S. E. Corner of 18th & George Sts.
Philadelphia. Mar. 5th
1856.

The Hon.
Stephen Douglas.
U. S. Senate.
Washington

Sir

Although I am aware that your official engagements are numerous and sufficiently harassing, yet I venture to hope that you will kindly advise me, as to the best mode of proceeding, with a view to attain the end, which the subjoined narrative will indicate.

Before the commencement of the Revolutionary war, a very respectable Mercantile firm existed in Dublin; in which the Messrs Douglas were leading members. The business of the house was largely connected with the American Colonies; and one of the partners was accustomed to visit the branch establishments from time to time, in order to ensure a safe & prosperous management. The gentleman who thus usually represented the house in the Colonial trade being accidentally drowned in the harbour of Dublin, as he was reaching the vessel, which was to carry him across the Atlantic, his place had to be taken by his brother Thomas Douglas, who reached the Colonies, a short time before the outbreak of the war. Mr Douglas remained much longer in the Colonies than had been anticipated, and eventually adopted the side of the Colonists against the Mother country. He entered the Artillery and held the rank of Captain in the ~~Pennsylv~~ Pennsylvania line.

His wife joined him, but became dispatisfied with the condition in which she found the troops, and having left her relatives and friends in the enjoyment of all the luxuries of the age, she returned to Dublin. By his wife, this Captain Thomas Douglas had one child—and but one, named Archibald. At the close of the war 500 acres of land were assigned to Thomas Douglas by the State of Pennsylvania by the act of 1785. He died in Philadelphia in 1787, and his effects were

administered to by Messrs Kidd Montgomery, Watkins and Caldwell. Messrs Kidd & Montgomery became insolvent; the land granted by the State was sold for a claim for taxes and the relatives in Dublin never received anything from the effects which Thomas Douglas left behind him. No compensation was ever received from Congress by Captain Thomas Douglas for military services, nor by his son Archibald or any of his heirs and none has yet been sought after.

At a fitting age his son Archibald entered the army, his commission being dated Aug. 1. 1797. He married Miss Rose Anna Victoria Jackson, cousin to the late Lord Chief Baron Jackson of the Court of Exchequer in Dublin. Dying about the year 1817 or 1818 in Dungiveltown, in the County of Antrim, Ireland, he left behind him a widow - since dead - and six children.

These grand children of Captain Thomas Douglas have all settled in the United States with the exception of a daughter who died in Ireland, but who has a son in this country. - The eldest - Archibald, is now in the Navy Yard in Washington; and has been in the service of the United States for upwards of twenty years; having served on the Mediterranean, Pacific, China, Brazil, Home & other stations as well as several campaigns in Florida &c &c.

The second, a daughter Mary is married to Dr. Robt Little a physician practising in this city. The third, a son, Henry Joy, was a merchant in Savannah; he is dead but his daughter resides in Washington. The fourth a daughter Victoria is my wife, now alive and residing with me in this city. Here for nearly six years I have been the Pastor of the 1st Presbyterian Church one of the largest congregations in Philadelphia. The youngest, a son - Thomas is at sea.

My object in addressing you is to ask your advice respecting the best mode of approaching the Congressional Committee on Revolutionary claims with a view to compensation for the services of Captain Thomas Douglas in the Revolutionary War. He served during the whole of the struggle which ended in the independence of the United States. He left a high position in his native land and he forsook all the inducements which the most polished society afforded, and in the Capital of Ireland could present to cast his lot in with the Colonists whose cause he espoused: and I am satisfied that the claim of his grand children to compensation from Congress are such that a proper application if judiciously supported could not be rejected.

I shall be kind enough to advise at your reply to The Rev. Wm Hackwood D.D. S.E. Corner of 10th & George Sts. Philadelphia.

Apologizing for the trouble of this communication, I am Sir

Very truly

Your

Wm Hackwood D.D.

H. P. Workwood
Philadelphia Penn
March 5/56

In regard to the Douglas
family — &c

Democratic Sentinel Office,
Cadiz, Ohio, March 5, 1854

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir. Can you send me 25 or 50 copies of your speech on the Kansas-Nebraska question on the night of its passage. We wish to circulate the correct Democratic doctrine.

