

Honry, Marshall Co Ills Jan 5th /58
Respectia, Senator Douglass

I do not know that you will
have time to read my small contribution, But what I
desire to say to you is Stand firm in the just position you
you have taken in reference to the Kansas Question; and I
and every Democrat in this small City, will stand with
you or with you fall

Yours with respect

Edwin S. Jones

Hon S. A. Douglass

Henry. Ellis,
Jan'y 5th / 58.

Edwin S. Jones.

Compliments

Amhurst College, Jan 5th
Mr Douglas.

Will you be so kind
as to send me a copy of your
late speech.

R. B. Holloyer

Hon S. A. Douglas,

Amherst College
July 5, 1858.

R. B. Kellogg.

Wants speech.

Galesburg Jan 5th 1858
J. W. Sheahan
Dear Sir

We want a change
of Post Masters at North Prairie
or Rio in this County. The present
incumbent is a blatant Aboli-
tionist, while the township is
the strongest Democratic township
in the County.

I have consulted the leading
Democrats in the place, and they
want Larkin Robinson appointed.
He is one of the oldest settlers there,
a good farmer, a man of integrity,
and has always been a consistent
Democrat.

Truly

Yours

L. B. Sampson
J. M. Galesburg

E. L. Sampson
Salem, Dec.
Jan. 5 / 58

Wants an
abolition P.M.
removed

wants Larkin
Robinson, appointed

is it done —

James W. McCarriker
Moundsville
Jan'y 5/58. Va
few speeches

2349

Moundsville, Marshall County, Virginia
January 3rd 1858

Hon Stephen A. Douglas

Dear Sir if the press of public duties
permits, - and it should suit your
inclinations, I would be very happy
to receive from you a few copies
of your late speech on the Kansas
matter, and also any remarks of
yours that ^{are} published upon that
subject, or any other, during the
present session.

Please Address James W. McCarriker
Moundsville Virginia should you
favor me with any request.

Respectfully Yours in the bonds of
the Democratic faith of which you
are the able exponent.

Hon. S. A. Douglas James W. McCarriker

Geo. B. Merwin
Cleveland
Ohio
Jan'y 5/58.
a speech

2350
Cleveland, Jan'y 5, 1858.

Senator,

I once had the pleasure
of an introduction to you at Co-
lumbus, -

For the last four years
I have been an Exile in Chile,
as U.S. Consul for Valparaiso,
While there, I noticed in our
American papers the unwholesome
attempt of some three thousand
of the priest-hood of this Country
audaciously attempting to halo
beat and frown down a
noble defender of the rights
of the American people and
the glorious Constitution of
these United States -

In my opinion, the Clericals
should have come to Son the

America first, and then see
the effect produced by the all
powerful influence of Priestcraft,
before they undertake to dictate
opinions to the free and enlightened
people of this country, —

Their onset was strong, but
the shock broke harmless on the
great Democratic heart of the
Nation, — and I hope to God
you will ever cry aloud and
spare not — let it hit who or
where it will.

Vox populi vox Dei, must
ever remain the immutable
law of this goodly heritage, —
Senator, I am not exactly
one of your constituents, but
I hope you will allow me
to be one of your friends.

I should be pleased to
receive from you such docu-
ments and speeches during

your sessions, as you may think
will be instructive and inter-
esting to me —

With great respect
I have the honor to be
Your obt. Servt.

Geo B Merwin

Hon. S. A. Douglas
U. S. Senator
Washington City.

Batavia
 Kane Co. Ills.
 Jan'y 25th 1858
 A. W. Moore, Pm.
 Wants democratic
 documents for
 distribution
 { sent 12 speeches

Batavia Kane Co. Ills.
 Jan'y 27th 1858
 Hon. S. A. Douglas,
 Dear Sir,
 If you
 have on hand any printed
 documents which will aid
 in disseminating democratic
 principles in this part of the
 country, and will forward
 them to me, I shall be most
 happy to distribute them.
 Yours very Respn
 A. W. Moore Pm.

Morton Morris
of the Farm Journal
Phila. Pa

Jan 5/58.

Speech

Office of the Farm Journal,
N. E. CORNER SEVENTH AND MARKET STREETS.

