

Isaac C. Miller
 Springfield, Mo.
 March 24, 1857
 Mr. & Mrs. James
 Douglass

Springfield, Illinois, Mar. 24, 1857

Douglass.

My very dear Sir:-

I am sorry to
 hear from Major Harris that you are
 again seriously affected with the same
 disease that kept you so long, ill at Terre
 Haute. I assure you I deeply sympathize
 with you, and trust you may soon be restored
 to health.

I have had a very severe relapse, and
 to-day, for the first time am able to use
 my right hand for several days.

As it seems the Fates are against me, and that
 it is so ordered that I am not to be permitted
 to see you, I wish to say here very briefly
 a few words with regard to myself. It seems
 that the Delegation, so Major Harris says, have
 recommended James W. Hayes, as Post-master
 here, and I am therefore, as soon as my
 commission expires, to consider myself displaced.

notwithstanding, it was understood between
you and I, that the Post Office was to remain
undisturbed, and that I was to receive my sup-
port from that, whilst organizing the State for
your benefit during the coming term.

But it seems other councils prevailed, and
I am to consider myself out of office, so far
as this State is concerned.

I cannot say that I am sorry, for I find
my health so rapidly giving way in this ever-
changing climate, that before I heard of this
change in my office, I was just about asking
you to change my position.

James C. Allen, I see is announced in all
the papers for the next clerkship, and this
I suppose was also agreed upon by the dele-
gation. I am perfectly content.

You know I spoke to you some months ago
in regard to an appointment abroad, in a genial
clime where I might receive the shattered re-
mains of my Constitution. I asked you then
more particularly on my dear wife's ac-

count; I ask it now on my own as well
as hers. There are now plenty of openings
and it would indeed be strange if you "~~would~~
refuse of War," as you were pleased to
compliment me, for services I performed
during the campaign just closed, should
not be able to get a place worthy of the
position he occupies in the State, as an active,
energetic worker in the cause.

A Pennsylvania President will surely not re-
fuse to a Pennsylvania Soldier, the small
boon of a healthy and lucrative position
abroad to repair the damage done a consti-
tution naturally strong, while serving with
Pennsylvania troops in Mexico.

I therefore ask of you, my best and truest
friend to make this application for me, and to
secure for me such a position, and I beg,
most earnestly beg, that you will grant
me this request.

Will you permit me to briefly allude

to a few places that I should like to go to.

Change to Naples - Portugal, Switzerland, or perhaps they are called Ministers, the salaries are about \$7000.

Consul to Liverpool, Havre, Glasgow, London, Consul General to Alexandria in Turkey - Consul General to the British North American Colonies

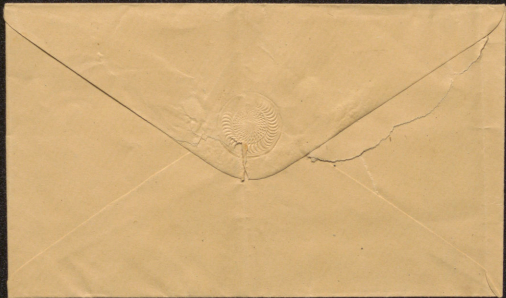
In case Gregg is recalled from Honolulu as Commissioner, send me there.

I ~~beg~~ you will not get frightened at my list, I merely put these places down because they pay tolerable well, and the positions are ⁱⁿ healthy climates. Of all these places, I should prefer Naples, Portugal or Switzerland. If you desire it, I will have the whole delegation join in the recommendation.

I will write mine at length to-morrow. I trust you will be well enough to see the President, when you receive this. Sincerely, Yr friend
Wm H Diller

Dr. Hedder Please hand
this to Judge Douglas
immediately if he is well
enough to read it
J. R. Miller

Wm. J. W. Douglas
Washington City,
D.C.



OFFICE OF THE
Daily and Weekly Chicago "Times."

Chicago, Ill., March 24 1855

Dear Sir:

Mr. Sheldon Route agent at the Milwaukee & Lake Road, has resigned. I have heretofore recommended Samuel S. Kent, but the Department has made no appointment. Mr. Sheldon has, at length been compelled to leave the business in the hands of a substitute; Mr. Kent is now acting. I would be glad if you would have him appointed before you leave Washington.

Yours truly,
Jas. W. Sheahan

Am. S. A. Douglas

Washington

James W. Sheahan
Chicago Ill
March 24/57

Recommends Paul S. Kent
as Route Agent on Chicago
& Milwaukee R R in
the place of Sheldon
Respectfully

New York rec. March 1857.

My Dear Sir,

I finally succeeded in getting my old claim settled with the P. O. Department and was obliged to leave, without reaching the other case at the Treasury Department, or calling to pay my respects and thanks for your kind assistance.

Referring again to the matter at the Treasury Department, relating to the proposal of Thos. Drummond, "in which I am the principal party in interest" for furnishing the site for Custom House and Post Office at Galena, I am doubly anxious to have the case reviewed on its merits, not only to avoid its advantages, but also to undo, and counteract the circumvention of our friend Washburn in the matter, who I am credibly informed managed by himself and through others, to have it represented that Drummond could give no title for the reason of a portion of the lot proposed being in Minor heirs &c. while the Davis lot could be conveyed "free & clear" I have recently heard from Galena, that Davis is unable

to make or show perfect title to his
lot. That the said is in litigation
and subject to claims & counter claims
that will prevent his being able to make
a perfect title. In my case, in the
name of Drummond, we are advised
already, that the title can be made per-
fect & perfect, in short order, by Judge
Drummond getting an order of Court
or Probate Judge to sell the interest of the
Minor heirs, at either Public or private
sale, which can be done at once, so that
perfect title can be given ^{now as wanted}.

