

Confidential!

Springfield Ill. Feb. 8th/57

Hon S. A. Douglas.

Sir.

The contest
here about the location of the site
for the W.S. Court House & Post Office
has become quite animated; and al-
though, originally, in view of my con-
veniences and (perhaps) interest,
I would have preferred a location
of those buildings South of the pub-
lic square, I am now in favor
of ~~the~~ a location upon LaSalle &
Walkers lot. My reason for this
preference and recommendation,
is that, the defeat of L. & W., under
the circumstances, involves much
harm to affect to mortify them
personally and to discredit them
politically. But, will probably be

proposed ceding ~~the~~ jurisdiction of
them out of the royal lot of
Maj Isles. If you can do any-
thing to release Me from the said
Drecr I & W from the unbanafing
Consequences of depend & hold
You wth do so, and I think
a large Majority of the Democratic
Members of the Legislature Sym-
pathize with me in this respect.

Yours obt. Servt.

John A. McLennan

John A. McClelland
Smyfield Esq
Feb 8/57
~~Confidential~~

Plains Saengerle 8a Feb 8
57

Dear Sir,

I am preparing for the "A.Y.
Journal of Commerce" a series of personal sketches of the distinguished States
men of our Country, who I have seen and
heard and having heard you on several
occasions - and being a great admirer
of the boldness and independence of
your character and the patriotic stand
you have taken in the counsels of
the nation, I desire to take a sketch and
incorporate it in the portrait of yourself,
And I write this note that I may elicit
an authentic account of your early history
which is generally read with more interest
than any other part of the life of our
great men, will you be so kind Sir, as to
give me some of the more striking incidents
of your career up to the time of your enter-
ing the Senate, By uniting with the above you
will greatly oblige
H. S. Douglas, 908 Kepg - Henry E. Plyton

Henry E. Peyster
Plains, Va
Feb 8/57

Wants to hear of the
striking incidents of
your political career
before entering the
Senate

W. H. Dall
Washington State
and Alaska
and Canada
Dall



PROGRESS

Madison Feb. 8 1857.

Eng'd by W. Woodward, Star & Whiting, New-Ham.

Hon. S. C. Conclaff
My dear Sir

Having become
interested in a large purchase
at Madison in this State I think
of making that my home for
a time at least. I am here
learning the enactment of
the Legislature of the state to an
application for the Registration of
the Land Office at Madison.

I hope the successiveness of
Genl. Bartow & his friends
the State Central Com. the dele-
gates to Cincinnati will have
in a day or two also the recommen-
dation of the Legislative Commttee.
Is there a general party endorse-
ment? The only competitor in
the field is an old man with
no party claims & no party sup-
porters & particularly obnoxious
locally. His chance is that
he is a Pennsylvanian, over
know Mr. Buchanan & Mr. Bigler

I wish to beseech your good
offices in my behalf - coming
unrushed as I shall, I think
there ought to be no difficulty
in securing the appointment.
I need not say that I feel it
a matter of importance to me
& that I shall esteem it a signal
favour & one to be remembered if
you will bear it in mind & in
person make a point of the matter.
Mr. Rainier being in the Land
Department can without great
trouble see that much is done

tho' a resignation is assumed
of the incoming administration.

May I ask that you will
remind him to attend to this
for me - Most Resp^rly
I sincerely
Yrs.

F. Ruth Spencer.

Oct 27th 6

1881 S. P. C.
replies
from
B. W. J.

Windsor Vt Feb 8th 1856

Hon. G. T. Douglass.

Dear Dr. Will you
be so kind as to send me the
Patent Office Reports Mechanical
and Agricultural for 1855-6,
also the Exploration of the Road from
of Louisiana and N. J., also that
of Great Salt Lake of Utah, also
the Compendium of United States
Census 1850, and the Report of
Finance 1855-6 and any others
you see fit to send will be
thankfully received. If it would
not be too much trouble will
you please inform me where
I can procure some of the
Chinese Sugar Cane seed.

Some of my Free Soil
neighbors have received

a number of books from the
Senators from our state you
probably know the men better
than I do. It is generally customary
I suppose to write to the Senators
and members of the several
states which those are from that
we address, but as it is I choose
to write to you first as you
know our Senators are all
True Friends. If you send
them you will greatly oblige

your Obedient Servt
L.B. Spence Jr.