Yours in the bonds of Democracy,

C. N. Allen

Ed. of Cadiz Democratic Sentinel.

C N Allen
Editor Cadiz Democ Sentinel
Cadiz Ohio
March 8/56

Wants 25 or 50 Speeches on the final passage of Kansas & Nebraska Bill —

Sadl

Chicago March 5th 1856

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

My Dear Sir:

Glorious day this, March 5th 1856, you have been indorsed in your own city, and at your own Home, Chicago is redeemed, the name of "S A Douglas" is a legion here, your name is on the tongue of every Man as the next "President" of the united States, may it be so. our city is wild with excitement.

My feelings will not permit me to refrain from expressions of congratulation to you in this way, you are stronger here than ever before.

(Wentworth "dem") (Know Nothing dem." Nigger." dem. anti NeBraska dem." and all the other "Dem?" in this city is dead, never again to be resurrected, put out "Trumbull" is the design here. to make the victory complete our ticket, entire," is elected, you have some true friends in this city. we blow for this afternoon at 2 o clock.

Yours truly as Ever
Saml Ashton

Samuel Ashton
Chicago Ills
March 3/56

Political

Akron March 5th 1860.

Hon S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir

I hope you will not consider me presuming too much on a short acquaintance if I ask of you a favor. I would like your speeches on the "Kansas Nebraska" Bill, also the most important speech of Mr Richardson of the House. Will you be so kind as to send them to me.

I wish to give the doctrine of "Popular Sovereignty" an impartial investigation: and any documents which will aid me, will be very acceptable from you.

If that be the true doctrine — the maintenance of which will secure to the people of this nation, those rights for which our ancestors struggled, and which, we believe, lay at the foundation of true Republicanism everywhere; and, which, if universally applied would secure political freedom to every man, then, I must be its advocate: otherwise I must oppose it.

Respectfully Yours

D. C. Carr

D. C. Carr
Akron Ohio
March 5/56

Wants Nebraska Speeches

Sent

Exeter N.H.
5. March. 56

D. Sir.

Will you be kind enough to send us any Documents, reports, speeches &c at your disposal as we are at present without any representation in Congress from this State.

Yrs respectfully

A. H. Hoyt.

Hon S. A. Douglas
Washington

A H Hoyt
Exeter N. H.
March 5 1856

Wants Documents & Speeches

Sent

Harrisburg Mar. 5th/56

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dr. Sir

You will confer a favor by sending me a copy of the Congressional Directory for this Session

Yours Truly

R. Pollock

E. Pollock
Harrisburg Penn
March 5/56

Wants Congressional Directory

Mt Gilead March 5th 1856

Hon S A Douglas

Dear Sir. The hopes are disposed to make a movement in your favor in the state there is no doubt in my judgment but you are decidedly the choice of all who have yet been named. The time that I have been able to spare from my home has been undertaking to ascertain public sentiment. I am acquainted with a number of gentlemen from Adams ~~[illegible]~~ Butler, and other portions of the state as well as the city. And I am satisfied you will come nearer unity there than any other name. Pierce & Buchanan have no show whatever for this state. A little management now is the time will secure this state in our action ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] all right. ~~[illegible]~~ Quiet management & man.

Broached to the Cincinnati Enquirer is for you. And Hall has promised that he will go from his mind as a duty. Just hope. Can be made all right at the proper time. I have taken some pains to convince him. And reconcile him. Say must keep the city. This & a prompt move must be at the time you can carry the state in our interest in spite of all. If you could drop in here for a day and let me know a little time in advance. I think it would be good policy

I am urged to make a speech here, which I shall do before leaving – I am not sure that I ~~caught~~ caught you editor upon the subject of the power of Congress to legislate for the territories – my recollection of your report is that you reduce the power from that of the admission of new states – I shall hold off until I receive your report – Send me two or a dozen copies as soon as printed – Write for goodness sake and let it be alarge much larger

Get Archer or Haines to write, and make call to the same purpose – and who are among your most reliable friends here – I see what is to be done – and can be done – and I can do it – but dont like to take any steps without consultation

If my name compromised with your cause I would like to know it as soon as possible