Now Sir in all confidence of
being able to make the title well as
that our lot is by far the best and
cheapest, while the location will better
suit three fourths of all the Citizens
of Salem, and that the partial in-
formation for accepting Davis lot
can scarcely fail to be rescinded
and reversed on merit & fair showing
you will confer a favor I shall
ever be happy to reciprocate, if you
will avail the earliest convenience
to call at the proper office and
see the proposals, Plans, maps &c
submitted by Davis & by Drummond

well as by Mann and Gray, and ask
to have the case reviewed, solely upon
merit, and the fact that Drummond
can give full & perfect title, soon as
wanted, = whereas the second has
been strongly represented.

Your attention to this matter
will add another to the many
obligations heretofore, and which
I am and ever shall be most
happy to acknowledge & reciprocate.

I am dear Sir Your
friend & Ob^t Serv^t

M. C. Walker

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

M. O. Walker
^(of Chicago)
New York

March 24/57

Private & Confidential

no

Mr. S. Jackson

"Confidential"

Should you succeed in opening the
can and in having the proposition
of Drummam accepted I will
subscribe Five hundred dollars
to any object, use, or purpose, Political
or Moral, through you or any other
person you may advise, and will
place the same at such disposal
without further intimation, or
ceremony, not as a reward, but
as a charitable gratuity.

(Private & Confidential)

714

Indianapolis, Ind., Mar 25

Hon. S A Douglass

Dear Sir - Although a stranger to you, I beg that you will overlook any want of etiquette in my addressing you. I am sure you will do so when you learn my reasons for so doing:

The bad faith with which Mr Bright has acted toward Gov. Wright, of this state, has created a vast amount of dissatisfaction and bad feeling in the Democratic ranks. This feeling is not confined to any particular locality, but extends throughout the entire state. It has undoubtedly lost to Mr. Bright many of his heretofore earnest and hard-working friends - many instances of ^{which} ~~whom~~ I could name, were you acquainted with our politicians. There seems to be a determination among the people - the voters - to visit upon Bright a vengeance which will kill him politically, in Indiana. They are determined that if their will is disregarded

=ed, and their wishes and expectations dis-
=appointed by his manœuvring, that they will
disappoint him, in his "towering ambition."
So much for Bright.

It has been proposed by many of
our leading men, among them several
of the State officers, and quite a number
of the County officers and members of the
Legislature, that a newspaper be started
at Indianapolis to advocate your claims
for the Presidency in 1860. Such a paper
would find supporters in every county
in the State—many of them, too—and an-
echo in two-thirds of the Democratic news-
=papers in the State. It could be made to
wield an influence which would tell with
effect in a canvass, or as the moulder of
Public sentiment. And, unless I am much
mistaken, ~~would~~ it could be made the instru-
=ment of defeating all of Bright's plans.

I need not assure^{you} of a fact of which you
are already aware: that it was Bright who in-
=fluenced the vote of Indiana against you
in the Cincinnati Convention. He will
be a candidate for the nomination for the

the Presidency in '60. He will struggle hard
to secure the vote of Indiana. But a paper
here, at the State Capital, which would expose
Bright's tergiversations—his dodges of every
vote on the Slavery question since he has been a
Senator—his false promises to men to secure
their influence in a canvass—his vote and
bribe on the Collins Steamship bill, and
many other acts which he has managed to
keep hid from the people—would kill him
so dead in two years that he'd never kick
again.

I propose to publish such a paper,
assisted in the editorial department by
gentlemen of firmness, talent and abil-
=ity. I have for three years past, and
within a few months, been one of the editors
and proprietors of the daily State Sentinel of
this city; have been a regular correspon-
=dent for the daily St Louis Leader, the N.Y.
Bay Book, Boston Post, and Louisville
Democrat. I am also the publisher and com-
=piler of the Democratic Almanac and Political
Register for 1857. I am in all respects com-
=petent as a newspaper man—an a practical

printer, and have been an editor for
eleven years. With my party I am pop-
=ular-knowing, personally, all the politicians
of our State, and believe I have their con-
=fidence and esteem. I am satisfied I
could make the project "go" and raise,
in a few months, a list of subscribers
double that of Mrs. Bright's present organ,
the State Sentinel. I can give you
such letters, if required, as to satisfy
you fully of the truth of all my state-
=ments. Indiana for you for Presi-
=dent, would be to you a great advan-
=tage in the contest

You will please communicate
to me your views of the establish-
=ment of the proposed paper //

I am,
Very Truly, yours,

C. W. Cotton

Wm. D. A. Douglass

C. W. Cotton
March 23/57
Wm. D. A. Douglass

Tuesday March 25-57

Sir

Referring to my letter to you of the 24th ult. enclosing with a note from Johnson of Repton's. He please find herewith the petition therein mentioned. I presume it has been forwarded ere that date & only learns on seeing Johnson today for the first that it has not gone forward.

Mr. Bedder will note that in manner & matter it will support none in comparison with the petition he has on file against Johnson.