P.G.

Please to direct to L.B.
Spence Jr. or I shall not get
them.

Respectfully yours

L.B. Spence Jr.

L B Spence
Mudon W
Feb 8/57

Wants Some Books

Memphis Tenn^{ee}

Feb 8. '57

Dear Judge

I returned from Little Rock Ark. a day or two since and was surprised to learn that my second note for \$2000 and int^s, had been protested in my absence & returned. There was certainly no necessity for it, as I supposed it would have been presented to Sam Walker. However, if you will have it returned I will attend to it.

Your friend
J. Knox " Walker

P. Knob Walker
Memphis Tenn.
Feb 8 1857.

Re^l to his note. says
if you once return he
will pay it

Startd Feb. 9. 1857.
Judge Douglass.

Dear Sir

Being exceedingly anxious to obtain a government post,
submitted the "Ordinance Report." I should
be infinitely obliged to you, if you would give
the same to my address.

Trusting you will pardon
me for trespassing upon your time, I remain
your humble servant,

E. Butter.

E. T. Bather
Hartford Conn
Feb 9 1857
Wants Ordnance
Report —

W. H. & J. C. Smith
100 Broad St. N.Y.

100 Broad St.
N.Y.

C C Felton

Cambridge Mass

Feb 9 1857 Cambridge Feb. 9. 1857.

Sends you a Book of
his Travels &c

My dear Sir

I owe you an Mrs.

Douglas an apology for not having
paid my respects to her, after the
kindness and hospitality with which
I was received by you. The truth is, I was
made a Saturday: the weather was bad;
and I was obliged to leave Washington
for home Sunday evening. I have just
strength enough to get home; and since my
arrival, have not left my bed until
this morning.

I take the liberty of sending by the

per, a little book - Law Carlisle's Diary - which I beg Mrs. Douglas to accept, with my kind regards. You probably met Law Carlisle somewhere in your travels. At all events, his Diary goes over a considerable part of your route. Or much, no pretensions to profound distinction in manners, customs or national character; but is the droll, piquant style of a cultivated gentleman, written in an unaffected style, and not designed at afterwards to produce effect. You will notice that I have added to the American edition a few notes, and a number of illustrations. Perhaps, it may serve to amuse an occasional hour of repose from the cares of statesmanship, and the

labors of the Senate, and Mrs. Douglas may like the book over the bush, partly an account of the unusual interest of the sea, and lands in which the scene is laid, and partly because it is to some extent a reflex of your own "travel" history.

Should you come this way, it will give me much pleasure to see you in Cambridge, or, in the summer at Nahant, where, with my family, I usually pass the hot season. I cannot give you the delicious Scalloping; but I will promise an excellent chowder, with tolerable claret, and a view of the ocean wholly unimpeded in grandeur. I wish much

to talk with you at greater length, on
Greece and Oriental affairs. I believe our
Country may do herself a benefit, gain to
herself great honor, and secure a lasting
influence among the Greek race throughout
the Eastern World: and I am actively persuaded
that race is eminently worthy of our regard
and sympathy. Much has, may be done for
Science and letters, which has not yet been
done by European Scholars, in connection
with Greece, by judicious explorations and
investigations. But I have not time or
strength to treat these subjects now, nor have
you time to listen to them.

Please present my kindest remembrance
to Mr. Douglas, as believe me, Dear Sir

You much obliges me
H. Stoth A. Douglas. C. C. Felton

Private

Executive Office M. S.
Saint Paul Feb 9. 1857

Dear Sir

I perceive that a movement is being made in Congress to enable the people of this Territory to form a State Govt., giving us a Western boundary from the N. W. corner of the Iowa line to the mouth of the Red River of the North or to the British possessions. Also giving us an apportionment equal to double the present representation in the Legislature.

I deem it, perhaps, my duty to say, that a North and South line for our Western boundary is very obnoxious to a large majority of the people. The Legislature now in session has remonstrated against this division, by a vote of 35 to 10 in the House Rep. and of 11 to 4 in the Council, and the Memorial has been forwarded to our delegate.

