

2130-1
Jan. 1858
Hon. S. A. Sanghats
Dear Sir

In 1840 I, was one of the Democratic
Electors in Indiana, In examining the writ-
ings of Thomas Jefferson (in Luchers life of Jeff-
erson) I found in a letter from Jefferson to a
friend substantially as follows: I consider our
the Bank of the United States as deadly hostile to our
Political Institutions; why could we not now which
we are strong make a beginning to be come Inde-
pendant, by keeping our own money in our own
hands, our own drafts drawn upon our own
money ought to have as good credit as any Bank
notes Thus we have foreshadowed not only
the Independent Treasury law, but something
more A Paper currency that could be used in
place of Bank notes, Should this suggestion
be followed up by proper Congressional Legisla-
-tion, I think the public would be much benefited.
I would suggest the following,

That Congress so amend the Independent Treasury
law, that the Secretary of the Treasury, have increased
drafts of the denomination of Ten, twenties 50 to 100
to 500 & 1000, That the person to whom money is to be paid to
have the right to chose the denomination of the drafts
and the amount of each that he will receive the sum
that Gov owes him These money drafts to be drawn on
the Receiver General in the Principal Cities only and
made payable to the person having the claim on Gov or

Order

So that they would pass as currency & exchange without assignment) to be presented at the pleasure of the holder, Make them receivable in payment of all public dues, The Govt Require the necessary Reports of the Receivers Genl to state the amount by them received, (since their last report) in specie, and the amount in drafts, their denomination date, to whom made payable and on what office drawn which would enable Govt to know the amount of specie in each office subject to draft at the date of the last report, Let these drafts be forwarded to Washington by the Receivers Generals, and then cancelled, Prohibit the issuing of these drafts on any office exceeding the amount on hand subject to draft at the date of the last Report, this would insure specie dollar for dollar for all the money drafts. The Govt pays out about seventy or Eighty millions in a year and should the people prefer to use these drafts as a currency to ~~the~~ specie, there would be a large amount of ~~these~~ drafts in circulation, possibly to the amount of two or more hundred millions, but no matter whether the amount was more or less as there would at all times be the same amount of specie in the vaults of Govt ready pay when presented, such a currency would have all the advantages of portability of Bank notes, without any danger of loss. It would be current Equal or better than specie in all parts of the United States, (being payable in the principal cities) it could be used as exchange as well as a currency. It may be objected to this plan that these drafts would

for all business purposes be better and more convenient than specie, and that specie would accumulate in the Rec^d Genl's offices in the cities especially N.Y. city to an amount that ~~xxxxxx~~ could not be safely risked by the Govt. This objection could be obviated by increasing the number of offices in the cities, limiting the amount to be received in any one, Require ample security in this way than need never be as much in any one office as there has frequently been in the office in N.Y. city ~~xxxxxx~~ These offices could be numbered from one to ten if necessary and each required to make separate Reports and the money drafts drawn on them (designating the No of the office)

Objections might be made that such a change of the law would increase the expense of collecting and disbursing the public revenues perhaps it would have that effect, but as these drafts would form a large portion of our currency, an inconsiderable amount would be destroyed by fire and lost by ship wreck probably to an amount equal to all the extra expense. Should that not be the case the people could well afford to pay the extra expense for the advantages of such a currency, the Public more lose by Bank failures and depreciated Paper money a much larger amount than all the extra expense that would be caused by such a law, Might we not hope that when the people had experienced the advantages of such a currency as this for a few years, that they would see that a sufficient amount could be furnished in this way for all business purposes, and that they would

to amend their State Constitutions that no more Banks of Issue would be chartered, Banks already chartered and organized, and that might be hereafter organized prior to such amendments of the State Constitution would continue to transact their usual Banking business during the existence of their charters, in this way the number of Banks would be gradually lessened as their several charters expired when we would have a currency of specie and Paper based upon specie dollar for dollar such a currency would be the best in the world, and I hold that we would have as much as our Business required or in other words our proportion of the currency of the commercial world,

Suppose all the paper money in the U States was to be destroyed to day and that hereafter we would receive nothing but specie as currency - The consequence of one half of our currency ^{being gone} would be to cheapen the price of all kinds of property Property being cheaper here than in other countries with whom we have commercial intercourse, they would come here to purchase and we could not buy of them for the reason that we must pay them more than we could sell here for. Every million of dollars that we received from them for our cheap property would add a million to our specie and lessen theirs to the same amount and this process would go on until our currency (all specie) ~~had~~ increased prices raised with our increased currency to an Equality with other countries - This would be the case if it is true that Prices of property increase with a large circulation and become cheaper when money is scarce which all admit to be so. There could be no Political power or influence arising out of such a law as these drafts could only be paid out in payment of debts and that the Government must pay whether the creditor be a friend or - opponent of the Administration These drafts could not be given to persons not entitled to them any more than a draft could now be under our present system - Respectfully yours William F. Pease

Fifth page

Should it be thought important to furnish Gov^t drafts faster and that would be done in the regular payment of debts. The law might authorize the payment of of specie to the Precious General in a few of the large cities and that upon the depositors presenting the Precious Receipt the Treasury department might pay him the amount in drafts of such denomination as he might chose the same as any other creditor (I thought but charging him a ~~small~~ amount to cover expenses) but I would prefer having nothing to do with private individuals. I would prefer giving these drafts strictly in paying the debts of Gov^t only. As the law now is Gov orders A ten thousand dollars gives him a draft on N.Y for the amount (all in one draft) he presents the draft the specie is counted or weighed to him, he counts out five thousand of it to B. B Pays the same five thousand to the same office for duties. This specie has been three times counted or weighed and sworn by handling. With my proposed system of Drafts Gov orders A ten thousand dollars, gives him five thousand in ten dollar drafts & five thousand in one thousand dollar drafts. A pays B the 5 \$1000 drafts B pays these drafts for duties. The specie all the time remaining in the Gov^t vaults - no weighing, counting or assay of the specie by handling - and this five thousand dollars remains ~~in~~ subject to draft as before.