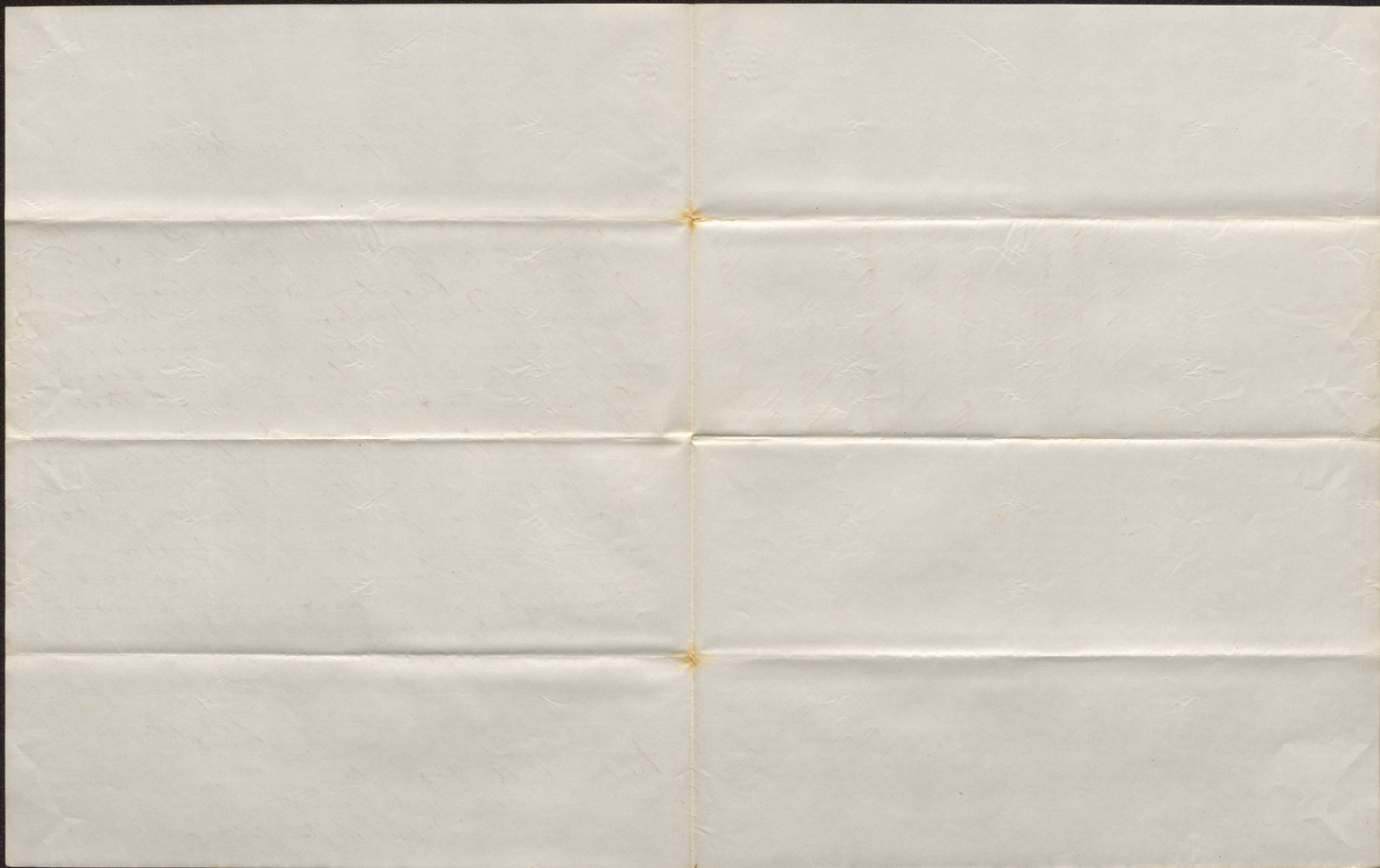
Johnson is a most worthy, thorough going hardworking democrat & there would seem to be very room in the world against his removal.
Yr truly yours
Wm. T. Brawley

Wm. L. A. Douglas
U. S. Senator
Washington City
D.C.

F. M. S. Crawley
Freeport Ill
March 25/57

Encloses Remonstrance
against the removal
of Johnson as Pres
at Peconic'ca Ill

Remonstrance filed
in Department
April 9 1857



WINDSOR

Washington
March 25. 1857

My dear Sir,

This will be
passed to you by my
friend & relative B. Bascom
Esq. He is & for the last four
years has been the Chairman
of the Seain State Committee
of Vt. for some years the
leader of the democratic
party in our Legislature.

Was a delegate at last
to the Cincinnati Conven-
tion, & saw that wanted
to vote for you in the
first instance. He will
tell you all about Mass
matters & things in Vt. & you

every place from confidence in his representations present of future. He counts on office, but goes to Washington at the request of many influential democrats from all parts of the State. I have written a letter to you ^{accept of} saying which Mr. B. will show you. Will you please give him such advice as aid in carrying out the wish - is of ~~the~~ democrats of your State that, as you consistently can. As there would be all circumstances very improper in asking

the cooperation of Maj. Breckenridge - I have given Mr. Barlow a letter to him, which I will deliver in suit as you may advise. Please present to him accomplish - and send the warmest regards of Mrs. T. & Miss M.

Truly yr friend
J. A. Mathey

Hon. J. A. Douglass
Washington
D.C.

D. A. Smalley
 Burlington Vermont
 March 25/57
 About Vermont matters

no

Custom House, Chicago,
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

March 26th 1857.

