Pana Christian Co
State of Illinois
Feby 2nd 1858.

Hon Stephen A Douglas.

Dr Sir—

There has been this day forwarded to the 2d Asst Post Master Genl a Petition signed by a large Majority of the Citizens of this place praying for a removal of the Post Master at this Point"

This Petition is one which demands the attention of the Post Office Department owing to the manner in which business is conducted as set forth in the Petition & in direct violation of the Post Office rules & regulations as well as for the interests of the Citizens of this place

Trusting you will lend us your personal assistance in the above case The Petitioners will always be grateful for the favor shown them & also in behalf of a just Cause"

We remain Respectfully
"Many Citizens"

Signed Anonymous

Many Citizens

Pana

Christian Co

Feby 2/58. Ill

P.O. Matters

3233-A

Detroit Mich.
Feb. 2nd
1868

Geo. C. Bates.
Introducing
M. W. Field.

Hon S A Douglas
U S Senate
Washington DC

Detroit Feby 2 1868

My Dear Sir

Permit me to introduce to you a former friend now a kinsman of mine who is just married to a Cousin of John Kinsley M. W. Field Esq. with his wife formerly Miss Kercheval and a niece of the Col's he leaves to night on his wedding tour and will visit Washington. He is one of our folks and his wife is as good as she is beautiful. Any attentions you can show them will

Confer a favor on

Yours truly

Geo C Bates.

Hon S A Douglas.

U S Senate

Washington D.C

New York City
Febry 2/58
Cornelia L. Beekman

Wants an apptmt for her son - asks yr aid
offers you a letter of Genl Putnam's as a relic

3234

Feb 2nd
No 2 East 31st Ste
N.Y.

Dear Judge Douglas

Will you allow me to intrude on your time a few moments to recall to your mind an acquaintance perhaps forgotten by you but not with myself as I remember with a great deal of pleasure our meeting in Washington some years ago, under most agreeable circumstances and when I saw you last Feb. in the Senate I could scarce refrain from speaking to you. but the fear of your astonishment at a stranger taking that liberty deterred me. but I was determined to see Mrs Douglas whose beauty and grace lovit

ness has so often be extolled
more than surpassed my expec-
tations. I congratulate you on
so much happiness as she
fully realises my ideas of a
superb woman and you can
not help being very happy. My son
who is now in Washington
whom you have seen. wishes
an office were your powerful
interest and influence will enable
him to obtain it, if you will
use it for his advantage.
and will do so for my sake
as all I have to look forward
too in this world of sorrow
are those two sons of mine
and so far. they have well
repaid me for. my love and
care. I can say there are
my "jewels" Will you dear
Mr Douglas. say a good word
for my boy. who needs
this appointment he is very
well educated was intended
for the army. and still
is inclined to be a "son of
Mars." it seems almost
preposterous that a grandson
of George Clinton should
have to plead. for a place
but such men's services
as George Clinton's are forgotten
at the present day. you and
all of us know. how nobly
he sustained our Revolutionary
Struggles. with his services and
his future and most strange
my son is the first one
of his descendants who have
asked a favor. my own
Grandfather was a gallant
officer Col Barber an aid
to Gen La Fayette. who remem

bered my dear. Mother one
his return to America as the
only child of his very dear friend
It is foolish in me to allude
to those things as a claim
to my son. preferment. and
I do not do so in that spirit
but only to. recall who and
what my child's connections are.
Will you pardon the liberty I
have taken and if you can
serve my son. a Mother's blessings
will be yours. I am much
interested in all the debates.
of your honourable body. and
read. your speeches with great
interest you remind me of Gen
Putnam so bold and fearless.
if I dared I would enclose
one of his letters as a relic
of a brave man. If you will
accept one only say so. believe
me with great respect
Hon Judge Duty Cornelia Ludlow Beekman