Philadelphia, 1 mo. 5 1858

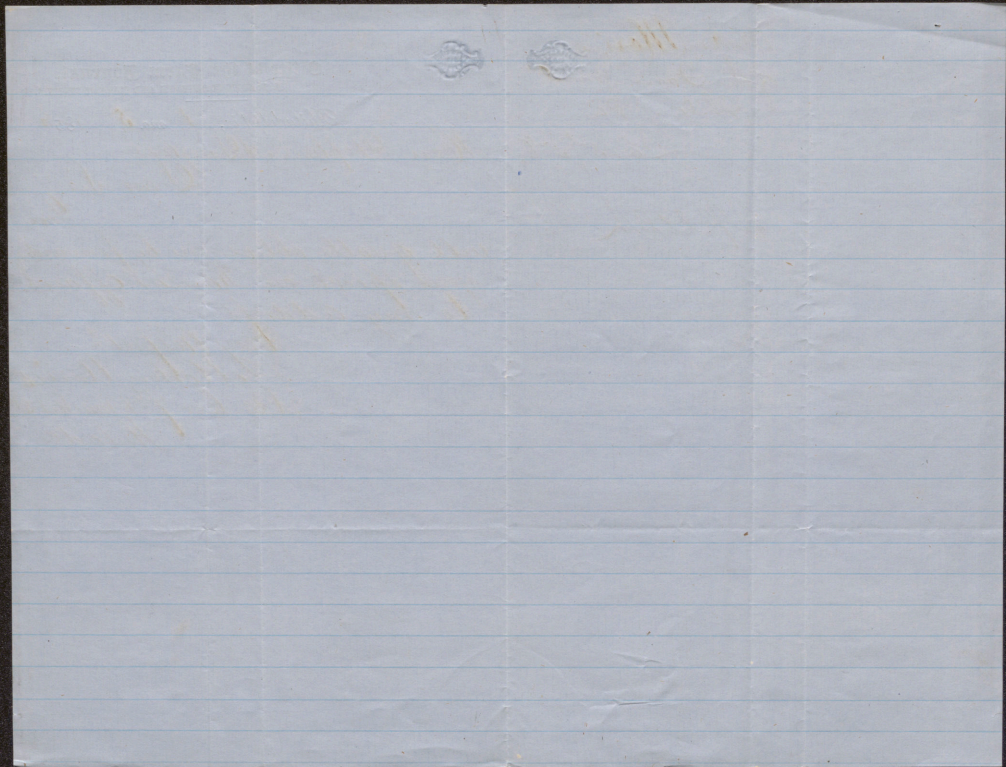
Hon Stephen A Douglass

Dear Sir

You
will greatly oblige me by forwarding
your speech on Kansas affairs
to my address;

Very Respect^{ly}

Morton Morris
N.E. Cor^r 7th & Market St^s
Phila Pa



Laurenceville, N.J.
Jan'y 5th 1868.
C. Wm. Napaw, Jr.

4 days ago we
elected an Honorary
member of Philo-
mathesian Society
& wishes to place
you on the list

Wm. S. A. Douglas
Jr

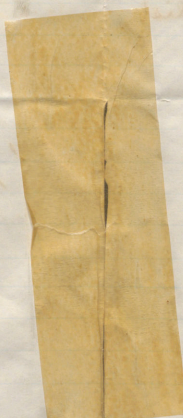
2353
Laurenceville, N.J.
Jan'y 5th 1868

At the last regular meeting
of the Philomathean Society of the Laurenceville
Classical and Commercial High School,
you were elected an Honorary Member of
that body. Said Society is formed for
the cultivation of our mental capacities
and advancement in literature.

We would feel greatly com-
plimented if you would allow us to place your
name on our List of Honorary Members.

Very Respectfully Yours
By order of the Society, C. W. Nassau to
Car. also

Handwritten text in cursive script, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is faint and difficult to decipher but appears to be a letter or a list of items.



Wash. D.C.

January 5th. 1850.