I have heretofore felt favorable to a N. & S. division, but it is manifest that such a division will cause the rejection of the Constitution by the people. The large majority of the present Legislature do not

favor the Congressional apportionment either. It is manifest that our people are resolved to have an East and West line of division from the St Croix to the Missouri on 45.30 or 46. N. Lat. Our Legislature has passed through the Council a census and apportionment bill, and it will probably pass the House tomorrow by a large Majority. This bill authorizes a convention to meet in July &c &c, carefully providing for all the details &c. I think the better policy is to let the people here proceed under their own act. It will secure harmony and a prompt admission with an East and West division, and as you personal and political friend, I advise you to pass no Congressional act on the subject, unless you let our people elect between an E. & W. and a N. & S. division and leave the apportionment to this Legislature.

The political parties in the Legislature are each by two thirds for an East & West division. I mean Democrats and Republicans. I have kept perfectly quiet on the subject, heretofore favoring a N. & S. division, but the people are clearly opposed to this view. If our people are left to form their convention and Constitution as they deem proper in their own time and way, our party will be a unit when we need it; but if divided, by forcing us into this unnecessary

contlict, we need not expect any concert or unity of action, except perhaps about this city. They (I mean a majority of both parties) have resolved to reject a N. & S. division, and thus you see we may be delayed in coming into the Union, and our party cut up into fragments. The Democracy must avoid this issue if possible.

I trust that Mr. Rice will not press any bill on the subject, unless it gives the convention the right to elect between a N. & S. and E. & W. division, and leaves the apportionment for delegates to home Legislation. If Mr. Rice had not moved for a N. & S. division, I think 2/3 of the Legislature would have been for an E. & W. division, but his friends in part fell in with his action, and if it is pressed, a total wreck of our party is inevitable. My friends and Mr. Rice's have been and are now acting cordially together on all party measures, and will do so, unless they have forced on them a N. & S. division. I should be glad to hear from you.

Truly as ever your friend.

W. J. Gorman

Hon S. A. Douglass
U. S. Senate
Washington City
D.C.

Govr W D Gorman
St Paul Minn
Feb 9 1857

of
private

Answered

XX

Gaines February 9 1857

Dear Sir

Our mutual friend
James G. Griffith draws the
appointment of United States
Marshal for northern Illinois

Mr Griffith is your own
personal and political friend
and visited Cincinnati last
June for the sole purpose of securing
Your nomination for the Presidency.
He is an active and energetic
Nebraska Democrat of which
our City is proud.

Any assistance you could
render him in this behalf would
be desirable and acceptable
to the Democracy in this part
of the State and especially
thoroughly to the Democracy

of this City and County
Permit me to earnestly
recommend and present
his name to your favorable
consideration for the
office within named.

Any recommendation
required for his appointment
must necessarily can be obtained
But he is so favorably
known to me and any
You will oblige me
and the Democracy of this
Section to aid in his
appointment if consistent
with your duty

I am Sir
Your friend &
J. B. Howard

Hon S. J. Douglas
Washington D.C.