My Dear Sir

I fear at times that you may disapprove of my writing to you as I do, in regard to individuals, who are politically and perhaps personally your friends. Still at other times I have taken the liberty of writing to you my views in regard to matters and things which have come under my observation & you have not reproved me for it. Therefore I have this winter presumed to write to you and to state to you impartially my views in regard to politics, & politicians of this city. So then I have been at all times a "non committed" altho many no doubt consider me an "Anti Simms man" from the fact that I could not agree & do not at this time like Mr Sheahan & still they are mistaken. I have reason for disliking Mr Sheahan personally, but politically

he is at this time my friend

I would now write to you in regard to the appointment of Mr. Sine as Postmaster.

Since I wrote to you his appointment has been confirmed & those appointments to office who are disappointed are so disappointed, but the masses, the people are satisfied and believe the office to be a good one. It is now generally believed, that no other appointments for this city will be made till your arrival in Chicago. Therefore all is again quiet.

Permit me to state to you that when the report came to this city, that all Federal officers had been removed Mr. Dyer called on Mr. Conley, to sympathize with him & asked him what he would do if the report was true & intimated that you were acting false to friends.

I do not know how you may feel towards Mr. Dyer, but I do most sincerely believe that he is playing you false. I could prove to you that his actions at the Cincinnati Convention

proved him to be a double shufles & I have no doubt that the Hon. J. Quincy Jones would tell you as much.

You late spent in the U.S. Senate will tell. If you would send one or two thousand I would distribute them through the State. I would do this through the mail agents. I wish you would send me all you can spare. you shall be well satisfied that they are well distributed.

I trust that yourself and lady may arrive safe in Chicago.

Excuse this badly written letter I have not time to copy.

Very Truly

Yours friend

+ H. Levant

Charles J. Butler

Wm. L. H. Douglas

U. S. Senate

Washington

D.C.

P.S. We are now having a spell of warm weather;

C. J. Button
Chicago Ill.
March 26/57

100/

Wm. D. Miller
Springfield Ill
March 27 1837

Springfield Ill
March 27, 1837.

My very dear Sir:-

Notwithstanding the "Register" may say "amen" to the rumored appointment of Col. McBlernand to Russia, I can assure it is a perfect damper to the Democracy. Since I have been sick many of the leading Democrats of the State have been to see me, and the news is anything but gratifying to them. His great Anti Nebraska speech at Astor is not forgotten, and I am informed copies of it has been re-transmitted and sent to the President. He can do no harm if he ~~does~~^{does} not get an appointment. There is no necessity for conciliation in his case.

John McConnell it is also reported, is recommended for a foreign appointment. For the sake of the party I hope this is not true. The reasons must be as well known in Washington as here.

As a Democrat I have no objection to Keyes as Post Master, but I fear Harris will find that when he calls on him for help in this City or County

or District,

He will find himself counting without his host. His first move will be to take the Post Office away up beyond the business portion of the town, and thus compel the great body of the Mass. Agents to go out of their way to find for a while of him. This will ~~greatly~~ create strife animosity, and bitterness, and hurt the party, by destroying its harmony. The attempt of Randolph to compel the whole town to bend to him about the location of the new Post Office, has already done much to divide the party - that however will subside after the Department shall have made the location, which ought to be done at once.

Ever since Keyes, as Justice of the Peace, allowed Delos Brown to escape on bail after murdering Glascock, he has lost all strength here, and I do not therefore consider his appointment the best that could have been made.

Capt. Connolly the Register ought not to be re-appointed. He never had any influence and he has less now. There is great complaint among persons doing business at the office as regards his

want of courtesy and accommodation, and his charging for every little service that has heretofore been done cheaply for nothing. Again whilst last campaign with a salary of about \$1500 I paid out over \$800 of my own money, and burned nearly as much, Connolly and Conner with \$3000 each as a salary, gave but fifty dollars for the whole campaign, and there is still some \$300 of bills to pay, which the people are dunning me every day for. I would like to know if these are the kind of men to keep in office; yet I am displaced after all my hard work and spending money, and circulating documents, and such men as Keyes, Connolly, & Conner and I suppose Dixson, retained.

William F. Barrett should have been the Register, Charles R. Hurst, Receiver, R. W. Sillou, Post Master, and Finney D. Preston of Richland, Marshal for the Southern District. Then you would have had men in office, who could help pecuniarily and influentially, and would always be willing to do it. These names have been presented and

spoken of by many Democrats in the City and County; and they could have kept Sangamon County certain for the Democracy for all time to come, as things now stand it is exceedingly uncertain.

John Connolly, Jr should not, and I hope will not be appointed Superintendent of the new Post office. He is not a master-builder, he is a very common carpenter - and like all his family ~~is~~ unpopular and without influence.

If Thomas J. Dennis does not get the Contract to Build the House I hope you will aid in getting him the Superintendency. He deserves it, and is a fine architect.