Sir,

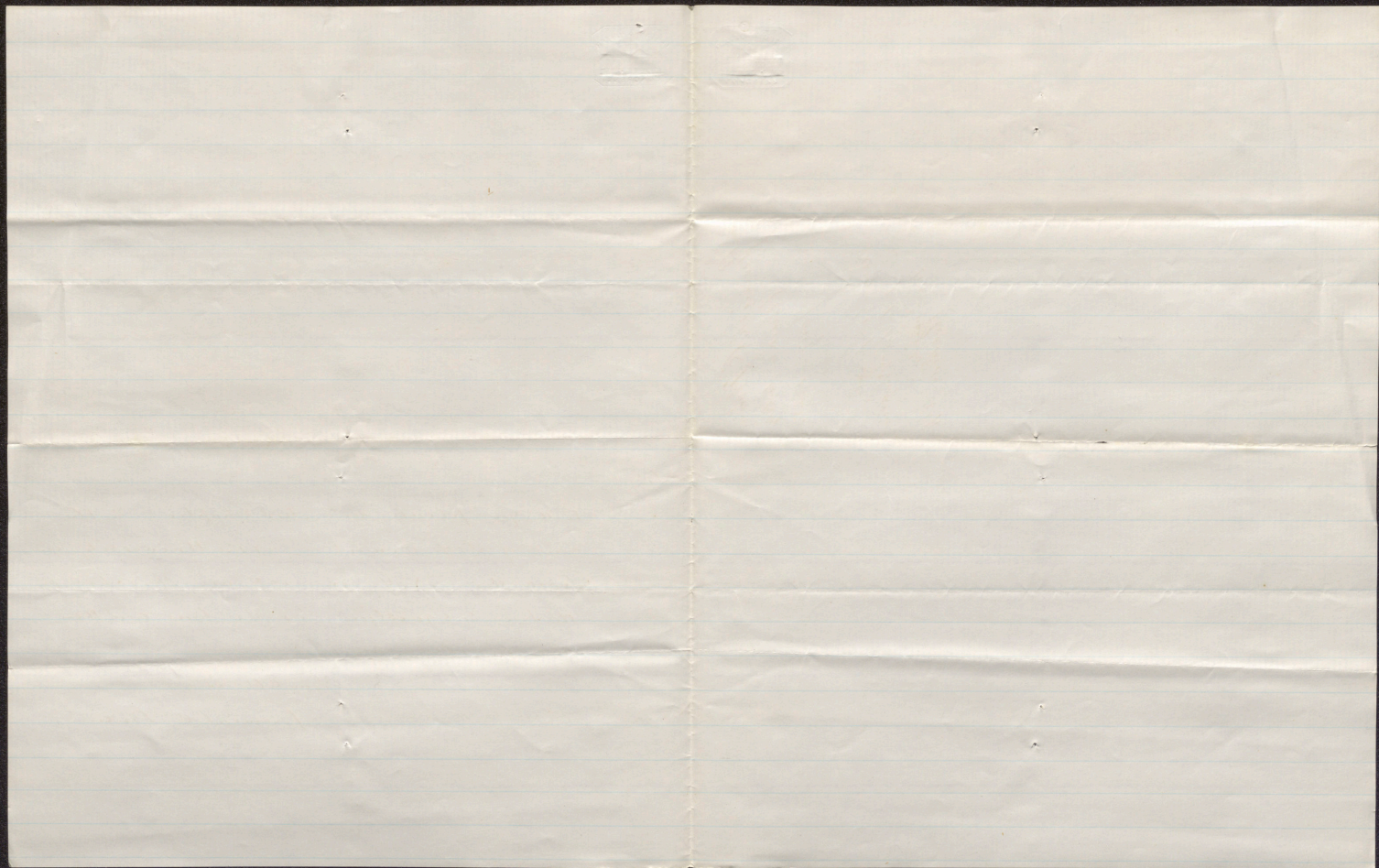
Will you please send Mrs Chaplin - to the
care of Prof. Conant - at the University in
Rochester, N.Y - one of your Speeches on
the Kansas question, as she has written
me for that object.

Your Obedt. St.

Jeremiah O'Brien

Jeremiah O'Brien
Washington City
Jan 7 5. 1868,

Went, Speech
Sent to Mrs. Chaplin
- University
Rochester N.Y.



Wm de Grace Hayford Co.

Maryland

January 5. 1858

To the Hon. Judge Douglass
United States Senate
Washington D C

May I ask you to send
me a copy your printed Speech on
the Kansas issue now before Congress
I am sir very respectfully your obt servant
John H. Child

John W. O'Neill,
Keene & Delancey
and,
Jan'y 5, 1858,
Speech

Lebanon Jan 5th 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas.