B. J. Howard
Galena Ills
February 9 1857

Recommends W^r Griffith
for Marshall

Maline Feby 9th 1857

My Dear Sir

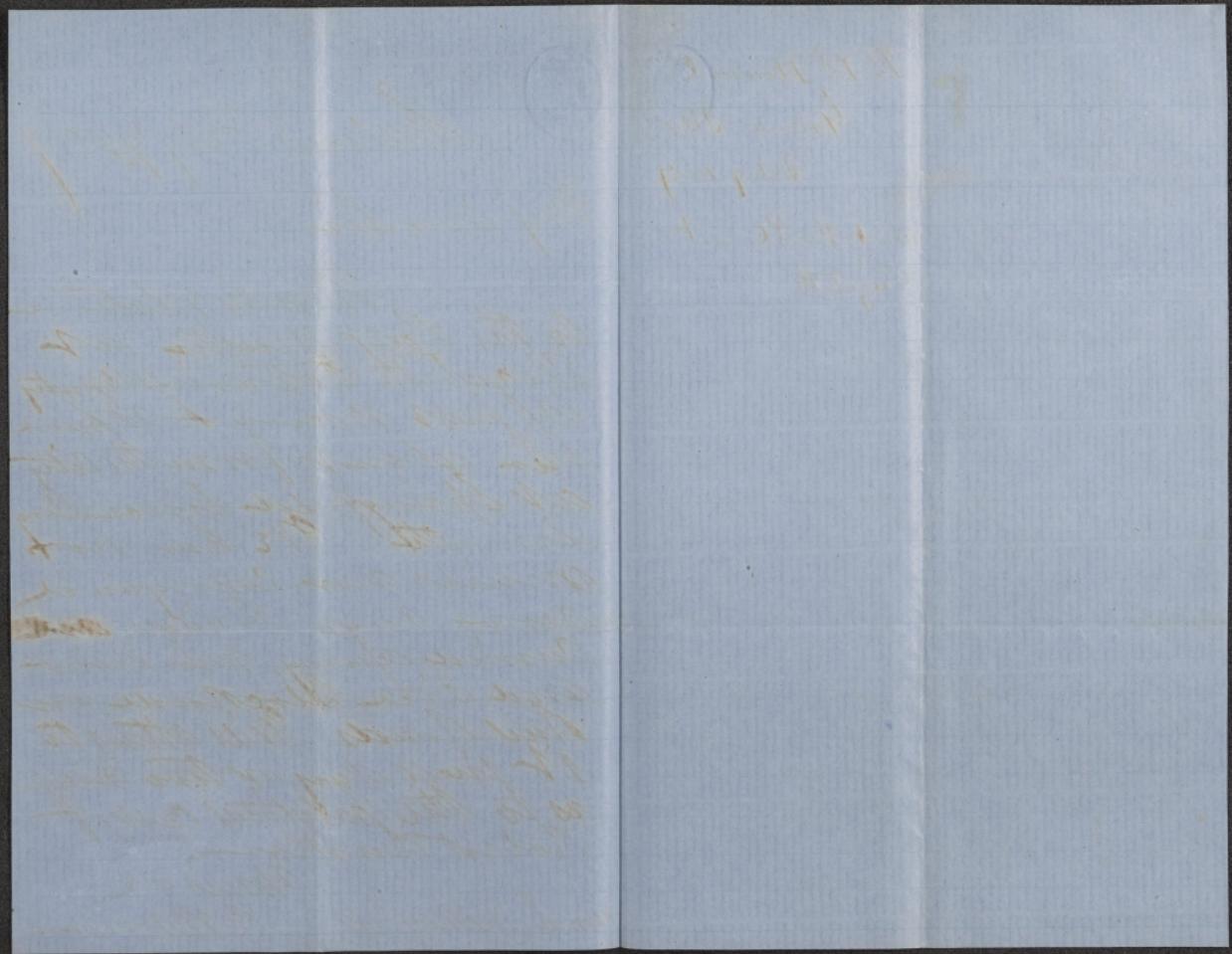
Now in Relation
to the Postmaster at
Elizabeth City County
is just named & I have
been absent from the city
at Springfield since Aug
seventh. We have not
mails nor conveyance
now days. Bridges ~~are~~
buried away with snow
and the Blockade our
rail roads will attend to
it in a day or two and inform
as to the political cast of
Robert Barker

Hon S A Douglas Yours &c
B R Howard

BVB Howard
Galena Ill

Feb 9 1857

about the P.C at
Elizabeth



Leavenworth City R. I.
Feb'y. 9th. 1857

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

My dear Sir

I have not thought
it becoming to solicit the confidence
of gentlemen in your position, per-
mitting my proposed removal, and
therefore have written to none, except
in reply to letters -

Dr. W^s Pierce in the Senate and
to two gentlemen of this House, I have
made a statement of the facts in
reply to letters inviting it -

I wish to you now, not knowing
what views you may have entertain-
ed upon the proceeding, and
presuming that some final dis-
position has been made of it -

If you shall have accorded me
your confidence & have sympathized
with me in the gross injustice
done me, I take occasion to assure
you of my most profound thanks,
I to congratulate you for a partici-
pation in a noble act of vindi-
cation of the independence of the
millions - If on the other hand you
shall have felt justified in sustain-
ing a nomination made to subver-
se me, in the circumstances ~~surrounding~~
the above remark, I fully assure
you that I too highly appreciate your
personal character to mean to bear

an influential change of direction
from the just expectations of your high
positions.