Should your not be in favor of some such

change in the Independent Treasury cause
will you do me the favor of handing this —
communications to your colleague in the senate
I have no acquaintance, with him and but
very little with you personally. My first introduction
to you was at the first State fair held at Columbus O
by Mr L Beover of Indiana — and last fall by Col
May in his office and again in Oct at the Fremont
house, when I proposed to converse with you
upon this subject — but had no convenient oppor-
tunity, I have resided at Indianapolis for 25
years past, now reside in Chicago
always acted with the Democratic Party until
the Repeal of the Missouri compromise
for Fremont. Now approve of your cause in
relation to the Lecompton constitution for Kansas
I have recently returned from Indiana —
The masses of the Democracy who voted for Buchanan
are with you on that question

Yours Truly

William L. Peaslee

2121
c Jan. 1858

Near Arlington

Bureau for Ill

Hon S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir as I am so unfortunate as to live in a district that is represented by the notorious Owen Lovejoy, I thought I would write you as I had done during the last congress, asking you to place my name on your list of correspondents. I am a farmer was born & lived all my life until within the last three years in Chester County Pa, In Bucknans old district always a radical Democrat & ardent supporter of Mr. B ever since I had a vote, (being acquainted with him) I regret exceedingly the course he has seen fit to take in regard to the submission of the Kansas constitution. I subscribe heartily to the course you have taken & so I think does the whole Democracy of the state it has knocked the Locks as the boys say off the Block Republicans they say it is in strict accordance with his course all the way through, but we did not think he was honest in it until now. But the Rev Owen, when at home during the recess said in Princeton that when he went back he was going to knock the Pescimmon off of Douglas. Are you acquainted with the Hon John Hickman of the House, if you are not you ought to be, he is an old friend of mine & a perfect gentleman, I have met with you a few times, once at Reading Pa.

again at Washington at Pierce's Inauguration
 I will refer you to my friend Hickman
 for the Orthodoxy of my political character.
 I should be glad to receive any reports
 or documents of any kind from you
 at any time. & if you wish me to circulate
 any thing ~~from~~ you as I did your report
 on Kansas two years ago I will cheerfully
 do it. as I said above I am a former &
 take a lively interest in the Political affairs
 of the country

Yours truly
 Hon S. A. Douglas John L. Phillips

Arlington
 Bureau
 Jan 1858
 Mr. D. Phillips
 Wants Speeches
 documents &c to be
 distributed here

Arlington Post Office
 Bureau County
 Illinois

c. Jan. 1858

Senate Joint Resolution.

No. 1.

Relative to Kansas Affairs.

MR. PHELPS.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That we have entire
2 confidence in the disinterestedness—the integrity and the ability of the pre-
3 sent Chief Magistrate of these United States, and that his administration commands
4 our cordial and undivided support.

Resolved, That we still adhere to, and re-affirm all the doctrines of the Cincin-
2 nati Platform.

Resolved, That we regard the refusal of the Lecompton Convention to submit
2 the Constitution framed by them to the bona-fide people of Kansas, as unwise
3 and unfortunate for the peace of that Territory, and we hereby declare it to be our
4 unalterable judgment, that every Constitution of a new State, unless otherwise di-
5 rected by the people themselves, ought to be submitted to the bona-fide electors of
6 such Territory for their approval or rejection.

Resolved, That our senators in Congress are hereby instructed, and our represen-
2 tatives are hereby requested, to vote against the admission of Kansas into the
3 Union, under the Lecompton, or any other Constitution that has not proceeded from
4 the people, by a clear delegation of power to the Convention, to form and put in
5 operation such Constitution, without a further sanction of the people; or which
6 has not been submitted to, and approved by, a vote of the people.

Resolved, That the Governor be hereby requested to forward to each of our sena-
2 tors and representatives in Congress, a copy of these resolutions forthwith.

W. R. Rankin

Judge Rankin

Columbis. O.

Jan'y 1853,

Copy of Resolution

Kansas

2123

Morgantown Berk Co Pa,
Hon. Douglass Stanton, Jan. 1858
Dear Sir,

Being interested in
relation to the proceedings Kansas
I have thought proper to address
you, we have been sent several
speeches, by the Hon. J. Q. Jones,
which are a one-sided affair
and do not meet my views on
the subject, we have the most
implicit confidence in you and
hope if convenient would send
me some of the speeches and pro-
ceedings on the Kansas and Topeka
question, myself and neighbours
wish to go right and hope to hear
from your honour soon

Yours &c Jacob Reeser Esq
Honorable - Douglass
Senator Illinois

My dear
Miss
Mrs. [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

Isaac Ruser
Morgantown
Benn. Co. Pa.
July 1858.
Speech

2124
Jan. 1858

Wintennou Ina
Hon. S. F. Douglas - U. S. S.

Sir you
have my thanks for a copy of your
printed speech which came to
hand last mail; you will much
oblige me if you will send
me all such documents as you
may have for distribution
let me assure you that your
position on the Sumptuous
convention is the right doctrine
and must prevail your course
is quite universally approved
in this section of the country, you
will please put me upon
your memoranda and send
me all such documents as may
be at your disposal yours
obedient &c this January 1st 1858
J. W. Robinson
P. M.

L. W. Robinson
Winterville. Ind.

Jan'y 1858.

would like to
receive such
good as you can
spare -

M K Rosebri
Ann Arbor
Mich
Jan'y/58
Speech

2125
- Jan. 1858 -

Michigan University
Ann Arbor

Sen Douglas

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of soliciting
a favor in the line of pub-
lic documents. I do this with
some misgivings, not having
done you justice in my daily
walk & conversation hereto-
fore. Can you pardon me
enlighten me with speeches
& documents & believe me now
firmly your friend for ever
having been your foe? If you
could send me something
on central American affairs
you would greatly oblige

M L Rosebrugh.

P.S. Your Speech on Kansas
if you please,

Do you give us a Richmond? in for the Rocking

[Jan, 1858?]

Post Office
Haverhill Mass

Hon C. A. Douglass

Dear Sir I should be happy
to receive your autograph
and thus Oblige yours
With much respect

Franklin Ross

(Seal)

Franklin Rofs.
Haverhill.

Maps:

No date Jan 85

uo

Harmony P.O. Mo. ^{Missouri} Mo. Jan. 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas:

Sir:

Not having seen, and being anxious
to see of great effects on the Kansas policy of
the administration I should be much obliged
if you would forward me a copy addressed
Harmony Mo. ^{Missouri}

Most Respectfully &c

D^r A. J. Sappington

A. S. Lappington

Harmony &

Jan'y 1858, Md

Speech

Jan. 1858 2128

Dr Sir

If you think when the
admission of Kansas under the Lecom
pton Constitution has been printed
may I ask you to send me a copy

With the greatest respect

C Lelden
Genito Ranchman
Bozons Rd

C. Elden

Wm. (Jr)

Jan'y 1858.

Wants your late
Speech

sent

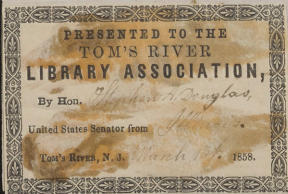
Tom's River March 12 1858
 Hon. Sir,

Jan, 1858

Desirous to build up a
 Library at this place; believing that
 our young men, and others will be greatly
 benefitted thereby, you will excuse the
 boldness of soliciting any of the many val-
 uable documents published by Congress,
 you may feel disposed to favor us with.
 A card proper, by filled up will be
 sent on your favor, to commemorate
 the munificence.

Truly Yours
 Lewis Shinn

To Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,
 United States Senate.

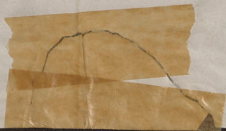


Direct, "Lewis Shinn,
 Sec. of T. R. Library
 Association."
 Tom's River, N. J.

Sewer, Skinn
Sec. T. R. & A.

Forus River, Ill
Jan'y 1858,

Wants documents.



[1858?]