Sir

I wish to detain your attention a moment for the purpose of asking a slight favor. It is with reference to the appointment of my son as Cadet. If I have not been misinformed there is a vacancy now - and as I have long been waiting for this to occur, it would be an inexpressible gratification for me to obtain the appointment. I am not particular whether he enters the Army or Navy - but would be better satisfied with the latter. My son is between seventeen and eighteen years of age - is bright and intelligent - has been going to College here for three years - and is ambitious of a Soldier's fame. If you can Sir spare the time from your duties - you must confer a lasting obligation upon me by recommending my son - and using your potent influence for obtaining his appointment.

Yours Most Respectfully

Wm. M. Parker -

Lebanon

Sir -

Let me add by way of postscript that your course against the ~~Proslavery~~ Kansas Controversy has received the

unanimous approval of the Democracy here.
They are very enthusiastic in your praise - and are
rejoiced that they are once more united - I am confident
that St. Clair will give a large majority for you.
Y. M. P.

Thos M. Parker
Lebanon Ill
June 13, 1868

Asks that his son may
receive the appointment
cadet - to fill a vacancy

Rock Spring, Fallon Depot P.O. Illinois,
 Jan'y 5th 1858—

Hon. S. A. Douglass, Sir, I have read with no small interest your speech on the Kansas question of Dec^r 9th sent me by Hon. Robert Smith; and I congratulate you on the bold & truly democratic stand you have taken in expounding & maintaining the true principles of "popular sovereignty." My objection to the Kansas-Nebraska act, & especially the Repeal of the Missouri Compromise of 1820, was the terrible re-action it would produce in the north, by throwing the abolitionists, the "Free-soilers," the old whigs, and all that class who are opposed to slavery, & yet disposed not to interfere with the rights of the south, into one great party. The object to be gained, in my view of things, was in no measure equal to the risk run. With the discussions of the Missouri questions in 1818-1819, 1820-4 into 1821, I was as familiar at the period as a boy with his primer. # One great principle was gained in that contest, & the "compromise" on the slavery question was the conception to that principle. — the entire

I was a resident citizen of Missouri then over

right of the people in a territory, when
 authorised by Congress to form a con-
 stitution, ~~to~~ to decide the question of slavery
 & every domestic question for themselves.
 This was the real point of contest, & the
 compromise settled the principle, so far
 as congressional acts can settle ~~any~~
 any principle, — of the right of the people
 to form their domestic institutions when
 they make a constitution in due subor-
 dination to the Constitution of the U.S.
 I never doubted of the entire right of
 the people, in Kansas, Iowa, or Arkhan-
 sas to form their constitutions as they
 pleased, "in any portion of the ancient
 Louisiana Territory, with or without slavery."
 The "Compromise" was limited from the
 nature of the case, and by the great
 principle you contend for. I suppose
 no one claims, (unless the most ultra &
 ignorant) now that Congress can inter-
 fere with slavery in the formation of a
 new state. But behind all, there is another
 great principle, or rather the same in
 a more developed form — the right of the
 people to vote in receiving or rejecting
 the constitution when made. We shall be
 in trouble so long as such lone notions

prevail about constitution-making.
~~provide~~ I would have every "enabling
 act," for a state constitution provide
 that the constitution be submitted to the
 popular vote in the territory, before Con-
 gress receives the new state — and I
 have no hope of the adjustment of the
 Kansas question in any other way.

But excuse me for this long & to you
 useless dissertation. I never have been
 a partisan politician, but in the vigor
 of my days could "sit on the fence," look
 on all sides, form my own opinions, and
 vote as my own judgment led me.
 And now, in old age, broken down, fairly
worn out, & about to leave this world
 I cannot afford to turn partisan.

Since the casual interview I had
 with you in Madison, I have been entirely
 disabled by a severe attack after I re-
 turned home. I cannot now leave my
 home or expose myself to the least
 fatigue or change of weather.

In one of your late speeches you
 refer to a report of the Committee on
 Territories (by yourself) in March 1856,
 in which you argued the Kansas case
 from the proceedings relating to Arkansas

and of which a large number ^{were published} in one
Newspaper reports 300,000 copies are named.

Now would it be in your power
without trouble to furnish me a copy
of that report. All your speeches &c.
(as I have done of every other prominent
member of Congress from Illinois) I have
on file for preservation (when I could
get a copy). That report I never obtain-
ed. I make these collections for posterity
& they will be found in a special case
prepared for the purpose in the Mercan-
tile Library Association of St. Louis after
my decease. You will oblige me
if you can provide me with that
Report.