Last though I hope in your estimation not the least, myself. I trust you will do your utmost to give me a handsome position abroad. You may depend upon it the Democracy of Illinois will be gratified at anything you may do for me. My health is still quite feeble. Hope you are better.
Yours sincerely
Wm. D. Douglass. Spaack Miller

Oroville Butte Co Cal

March the 27 / 87

Thutch E steam Friend those
few lines wait upon your
Honor to inform you that I
am in the State of Cal,
I left your State in 83
My health has been very
delicate in this Cuntory

Yours with respect
John R Sharp

Reference

M. M. Dill Paris Ill

S. Sutherland do

M. chair do

Jacob D Earley Terre Haute Ind

John R. Sharp
Orville Cal

March 27/57

Inform you that he
has moved to Cal

Hon Stephen A Douglass

Dear Sir

Allow me
to introduce to you my worthy friend
Mr P Bromby of Rochester New York one
of the Democratic Alderman Elect - Any
assistance you can render him will
confer a great favor upon our Dem-
-ocratic friends here - and also will be very
highly appreciated by Mr Bromby
he is a Democrat of the right stamp

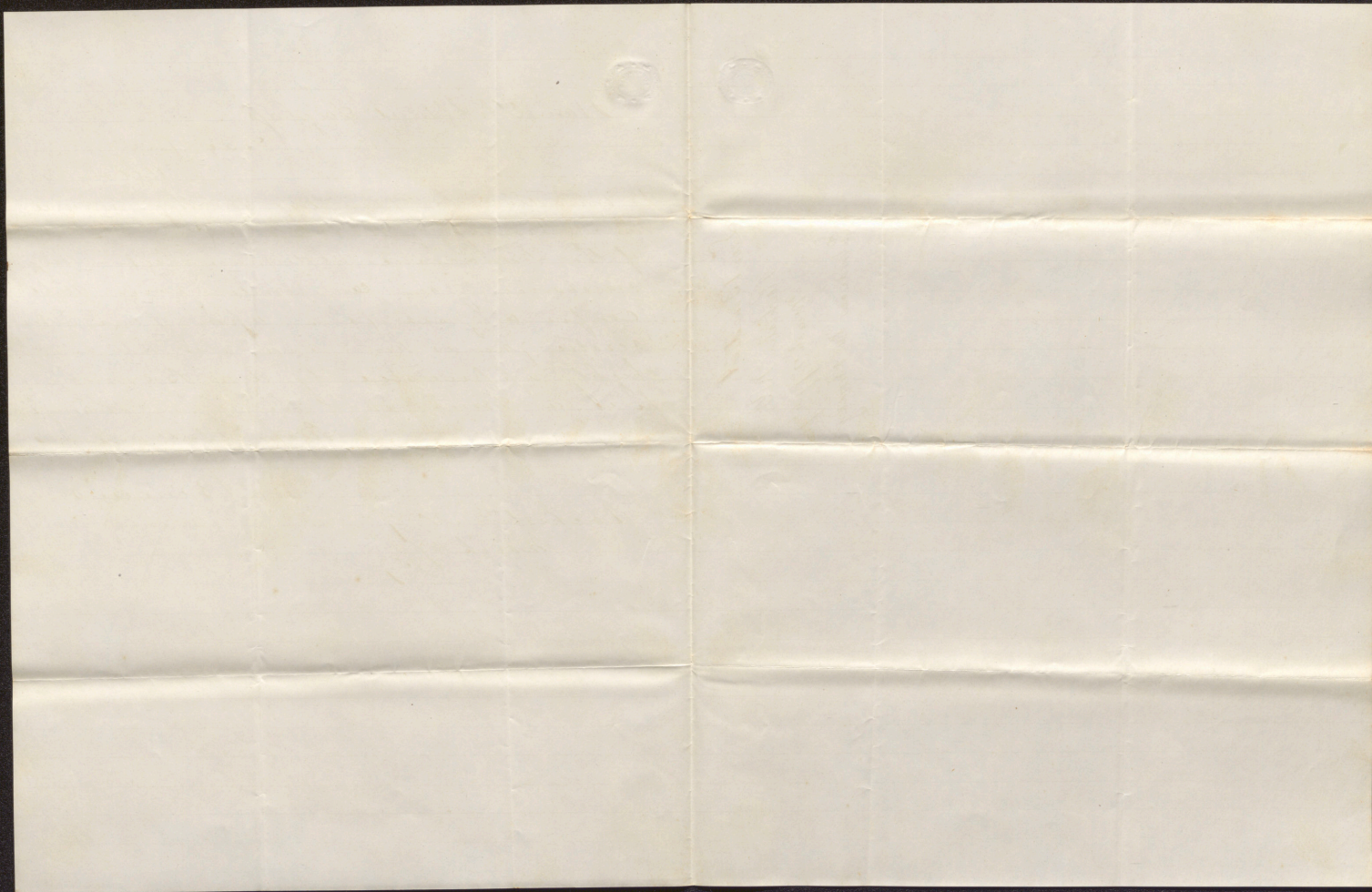
Respectfully yours

Geo Benedict

Rochester N.Y.

March 27/57

Dear Benedict
 Rochester N.Y.
 March 27/57
 Introduces Mr Bromley



P.O. Galena Ill.
Mar. 27th 1857

Friend Walter
Chicago
Ill.

It is with great pleasure that I now return you my sincere thanks for your assistance to me while at Washington.

I had a letter from Judge Corkery at Washington giving me full details and I am satisfied had it not been for you and mine I would have gone up.

I cannot imagine what Howard brought to bear on the Ill. Delegation for last summer Jackson of our City tried to have me removed and Howard remonstrated against it and signed my Petition and wrote a strong letter to Judge Douglas for me, and I do not see how he

could say any thing more after
saying so much to Douglass for
me some time ago. He is here now
and feels disappointed as he sees
none of bringing his commission
home with him. Our Citizens
are greatly outraged at the result
and are protesting against it
strong. I had a powerful recom-
mendation and endorsement by Wm.
M. Jackson of Wm. Henry Co. who
also wrote me a strong letter to
Douglass and also wrote one to
the Wm. Linnens. Besides numerous
letters written by our strongest Demo-
cratic Citizens in my favor.

