

FF  
Prin  
General Land Office  
Jan. 4th. 1858.

Hon.

S. A. Douglas,  
U.S.

Sir:

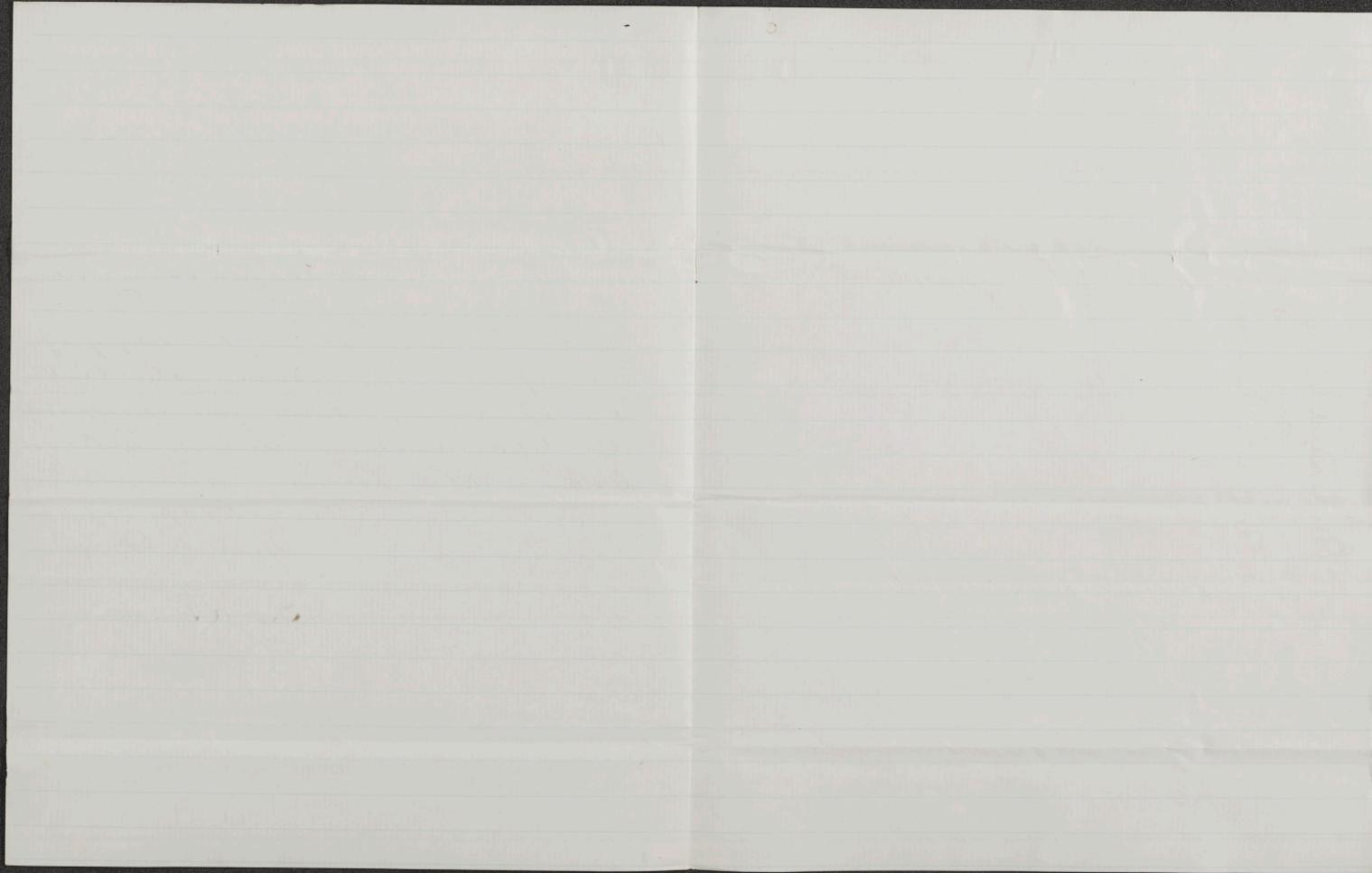
In compliance with your request of 18th ult, I have the honor to enclose, a copy of Preemption Instructions, the book it is presumed, which your correspondent Mr Chamberlain desires, whose letter is also herewith returned.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obt. Servt

The Attn'dy  
Commissioner,

Gail Land Office  
January 4/58  
Thos A. Hendrick

✓<sup>W</sup>



New Hampshire, Bromley, January 4<sup>th</sup> 1858.

Wm S. A. Douglass.