I am respectfully yours.

J. M. Peck

J. M. Peck

Rocky Mts.

Rocky Mts.

Jan 10/58

W

Alexandria Jan^y 3^d 1858
 Hon Stephen A. Douglas
 Washington City
 D C

Dear Sir
 from the very short but pleasant
 interview I had with you at Spring-
 field I ^{in being sent} take the liberty to address
 you this note, and am happy to ^{say} that
 the firm and unyielding position
 you have taken on the Kansas question
 has met the approbation of men
 of all Parties in this Section of Ohio,
 who feel that the perpetuity of the
 Union and the salvation of the
 Country depend on carrying out those
 principles. Also we feel a degree of
 pride and gratification at the correct
 and honorable position taken by our
 Gallant Representative S. A. C. G.,
 and hope that you may be successful
 in carrying ^{out} and perpetuating those
 principles of self Government which
 have been transmitted to us by the
 Fathers of our Common Country.

I Remain Very Respectfully
 Yours
 E. J. Pratt

Alexandria O.
Jan 15/58.
E. B. Pratt.

approves your
course.

Diary
W. A. C. E.
W. A. C. E.
W. A. C. E.



Binghamton, N.Y. Jan 5 1858

Hon J. A. Douglas

Sir

At this alarming crisis when civil war sends up her glare upon our western horizon, the country looks to you as the bulwark which shall resist the combination which would crush the rights of the feeble as well as those of the people. It looks to you to rouse the Democratic party from their lethargy, and to kindle again in their ranks the holy flame of liberty - to counteract the machinations of the Slavery propagandists who aim at the dissolution of the Union - to denounce their frauds in Kansas, and to fire the people with indignation against those who would betray them.

Is what more noble, more generous purpose could you use those powers with which God has endowed you. Then may the future historian say of you what Tacitus says of Demosthenes, "The love of country glowed in his heart; liberty roused all his powers, and Fame held forth her immortal wreath to reward his labors."

Respectfully Yours &c

Geo Pratt

Binghamton, N.Y.
Jan'y 3rd 1858.
Geo. Pratt.
Political.

✓

J. Reynolds
Rantoul Ill
Jan. 5 / 58.

would like
some doc?