3235

Shohola Feb 2nd AD 1858

Hon

Stephen A Douglass

You will doubtless resolve me of making you a Cool in Comparing with Marshal Ney and my Son John A Bross of your place (Chicago) I knead not remind you that your Course as a Publick man not Excepting the repeal of the missoure Compromise and I have often felt sorry that you and my oldest Son William and your Self Should have differed in Political matters but I hail your present Course on the Lecompt Constitution as an Event that may heal all past differences between you and the Alderman

Your Course on Kansas meets the unqualified Approval of

our friends in this Section unless it be those who throw up their hats at any thing the President would recommend and although I have alleways been an Admirer of James Buckhanan I have long since made up my mind that rule was safe Principles not Men should guide my feet in Political matters —

I would Call your attention to a promise you made me that you fournish me with the dred Sixt decission you may have Forgotten it if you have any Coppies left you will forward me a Copy —

Give my best regards your Amiable Lady and Believe me your Friend and Willwisher

Moses Bross

Moses Bross J.
Chehalis Pa.
Feby 2nd 1858.
Dmb Dea Sixt
decision

3236

Hiram Butterworth
Homer
Hamilton Co
Iowa.
Feb 2/58
Wants Pat: Off: Report

Homer Hamilton Co. Iowa
2nd February 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglass.

Dr Sir.

Will you have the kindness to send to me, if possible, a Copy of the Patent Office report on Agriculture, for the year 1856. And you will thereby confer a favor upon

Yours Respectfully
Hiram Butterworth

Monroe. Mich
Feb: 2/58
L. G. Clarke —

Commends your course, & says the entire democracy are with you —

Wants 2'd vol
Pacific R. R. Surveys

no

3237

Office of Raynor and Clarke

Monroe. Mich. Feby 2d 1858

Hon S. A. Douglass —
Dfrie

Nothing but my long admiration for you national as well as personal greatness. inteligence. and honesty suggests itself to my mind as an apology for trespassing upon your valuable time — and let me here state that the entire democracy of this section approve your late action with reference to Kansas matters the cry is vive La Douglass —

during the term my friend Mr Noble represented this district he sent me the first volume of the Explorations for a Rail road from the Mississippi to the Pacific and left arrangements with Sen Stewart for the 2nd when issued to be forwarded to me

it has not come. if consistent
with your feelings will you
send it to me at Monroe
Michigan for which I
hope ere long to be able to return
the Compliment by Exercising
my franchise and aiding
in placing you in that office
for which you of all men
are most Eminently fitted
Believe me most truly
Yr. friend & Admirer

S. G. Clarke

Nebrasha City this 2nd February 1858.

Hon. S. A. Douglas.
member of the United States Senate
Washington D.C
Dear Sir;

Tho a Stranger personally I am, of your family of politics, and say,

Honor the man, whose principals are his fame,
The Nebrasha and Kansas acts are his,
Tho they may die, long live his name.

On saturday last our people, with the Register of the Land Office in this place, acting on one of the leading committees, did make an effort, to receive and entertain, your faithful friend, and our distinguished fellow Citizen, William A. Richardson, Governor of this Territory: but it all ended in a stink at last, and vanished into night; so will you, also, if all the appointments to office for this and other places are endorsed by the Senate, in 1860. ———

Do you know Andrew Hopkins, the Register of the Land-Office located here, — if not, before confirmation, favor this much your humble servant, and ask, if he is competant and honest, or drunk and incompetent — Engaged, as I have been for the past five months, about the land office here, I may say, the Register most of the time, to me, is better known by the latter, incompetant, and the "other things".

In disobedience to instructions from the Genl Land Office, he daily charges pre-emptors the sum of $1. for filing their declaratory statements, and $1. per page for testimony recorded by him in contested cases, all of which is against law and in-