I understand perfectly well what I say – it can be done –

Your friend &c

J. W. Wright Jr

Dont forget the new reports

Thomas Pennington Esq
Editor Union &c
Phila
March 3/56

Chicago March 5. 56

Dear Sir

Congratulate us. We have met the enemy & they are ours. Dyer & the ticket are elected by over Four Hundred. The contest against us has been vindictive & abusive beyond precedent. We entered the field early to secure to ourselves the Democratic organization. The opposition forced upon us the Nebraska issue as they call it, & headed their ticket anti-Nebraska: and at last we told them if they forced it we must meet it & accept the issue: they have been defeated on it. The city last night & through to-day has been wild with enthusiasm, bonfires & illuminations by night, & processions, music, speeches & firing by day,

have made it a complete Carnival. We have carried the Council, & there can be only the shadow of a doubt that the Times will be Corporation Printer. The day is a grand one. Both the regiments are being paraded through the streets to day. And yesterday is the greatest political victory I have ever known generally to our party, locally to our city, personally to ourselves individually, & I indulge the hope that to yourself the it will not be wanting in gratifying results.

Yours truly

B. M. Dickson

S. A. Douglas Esq

U. S. Senate

T D McNiekas
Chicago Ills
March 3/56

Political

✓

(No. 14.)

Post Office Department,

APPOINTMENT OFFICE, March 6th 1856

Sir:

Matthew Hanna the Postmaster at Kaneville County of Kane State of Illinois has resigned and recommends Bela A. Coy

Will it be proper to appoint Mr Coy?

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.

Hon Stephen A. Douglas
U. S. Senate

Hatie King
Asst P M General
March 6/56

Says Mathias Hanna has
Resigned as P M at Howardville
Mo & Recommends Bela
A Coy

Williamsport Pa. March 6. 1856

Hon S. A. Douglas,

Dear Sir

Will you oblige me by forwarding a copy of your speech of March 3. 1854 on the Kansas Nebraska act? I have had it, and it has been lost or mislaid —

Yours Truly

J. W. Lowe

M Lowe
Williamsport Ohio
March 8 1856

Private Kansas Nebraska Speech

Sent

Literary Hall, Meadville, Pa
March 6th 1856.

Dear Sir: The Big Spring Literary Institute has had a course of Lectures in progress during the past winter, & as a member of the Committee, I have been requested to write you to deliver the eighth in the course sometime during this month or early in April. Hon. Thaddeus Stevens of Lancaster Pa. delivered the last one. His subject was "Progress; with a few words on the Law of Liberty," which, being interpreted, proved to be "Abolitionism." He has aroused considerable excitement in the community, & as a sort of a counterpoise, we are very anxious to have you give us "A few words" on the other side of the question.

The Institute, composed of young men of the vicinity without any capital to begin with, has erected a large three story building, containing two large & commodious halls, at a cost of about $6000. This being the case, any

pecuniary consideration is a mere power to propose would be but a trifling inducement to some.

Politically or personally, however, you would have a rare opportunity of making friends & doing good, which I think is to some a greater inducement than any mere money consideration. It has been a standing proverb in election campaigns for 25 years "As goes Newville District, so goes Cumbd Co: as goes Cumbd Co: so goes Penna.; as goes Penna. so goes the Union." And you would perhaps be surprised to know how often the facts have justified the adage.

Please let us hear from you at your earliest convenience. If you can safely favorably please fix the day of your coming & let us know your subject, as we would wish to advertise as extensively as possible.

Yours Very Truly.

Hon. S. A. Douglass. W. B. Sims.