Dear Sir

No apology in these political times, is necessary, in writing to one whose face I know not, but whose character, Scary, & political standing I well know. Of the acts of Congress, and the platform of the democratic party, I have kept respectfully well posted for 10 years past, of the history I am not going to speak; I wish at this time simply to say, that I have no doubt, upon one right, and where you have been the last four years, since the Nebraska bill. The President is just where the Republicans have said he was, one sided & pro slavery in his acts, as developed by Walker, and his <sup>outlets</sup> Message - I hope you will not give up your position, it is the democratic platform, and will be supported by the East, North, & West in every State, and a part of the slave states; the democratic party is only a fifth of the free states, of the President permits in his Kansas, views - At this time

19/20 of the democated in N.H are with  
you, but Should you & the President stick  
to your positions, he with his government  
will add to his strength enough at ~~last~~  
to stand perhaps one to five - The Republies  
God, forgive them, if <sup>they</sup> ask it, a promise letter  
acts in future, will go with you, and a  
party overwhelming in power will spring  
from your position - If the President & his  
friends yield so to do it, if not, let the  
Split come & all will be well - Most of  
our democratic paper say you are right, but  
moderate, but they do not publish your  
Speech, nor Walkers Letter - Forgive Gen Cope  
(a good old democrat,) for the flimsy reply  
to Walker, especially, that part that amuses  
the English nobility, that cant stoop to reply  
to a subordinate officer, and one other portion  
that the President never entertained, or expected  
the opinion, that any portion of the Constitution  
but the Slavery clause should be referred to the  
people &c; thus destroying that he the Pres.  
ever was for the doctrine of popular sovereignty -  
I wish you to send me fifty copies  
of your speech <sup>against the Presidents nomination</sup> in a form for distribution -  
Also all future, debates, speeches, & acts upon  
the subject - Who I am, Hale, Clark  
Tappan, or Craig, will tell you - Send

the Speeches soon. I you will very  
much oblige a Friend. Douglass the  
Democrat.

Samuel Herbert

P.S. Should you see fit to enquire for my  
whereabouts, of those referred to, Please give  
my best wishes to them.

Sam'l. Herbert  
Romney W.M.  
Jan'y 14/58,  
To copies of  
your late speech  
solicited for  
distribution

Methodist Book Concern printing office,  
Cincinnati, January 4, 1858.

Hon. S. A. Douglas,

Dear Sir,

If you have a few spare copies of what has been characterized as your "great speech" recently delivered in the United States, ~~but~~ which you will furnish me, I will supply several of your personal admirers, who desire the speech complete instead of the mutilated extracts which are going the rounds of the press. I congratulate you on the position you now occupy before the civilized world - the most ultra champion for true Democratic principles now living. It has got to come to this - the people either are or are not entitled to the right of self-government. If you prone or intellible to flattery as you have heretofore been to threats, your hold upon the masses will be similar to that exercised by Andrew Jackson, than whom a purer patriot never lived. Unless the Democratic party of which I claim to be a humble member - stand fair and square up to the true principles of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, it will surely not elect the next President of the United States.

B. D. Holcomb.

P. D. Holcombe  
Cincinnati Ohio.  
Augt 4 1858

Wants your Speech &  
Political

W.

Near New Boston,  
Henry Co. Tenn.

Jany. 4th 1858.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglass:

Dear Sir:

I have recently enjoyed the great pleasure of reading your truly great Speech, upon that portion of the President's Message, relating to Kansas and Kansas matters. Permit me, as an humble citizen of this great Republic, and one who has heretofore — or before the Presidential election — differed from you in politics, that I — and with one hosts of others, of all political parties — permit me to say, that I most cordially agree with you, in the position and stand you have there taken, in favor of submitting the whole Constitution of the Territory of Kansas, to the whole of the bona fide citizens of the Territory, for their approval or rejection, before submitting to Congress. Such has always been my own understanding of the organic law, the Kansas-Nebraska bill, as it is generally termed — that the Constitution of a Territory was to be submitted, all and every part of it, to the whole

people - to every bona fide citizen - for ratification or rejection by them - before going to Congress; and that a non-compliance with this - a submitting of only a part of that Constitution to them - would be an infraction of that law; and one too fraught with evil consequences.

The doctrine or principle advocated by the President in his message - or submitting only a single clause of the Constitution to the people of Kansas - the clause regarding slavery - does look to me, not only like a departure from that law, and a palpable violation of it, but like an attempt to force slavery upon the people against the will of the majority - or whether or not, whatever their sentiments or wishes may be! And it must wear this appearance to every candid, well-informed man, whether belonging to the Democratic party or not. I have no right to question the sincerity or motives of the President, upon this subject; but I do very seriously question his policy, in this particular, as I believe that it is fraught with great evils to

Kansas and the country, and calculated to ferment and keep alive that spirit of civil commotion, political agitation and internal war, which has been so ripe and which has threatened the destruction of the Union! - while the submission of the whole Constitution to all the bona fide citizens, would have been in accordance with the "letter and spirit" of the Nebraska bill, and have put an end to all this.

Hence I highly applaud the bold, fearless and correct stand you have taken; and I believe that you will be sustained in your course by the great body of the people. You will have fearful odds to contend against; but what is this compared with that sense of conscious rectitude which you will have to solace your mind? - Permit me, therefore, to say to you, Go on in the noble course upon which you have entered. You have risen above all party influences; and standing sublimely erect ~~above~~ upon the Constitution, the safeguard and Palladium of our liberties, you have a sure foundation beneath you, that will support you through the

great struggle in which you have engaged. The President may frown upon you, and scowl at you; and the servile minions of his power attempt to crush you to "read you out of the party"; and all this; but heed them not, in such attempts. As long as you adhere to the Constitution, and the organic law, you have nothing to fear. Their attempts will but recoil upon themselves.