To justify your suspicion in the one
case & to correct your misapprehensions
in the other, I trouble you with this
communication - This I do not with
any view beyond that of placing my-
self right with yourself and strengthen-
ing you with such others, whose regard it
is natural I should be unwilling to
lose - Beyond this would lie the desire
of reparation by future presidential
favours - God forbid, Sir, that I
should seek this! My experience has
quite satisfied me in the position so
attained - held as it has been and its
functions discharged with as even
a hand as my humble abilities enabled
me, and yet held, under the unerring
calumny of base and unprincipled
partisans who have seen in a pending
presidential contest no better means
of advancing their animosities & power
than by malicizing the opponents
of the present administration - And
lost by the strange injustice of a
one class nation without a hearing by
the very administration whose policy
has been outraged, hourly, by these very
animosities - We should strongly think
to the hearts of all this vilification
who should crucify that any of it
had its origin in personal belief that
I have acted corruptly - I see as well

satisfied as of any thing that the
whole course of it has been political
rancor against the present, and
determined ingratitude toward
the incoming administration.

This may not apply with much force
to the ultimate reason for my removal.

That was the particular act of bailing
a man named Hays indicted for
murder - The facts of the case I have
furnished to Mr. Pease & other gentle-
men, as well as to the atty. Genl. that they
might be of record - They can not, to
any, unprejudiced mind, indicate a dis-
position to favor Hays - In point of
fact I feel no such disposition beyond
that which exists in every case with a
man of feeling - If there be any man
perfectly callous to the suggestions of
humanity, I should not think even
an one man well qualified either for
a judgeship or any other position
which required him to deal with the
human nature - My right to bail
in such case, in court, I hold to be
perfectly clear - That I exercised the right
with every proper caution, & without
a shadow of partiality, I know -

That I have not imposed bail from
injustice in any case is no less certain.

But suppose the right were doubtful or
even but for the fact the court of whom
I might be against the right, does
it follow that I should then be exoner-
ated? As I appointed pride upon the

supposing that my judgment was
impartial? Has no judge been too decided
erroneously? Is not law foolish
our system of Appellate Tribunals.

But suppose even that feelings of oppor-
tunity had probably warped my judgment,
has this now accrued without incuring
the charge of corruption?

Suppose whatever you may ought & not in
common fairness and justice, to have been
had?

Suppose whatever you may could a purpose
thus to demand a judges prevail without a
severe detraction from the great & peculiar
of judicial independence?

Would I have been worthy the confidence
of the people, if I could have condonned,
ignorantly, to scandal to either Governor or
President by pronouncing not mine but
their judgment?

No indeed I, Sir, have been worthy of that
confidence and I have failed or spared
to tell Hays or any other to gratify one
or another party.

I thank God, Sir, that I feel proud
in the assurance that I have preserved
the respect and confidence of those
who know me, and that I know that I
have neither done or failed to do any thing
by which I ought to have lost these.

None only who have felt the impossibility
of gratifying every body's expectations, in a posi-
tion under circumstances like mine can feel
how sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to be so
wronged. It is at the wrong only

that I feel annoyed - As to the
place its annoyances are at least equal
to its pleasures -

Excuse me, my dear sir, that I
have troubled you with so long a
letter, and believe me