Chairman of Committee

W R Linn

Chm Big Spring Literary

Institute Newville Penna

March 6 1856

Invitation to deliver a lecture

before the Institution

Florence & Rice Co. Mo. Feb.
March 6th 1856

My Dear Friend

I have just seen your arrival in Washington announced in the papers and hasten to congratulate you. Allow me to congratulate you upon your recovered health. I believe you at this time, and after such a severe attack, to look to your health. Some old proverb says that a man is either a fool or a physician at forty. Which means as I take it that at that age if he be a man of sense he will understand his own system and manage his such a way as to preserve his health. This I hope you will do for your own sake as well as that of your friends and country. I see the papers but once a week, and then in this remote settlement can only form a very imperfect notion of movements in Washington. Parties there as I view them have undergone a radical revolution. Through the fog and haze I can only discern two parties or what models and shapes parties to interest. The Anti-Slavery and Pro-Slavery parties. At Sam mention Anti as Bro. I hardly know how I could act as a public man at this time. Now there are other nominal parties but

than two merge and submerge all the others. The President has thrown himself bodily into the pro slavery party and as that spirit rules the present Democratic party, may seem the nomination upon him a best. But he his chance looks the best. He has bid for the South. If the South closes with the bid he will be nominated. What his next term may bring forth neither the Northern South nor the President nor you nor I nor mortal man can tell. My Dear Douglas I myself am a squatter now. I live amongst squatters I know something of their condition. They are building little cabins to shelter their families, cutting rails making fences, and trying mark I say trying to live. I hard rails every day myself. I therefore speak with some experience on this subject. The "Idea" of a rebellion amongst us here now would be as the madness. And yet the President seems to think there is a rebellion in Kansas. The poor squatters there are not better off & take it them here. And yet they are in rebellion. And an army is to be sent against them. The sort of war is to be transferred from the Sioux to the squatters. Squatter Sovereignty is to be put under martial law. To have a bayonet at its throat. This is a sad commentary upon something. It took a world of mismanagement to turn poor homeless squatters who have fences to make and corn to raise, and webs and children to feed into rebels to be kept down with bayonets. A squatter who hauls rails every day is less can afford to talk independently on this subject. And a little beholden too. There must have been great mismanagement. I respect Douglas & Jeffries and I believe honest could not do it. If there had been no management the thing would have settled itself long ago. The people would do what they did in Oregon, in California, and wherever they were left to themselves. Give them no rule and they will make a rule. Give them misrule, and men poor squatters will not be content. And you will have to make them content with the bayonet. Could they not try an experiment. Suppose they bayonet them. Call home all their officials, issue one proclamation for all that now being intractable squatters, and not deemed longer worthy of executive care, they must look to God and themselves and and govern or misgovern themselves as they think best. My life for it you will hear no more of mobs and rebellions. The poor squatters being thus left to themselves, and having no one to direct them but God and their own poor sense will go on cutting and hauling rails in peace, and get along with as little law and government as possible. I mean this is not statesmanship, but it is a squatter view of the matter. I tell you frankly I don't like the army move. Were it attempted here I would resist it to the death, and so would every man of us. We would put a stop to it

heading rails and make the country too hot both for the military and the men who support them. Think of this my dear friend. You and my friend Gen'l Cass should look to it. I know you both have heads and hearts. The West will note this thing. Illinois wants a man. One honest able sensible man can unite the people of Illinois. The majority of the thinking demand it. Fools and mad men have made the necessity. I say to the absent, timid and fearless because I know little. Let things through a Cass clearly. President making Lecompton is the rock on which Washington. The next contest is full of consequence perhaps of peril. I hope not but the division line is deepening. We are drifting consciously or unconsciously towards a sectional contest. Moderation will soon be at the count. Another four years will settle the question. The next President must be a man a true man. Take care of your health. God oppose loins for the conflict. On Northern Democratic leaders will be put to a sore trial. God grant us a safe deliverance.

Your sincere friend

J. A. Shields

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

409-2

Hon James Shields
Ireland N. Y.
March 6th 1856

Brown's Hotel
March 7/56.

Col. M. W. Delahay;

Dr. Sir:

I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you asking your opinion in relation to the charge for copying and superintending the printing of some twelve hundred pages of printed matter of the size of the U. S. Statutes:

1st. What would be a fair price (in Kansas Territory,) for copying say 1000 pages of printed matter of the size of the U. S. Statutes at Large?

2nd. What would it be worth to superintend the printing of the same, correct the proof sheets &c.?

3rd. State what would be a fair price for Head noting, Marginal Noting & furnishing decisions of Supreme Court to same?

4th. What the price for full index to same and for plain index?