I stated that I had differed from you in politics. I had always been an "Old Line Whig"; but now, since the party has been broken up by Know-Nothingism, I am more a Democrat than I have ever been — indeed almost one. A Know-Nothing I never could be. My political brethren and friends tried hard to make me one; but could never get me into their councils. I can now look back at the escape I made — when almost every Whig around me was going into the party and rejoice at the escape I made. — I have but little to do with politics any way, beyond casting my vote. — I shall be thankful to receive any public documents you may please to send me. My address at present, is — Dr. John R. Howard, ~~Bonnerville~~, Henry Co. Penn. I am most respectfully, &c. Jno. R. Howard.

P. S. As you are no doubt in favor of the Pacific Railroad, and endorse the views of Mr. Buchanan, in his Message, as I do myself most cordially, and I believe nearly the whole country's, permit me to invite your attention to another great enterprise, which was considerably discussed, some years ago; and seems now to be again attracting the attention of the Government and the public. I mean the interoceanic Ship Canal across some part of the Isthmus between North and South America. I regard this as a work of the greatest importance—not as the Panama Railroad to our own country altogether, but, while we have a greater interest in it than any other nation, it is a work of world-wide interest and importance. England, France, Germany, Spain, &c. all—every commercial nation in the world—have an interest in it. The saving in navigation, in distance, time and expense, would be immense—almost incalculable—had we and the rest of the commercial world, this Canal. Our ships of war, merchantmen, and whaling vessels, as well as those

of other nations, instead of ~~going~~ having to go <sup>as</sup> now all the way of the circuitous rout around the "Protuberance of Brazil," and having to double Cape Horn — having to reef to almost every point of the compass, in making the voyage — including several <sup>(sometimes almost a year!)</sup> months, and a voyage of twelve thousand miles, or upwards — exposed to the burning rays of a tropical sun, and the rigors of an ant-arctic climate, these two extremes — to a long, perilous, expensive voyage — could, by this Canal, halve it, by a few miles, and in a few hours, ~~from the Gulf of Mexico,~~ in the Pacific Ocean, and if there, vice versa. — Such would be its advantages — ample to authorize its construction, whatever might be the expense; and almost any vessel would rather pay a toll of \$500, or \$1000, or perhaps even more, to go through such a canal. I do hope that it may engage the attention of Congress, at the present session; and that the initiatory steps towards it may be taken, in making arrangements to procure the right of way from New Grenada, and towards inaugurating the commencement of the work. If we do not, we may see

anticipated by some other, some European nation; and lose the great advantages which we have it in our power to avail ourselves of! The subject is one of such great and urgent importance that it demands the immediate attention of Congress; and deserves a select Committee to sit upon, and Report, setting forth its importance and advantages, that should be published, and go forth to the country. I trust that such will be the case. — That the enterprise is entirely feasible, has been shown by Commodore Pauleding, who, you no doubt are aware of, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, examined the rout along the Panama Railroad, and has returned or made a most favorable Report. It would be a good plan, to introduce the subject into Congress, and call their attention to it, to make a call upon the Secy. of the Navy for the information communicated to him, or the Department, to be laid before that honorable body. — I could say much more about this Canal, but this is perhaps sufficient. I beg that you will accept of these hints as suggestions,

made to you, in the spirit of that  
deference and respect due to your  
station, as a member of one of  
the most important and august  
political bodies in the world, and  
to your transcendent abilities and  
great experience as a statesman, by  
~~your~~ an humble citizen of this  
great Republic — a mere looker-on  
upon the arena of political discus-  
sion and public affairs. — And if  
not deemed expedient or wise to take  
up the subject now, I trust at the  
present Congress, I trust that it  
will engage your attention here-  
after, at some future Congress.  
But, "The sooner the better," when  
all things are taken into consid-  
eration. — From the notices I  
have seen in the papers of your  
highly estimable lady, please ten-  
der to her my best respects and high-  
est regards, which I trust will be re-  
ceived by her, although from a stran-  
ger, who may never see her or yourself  
on earth. — Again, let me repeat that  
I shall be truly grateful for any thing  
you may send me, in the way of public  
documents — addressed to Dr. John R.  
Howard, New Boston, Henry Co. Penn.

J.W. Hunter

New York

Jan'y 4. 1858.