With the highest respect
Yours very
Sams. Scoumple



Sam'l D Le couple
Lawyer & Co

^{Montgomery}
Feb 9 1857

Relative to his
Coming as a Judge
etc etc



Hon'r Stephen A Douglas

U S Senate

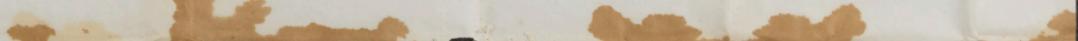
Washington

gentle

and small

and round

so as



Private & confidential

Ospenfield Ill
Aug 9th 1857

Dear S.A. Douglas

Dr Sir. Have you

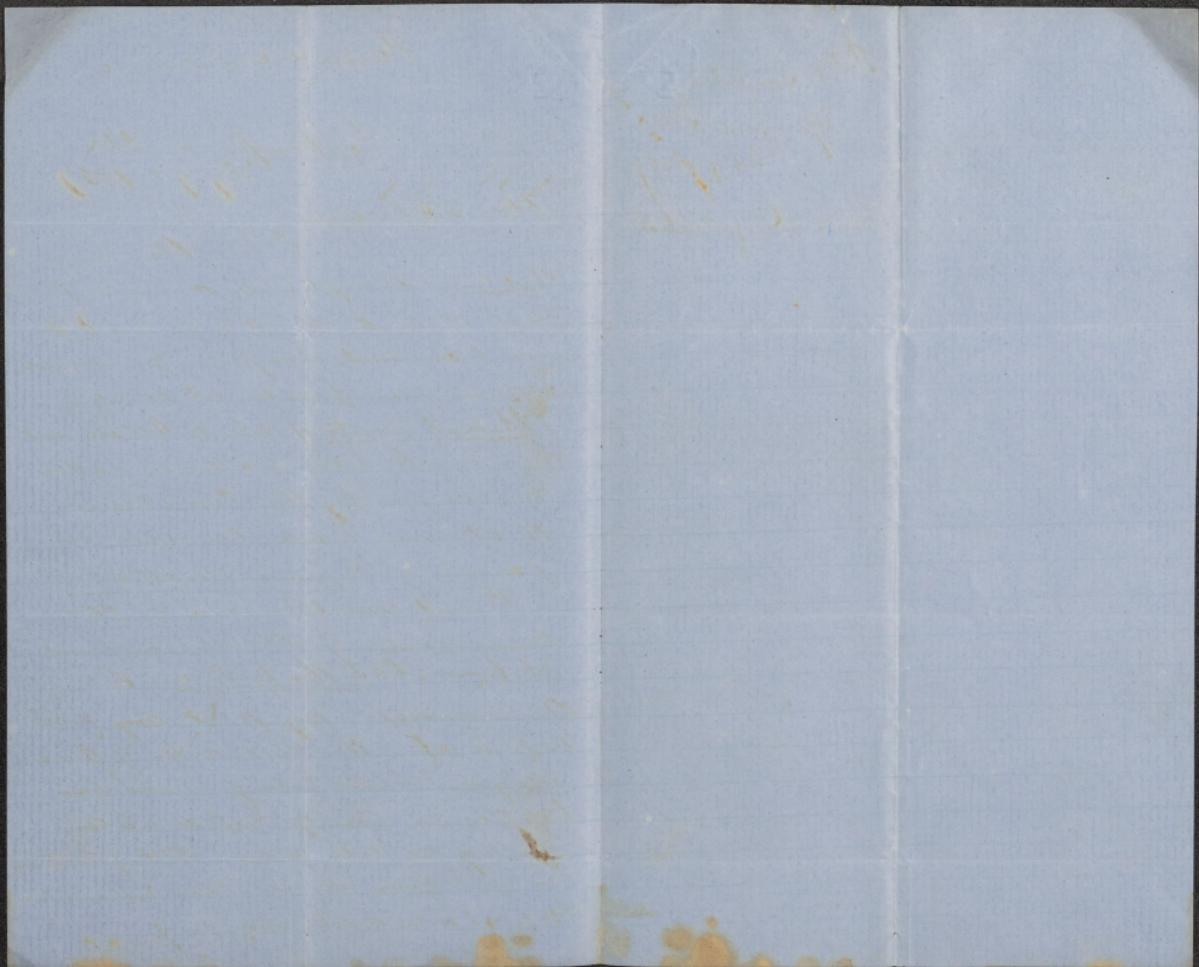
declined being a candidate for
the election to the H.S. Senate? If
you have not, it is proper you should
conclude your friends at once.

Precious voted of which I shall not
now speak have had a rather
troublous party to the conclusion
that you have declined in
favour of General Matteson.