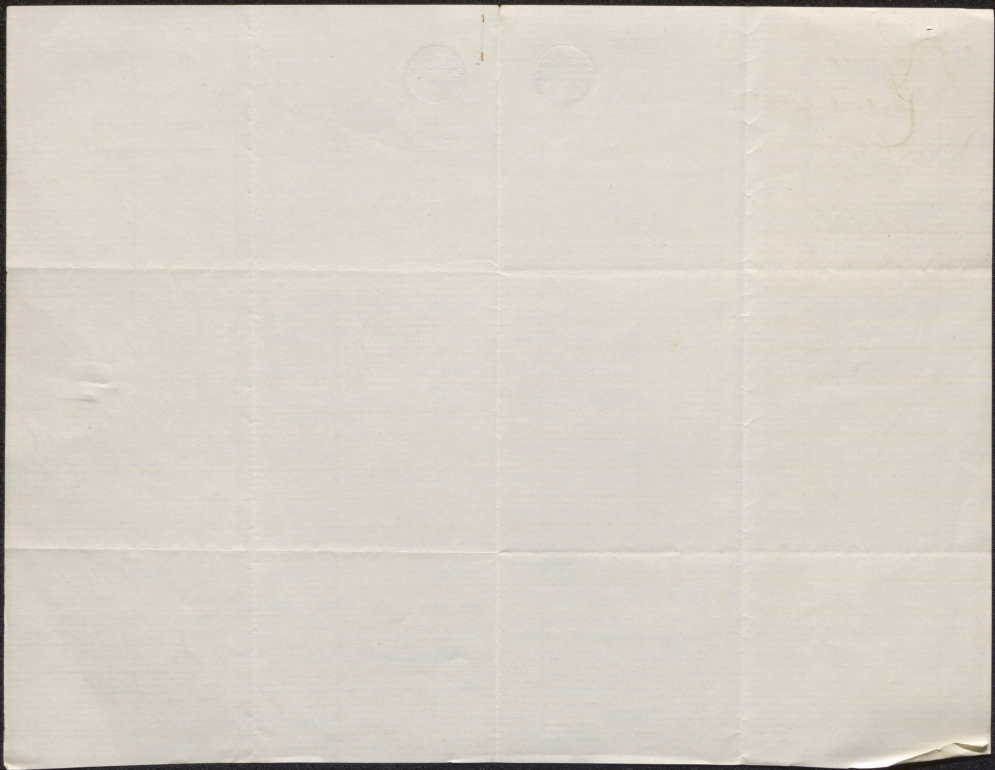
2360

Rantoul Ill, Jan 5, 1858
Hon, S, A, Douglas Dear Sir

I write not for
an office, but for documents, if
you have any Exsplan Documents
of the right Stamp, I mean Ben
Cassie, they will be thankfully
received, in as much as this is
likely to be an interesting Cong
ress, there is a few old liners
here, that wisher to keep posted
in regard to Political affairs,

You are right in regard
to the Kansas Constitution
Never give it up,

Yours Respectfully
J Reynolds

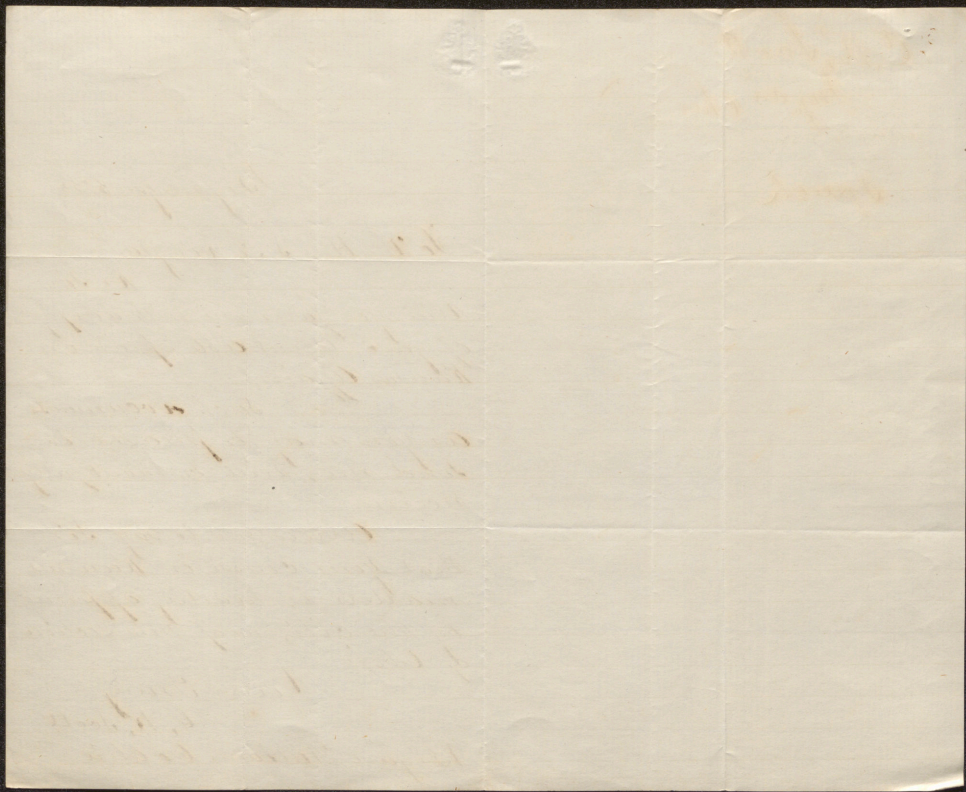


C. R. Scott
 Bryan Ohio
 Jan 5/58.
 speech

Bryan Jan 5 '58
 " "
 To The Hon S. A. Douglas
 Dr Sir
 Will you favor me with a copy
 of your recent able speech on
 Kansas Affairs.
 Such documents
 as you may be pleased to
 send me, will be thankfully
 received

Allow me to say Sir
 that your course on Kansas
 matters is heartily approved
 by the citizens of this section
 of Ohio

Yours Truly
 C. R. Scott
 Bryan Williams Co Ohio



Pittsburgh Pa.
Jan'y 5th 1858.
Jno. B. Sample
Hopes to see you
Pres. & wants
copies of yr
speeches on
Kansas question