Barbara has no character here
and the people here not the least
confidence in him. and I now
think that if he does not get
his commission until fall he never
will get it and he now begins to think
the same. My term does not expire

until the first of October and I
hold a secure commission until
the first of August 1858.

I don't hear any thing about
the lot. Davis has been buying old
claims against it and I don't think
that he can fix a title I don't
know if he has seen on his deed
or not I know he never inclosed
it in an office, but all think
here that he never can perfect a
title in it. Howard does all he
could for Davis in order to get his
lot. I shall always feel under
obligations to you for your kindness
and I wish you will still do
all you can with the Judge as he can
fix it I have brought some strong
influence to bear on him and I
know that if Howard does not get it
until fall he never can. So all you
can for me and depend on it I
shall not forget you - write me

and let me know what are
the prospects in regard to the
lot.

Hoping that you are well
and expecting to hear from you
soon I remain your friend
Alwayson

Referring to No 14. in the foregoing
and fully endorsing the same.

Confidentially referred and sub-
mitted, by your friend & servt

Stor. S. A. Douglass }
Washington D.C. }
M. O. Walker
Apr 8, 1857.

M. O. Walker
Chicago Ill
March 27/57
Repy a letter from
M. O. Walker at
Chicago Ill re

Can^a 28 March 1857

Hon S. A. Douglas
My Dear Sir

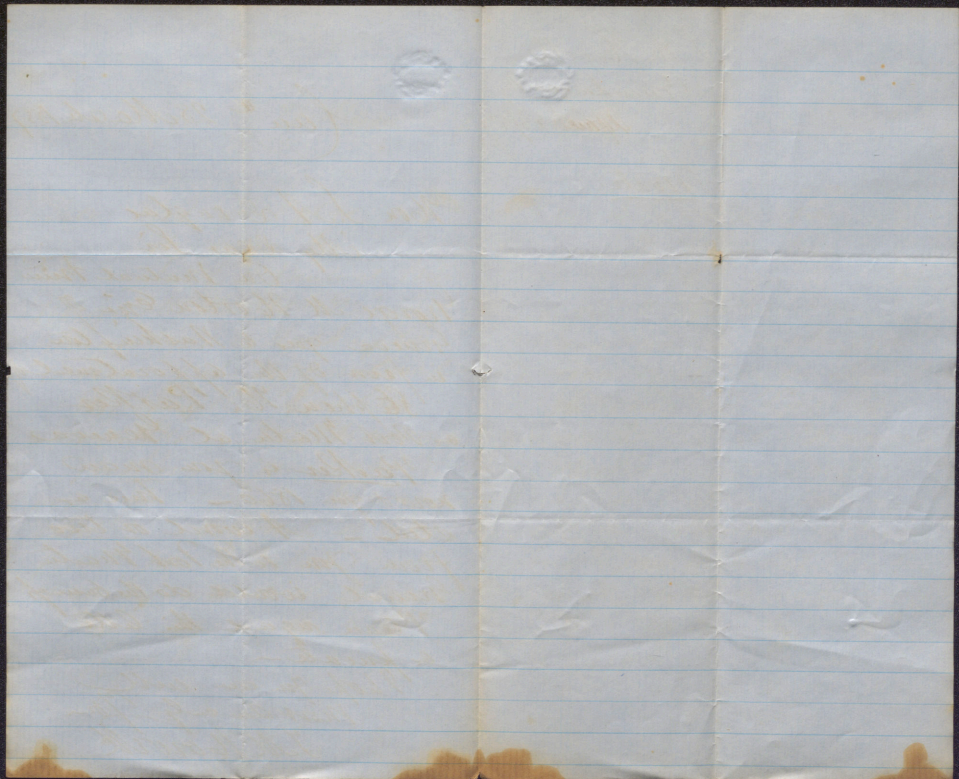
On Mutual Friend
George M. Norton Esq. of
Geneva goes to Washington
in favor of the appointment of
Stephen W. Parker
at Port Maitland at Geneva

Parker is your man
now & for 1860. — This or
still — A word or two
from you to the Port Maitland
Mutual would do the business
Please regard this letter
as private —

I hope you are well
Most sincerely Yours
J. M. Nowell

J W Howell
Camden N.J.
March 28/57

Private



Mechanics Hall,
Washington Pa
March 28/57.

To the Hon. J. A. Doucis

Dear Sir

The undersigned,
com. of the Mechanics Institute have
the honor to inform you that at the
last meeting of the Institute, you were
with a highly flattering unanimity
elected an honorary of the Institute

Yours Respectfully

W. Mackney,
Geo. C. Ruppel,
Geo. Mc Clelland.

Com of Mechanics
Institute
Washington Co
Penn

I write your attention
to your election as
a member of the
Society - see 2



Michigan Central



Chicago March 29th 1857

Dear Stephen A. Douglas

Dear Sir I was to
Marshall yesterday & saw our old friend
Prott he felt about as well as he did when
we were at his house the time we had
the big meeting there - & I am very happy
to think he got his appointment -
Dear Sir I would ask a small favour
of you if it is not too late in the day -
I should like to have my son Norman
& Hahn appointed to the office of Port
Master on the cars - on some of the
routes running out of Chicago - I have
brought him up a thorough democrat
& he wants an appointment on one of
the routes & it would please me very
much if he could get one - he is 24
years old & well qualified for the office.
& If you think best I should like to have
the appointment myself as Surgeon to the
recruiting station in our city it pays but