Permit me to enquire in the
confidence of the interested friends
whether can this be true. Future
discussions upon my part may well
afford some information of your
motive. - Whole tale of course to be
treated as strictly confidential.
I may as well add, that if Matteson
is not your choice - his infirmities
will at once decide upon you friend
Singleton

P. W. Singleton
Springfield Ills.
Feb 9 1857

Private & Confidential



2/2/157
Confidential

My Dear Sir.

I have been at Springfield for three or four weeks, & may be indebted perhaps to my "fee leasy way" for a pretty intimate insight, into the "workings" of things in the State, so far as the democratic nations there may be regarded as a type of political affairs - I have been impressed with the belief, that it is important to you to look to the appointments here cautiously - & to consult materially, the weight of character your Candidates chance to have - the office holders exercise or may exercise a great deal of power - & you are at a junction here, I think, when it would be in the hands of very positive reliable, & reputable men - who will exert it to some purpose & who are fit for your leader - The most prominent office seems in the judge of the peace down there, to be the Post Office in this City - & upon it, every citizen will be employed by those whom you may well distrust, & seize - Some of them appear to be your loudest

friend - I know, they are not reliable -
But every pretence necessary to secure
your favor for the time being will be played
off - Their purpose is to impose upon you a
man in their own counsels & interest.

I had a long talk with Carpenter while he
was in Springfield, & have I think substan-
tially persuaded him that his interests lie
in another direction than the post office -
that he should closely apply himself to his
profession - that his friends will aid him
to win at that - He is really much more of a
man & a better man than I have given him
credit for being - partially misled by the counsels
of equivocal friends of yours - to say the least
of them - but Carpenter is now certainly withdrawn
from this influence, & will be entirely controlled
by the advice of one or two friends - he will not
embarrass you - who all may be candidates
for this office I don't know of course - for as
you know I don't "mix in politics" - but from
what I do know & see there, I do know
I think where your interest & hence the interest
of the party in this state lies respect to it.

It seemed to me that all your real &
intelligent friends at Springfield agreed in
the opinion - It is that you should insist
upon Dyer's taking that place - whatever
he may have said, I know he will
take it if you ask it - indeed I think
since my return from Springfield
~~he~~ he seems rather inclined to it -
He is the truest, the most devoted and
faithful friend you have here - none
other at all like him - nor am I mislead
in my observations, whilst others suppose
I am paying no attention to their movements
& to what is going on - Dyer will give
character to the place & hold an influence
by means of it over the whole state, which I
think it do important you should secure -
Pray don't think me obtrusive - since you
will readily credit I am influenced only by
very sincere sentiments - I am in a condition
you know to speak very frankly, since I
would only seek to aid you - & not draw
upon you - I am going back to Springfield
tonight write you in great haste.

but I thought before I did go. I would
unburden my mind to you a little on
this subject - Believe me ever

Very faithfully & respectfully
Yr friend

S. Thaddeus

Chicago Feb 1857

*Stuart,
Chicago Ill.
Feb 9, 1857*

Hon. S. A. Douglass
Senate -

Very private -

P. S. By the by you may have
a letter from Dyar on a subject of some
importance to you, which from my own
peculiar position I could not write you
about - but he knows all I do about it,
has been busy investigating it - I think you
had better give it your attention - perhaps
get the tale contained by order of Justice -
D.