would feel honored  
by having his name  
put upon your list -

2279

New York Lawyer<sup>58</sup>

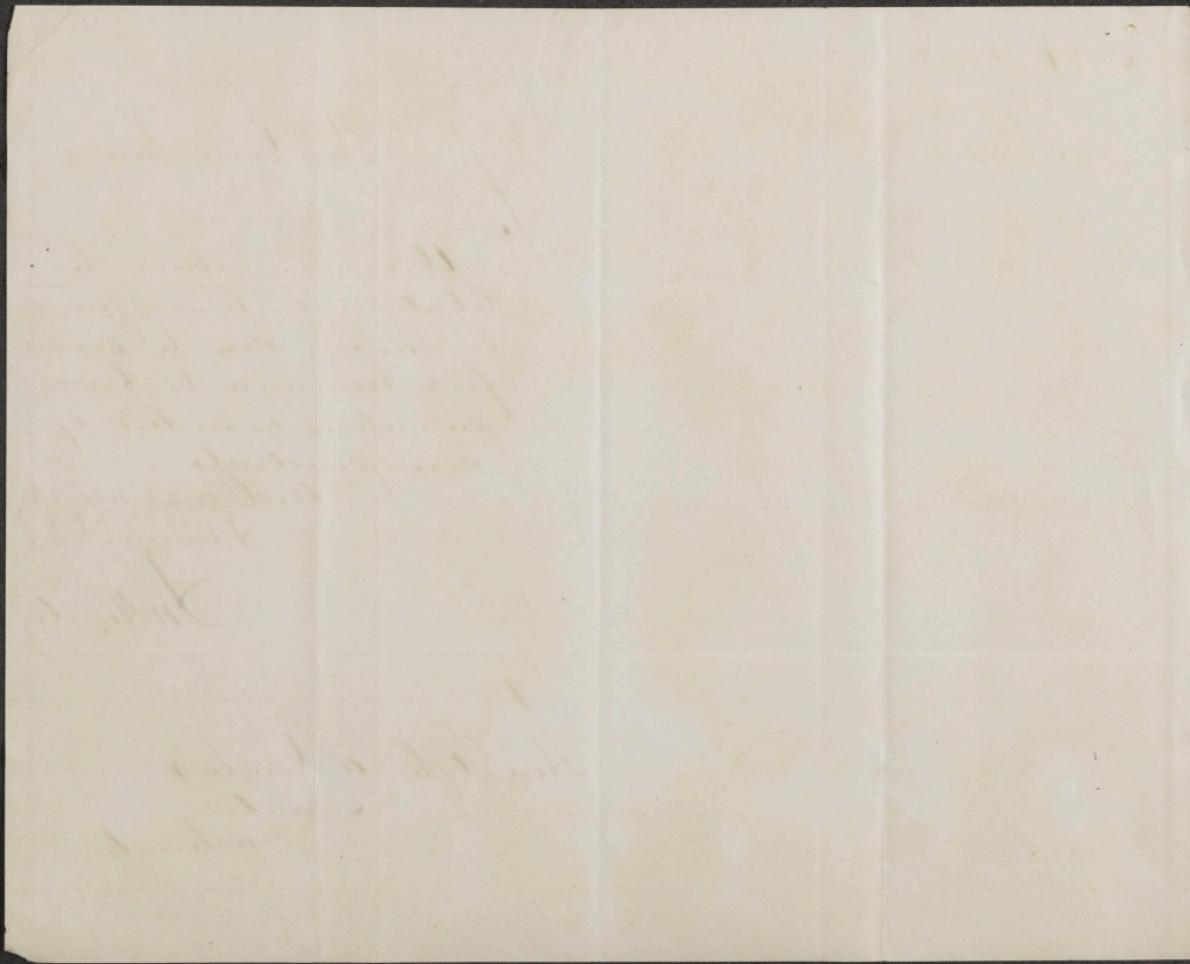
for

Will you excuse the  
liberty of an honest friend  
in saying that he would  
feel honored by being  
put upon your list of  
correspondents -

With great respect  
Freeman Young

J.W. Hunter

Hon. Stephen A. Douglass  
Senator  
Washington



Murphyboro Jackson Co.  
Illinois Aug. 4. 1858

Gen. S. A. Douglas  
Washington City D.C.

Dear Sir -

There is a tract of land in this County, consisting of part of the following Sections, (15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 27 & 28. in Town-  
Mr. 9. South, Range 3 West, and embraced in  
Survey No. 449. which was set apart and  
reserved for the Kaskaskia Indians and  
therefore none of the said lands are subject  
to prevention or sale. A number of years  
since one Robert Worthen made a large farm  
on said lands to wit: on Sections 15, 16, 17, 21, 22,  
and built thereon a dwelling house and other  
buildings and resided thereon till the time  
of his death, in the year 1852, and died  
leaving his Widow Rebecca Worthen in possession  
of the same. Since that time one Daniel  
Worthen a relative of the deceased, the wid-  
ow, confiding in him as she says, managed  
to get her off of it and got the possession  
of it himself. He claims to have paid  
her for it. She says not. Be this as it may,  
many people think not.

Some time since I wrote to the Commissioner  
of the General Land Office, on behalf  
of the said Rebecca Norton, to know  
in what manner she would have to proceed  
to get a title for that portion of it on  
which her improvement is situated. The  
Commissioner informed her that it could  
only be done, by "act of Congress authorizing  
the sale of the land.

She is informed that said Daniel Norton  
will make an application to Congress this  
winter to have an act passed authorizing  
him to purchase said land at a fixed price.  
She asks your aid to prevent this, And  
further, that if such act could be passed in  
favor of any individual, that she may be auth-  
orized to purchase Sections 15, 16, 17, 21 & 22,  
that part on which her improvement is situated.