I address these queries to you knowing your experience as and old practical printer & Editor and as an Editor knowing the prices of such work in Kansas; hoping to hear from you soon in relation to it, I am Respectfully &c.

Saml. A. Lowe

S A Lowe Esq

Sir in reply to your note above I can state that such work in Kansas, would cost a far greater sum that in the States, Especially the Eastern States and even more than in any of the Western States, I would Estimate for copying 1000 pages of the Laws of Kansas if done in the Territory to be reasonable worth from Two thousand to twent five hundred Dollars, and for Head & marginal notes for same, from five to seven hundred dollars, & for abstracting Supreme Court decisions would be worth about the last named sum, and for indexing Proof Reading & corrections on the form, from five to Eight hundred Dollars and for the time required by a competent Superintendent of such a job I should pay two hundred & fifty Dollars per month would be a fair compensation, and I should think the work could be completed in three months, Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

Washington D.C. M W Delahay

March 7th 1856

S A Lowe
Brown Hotel
Washington
D C

Col. M. W. Delahay
Ed. "Register"
Washington City

Indianapolis Indiana
March 8th 1856.

Hon Stephen A Douglass

Dear Sir

It seems to be pretty generally understood here that Mr Bright will not be before the Cincinnati Convention & it is believed that you will have the delegation — I saw Robinson a day or two ago. He is confident that the delegation of the Northwestern States will be united on you — Willard is for you, as is also Maj Dunn & Morrison (the latter is a delegate) Several of your friends will be in Washington in April or May — from this State I expect to be there also at that time. We will do our best here until the Convention meets.

If you think your friends here can serve you — let us know what is needed & it shall be attended to. We feel sanguine of success —

Very Truly Yrs —

Wenslow S. Pierce

Winston S Pierce
Indianapolis Ind
March 8/56

Political

✓

March 8, 1856

To
The Hon Stephen A. Douglas
Senator of Congress
Washington
D.C.

Near Liberty Pike Connecticut
New Jersey March the 8th 1856

My dear sir,

In consequence of being engaged with the press, that I my form communication did not come safely to hand, I have write you this additional one,

I remember in the letter alluded to above, that I promised to extend my allegiance to you, by receiving from you as hereditary copies of published documents,

It gives me, dear Sir, regret to my good sir, that your silence is of that character as to forbid you from taking an active position in the Congress, as formerly,

Yours Obt Servt
Samuel Jas Pooley

Samuel J Pooly
Liberty Corners N.Y.

Wants Documents

Sent

[1856]

Chicago, March 8. 1860

Dear Jeff.

I write you surrounded by the most difficult and oppressive circumstances under which I ever lived, and they are more perplexing because of the distance between us. I wrote you at Cleveland a letter detailing our hardships, and your generous response enabled me to pay $1500 on the real estate, - the balance was consumed in paying a note of Cook's - his own, which he had made no provision to meet. None of that sum which you loaned me - except a small amount went in to the Times.

While Cook was absent I took the initiative in getting up an organization and wrote you that the party unanimously looked upon Dyer as the man for mayor; I also wrote you that knowing Cook's bitter personal hostility to Dyer, it would be advisable to see you on his return to Chicago should you see him in Cleveland, to induce him to forget his private griefs for the welfare of the party. I never have received any line from you in reply to that letter, nor to any of the many others written by me since then. Cook returned suddenly to Chicago before we had our Convention elected. We had delegates prepared in all the wards, the most respectable gentlemen in the city, but Cook immediately and publicly denounced Dyer, and in all the wards got up opposition tickets, composed of the very questionable individuals who keep unlicensed dogeries. He elected 60 of these men to the Convention, and defeated the same number of respectable persons. He came to the Times office and demanded its influence against Dyer. I refused it. The only real candidates were Dyer & Williams. He got up Kittle who throughout refused to serve, yet Cook persisting nominated him; Kittle again declined and we put Dyer

though before he had time to get any one else out. He has nominally supported Dyer since then, but were it not for Cook, we could have elected Dyer by 1500 majority with more ease than we did ~~either~~ by 687 burdened with him.