Maple Creek Tenn.

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir

If you
can do so without too much
inconvenience, please send
me your speeches in oppo-
sition to the Kansas bill,
or Leecompton constitution.

Very respectfully
John G. Innes
Maple Creek
Tennessee

Good Bread
Mopsy Creek
Ten;

1858

Haverhill Mass 1858

Sir

As I wish to collect a
few Autographs, if convenient,
please send me yours.

Yours &c

C. C. Southwick
To Stephen A. Douglass

C. E. Souther
Haverhill
Ms

Autograph

S. Stevens
Washington
Jan'y 1858.
Tenders Services
as Copyist.

2131
Jan, 1858

A CARD.

The undersigned tenders his services to Members of Congress and others, having copying or directing of public documents: he will attend Members at their lodgings to write, if desired: or will call and take their documents to his own residence, where he will insure neatness and dispatch

Any one desiring his services, will please address him at No. 8, Louisiana Avenue

SAM'L STETTINIUS.

WASHINGTON, January, 1858.

J. Thompson
Jan'y, 1858
Sends 250 copies
of German Translation
of his speech &
approves in course,

2132
Jan. 1858
Hon S. Douglas

Dear Sir

Take the liberty to
send you 250 copies of the
German Translation of your glorious
Speech, for your own use to
distribute to any address that
you should wish. If not enough
please send to me & I will forward
more immediately

I am proud to be in a
position & having the opportunity
to open the eyes of those who are
politically blind or of those who see
but on account of office dare not see

You must prosper because your
cause is just, every honest politician
must be with you

Take the assurance of the

humblest - that ere long
all the Germans - also those
who have been strongly opposed
to you & your Kansas bill. will
turn to your favour because
when convinced of the true
meaning of the noble act they
must & will come in one by
one & put their shoulder to the
wheel which will be pushed
forward where it belongs

You will forgive me for
writing. Not being personally
introduced, but I think every
man who reads your speech
& does not differ with you is
introduced

Hoping to receive a few lines as
an answer I remain yours respectfully
J. Stroup

Wm. L. G.

What do you think of
the new movement for
the people of the West
and the people of the East?

2133
Jan. 1858

Wapenset Bureau Co. Ill.
Hon. S. Douglass.

The position you have taken on the Kansas question, is approved by Dem. & Rep. - The desire of every one, is that you should come out triumphant. The rightful sovereignty of the people in Territory as well as States, is conceded by all, in this part of Illinois.

My object is not so much to right politically, as to request you to favour me with the Report of the Patent Office. (Mechanical Department) if agreeable to do so.

Truly Yours
Thos. Sumner

Mrs. Sumner
Houses
Albany Ill
Jan'y 1858.

Pat. Off. Rep.
(Mechanical)

Boscawen P. O. Jan. 58.

Hon S. A. Douglass - Sir - Would you
favor me with a few copies of
your speech on the Kansas question
for distribution, as we have not
had but one copy of it in this
place

I remain

Yours (Ct)

W^m Todd

Hon S. A. Douglass

Wm Lloyd

Boscowan

Jan'y/58 N. 14.

A few copies of your
lat speech —

W

Washington Jan'y. 1858

Dear Sir

I find myself here under the disagreeable necessity of asking some one, acquainted with my husband, or has some knowledge of him, to advance me a little money, to defray a few expenses here, and carry me home. My remittances, for some cause or other, have not arrived and my purse is empty. I will give ~~under~~ an order on my husband, Mr. Underwood, who will repay it at once, at any part of our State you desire; and if you can cash it for me, you will very much oblige me, and my husband, (who you may know as the Editor and Publisher of the Decatur Gazette, at Decatur, Illinois,) will not only repay you, but thank you for the kindness. If you can thus oblige me, please inform me by a note through the Post Office, and I will

call on you, and give you the order on my husband.
I send you also a number of my husbands papers -
the last one paid by me. Fifty dollars will
be sufficient.

Respectfully

Julia A. Woodward

Wm^d Jane Anderson
Washington City
Jan'y 1858.

Asks loan
of 50th

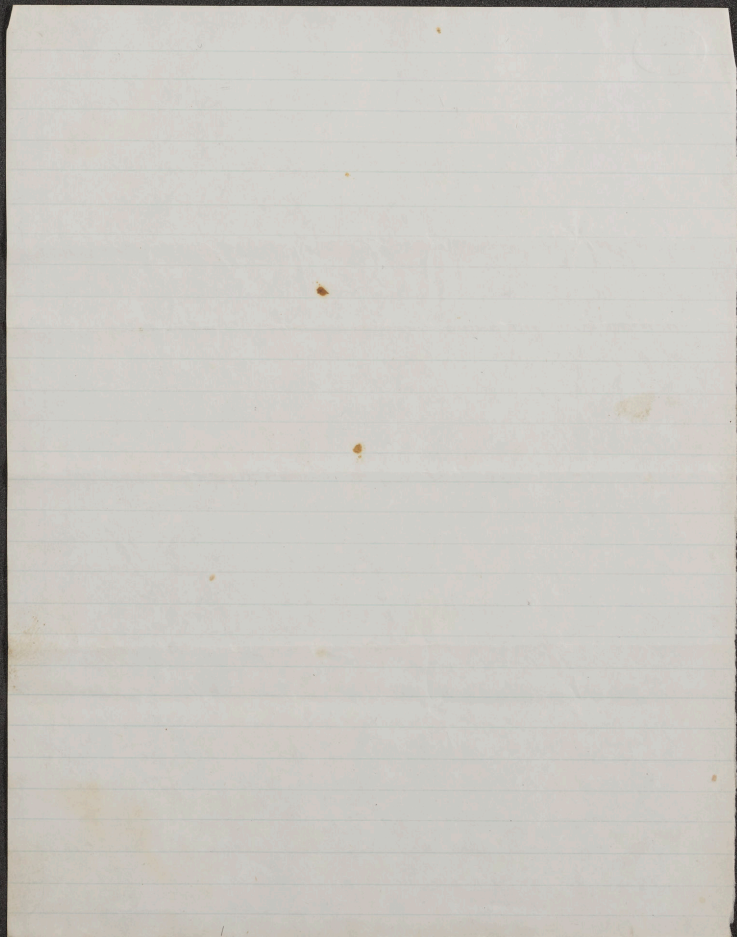
January 1858?