structions, as may be seen by letter from the Department of the 7th Ult. to me addressed — on which the Officer in question is requested to report — His answer which may be found, also, in the hands of the Department, is, some of the land agents at the Land Office entitled, that the charges of the Register are not extravagant, on the contrary it is no more than Notaries, or others, required to perform like service, in taking depositions would charge — but I send a petition from the Squatters, who who have been compelled to pay, asking the General Land Commissioner in what way the money so paid, shall be returned to them, while some who have paid, and yet their claims are before the Register for a decision, declare, saying, they would rather not, for fear by so doing, they might injure their respective rights. — But more, this Register belongs to a family, which under all circumstances, must have office: the father Col Hopkins of Pennsylvania, still insists that Hon Saml D. Black the U.S District Judge for this District, defeated his nomination for Governor, last spring in Convention, when on the first ballot it is well known that Black had in the Convention thirty eight (38) votes, while Hopkins had ten (10) or about one third the number; but to get those few, prevented his son Andrew (our Register) from obtaining the office of Postmaster at Harrisburgh, a post which he most desired, and after Convention Porter has obtained the appointment for postmaster, the President says, to his Cabinet, You must, I can't, can allow me one appointment, that is my friend Andrew Hopkins to the Registership of one of the Land Offices in Nebraska, so to please, the appointment was given, after which, ask the Hon Secty of the Interior, if the exhibit of the beast, he, (Hopkins Register), presented the day he received his appointment, was not enough, and it would have been so, but the father had been troubled with the "National" and strong symptoms of ——, and this was the legacy he had to leave. ——

This, then is one of the best offices in the hands of the President to give, and to whom is it given — to a young man about thirty, who never yet spent a dime for party purposes, and what is more never will, as a day or two before his Honor the Governor was to arrive here, might be seen in many hands a subscription paper, under the hand writing of the beautiful Register, which read as follows — to wit; "We the undersigned Citizens of Nebraska City" agree to pay the sum opposite our names &c — the sum so raised, to be expended in giving entertainment and reception to our distinguished fellow Citizen Hon William A Richardson Governor of Nebraska", thus dissatisfied, although having the best office within the Territory, and making illegal charges to all who are compelled to do business with him, he is unwilling, like a man among men, to receive the Governor except, men like these oblige to contest their rights for damages do the pay, and pay him as one of the committee. ——

We want no men like these for battle in '60, but must have men in office (for your sake) in these days that will give as well as receive. ——

I have a favor to ask, that is, that you will favor the appointment, of Calvin Torrey Esq for the Consulship at Tunis — he was among the members of the Cincinnati Convention, that voted Buchanan first and last, and has the right to receive something but as yet has received nothing. You are personally

acquainted with him as during your visit to Massachusetts in the year 55, at Springfield, you spent some hours in his edetorial rooms, where he was about establishing a daily Democratic paper — a thing which had at that time been unknown for two years. ——

Believing that your efforts, in opposition to the Lecompton Constitution, will result in the greatest good for the greatest number, and in your election to the greatest office of the world in 1860.

I am, respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

A. L. Collins

Nebraska City
Feby 2d 1858.
A. L. Collins
various matters
& wants Pat. off. Re-
sent to S. S. Preston

P.S.

If you have a spare Copy of the Patent office reports for 1857. oblige by addressing a Copy to Sherman S. Preston
Nebraska City
N. T.

fashioned democrat.
I was reared in N.Y.
as such & have never
departed from that
faith. Permit me
also to assure you that
during your trials both
in and out of the
Senate you have had
warm & ardent friends
in this region of Mass.
Do not think all
Massachusetts men
Abolitionists; for there
are good men & true
here as well as darkness.
Excuse me for troubling
you, and accept as my
apology my personal good
wishes for the present & future
success of your national views.
Respectfully your obt. Sevt
Clarkson T. Collins.

3239

Clarkson T. Collins
Great Barrington
Mass.

Feb. 2. Congressional Directory

Great Barrington
Mass.
Feb. 2d 1859

To
Hon. S. A. Douglass.

Dear Sir.

Not having, that I am aware of, a single acquaintance in Congress this session from whom to ask a small favor I have ventured to ask the same of yourself, viz: to send me a copy of a "Congressional Directory."