In the event that such special act can  
not be passed in her favor, that the lands  
be brought into market, and sold to the  
highest bidder, but she thinks she ought  
to be permitted to purchase that part of  
said lands on which her said farm and  
improvements are. Your attention to this  
will confer a favor on the Widow, and will  
be doing no more than justice to her, and

that which a majority of the people acquainted  
with the whole matter believe to be  
right. It being a kind of family diffi-  
culty, people do not like to take part  
in it,

Yours Respectfully  
A. M. Jenkins

P.S.

The petition of Rebecca Norton  
etc. etc. will be sent by next mail  
Jenkins

Murphyboro,  
Jackson Co. Ills  
January 4/54.  
A. W. Jenkins

Request your  
attention to a contested  
claim for certain  
lands in Ills —

Pontiac Livingston Co Illinois  
January 4<sup>th</sup> 1838

Dear Sir I am well aware  
that you are that you are often called on  
for favours in the way of documents but as  
this is the first time that I have done so. I  
think the apology sufficient when I say that I  
have always since Jacksons first election been  
an advocate of the democratic Party, and are still.  
our County gave a Majority for Government of 105  
that was principally owing to a small paper started  
in Pontiac called the Livingston County News.

Since the Presidential Election I have taken  
an interest in the paper & changed the politics &  
at the November election I was elected County  
Judge by a majority of 74 votes which was about  
the average democratic Majority of the County &  
give my respects to Genl Joe Lane M.C. from  
Oregon I had the pleasure of his acquaintance  
whilst in California Near Shasta City since which  
time I have not seen him

Henry Jones

Hon Stephen A Douglass

H. Jones  
Pontiac Ilv  
Jan. 4/37.

Wants Document

Portage City

Wis. - Janry 4/158  
A.C. Fletcher  
Wants to be placed  
on up document list.

Portage City Wis  
Jan 4<sup>th</sup> 1858

Dear Dr. A. Douglas Sir

I should be pleased to have  
you put my name on  
your list of documents  
as our Senators are both  
Repullicans, I do not feel  
like asking any favors  
from them, I feel a deep  
interest in the struggle  
that is now going on in  
Congress, and am gratified  
that your cause is approved  
by the Democracy of this State  
but to fence except books, if you  
continue to work for making  
Wisconsin a free State you certainly  
will be rewarded by the

American people

July 9<sup>th</sup> 1891

I am  
Very respectfully  
Yours truly at Akron

A. C. Fletcher

P.S. I should not trouble  
you if my old friend  
Your Daddy had been  
there

Charlestown Mass. Jan'y 4<sup>th</sup>/58

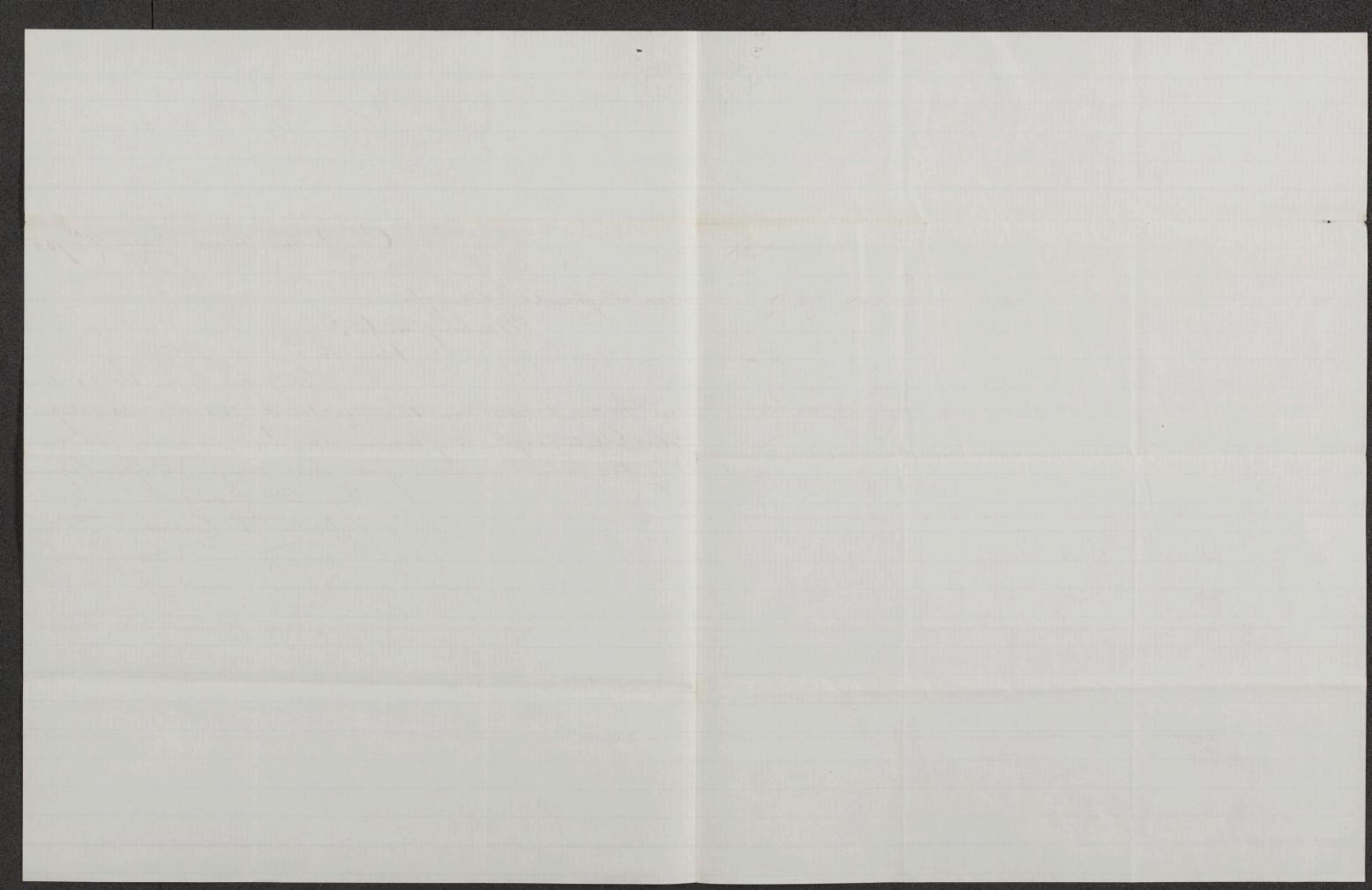
Hon Stephen A Douglas  
Washington D.C.  
Dear Sir.