Cook has refused to give us a cent since Dec. 1st ~~last~~ and we have been drawing our existence along. He has endeavored to force me out; as he wants to put Carpenter in my place. Considering that I had earned my position by bringing the Times to its present proud position I refused to go. Driven by necessity to make known to a few friends my terrible condition, I was promptly met by an offer of $20.000 to buy Cook out. I wrote to you all these details in several letters but repeat them for a reason I will explain hereafter. Cook refused to sell out, but one night ~~since~~ the 21st of February he came to the office and proposed to rent. He denied that I had any interest in the concern whatever, insisting that he was sole and exclusive owner. He refused to allow me any thing for my long service, but demanded that he should be paid the full amount of money expended by him $19.000 I was in an awkward predicament, without a word or writing or a witness at hand. Finally he agreed to take $15.000 $12.000 of which was to be paid him by nine o'clock next morning, & the balance on the 3rd March. I could not raise $12000 cash the next day, & he refused a draft for the 15.000 payable in 30 days and endorsed by six men each of whom is worth more than he is. He sold a lot of ground in a few days, which gave him temporary relief, and he has since refused to sell. He refusing to give us any money, and as I cannot get money except by having the paper entirely my own (with Cameron & Lane)

I am either compelled to go out, losing all compensation or reward for my year and a half labor, besides being completely thrown upon the world bereft of any employment. All these things I have day after day written to you, and asked your judgement towards me to say what I should do. ~~to~~ Your silence painful as it was, ~~was stale~~ did not shut out all hope that you wished me to have my much due, if not my right to hold the paper. But, a few days ago, Cook stated to a gentleman some thing that I had said, & as that was never uttered by me except in a letter to you, I thought, that it to ask you by telegraph whether you had received my letters or had answered them, would perhaps explain your silence. Your answer is that "my letters have been received and answered. all right". I have as I have before stated received no word from you of any kind since your letter of the 18th January at Cleveland. How many of my letters you have received I do not know; certainly no answer to any has come to me. Cook is not above intercepting letters when he has an interest at stake. That he has done so, I have no doubt if you have failed to receive mine on this business, or if you have answered any on this business. This morning Cook ordered me to leave the Times. I do not intend to do so, until thrust out by law, unless you command it. If I am to go out, if I am, after having fought the good fight for 18 months and brought the gallant party in Chicago, into Cook & his Salon as to back to a noble and triumphant victory without one kind word or grateful acknowledgement, then Judge I have mistaken your heart and judgement. To take a poll of the party here to-morrow, I would have 999 out of every thousand to defend me. But a law suit is not

desirable. It will involve your name, and your financial arrangements with Cook, and to the opposition nothing ~~else~~ is ~~[illegible]~~ more desirable. Cook refuses ~~to~~ submit anything to you. He puts you and all men at defiance. He says he will have the Times under his control, so that ~~he shall~~ it shall hereafter do as he desires, and not anyone else. You know Judge that I was to have exclusive control of the policy of the paper. You know also that ~~I was~~ Cook agreed in your presence that I was to be made, in consideration of my devoting myself to the paper, half owner, and that whenever I desired it, by tendering to him the ~~cost~~ net cost of the other half with interest, I was to have the right to buy it. He denies all this and repudiates everything. He is asserting every where, that he is the sole owner of the Times, & that he is ~~the~~ by virtue of his proprietorship, sole director of it. He got up at the celebration the day after the election to make a speech, and said that it was a victory gained by J. Cook, because Cook's paper was the only one in Chicago that opposed Sherman. I need not say to you Judge, that such a statement made by him in public was in fact, as it was intended to be, personally mortifying to me.

What am I to do? I do not know the hour, when by judicial process I will be turned out. I cannot defend a suit even without your evidence. Had you interfered sometime since perhaps we could have saved trouble. As it is I know no way to save a public exposure - it is town talk now - except your personal presence here, or your summons to Cook to Washington. The former would ~~have a~~ create the wildest speculations here, & you would be suspected ~~to~~ the most villainous aspersions and imputations. To summon Cook to Washington has two or more exceedingly troublesome difficulties. In the first place he will not go, or at least before going would have me thrust out, & Carpenter put in. ~~In the~~ His going to Washington after that, would amount to nothing. I see no way unless you would come to Pittsburg or Cleveland, or some other place, & then suddenly telegraph him to go to you. But you will best judge of what is to be done. I am in despair. If you write to me do so under cover to Hoyne. There ~~was~~ is now, & has been ~~at~~ for several weeks a standing offer to buy him out - one third cash, one third 30 days, & the other in 60 days. He refuses anything.