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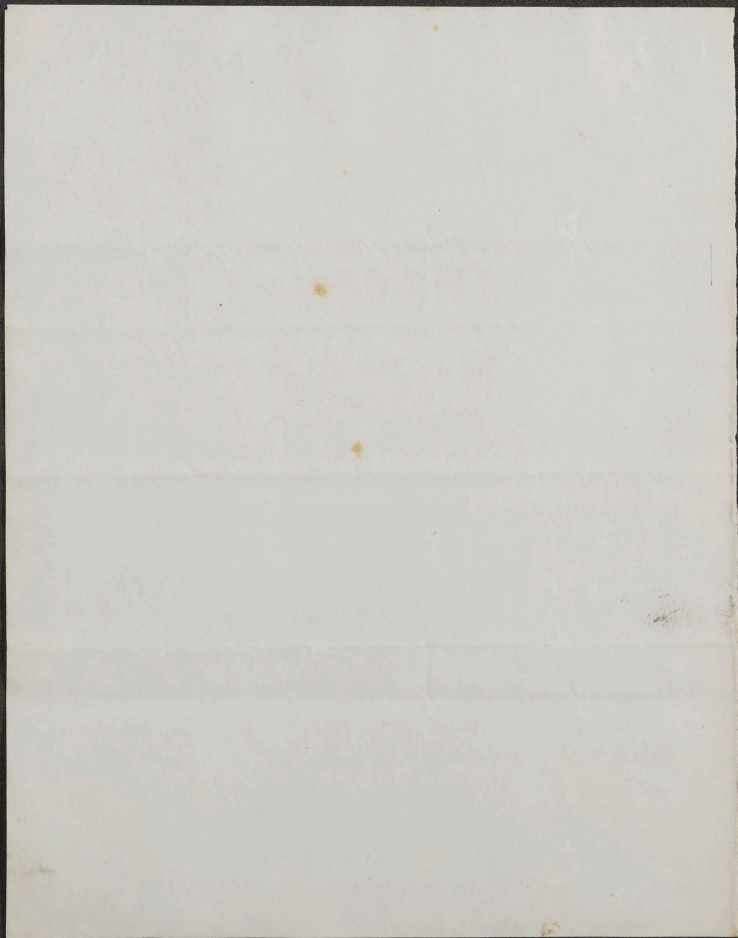
To the Editor of the Washington Union

Permit me as one of your subscribers to make
 a few comments upon your somewhat scathing
 remarks in the Union of the 23^d ultimo upon Gov^r
Walker's letter of resignation to Secretary Cass. It is to
 be regretted that sound Democrats who all doubtless
 heartily desire to promote the very best interests of Kansas
 and the whole Country, cannot think ~~and~~ ^{and} act alike
 and in harmony upon the doctrine of "Popular Sovereignty"
 or self government. This I say is to be truly lamented.
 In this difference of general and diversified sentiment
 the right should never yield, the wrong should at once
 manfully submit and lay down ^{her} ~~his~~ weapons of
 opposition and rebellion. But who is right and who is
 the wrong. That's the question. Facts and practical, logical
 reasoning must and will be the arbiter. Governor
 Walker unquestionably had a full right to resign his
 Govern^{or}ship of Kansas, whenever he saw ^{fit} and thought
 it proper to do so; and he had a no less right to give
 his reasons whether those reasons ~~were~~ ^{are} based upon fact
 or fiction. On the contrary our Chief Magistrate has the
 right and legal power to remove him at his pleasure.
 The ^{Editor} ~~Editor~~ expresses himself as though
 the public expected something from the head and
 pen of Walker "marvelous" touching "scathing" and
 awfully surprising. Why this ^{expectation} ~~expectation~~?