Will you have the goodness to send me in the enclose addres envelope your Autograph to place in my list, and in the granting the favor request you will confer a favor upon

Your Obe Servt  
Sylvester W. Larrie

Gothard W. Lamie  
Charlestown Mass  
Aug 4 1858

Barts Autograph  
sent sheep



Sauersham Augt 4<sup>th</sup> 1857  
Hon. A. Douglass  
dear Sir

As the friends of the  
Hon. Wm. Bigler, is spreading his Speech  
in reply to you, broad cast over this  
County, and none of yours. I take  
the liberty of addressing this note  
to you asking you to be kind enough  
to forward a few copies of yours  
as what I have seen of it meets my  
views of what is Democracy. But  
right in the Kansas Debates  
Your friend here are numerous  
and influential. Once a few  
Copies of your Speech may favor  
your future prospects at least  
some. Most Respectfully an  
unknowing friend

any Document you  
see fit to send, direct  
to Sauersham Clarendon

P.D.

R D Lawson  
Lawsonham Rd,  
Jan'y 4/58  
A few copies  
desired for distri-  
bution

Goshen, Ind  
January 4<sup>th</sup>/58.  
R. Lowry,  
Political-

Goshen, Ind, Jan 4<sup>th</sup>/58

My Dear Sir:

Knowing you must be over-run with letters I have abstained writing, but, whatever may be the result at our State Convention, I send you our local paper and enclose herewith a copy of the resolutions of our county convention to show you we are all right here.

I have written to friends in nearly all parts of the state, and a majority of the county conventions that have expressed themselves, as near as I can learn, are with us. I have strong hopes, even under all the adverse circumstances, of our State convention sustaining your course, but if overborne, many of us will at least die in the last ditch.

Hon S. J. Douglas

R. Lowry

Sh. & L. <sup>①</sup>  
W. & P.

grows <sup>①</sup>

estates <sup>②</sup>

David M<sup>r</sup> G<sub>r</sub>e<sub>r</sub>w

Alexandria, Ohio  
July 11. 1858,

Want speech  
Gov. Walker's letter  
Cincinnati &  
Phil<sup>a</sup> platform

New Alexandria Jefferson Co. Ohio  
July 4. 1858

Dear Sir

I take the liberty to drop you a few lines for the purpose of asking a favor of you.  
I desire you to send me your speech in Pamphlet form if you would send me one copy I can circulate them to good advantage.

Please send me Gov. Walker's letter of Resignation in Pamphlet form if you can obtain one.  
I wish also that you would send me the Cincinnati Platform that represents the Democratic, Eastern and the Republican Platform in Pamphlet form if you can't obtain the two Platforms for me.  
Please write me and let me know where I can procure them.

we are almost universally  
Democrats here and the  
Republicans are few and they  
hurry us far enough over  
to them we only want the  
two Platforms to show who has  
come over

The Popular Government doctrine  
as explained to you is the  
position we always advocated  
and do not intend to  
depart from it at least  
until we are convinced that  
it is wrong

any other Document of  
importance send me  
I have been corresponding  
with Mr. H. W. Hinsdale but cannot find  
how he stands on this great question  
therefore I have taken the liberty  
to write to you

Very truly yours  
Hon. W. C. L. Sanders  
Senate No. 8. David W. Green

If you answer please direct to  
J. J. McGearty  
Care of Baeth & Kent  
Folwer Div

Boston January 4, 1888

Hon' G. A. Douglas

Dear Sir:

The first candidate

for President I ever voted for was Mr. Bu-  
shnan, I want to vote for you for my  
next, not because I have any particular love  
for you as an individual but because I  
believe you to be the best living representa-  
tive of the Democracy in the United  
States. In the position you have taken on  
the Kansas question, except those who hold  
position under the administration, I believe.

that the whole party in the State are with you since his election, and honestly believe he  
and would if called on back you up, as far as  
you have gone, if a fair expression of their  
feelings could be had. But you know that this

is a hard thing to accomplish, owing to the  
fact that generally the anti political men  
who hold the office, and due the power.  
I don't like the aspect of affairs, and with  
every other good Democrat am anxious to  
know what a step is in the party if possible  
And if it must come let those who have  
caused the world hear it.