2362
Pittsburg Pa.
January 5th 1858
Hon Stephen A. Douglass
Washington
My dear Sir

As one of your
most ardent admirers permit me to
say that I live for the time when
I shall see you President of the U.S.
May I request that you will send
me copies of your late speeches in
the Senate. As I have been unable
to procure them in any other way
under the trouble I give you

I need not say how responsible
is now your position. As the champion
of Justice and Truth—God has a great
work for you to do for your Country

Respectfully Yrs Wm. L. Smith
John B. Sample

2363
H. T. Shaw
Lebanon Tenn.
Jan. 5 / 58.

Speech

no.

Lebanon Tenn
Jan 5th 1858

Senator Douglass
Washington D.C
Dear Sir

You will
greatly oblige one who appreciates
your Statesmanship & your
superior abilities by forwarding
them with copies of your
speeches & documents upon
the all important subject
of Slavery & Constitution
I will be pleased to hear from
you your political friend
H. T. Shaw

Hon S A Douglass
Washington D.C



Rochester, N.Y.
Jan'y 5/58.
P. B. Sibley

Wash Vol. 38
maps of Pacific
R.R. survey -

1858
Rochester N.Y. Jan 5th 58

Dear Sir:

May I ask you
to send me - if possible -
vol 3rd and the vol of maps
of the Pacific R. R. Survey.
I have not been able to
procure a copy of these vols.
from the Senators of my own state.
Complying with this request
you will infinitely oblige

Yours obediently
P. B. Sibley

Hon. S. A. Douglass



London
England
1871

Mr. J. H. Sturges
10, St. James's Place
London, W.

[Jan 5, 1858]

Honored Sir S. A. Douglass
about the beginning of Congress
I wrote to Mr Pottle our Represent-
ative from this District to send me
Documents from Washington but up
to this time I have got none
Perhaps it was asking rather too much
for a Democrat to ask such a favor of
a Prepublican.

I now ask you as a Democrat of
the old school to send a poor plain
Jeffersonian Democrat a few papers
I know but little about Politics only
just enough to vote always the Democ-
rat ticket some of our folks got on the
sag in 1856 but I think we on the go-
ing home in 1857 in York State

I did all I could to elect James Bu-
chanan President and I thank God we
did it I hope every reasonable effort
will be made to keep the Democrat party
united and carry out the true Jeffersonian
principles I hope the Kansas affairs
will be managed with discretion and
that Territory will come in fairly on
the Kansas and Nebraska Platform

I fear the President does not send men
enough to quell the Mormons and I fear
they were sent rather late in the season
I wish you would be so kind as to send me
the Patent Office report if there are 2
volumes I would like to have both
Recent & or some copies of the Presidents
message in Pamphlet form I would be very
glad to have a few copies of S. A. Douglass speech
Post Master report Secretary of State necessary
may, hear &c &c

I wish you would give my best wishes
to our friend Josiah McGraw & thank
him for helping me some time last season
in keeping the old Newell Post Office
where it is and appointing John Lewis Post
Master in the place of Nathaniel Lewis
his father deceased —

Our winter so far mild and unsteady
We have had a few cold days and have freezing
then rain and so. This morning 5 miles from
moderately cold —

Nath. Lewis
Newell P.O.
Carter's Crk. Ky.
Jan. 31 '58

Specie

Nathaniel Lewis Newell Post Office
Carter's County Kentucky
January 31 1858

Rochester 5th June 1857

Hon Samuel J. Andrews
Dear Sir.

Yours
Could procure and send me 20 to
50 Copies of Mr Douglass's Speeches
on the Message. I can make good
use of them among my fellow
Democrats in the Eastern District
Besides which I would take it as
great favor.

I was once personally
acquainted with Mr D; but he cannot
now remember me as it was during
his first Session in Congress, in 44th.

You are aware Mr Watts has
not published Mr D admiral's Speech,
and consequently few democrats have
seen it in extenso. But for all that, his
sentiments are well known and widespread,
and 99 in 100 of all parties cordially
indorse them, and will sustain him.