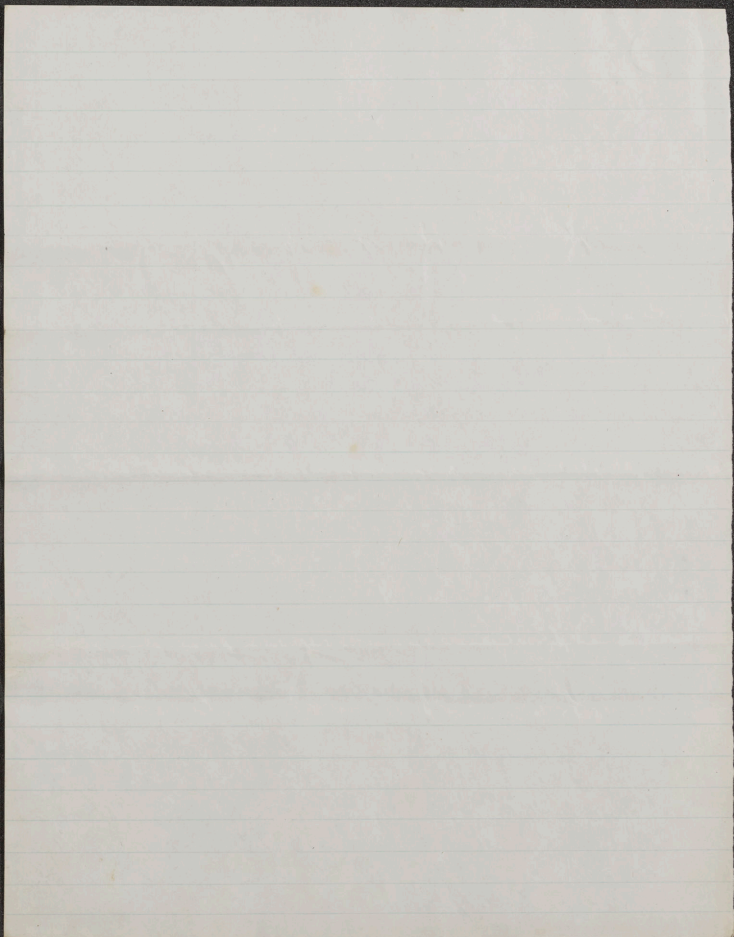
Dec
1857



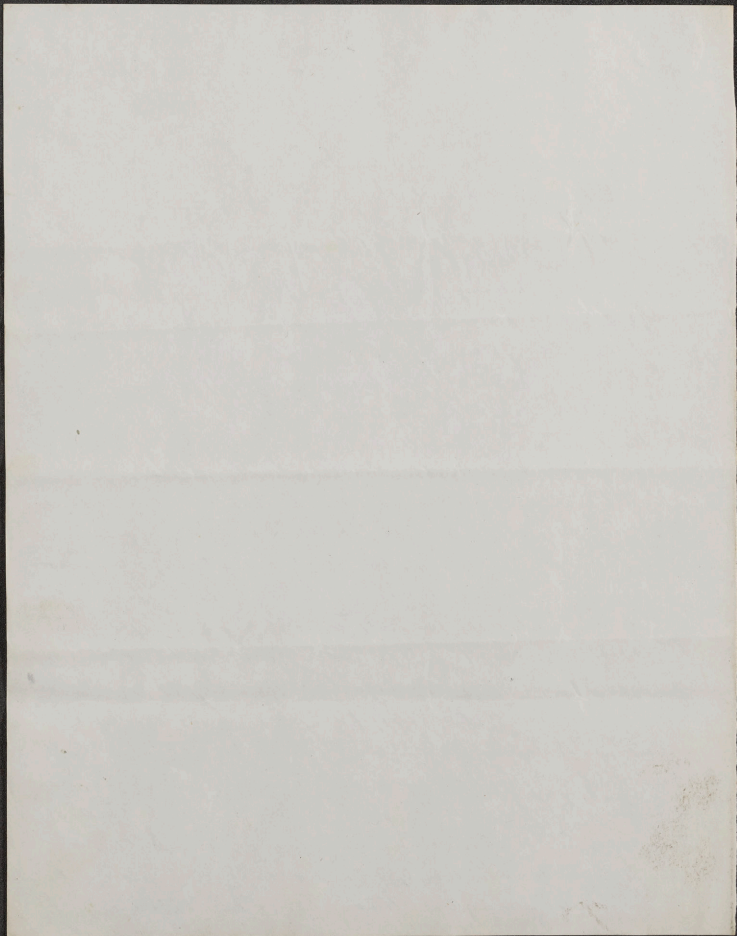
Why this ~~extraordinary~~ ^{looked for} extraordinary development? Did
 or does the shoe pinch and aggravate the newly developing
 corns? The ~~Editor~~ ^{Editor} says "the letter is a public disappointment"
 The question is who are the public. Seven letters
 in this section "of the ~~public~~ ^{Courtesy}" think Walker's letter on
 "Self government," sound, rational, reasonable, manly,
 honorable, practicable and logical. In Egypt however
 we acknowledge our darkness and benightedness and
 cheerfully submit to superior intellectuality. Walker's
 letter is not angry neither is it abusive in its expressions.
 On the contrary it is manly and rational. Talking about
 the administration surging his letter is just about as foolish
 as a person would be to deny that $2 \times 2 = 4$. ^{The Editor says} "The issue
 it raises (that is Walker's letter) with the administration is
 simply and exclusively on the action of the Leecompton Convention
 and the Constitution it has framed." In this you are radically
 wrong Mr Editor. The question is not whether at Leecompton
 or at any other point or place in Kansas a Constitu-
 tion was framed and formed, for her, but the point
 at issue is whether any Constitution framed at any
 place even by a legally authorized Convention can
 and must be the de-facto Constitution of said Territory
 without the approbation of the legal voters of said
 Territory. If so, can Self Government be defined? Or
 what constitutes Popular Sovereignty? Now Self
 government admits of no circumscribing, other than an
 allegiance to the Constitutions of the Federal Government
 and the respective Sovereignities. It fully believes in the
 self evident fact that a whole is equal to all its parts



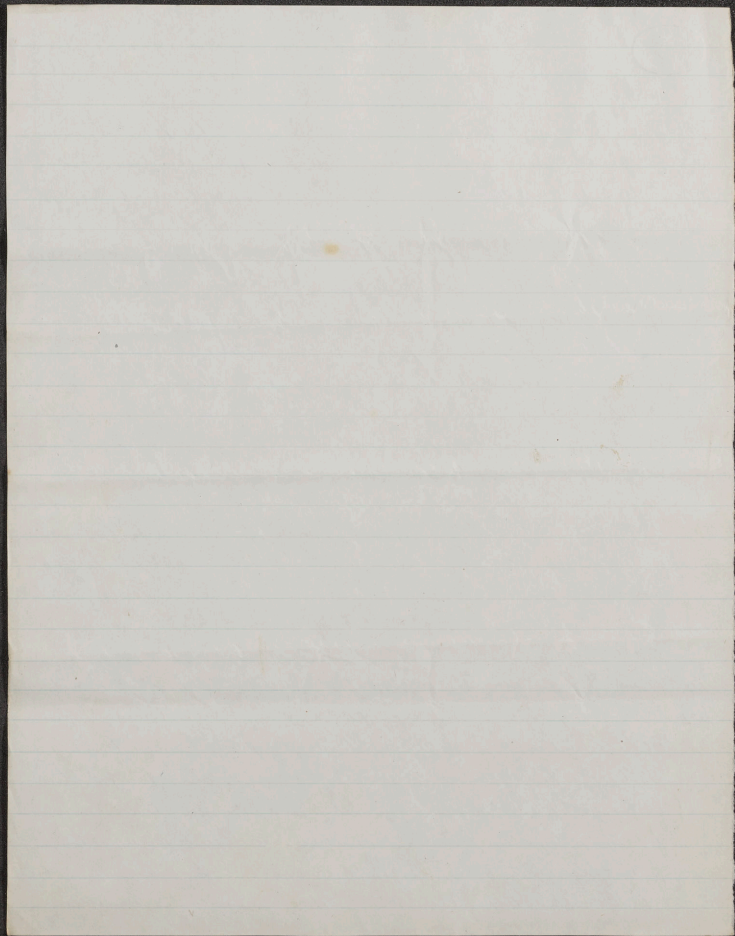
Strictly speaking it is a matter of no moment whatever whether the President or Wallace thought it right or wrong to submit the LeCompton Constitution to the legal voters of Kansas. ^{It is} their legal and inherent right and being so they have a full right to say yes or no not only in part but upon the whole. Else what is self government but an absolute farce. Cannot the Publians in these days of intellectual ^{oligarchy} think more and act as well as the Patriarchs? Has birth or poverty any thing ^{inference} the opposite ^{of} the other. Is not talent as respectable and of as much national and political economical worth in a third as in a mansion? Now whether the Administration or Wallace were willing or not to submit the Kansas Constitution to the popular ratification is a matter of no consequence. "Popular Sovereignty or self government gives that right, hence they have a free and absolute right to exercise their legal privileges all else to the contrary notwithstanding." On the question of accepting the Constitution of Kansas (LeCompton I suppose) or rejecting it depends simply upon this issue. Let the legal voters say whether it shall or shall not be the Constitution. The ^{Editor} says "Having the President in his impregnable position of non intervention" (as to Kansas) (I take it) leaves him ^{as I think} in a bad fix. He has a legal right? He should, he must intervene and fully carry out even to the letter the principle and wealthful efficacy of self government.



The Editor of the Union ^{Remarks,} says, "views of popular sovereignty still as remarkable" Well I do not wonder at it, because they are sound & logical, reasoning from cause & effect & vice versa. They therefore would strike most any intellect as remarkable. Now is this speaking ^{he says} of his, let the mean price of dialectics" He has some ^{acknowledged} virtues there as well as many faults and foibles. He must therefore ^{in the opinion of the Editor} be a bundle of sense and non-sense. Fine and correct practicable theories ^{undeniable & practical} must and will put down the tough case to the exigencies of the Kansas ~~Biography~~ the Editor of the Union to the contrary notwithstanding, Walker's Ex-cogitations are fully and well adapted to Kansas, when her future best welfare and interests are considered and handsomely confuted. Now let me ~~step~~ ^{step} over a little and take up the next essentially. ^{Walker} The Editor in the views he expresses on the subject of popular sovereignty are, in brief, as follows. Sovereignty is exclusively with the people. Sovereignty cannot be delegated, Sovereignty is the only power which can make a constitution, and therefore every constitution to be valid must be accepted by the people at the polls. The Editor seems to have no time or disposition to even try to refute these self evident facts, but simply quits himself in a Lul-a-by, and wisely says we have not enough space to examine each of these theories in detail.



