ^{ist} fusion
but he does not in any way attend to the
business of his office it is managed
by Daniel Ruby a rank abolitionist
and he called an indignation meet-
-ing in November last because I
would not let a negro have the use
of the School house to give a lecture
against the motives of the democrat-
-ic party and abuse its leading men
the officials also act as agents

agents for all kinds of opinion
papers and refuse or neglect
to do any thing for the times
or any other administration
paper. For the spread of useful
knowledge I hope you will act as
your good judgement always
directs

with my best wishes for
your health and prospects

I remain your
Obedt Servt

W. C. Whitmore

J. C. Wetmore
At Albany Ill
February 27 1856

Encloses Petition to Remove
& appoint a Post Master