Mr B— was elected on the principle  
laid down by you in the K'N'B bill.  
on that the Cincinnati platform was  
made, and that has the accepted doctrine  
of the once free party as our last election  
and consequently the expressed will of the  
people of the whole people of the country.  
I was a stranger from the Buchanan  
and in all our State I went by campaign

B— no man more when he said he was no  
longer James Buchanan, B'D & C & C  
Cincinnati Platform.

If you will stand firm in the position  
you have taken, I judge from the conversations  
I hear every day, the State of Ohio will give  
you a longer vote than it has ever given  
any other man Candidate for President.  
I want to you to know if it would do any  
good to have a meeting of the whole  
Democracy provided their endorsement  
of your position can be obtained, if so write  
me to that effect, and I promise you  
every Democratic vote in our city ex-  
cept the office holders. Mr Pugh, Mr  
Brownback Mr Penickton Mr St Cott  
Mr Lew Campbell or Mr Studamore  
can tell you who I am; or Mr Robt  
have a famous speech with minor Democrat  
and friends to vote for you for the next President  
With respects S D C Grayson

S. J. McGroarty  
Toledo Ohio  
August 1858.

Political desmis  
an answer

60

W. R. Mead.

New Oregon Co.

Iowa  
Jan. 4 1858

Few species,  
warmed

New Oregon Howard  
county Iowa  
Jan'y 4. 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir

Can you send  
me a few copies  
of your speech on  
the Kansas question?

And oblige  
Very truly yours  
W. R. Mead

Dear Mr. & Mrs. W.  
Dear Mr. & Mrs. W.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. W.  
Dear Mr. & Mrs. W.  
Dear Mr. & Mrs. W.

White Past. P. J.  
Clarke Co. Va  
Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> 1858.

Hon. Stephen A. Douglas  
My dear Sir -

I am anxious to  
procure a copy of your speech  
delivered in the Senate upon that  
portion of the Presidents message  
relating to Kansas affairs. I have as  
yet been unable to do so. and therefore  
take the liberty of requesting that  
you will enclose me to my address  
I am Sir

Respectfully yours  
Wm F. Meade.

Wm F. Meade

White Post, Va.  
July 4, 1858.

Speech



Baltimore Jan 4<sup>th</sup> 1858  
Hon S Douglass  
Dear Sir

You will  
greatly favor me by sending  
to my address a copy of your  
speech on the subject of  
Kansas

Very Respectfully  
George Monymann  
86 35 West Broadway

Baltimore  
Jan'y 4 1858  
Geo. Merriman.

Wants speech.

W. A. Kenney  
For Dodge<sup>tonal</sup>  
Jan. 4/58.

wishes to consult  
your opinion on  
the swamp land  
question

Post Drps Jan 4<sup>th</sup>/58

How it is developed in  
if you will not  
consider it an intrusion I  
would like your opinion  
on a matter in which I feel  
somewhat interested which is  
this will the several states  
where the swamp lands  
have been duly selected &  
returned receive any thing  
from the government for  
these lands except provisions to  
patenting of said swamps  
lands to the state & put  
some time last winter I  
as County Judge of Webster  
County State of Iowa sent  
the returns of the said sw-  
amps lands of this county  
to Hendricks the Commisioner

By our Abner Taylor whom  
I presume you recollect  
& Mr Hendricks inform him  
that the report would be  
made some time in February  
last which has not yet been  
done now I would like if  
it can be done to have said  
report made soon & any  
thing you can do in the  
matter will be duly appreciated  
by the Citizens of this county  
I wish you to write to me  
as soon as you recieve this  
also write to the Hon L D  
Perry now County Judge  
what your opinion is upon  
the questions here asked

Very truly yours

William Moore  
Ex Compt of  
Watauga County

the ~~Principles~~ you have  
ever held & now hold on  
the Kansas question is  
supported by a large majority  
of the Democracy of  
Iowa & are now making  
the Republican party acknowledge  
that they even  
the fundamental Principle  
of the said Kansas &  
Nebraska Bill hoping  
that you may copy your  
point

I remain for  
Politically

W. Moore

Office Hotel International  
San Francisco

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1858

Hon. Mr. A. Douglas

U.S. Senator

City of Washington

Dear Sir

Will you do me  
the favor to place my name on  
your List of Correspondents, and  
send me such Pub Documents as  
you may be sending out from  
time - to time -

Respectfully yours

Mr. F. Nicholson

Mr. A. J. Nicholson

San Francisco

Cal. Jan 14/53,

Wants to

be placed on list  
for Publisher.

L Odell  
Crybeville  
Jan'y 4/58. NY  
Politicle

Congratulatz you on  
the noble position you  
have taken.