a small salary. but it is better than
nothing. & I have pulled in the traces
a great many years & never have had
any appointment from the democratic
party. The reason I ask for it is that
the present incumbent. I understand is
rather an the republican order - so
much so that he voted for Long John
If you think it is worth while for me
to try for either of the appointments I
hope you will let me know what course
to pursue whether to have a petition
drawn up with some few of our
leading men on or whether your influence
will be sufficient you can touch for
my democracy - I suppose for my capability
as a Juror - my sons can obtain recom-
mendations from the best men in the city
and in Michigan as to his character for honesty
veracity & sobriety - I hope I may hear from
you on the subject - direct to box 1030
Bills appointment gives general satisfaction
here except with Cook. I believe. I remain
very truly your most obedient servant James P. Hobbs

James F. Kahn

Chicago Ill

March 29/87

That his son appointed
Route Agent on one
of the Routes leading
from Chicago Ill

Attended to as
directed

Recommended
April 10/87

Mr C. C. Stewart

New York

March 29/57

Private

New York

March 29, 1857

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Chicago

Since conversing with you at my room I have considered more carefully the Kansas affair, and while I think Walker will do all in his power to preserve not only peace and quiet there, but the rights of all its inhabitants also, yet I am positive, that all this, does not in the least render the additional measure we talked of, any the less indispensable. The registration of voters will be completed before Walker or Stanton can get there & do anything. Were they there now they could not secure fairness. It is impossible under the law with such men to execute it, as now possess that authority. But I go further still. No matter how fairly it can be executed. It is provocative, & the condition of the northern feeling is such, that the charge of unfairness raised by the republicans

though ill founded or unfounded, would prove as disastrous to us politically, as if it were true -

I do not believe Kansas can be admitted under a constitution formed now and in the way proposed, whether admitted or not, the result will be the same - an alike ignominious to us - One only solution is to be found, in pursuing the course you and I agreed upon, is by insisting that in all cases our enabling act must first emanate from Congress -

I have talked with some of our wisest and most prudent men whom I have met here, and all agree, that such a course will save us and that no other can - For myself I am as confident of it, as of my own name - Utter destruction awaits the Democratic party in the north, unless and only if this course is early taken and firmly adhered to - You and I can do this thing - We can bring our party in the Senate to the support of this ground, if we unflinchingly stand by it ourselves - There are two reasons why I shall do it - The first is it is right in itself, which

ought always to be main enough - And the other is, that it is the only mode, in which, what there is left of the party in the Northwest, can be saved - The success of this measure, or our failure, will be the certain result - I will have written you thus frankly, because my convictions are clear, and because, your fate and mine politically hang on this thread -

And because also, I feel, that there are at this time stronger political ties existing between us than between any other man & myself -

This ground fairly taken & valued could easily persuade the people of Kansas to forgo action, till their population is sufficient, and till Congress shall give them the proper authority - It can never induce the people of the propriety of admitting Kansas to an equal voice with them in the Senate, (if there were nothing else in the way) where they have only 30,000 population at most - That argument is the hands I shudder of the republicans in such States as ours, & more

especially in N.Y. Penn., & Ohio, would prove too
potent for us under the present excitement.

I have seen several from our section, and they
all say, that the excitement is increasing both in
amount and intensity, in consequence of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~present~~
of the inaugural and the Breckinridge decision.

Every ^{Unionist} ~~man~~ ^{Unionist} would join us in taking
this ground & that fact would bring in the Southern
men. But why hesitate, we are annihilated if
we do not, and saved if we do. I know there
is a strong feeling in certain quarters of the great
strength of this administration. I hope it may prove
so. But at the same time I am forced to the
opposite conclusion by past & passing events.

My wish is otherwise, but my opinion is, it
cannot sustain itself throughout its term.

Of course all I have said is strictly confidential
and I would to God, it were unnecessary also.

But sir it will prove true as holy writ, whichever
course shall be pursued. On one side there is
salvation, on the other inevitable ruin.

Yours truly Chas. J. Stuart

Write me at Raleigh.



Albuquerque, New Mexico March 29th 57

Hon. S. A. Douglass
U. S. Senator

Washington D.C.

I have just written to you, by the snail of the usual monthly post, & confidently, as I trust, your kindly attention, to a matter of much personal interest to myself. I refer of course to my reappointment. I write to you what I supposed would be sufficient testimonials, that I had omitted in any trust here nothing that was incumbent upon me - My fate, I presume, is henceforth determined - though sometimes must elapse, before I will certainly know.

The act of August 18, last, by Congress, allowing Courts to be held, at only three places in a Territory, will operate severely with the very distinct in almost every respect so far as the inhabitants and persons are concerned, who must attend the Term. It includes the entire region of the Rio Abajo or Lower Belos, as we sometimes say the Lower Mississippi, to distinguish from the Upper portion. So Rio Abajo, distinguishes that portion of our Rio Grande, from the Rio Uribas or Upper River - being the portion above here of the same River. Rio Abajo is the much healthier and cultivated portion. Many of the men of Mexican