Yours respectfully
John Foyles

3

Jno Smyles
Rochester N.Y.
Jan'y 9. 1858,

Asking Hon
S S Andrews to
procure 20 or 30
of Judge Douglas
Speeches

Chicago Ills Jan'y 5th /58
Hon S A Douglas

Dear sir we of Chicago are enjoying one of the most lovely winters ever experienced in this climate. The parlor is pleasant without fire and but for the kitchen wood & coal would be useless. Times are rather dull but still the streets and business houses present a lively appearance.

Our party is begining to move rightly I think in the main, but there are some of our leading (or would be) leaders ~~xxx~~ in my opinion acting indiscreet making false issues between yourself & the President some of them are now in Washington, you will no doubt recognize them and it is useless to name them.

I find many who have heretofore been opposed to you that are now professing great friendship. It may be sincere I hope it is. Among them is Old Mr Hale and his sons ~~to the~~ ^{with} whom William my eldest son has been clerking for the last two years. Old Man Hale you will remember was thought to be the most prominent candidate for the nomination by the Republicans for City Treas.,

at the last election in this city His
disappointment may have and no doubt
did some time somewhat with his party
still I am satisfied he will support you
in the coming contest. On the other hand
I have my doubts as to the sincerity of some
(who have expressed great friendship for you)
of the Democratic party. Their interviews
occasionally with Long John looks sus-
picious. I hope we may be able to get
up an efficient organization by the spring
election. It is all important, for if we
lose the spring election it will injure
us in the fall. I have been solicited by the
Germans many of them belong to the Repu-
blicans to address them which I shall do
during this & the next month, at their
places of gathering in different parts
of the city. I find many that I have
known in former days and am cer-
tain they can exercise considerable in-
fluence with their German associates.

The nomination for Judge of the
Recorder's Court is now the theme of more
conversation than any other officer the
Mayor meets. There is a difference of opinion
as to the propriety of making a nomination
for Judge. As to the other office (Mayor)
all are agreed that a nomination should and

must be made. I may be wrong, but at
the present time I think we had as well
slide over the nomination for Judge
and stick to the remainder. If Judge W.
can be depended on he is a Democrat
& is with us in heart but as Judge he
is of the opinion that we had better
let him take his own course & make
no nomination for that office upon the
ground that a Judge should not be
a politician. My own opinion is that we
will make nothing by a nomination for
that office unless we get the present incum-
bent and he refuses to become the can-
didate of either or any party but has ap-
peared me on more than one occasion
in private conversations that he was
^{your} preference to any living man
and should vote with the Democratic party.
Ashton & Thompson both are anxious for
the race. For the office of Mayor there
are many aspirants who will be the
successful one it is hard to tell it is to
be hoped however that all will be satis-
fied and perfect harmony will prevail
after the decision is made. This will secure
success of the party without this we are
beaters. I have no news of interest other
than you see in the papers from our city.

It is late at night and scarcely
see from the light of the candle to
write or read what I have written
you will therefore excuse this long
and uninteresting as well as badly
written letter

Again present my respects to
your kind Lady and believe me

Truly Yours

James S. Spence

should be pleased to hear from you
when leisure will permit send me
those books I spoke for

Yrs

J. S. Spence

J. S. Spence
Jan 15/58
Chicago Ill

Hollowayville, Bureau Co. Illinois
January 5th 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir

As I do not belong to the
school or church of Mr. Lovejoy (the Representative
from this district) I cannot ask him to send
me any pub. docs. May I ask the favor of
an occasional one from you. If you can send
me the Patent office report on agriculture I will
be greatly obliged to you.

With high regard
Your friend
& obt. servt.
Thomas Austin



Thos Gustus
Wollongong
July 5/58
Wants Document
Send a few names

W

Hall of the House of Representatives
Columbus, O. Jan. 5th 55

Hon. S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir:

I write to you to add my little tribute of commendation of the course which you have pursued upon the question of the admission of Kansas with the Leecompton Constitution. The Removers of this Legislature stand two to one in favor of your position, and it is only a question of time when resolutions of instructions shall be passed. We have already discussed the matter twice in caucus and will again discuss it on Friday evening. I wish you, if agreeable, to write and send to me a series of resolutions to be presented.

After again thanking you for the course you have pursued, and assuring you of the hearty support of mine, truths of the Legislature and the people of Ohio, I remain Yours, &c.
Jere. Williams

Columbus Q,
Jan'y 5/58
Jere-Williams
Political

100

Collected
from W. W. Williams
June 2, 1891
Collected by