Let him rest in peace and tranquillity. The Editor also says of Watters letter "is a general proposition" I would say a general and practical fact undisproved "No republican citizen will deny his first one. - Namely, that the people are exclusively sovereign". But as a practical question, it is beset by a thousand embarrassments. I consider the embarrassments he names, no obstacles whatever. No one wishes, no one in the exercise of his good sense claims or advocates that ~~the whole or all~~ the people of the Union can or should vote in Kansas: but it is claimed and rightfully so that every actual male resident of the age of 21 with all other legal qualifications has a right to vote at any and all elections in Kansas. It is further more claimed (not asked) that such persons may and must and shall vote upon the reception or rejection of the Constitution as a whole, not by or in piecemeals. The right to vote upon a part presupposes the right to vote upon it ^{as} a whole. Hence the reasoning of the Editor in our opinion is a mere rope of sand. The inhabitants of Kansas are to every ones ~~sorrow~~ ^{can} in a "Chaotic condition" but that ^{can} ^{unavoidably} not take away their right of Sovereignty. Our oldest States sometimes get pretty Chaotical, but the ballot box ^{eventually} settles the matter and all things soon become peaceable & brotherly ^{again}. ^{Shakes hands with brother}. Now all that is asked is - Let any legally framed constitution for Kansas be manfully and willingly submitted to the legal voters of Kansas, and all will be done as with the master



6

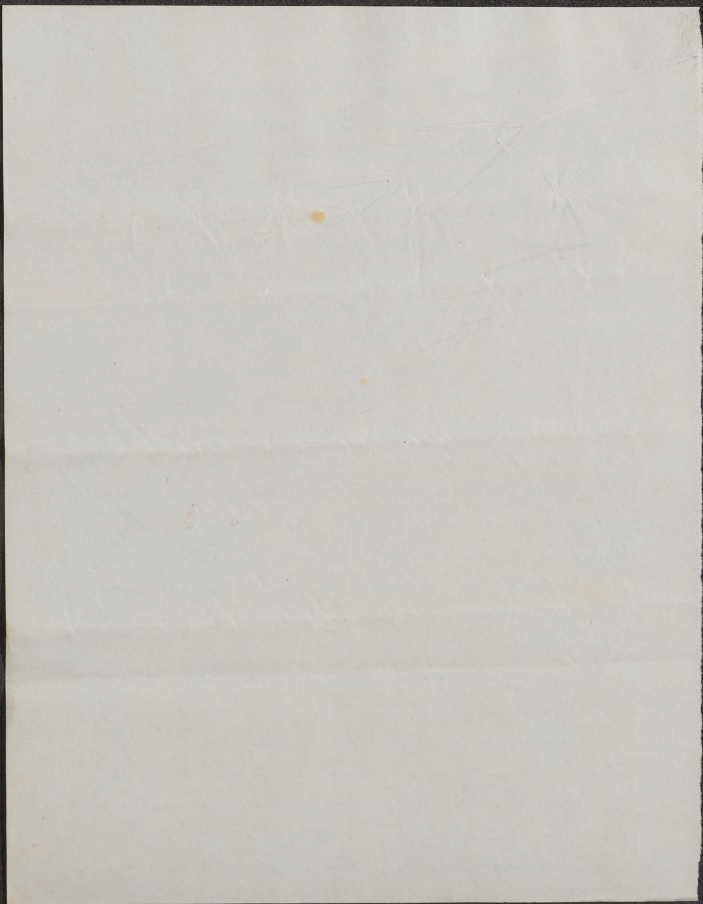
Shocks of the pen. Then with ^{these shanties} order and right, ^{shanties} come out of
 Chaos or confusion, The Slave should not be over-
 -ruling ^{with his offspring} nature should be child be independent, willful
 and constant, disobedient. Nor should either party be
 of the Dont care, wily warty, ^{both shanties} the my shanty order
 but ^{both shanties} work right up to right and right only, Right
 must & will prevail, wrong must and will be suppressed.
 The Editor ^{also} says, "If the inhabitants of a chaotic territory
 are Sovereign, why Judge Douglas demands for an
 "enabling act" from Congress empowering them to form a
 Constitution in the modes ^{it} shall prescribe." Now we
 same person can be so senseless and foolish even to
 suppose much less believe that because there may
 exist in Kansas some little holes some entanglements
 and complication that thereby she loses her right
 to Sovereignty, Husband and Wife have their now
 and then little differences but they are nevertheless
 morally ~~and~~ lawfully husband & wife. If I knock
 a man down in the heat of passion I am amenable
 to the law, but I do not lose thereby my right of
 citizenship nor as an individual composing an unit
 in self government or popular Sovereignty, now take
 matters as they exist in Kansas, chaotic if you
 please the "enabling act" asked for by Douglas
 seems to be and is just what is needed for the best
 future interests of Kansas. And why, because there
 will then be a legal constitution drafted and
 approved or rejected by the ballot box.

Second Meeting

7.

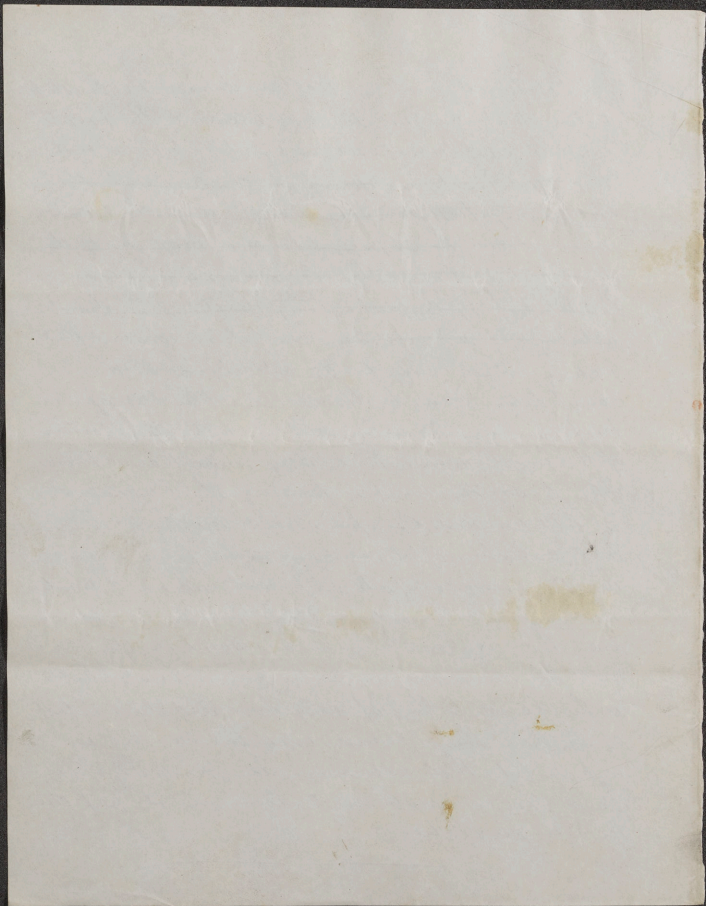
for Kansas

and the sole object, will be accomplished namely. Popular Sovereignty, not in theory but in practice notwithstanding all the ramified and complicated chimerical and supposed objections of the Editors to the contrary. Popular Sovereignty is not a mere name existing only in theory, it can, it must it will be reduced to practice, even in Chaotical Kansas. Now Mr Editor Sovereignty can be delegated in the humble opinion of your humble servant, but only with restrictions or qualifications. Conventions can be lawfully assembled, they can frame Constitutions, alter and amend the same and in their wisdom do what in their judgement ~~and wisdom~~ would be for the best present and future interests of the Sovereignty they represent and yet the whole matter or all their doings must be submitted to the popular vote for ratification or else Popular Sovereignty is a mere Chimera. Not so in mere matters of Legislation. Making laws from time to time for a State after she has a Constitution or framing, ~~making~~ ^{to them} amending a Constitution are two things, and they cannot nor should not in my opinion be connected, nor can I believe that any one can either by fine spun theory or sound reasoning sustain that point.