same are here. The soil heavy and important law
suits are here. The people are more American
ized, there is no hostility here, visible, between said
the merchants. The business men here, are mostly
Americans. Settlements lie along upon the river
from 15-20- and 30 miles back of the River -
There also are villages 60 & 75 miles to the west.
Here are some of the well civilized and well
conducted, Mexican Villages. From the most north-
-ern settlements in my District, they continue down
including thriving towns, upon each side of the
River through the Counties of Sonora, Valencia
and Saguaro, for about 130 miles, near to the mouth
of the Guadalupe. This is properly El Rio Abajo, and
is the most highly cultivated portion of the Territory,
the vineyards of grapes, and the fields of wheat &
corn, this Valley, is encompassed in heat & humidity &
the temperature, is generally delightful. When we reach
La Guadalupe, we strike down over the most dangerous
(as to timber and community water) for 20
miles to the Pecos and among settlements, and
within about 10 miles come to the populous settle-
ment of La Mesilla on the west side of the River.
From thence we go down to Texas, and immen-
sely rich of Congress August 1844 for Revenue pur-
-poses the large County of El Paso in Texas occupies
in my district. Then there are the settlements
at Tucson 300 miles west of the River and
there at Ft. Stanton as much as 150 miles west
all included within my district. Then again
there is perhaps double the number of cañons

annually in this District than in all the colonies.
Under the new arrangement Judge Williams has two
Term of two weeks each - one month yearly - Judge
Seaversport two terms of four weeks each two months
yearly - whilst I have two Term Jan, 10, and March
five months yearly. You wonder why a more
equal distribution is not made - I answer because
no portion of my people are willing to exchange
property (but not this) and as to myself I am
perfectly willing to be employed with a contented
people constantly, and gradually improving in
all the ways of free government.

Now, Sir, in this immense District, I am conscious,
as are others, and the people, to one place to
hold Court. I have selected Socorro, the first
suitable town on this side of the Guadalupe as the
most central as to population, distance and
business to hold Court. I think, however, Congress
has remedied the condition of the people below
the Guadalupe and within the Guadalupe mountains.
I have a statement of your bill for a new District
Judge H. There was so much justice and propriety
in the measure I cannot doubt it now is a
statute. I told the people, their new Territory project,
and not mind, I am not, an outrageous misrep-
-resentation as to numbers went to Washington. The plan
of a new District H. is a wise one, I hear of a New
Treaty of limits with Mexico. I fear, I am under you
with letters - through these matters interest the Territory

I have the honor to remain as ever truly yours
Philip Benedict

Thirby Benedict
Santa Fe N M
March 29/57



NOTICE. A VISO.

United States of America }
Territory of New Mexico. }

Supreme Court
January 7 1857

The Judges of the Supreme Court of the Territory of New Mexico, being now assembled at Santa Fe the place of holding said courts, do in open court at a session thereof order and fix the plan of holding the United States district courts for the third judicial district in said Territory to be until otherwise provided at the town of Socorro in the county of Socorro in said district.

The summer term of said court shall commence on the first Monday of June in each year and continue for ten weeks unless the business shall be sooner concluded.

The fall term shall commence on the second Monday of October of each year and continue for ten weeks unless the business shall be sooner concluded.

It is further order that all causes civil and criminal and all things pertaining thereto now pending in the district courts in any of the counties of said district be transferred to said court at the place above appointed and that the same be prosecuted in all respects to a full and perfect conclusion therein.

It is further ordered that these orders be translated into the Spanish language and that the clerk cause them to be published in both languages in the Santa Fe Gazette for the period of six weeks successively—and that the clerk forward copies to the Probate Judges of the several counties to be posted upon the doors of the court houses.

A true copy of the order given on the 21st day of February A. D. 1857, and now on record in my office.

AUGUSTUS DE MARLE,

Clerk of the Supreme Court
for the Territory of N. M.

Estados Unidos de America }
Territorio de Nuevo México. }

Corte Suprema
termino de Enero 1857.

Los jueces de la Corte Suprema del Territorio de Nuevo México reunidos ahora en Santa Fe, en cual lugar se tiene dicha Corte, mandan en Corte abierta en una sesion de dicha Corte y fijan el lugar en el cual se ha de tener la Corte de Distrito de los Estados Unidos por el tercer Distrito Judicial en dicho Territorio hasta de otro modo proveido en la ciudad de Socorro en el Condado de Socorro en dicho Distrito.

El termino de verano de dicha Corte comenzará el primer lunes de junio de cada año y continuará por diez semanas a menos que los negocios sean antes concluidos.

El termino de otoño comenzará el segundo lunes de Octubre de cada año, y continuará por diez semanas a menos que los negocios sean antes concluidos.

Esta mandado además que todas causas civiles y criminales y todas las cosas pertenecientes ahora pendiente en Corte de Distrito en cualquiera de los Condados de dicho Distrito sean transferidos a la dicha Corte al lugar arriba determinado y que las mismas sean en todo respecto presentado a una conclusion entera y perfecta en esta Corte.

Esta mandado además que estas ordenes sean traducidos en el idioma Español y que el Secretario de la Corte tomará medidas para publicarlos en la Gaceta de Santa Fe por el termino de seis semanas consecutivamente—y que el Secretario de la Corte mandará copias a los Jueces de Prueba de los varios Condados para que sean puestas en las puertas de las Casas de Cortes.

Copia verdadera traducida del original en Inglés, y dada el dia 21 de febrero.

AGUSTIN DE MARLE.

Secretario de la Corte Suprema del Territorio de Nuevo México.

Juan Benedit
Destino

Handwritten text in a script, likely Indic, located at the bottom of the page. The text is written in dark ink on a light background. It appears to be a signature or a set of initials, possibly in Devanagari or a related script. The characters are stylized and somewhat cursive.