I wish you, my dear Sir to remember my present and past position. I was in Washington doing a good and paying business; surrounded by all the comforts of a home, with friends & relatives all devoted to me personally. I came here & took charge of this paper at a time when no hope was visible to ~~the~~ any one of beating back the ruffian storm which ~~it~~ then prevailed. I went into the contest, I met it bravely, wisely; with prudence, caution and courage I have rallied one handful of friends, have armed them, have conducted the battle, and in seventeen months, on the 4th of May 1856 I have laid at your feet the conquered, captured city, which on the 2d September 1854, you so aptly and truly described as one vast ruffian mob, swearing for your life, & thirsting for your ruin.

The contest has been an unusual one. I stood alone, without money, crippled, embarrassed, put to all sorts of extremities to secure the daily issue of my paper. Against me were ranged six dailies edited by an aggregate of thirty editors all of whom had the advantage of long residence & personal acquaintance in the city. Solitary and alone, with no cheering voice but yours, I have beaten them back, and have beaten them back for you and in your name. Will you now, join with Cook to turn me off penniless, unrewarded and with contempt. I feel it is an insult to you to ask the question. Yet I see no way in which I can avoid it. Have I not fairly earned that promise made to me when you did not know what I could do, or how I would discharge my duty. Will you not insist that Cook carry out his agreement to make me half owner. But the money which you have put in, in my name, is denied. But there is no use in going into fuller details. The whole thing can be summed up as follows. Cook is determined to put me out volens volens, ~~right~~ right or wrong, and so I must unless you protect me.

The new city government is pledged to the Times for the city printing. I cannot get it unless Cook goes out. The party will not give it to him.

The brilliant future of the Times; its reputation which is fully and indissolubly connected with my name, renders me most anxious to hold with it at least until after the next campaign, not to say anything about the importance it is to me not to be thrown out of employment without a dollar in the world.

May I ask you immediate action in the matter. My only hope is in you.

Yours truthfully

Jas W Sheehan

You had better in writing to me, address under cover to Hayne, and have it packed by Harris. I add this after full consultation with counsel and with all our political friends. I have employed Hooper to defend us. There will be a wave of volunteers. J.W.S.

410-424

Pat M Sheehan
Chicago Ills
March 8 1856

Relation to the Times

Boston March 8 1856

Bayley Thomas Esq

Dear Sir

Navigation being suspended, and no orders for coal, I take the liberty in writing you upon political affairs, soon we shall be called upon substantial measures for the coming Presidential campaign I see by reports, that the prospect of the nomination of your state for Buchanan brightens up; what is the prospect of Buchanan nomination by your state; what is the general opinion and your own upon the subject —

You know the condition of Massachusetts, and the efforts of our political friends here are in favor of Pierce; that is a portion of them. There is a large party in Massachusetts who are in favor of Buchanan among whom I declare my self one who are in favor of his nomination a portion of our delegation to Cincinnati are undoubtedly in his favor, my object to you is to adopt some modes whereby

the friends of Buchanan may concentrate their efforts for his election.

I have long had this question under consideration and I am fully of opinion that the only salvation of our party and may be our country depends upon the man nominated for our next President.

In my opinion if Pierce is nominated we are defeated if we nominate a man who will carry "the Key Stone of the arch" we shall conquer and crush our party complete, my only fear now is that the administration with its great power may control the will of the people, hence the great anxiety I have in calling the attention of my friends to the importance of the subject that some concert of action may be had in relation thereto; please write me your views, and will you have the goodness to name one or two of Mr Buchanan's friends, who are intrusted in the matter that I may open some correspondence with —

and oblige your truly,

Caleb Cushing

Caleb Hilton
March 8, 1856

Not to be but
To

Bayley Thomas Esq
Philadelphia
Pa

1856

POSTAGE
3 MARK

230 N. 4th