I take but little interest in politics, but have ever been an old

3240

Rochester Democrat Office,

Rochester, Minn. Ter. Feb 2/58

Hon. S. A. Douglas:

Ds. Sir— I am desirous of receiving getting the appointment to publish the "Laws, Treaties, etc." of the present Congress. My location here is in the midst of the most densely populated portion of Minnesota, (in the Southern section) and my paper has a circulation of one nine hundred. I do not know whether Lecompton would affect my appointment or no. I am against the "Swindle". If you are disposed to assist me in the appt. I will not forget the obligation. I have written Mr. Rice on the subject.

The Democracy of Minnesota are with you heart and soul. I do not believe there are five hundred Lecomptonites in the Territory outside the office-holders and the Black Republicans. The Democratic heart of this Territory has but one throb— that is for Douglas and Popular Sovereignty

Yours,

C. M. Cottrell

Hon. S. A. Douglas.

P.S. Will you be good enough to place the ~~Democrat~~ upon your "Documentary List".

C. M. C.

Rochester. M. T.
C. W. Cotton.
Febry 2/58 —

Wants to publish
the Laws &c &c —

3241

Brownsville Licking Co Ohio
February 2 1858

Hon. Steven A. Douglas

Sir I wish you
to put my name on your list of documents
which you may distribute with your friends
(and those which you may send, direct to
Brownsville Licking County Ohio Yours Truly

Richard B. Flowers

Rich'd B Flowers

Brownsville

Licking Co

Ohio

Feby 2/58.

Want to be placed

on your list to receive

Documents

Howard Bell County Texas
Feby 2nd 1858

Hon S A Douglas

Dear Sir

you will be much surprised to learn that I am still among the Living not having heard of me for many years, but such is the fact, I have been in Texas for several years, and am now enjoying tolerable health for a man of my age

I have kept posted as in relation to yourself ever since I have been here, and am pleased to see that you sustain yourself well in your position as a public man, notwithstanding within a very short time there seems to be a little uneasiness in the Democratic ranks as to your position on question relating to the South but I hope all this will turn up right in a short time

I visited Austin City a few days since when our Legislature is in Sesion. I find that everything there is on one side as regards politics. "Democratic" is the great word

Our frontier is very much troubled with Indians they have killed a number of persons, and stoled over two thousand Horses

Will you be kind enough to send me the last patent office reports — Your Old Friend Jas A Graves

PS) it is pure friendship that indused me to write this Letter, for I ask no office under Heaven

Yours

J. J. G

James R. Graves
Howard,
Bell Co. Texas.
Feby 2. 1858.
=
An old friend —
asks Pat. Off. Reports.
=
Sent to April 1/58.

3243

John Haight
Turner
DuPage Co
Feby 2/58. Ill

Desires a change in Post-office

Turner DuPage Co, Ill,
Feb 2, 1858

Steven A. Douglass
Dr. Sir: The P. O. of this place is in bad hands, and the people of this vicinity very much desire to have Martin Hamm, the present incumbent, removed, Should he be removed, I would recommend to your notice Charles Watson, who is an old, honest and intelligent citizen of this place and has always been a consistent and conservative democrat. A. M. Herrington would gladly recommend him, but he had pledged himself to one Williams before he knew that Watson wanted the office, Herrington

told me, when talking with him on the subject, that Watson would have been his choice, had he known that he wanted the office I know you must be very much pressed with business this session of Congress, and have not much time to waste in looking after the P. Offices in small country towns, I hope, however, you will get time to decapitate Mr. Keane. Please excuse this trespass upon your time

I remain very truly Yours
John Haight

Martin Keane has been arrested for stealing wood, and has been held to bail

3241

Buffalo, New York July 2, 1860

Senator Douglas

Will you send me, if convenient, your speeches and the Kansas question

Yours respectfully

N. A. Halbert

A A Halbert
Buffalo
Feb 7/58. NY
Speech

3215

Louisville Ky Feb. 2. 1858.

Louisville Ky Feb. 2 / 58.
P. P. Henderson

Political
approves your
course
on Kansas

Hon. S. A. Douglass,

My dear Sir,

Upon reading your great speech on the Kansas question, I could not restrain the desire to drop you a line. The longer I have matured the subject, the better am I satisfied that you occupy the true ground, and will be sustained by all the enlightened and unprejudiced, who love their country, more than party, and principles more than men.