Ogdenville, N.Y.  
January 4, 1858  
Hon S. J. Douglas

Although not  
enjoying the pleasure of a  
personal acquaintance, I yet,  
as a citizen, feeling a lively  
interest in the prosperity of our  
common country, and in the  
development of political truth,  
take the liberty of congratulating  
you upon the noble position you  
have taken upon the issues at  
present pending in Kansas.

I hear but one opinion expressed  
in this section of country upon the  
subject, and that a decided  
approval of the doctrine that  
the people of the Territory should  
be protected in passing upon  
every section of their Constitution.

for themselves, without hindrance  
or molestation, or interference  
from any quarter — Having  
taken our early position in favor  
of this doctrine; And contended  
for it through the entire struggle  
in which it has been made an  
issue, I had hoped that the  
Contest was ended, and that Kansas  
would become a State under the free  
votation of her citizens without further  
trouble — In common then with the  
united voice of our people, I cannot  
too strongly express the surprise I have  
felt at the gross attempt that has  
recently been made to defeat the  
popular will, and to which the Senator  
has allowed himself to become a  
party. — Go on Sir, in the good work  
you have undertaken, and the people will  
help up & strengthen your hands for the fight.  
I leave the longer to decide  
never to forsake you — L. Octavo

Columbus May 6<sup>th</sup> - 1858

My Dear Sir,

We are having here a exciting time here. A strenuous effort has been made to defeat the Loyalists & Distractors. The influence of Federal Office Holders, Officers seekers, congressional friends & who not has been enlisted to stifle an expression of feeling in reference to the Secession cause. Most of the Members are new and are sensitive about precipitately any action that may tend to generate a division. Judge Rankin of this county was pro-poor with a Resolutio and intended to offer it this morning - but a few hours had been spent at breakfast it was decided to withdraw the Resolution until a few hours could be spared tomorrow night. The members of the Aluminstation see their only chance is in standing off - for it is evident that when brought to a vote there are not over 3 or 4 Federalists even on the lower side. Every man is for Douglas & the members represent the popular opinion to be strong in your favor. An outcome will take place where the Freeholders comes up before the Senate to admit the under the Secession Constitution. Even the timid members say that when that point is reached they will speak out.

Another cause has its influence - a man presents the High has a compromise to bring forward in the Senate and his friends fear that the Distractors may embarrass him & therefore prefer to wait a few

deep interest here from him. I have him despatched to hear  
the declaration of Mr. W. H. Lewis & Brothers - the former speakers, particularly  
Hedman is a man who always contracts with them for some finished  
or on. It looks as though they have sold out and are ready to be  
transferred to the next highest bidder. But I fear you will see all  
but I shall have some good developments for you when I return.

Be honest

Yours truly,

There -  
J. A. Douglas

18 B. Payne

P.S. // Your elected Speaker is an out-and-out  
friend of yours - and the Officers of the Legislature are for you  
without an exception. //

✓ Burdette D  
✓ P. H. Dickey  
✓ G. C. M  
✓ Joseph C. M  
✓ Ladd D

Columbus O.  
January 4 1858,  
H. B. Payne  
Political



2296  
Alder Centre Erie Co. N.Y.  
4 Janry 58.  
Wm J. Perry. P.M.  
Approved & Course

For Stephen & Langley

See just  
at this time as you are being  
arraigned by the New York press  
& other journals as being factors in  
the position you have taken in  
defining the principles of the Cin-  
cinnati Platform & the rights of  
the People of Kansas to the prin-  
ciples of Popular Sovereignty, in  
forming their Constitution & Settle-  
ment of all local questions free  
from all outside or inside pressure  
Government Official & Expedient  
tricks on the part of the Administration  
to hide around the responsibility  
which it owes to the Govt of the  
nation to settle this question upon  
the broad National ground which  
has been marked out by your  
past & present policy, the principle  
upon which all states can be admis-

without creating just the kind of  
disturbance in the Dem party both  
Now if you have power enough  
to plant this principle fairly & squarely  
on the National Dem Party it will  
be sustained & you though a Bu  
or buoBumen be your political pole  
will stand the most popular with  
the Mass of the People & so far as I  
am posted on the expusion of Dem  
of every hue you will be sustained  
I voted for Cohen Buon. & P. P. Pine  
Buckcomme I never had any foul  
soil sentiments but now is the  
time is to be made on this question  
and then is to be a breach in the Dem  
Party I am by the principle of  
Hopton A Douglop

Calden last Friday M<sup>r</sup>. J. Avery Esq.  
Linc N.Y.

I dont for g New York News & I said to the  
expusion of Dem he did not accid with this view

Norfolk Va January 14<sup>th</sup> 1859.

Sir,

You will confer a great favor  
by sending me a copy of your speech

I have the honor to be,  
Very respectfully

Your ob<sup>r</sup> dr<sup>r</sup>.

William Pierson

(Formerly of Chicago, and  
one of your ardent admirers)

Hon. Stephen A. Douglass  
U.S. Senator from Illinois

Wm. Pieron

Norfolk Va.

Jan'y 4. 1858.

Speech