8.

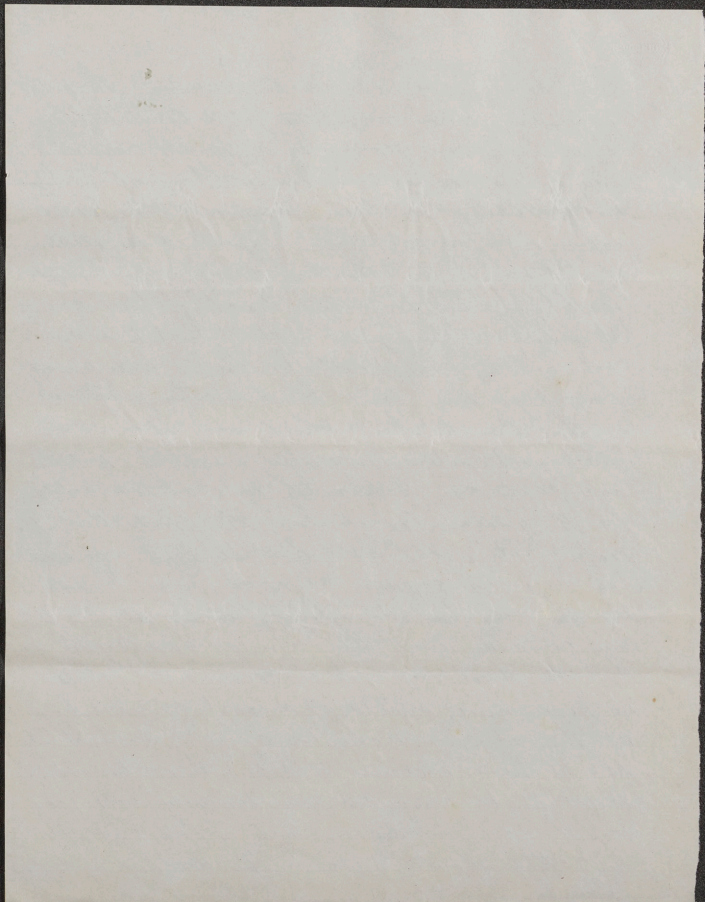
The Editor says Gov. Walker "deems our Constitution valid that has not the full assent of the people" That is just what we in "Egypt" believe ~~with~~ this qualification, ~~namely, to conform with the doctrine of popular sovereignty all newly framed~~ Constitutions must receive the approbation of a majority of the legal voters of any State or Territory when said Constitution by Convention ~~was~~ ^{may} drafted, amendments, alterations, &c not excepted. The Editor reasons that because there may be 99 specifics in a constitution or as he terms them bundles of propositions to submit them to the ratification of the people would be a little more than a farce. This to say the least is paying the Plebeians a left handed Compliment. Are the people not capable of discerning right from wrong? are they not competent to vote upon a whole as well as upon any of its parts? And admitting even that a Constitution has some faults, can it not be amended at some future time? I ask is the Constitution of any Sovereignty perfect? If so then the old and truthful saying is untruthful that all human productions have their merits and demerits, ^{their} ~~its~~ perfections and imperfections.



9

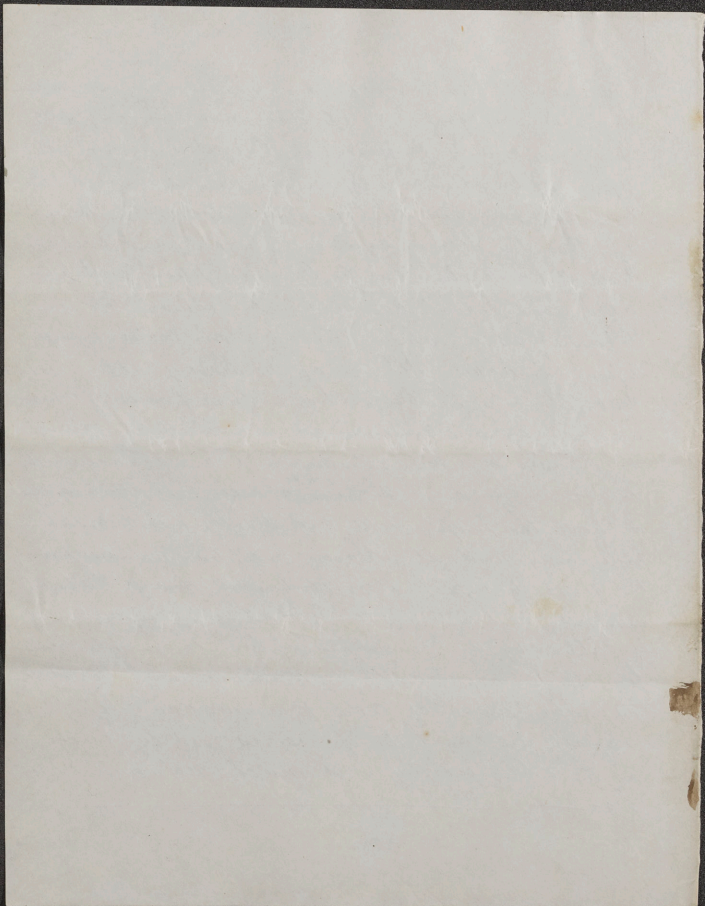
our Walker letter
209.5

The Editor in his further commenting, that the only ^{way} ^{time} for the people to get a Constitution is to have one framed by a legally called ^{Conventions} then to approximate it towards perfection ~~and~~ be picking out by piece ^{by piece} ^{meal} and thus voted upon. He in one breath says that the question of Slavery is the only thing wrong in the ^{then} ^{present} Constitution and the only distracting thing can speedily be settled by submitting that to a direct vote. In the next breath he contradicts himself and says there are a hundred other questions in that Constitution (which may at least be questionable, his theory then would be to take up each one separately and apart and let the ballot box decide, This would keep the people ^{of Kansas} ^{voting} 365 ^{days} at a lick Sundays not excepted. Now does not candor, good common sense and the very best interests of Kansas, require even demand under the Popular Sovereignty law that the whole and not its component parts in piece meal, should at once be voted upon and thus at once receive or reject it. No Constitution should have a clause in it but that when adopted it might be amended even the very next year for the very good reason that if our feet are dirty they should at once be washed —



10.