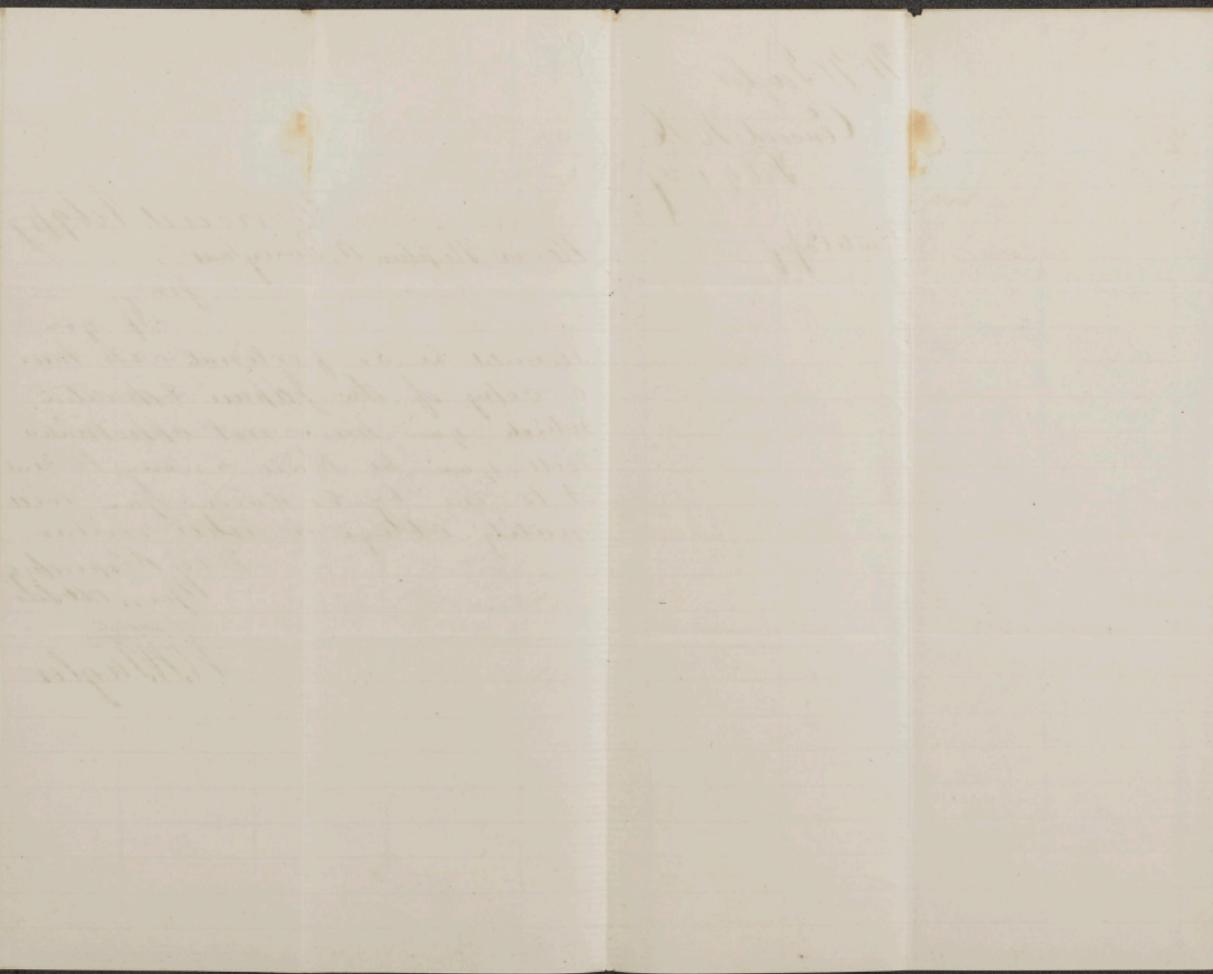
Concord Feb 9/57
Hon Stephen A. Douglas
Sir

If you
Should be so fortunate as to have
a copy of the Japan Expedition
which you have not appropriated
Will you be kind enough to send
it to me by so doing you will
gratly oblige & will never

Very Respectfully
Your Ott Servt
~~W.W. Taylor~~
W.W. Taylor

W W Taylor
Concord N H
Feb 9 1857

Mauts Copy



New Orleans Feby 9th 1857
Hn. Stephen A. Douglas.

Dear Sir.

Permit me

to introduce to you, acquaintance, and favorable regards my friend Dr. C. Anfoux of this city. The Doctor is a strict anti Democrat and a good man. His object more particularly in going to Washington at this time; is to secure, if possible the appointment of Surgeon to the Marine Hospital of New Orleans. He is well fitted for it, being a thoroughly educated physician, and graduate of the first Colleges of this place and France. Besides he has a good practice here. He visited France and Germany last year, and on his return home had the pleasure of being a fellow-passenger and informant of Mr. Buchanan. Now if you can consistently help him to secure the appointment. You will do me a favor.

Now Wright and all the family join me in wishing you a great deal of happiness in your new marriage.

And Believe me.

Your Friend
J. Wright