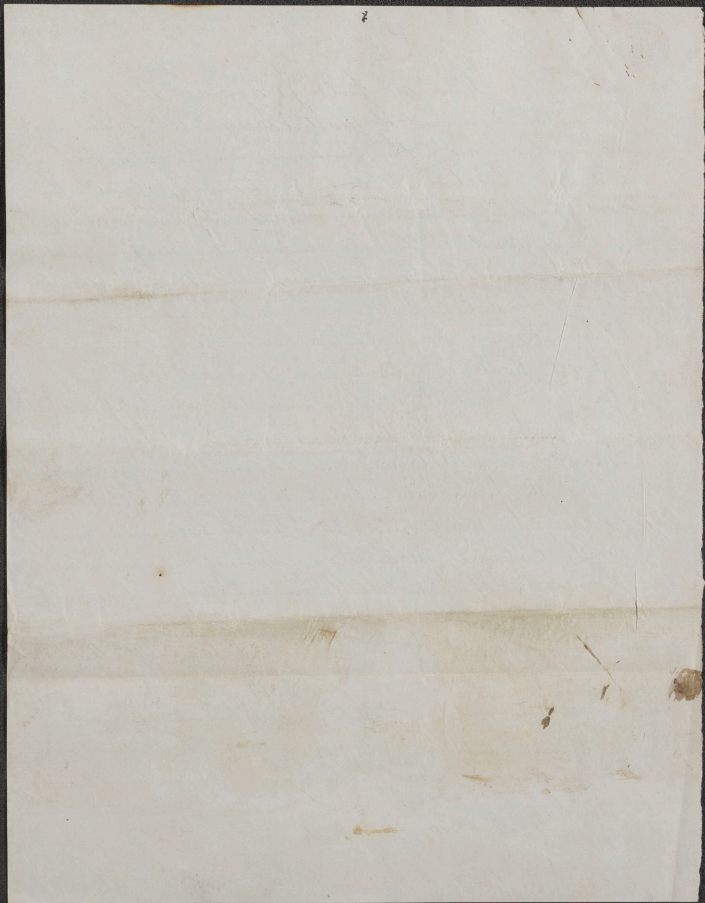
The fact is Mr Editor your reasoning about some things is very good, yet it does not ^{comport} ~~comport~~ with the rights of self government. Cannot a people vote upon a bundle of propositions with as much intelligence as upon one distinct isolated point? Now if it is true that the Slavery question is the only and substantially the distracting one in the Secession Constitution what good reason can be urged against voting upon it as a whole and let each voter express upon his ticket "Slavery or no Slavery" Why not submit it to the ballot box in that form. Of what are you afraid? There is certainly intelligence enough in Kansas to discern, discriminate and act accordingly. There seems in some sections ^{to be} a desire and determination to have the people take and swallow that Constitution hide, hair and all, (Slavery excepted) without having the right to express their sentiments through the ballot box - Is not this radically wrong? and can one wrong be righted by the commission of two? The people here like the Editor cannot sympathize with Gov. Watkins apprehensions of civil war, nor can I express myself in any better if half as good language as the able, worthy and much respected Editor has —



Now we have no feelings against the present administration and it matters very little whether we have or not. The Government is in safe hands and our objections to some particular parts of the administration are mere objections. We cordially approve and willingly endorse the major part of President Buchanan's administration. We believe him to be a sound Democrat, a truly National man. In him there is no North, no South, no East no West but all North, all South, all East all West National and truly loyal. We would nevertheless modestly request that he rigidly adhere to the late Cincinnati Democratic platform, and as one of its principles if not the principle plank is & was that of "Popular Sovereignty" we would be pleased ^{to have} him and his worthy Cabinet, not only as they have endorsed the principles of that Platform but reduce them to practice

Respectfully

C. J. Van Alstine



Jan. 1858

Greencastle
Putnam County
Indiana

Hon S. A. Douglas

I assure you, your
course on the Kansas
questions meet with the
 hearty approval of the
Democracy of this
Congressional District,

Respectfully

W. K. Lawdoo

W. R. Van Hook

Greencastle

July 1858. Ind

Your course meets with
approval

Traverse des Sioux
Nicolllet Co. Minn
R. W. Vanden
July 1858.

Approves of course
of wants speech.

W

2137
Jan. 1858

Traverse des Sioux
Nicolllet County
Minnesota Terr

Hon. S. A. Douglass
Dr. Sir

I take the liberty of asking
the favour of a copy of your
speech on Kansas affairs as
delivered in the Senate. Altho
a Southern man in all my feelings
I believe the principle for
which you contend is the
true one, lying as it does
at the foundation of all
our institutions. Nor with the
capacity of the people for
self government.

Democrat as I am and ever
have been, there are hundreds
in this country of the same

political creed who
agree with you in your
present position.

May I trouble
you by requesting my best
respects to Hon. C. S. Faulkner
of Va. as also to Hon. Mason
& Hunter.

Yours respectfully &c

P. W. Vardon,

B. G. Veroria
Randolph Mass.
Jan. 1858.
Wants speeches 50
in no.

Sent 25-

<sup>2184
cg Jan. 1858</sup>
Randolph Mass
Hon Stephen A Douglas
Send me fifty
of your Speech on
Live Democracy in
Kansas

Respectfully

B G Veroria

Elgin, Ills
R. L. Wheeler
Jan'y 1858.

Trans Pat Off-
Reports for 1856
also the page +
accon-documents

2139
Jan. 1858

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

I would

like to obtain a full set of the
Patent Office Report for 1856 also the
Message and accompanying Documents
I never have had anything of the
kind, and for once I should like
to get them, and if you see fit
to favor me in my request, perhaps
the time may come when I can
return the compliment -

Hoping you will comply with my
request, I remain your most

Humble Servant

R. L. Wheeler

Elgin House Co.

AL

Elgin, Ill.

March 25th

Wrote to Mr. [unclear]

about the [unclear]

Oro City Cal Jan 1858

Dear Sir

I am under many obligations to you for your timely and able speech against the action of the Kansas Constitutional Convention. You were the only man that could successfully resist the injustice of its submission. Party drill may carry it through but it will be like Sampson who accomplished his own destruction in his effort to destroy his enemies. Every free State of this Union will harmonize with your views. I have just returned from the District Court at Auburn and I ascertained that even in this pro Slavery County the supporters of your position were as two to one. I am informed that in our Legislature composed mostly of Democrats the great majority favor your views. We are happy to see that Mr. Bredelock has nobly responded to the demands of honor and justice and openly sided with you.

I am much interested in the action of the present Congress and would be pleased to receive any publications that you may be disposed to send me.

Respectfully
George White
P.M. Oro City

George White
Post W.
Orclity. Calif.
July 1858

Approbatory.
wants doct.