I am much interested in all I see and hear of the movements at Washington in relation to a road to the Pacific Ocean. This is the greatest subject before the nation, and whom shall be so fortunate as to draft a Bill that will meet the conflicting views of Northern and Southern men, and be just to the nation, and carry it through, will live forever as one of the greatest benefactors of the world.

I listened to your broad views last summer in Chicago, with pleasure, and from the points of view, then presented, I have had strong hope that you would be able to pass, just such a Bill, as would secure the road.

I have not read the Hon J. S. Phelps letter which I see in the Republican, but the rapid sketch which I have made of it, indicates very clearly, that he intends to occupy ground different from that to which your mind inclined hitherto.

Now, with 20 miles of the S. Pacific Rail Road through Texas completed, the charter secured, and 8.700.000 acres of land donated by the State of Texas towards it, also a loan of $6.000 per mile from the State of Texas to aid in its construction, and certainly being on the most favorable line to El Paso and thence to Sandiego, would it not be infinitely better for Congress, to pass your law, viz: Authorize a contract to be made with 2 Companies, One North, and the Southern Pacific Rail Road now chartered, &c. organized and road being built as fast as possible, and issue to them the Bonds of the United States, to bear interest, and to be paid back to the Government in transportation of mails, munitions of war &c., and also grant not only the right of way, but give 20 miles of territory each side of the road to help the Company build the road. If this can be done, why I will insure, that the Southern Pacific Rail Road will be completed to the Pacific Ocean in less than 10 years. We will put at its head, not only as good a man as Mr. George S. Yerger,

But we will put a national man, who will practically carry the road through, to the delight of the nation and the world.

The Road, is now under the control of men in the South, good and true, who will push it forward. Let the same privileges be given to another Co. to be formed North, and if they think that the route will do, and will build the road on the same terms, what more can the North ask? It is just, it is fair, and then with the competition of private capitalists, we shall see the Western wilds opened, the Savage hords either civilized or transported to some of the Islands of the Pacific. The friends of the Southern Pacific road, will heartily unite with the North, and surely with this union, and for such a great object, you can carry this plan through.

I wish also to state, that I am in correspondence with my friends in the South, and they are your friends also, who have advised me that every thing is now moving forward properly with our Road. Arrangements are perfected to build 70 miles of the Road this year, with the 20 miles which are now completed, and the general government can save a great deal by making a contract with this Company. There is no use in waste, and to survey another

route, and denote lands, must cost many times more of money, beside 783 miles through Texas which reaches within 800 miles of the Pacific. Texas provides for the first 800 miles, and all this is clear gain to the General Government.

But your time is too precious to be longer occupied by me. May I ask as a particular and special favor, that you communicate to me the prospects and plans which are of interest. Suggest to me, whether the friends of S.P.R.R. (by the way they are legion) would be profited, by some of them visiting Washington and conferring with members on the subject. You know how to manage matters of this sort, and I hope you will not think an old friend, presumptuous in thus familiarly speaking on a topic of so much interest generally and specially.

Have the kindness to remember me most kindly to Mrs. Douglass and believe me

Your sincere friend Dr. P. Henderson

Calhoun Co Mich
Homer Feb 2/58

Hon S A Douglas
Sir

Will you be so kind as to place my name on your list to be supplied with Speeches, Public Documents &c Can you favor me with a copy of the Presidents Message accompanying the Lecompton Constitution as soon as it is sent in.

Very Respectfully
Fred A Hines.

Fred A Hines
Homer
Calhoun Co
Feb 2/58 Mich
Wishes his name might be placed on your list to receive documents &c wants Presidents message on Lecompton Constitution

3218

Manchester Feb 2 1858

Honored Sir.

I know not but I am presuming too much on your kindness and generosity in the request which I am about to make: but having a great desire to be the possessor of some Public Documents, I have taken the liberty of thus addressing you. If you have any of the above at your disposal, and will honor my request, you will confer a favor for which I shall ever be grateful.

Your most humble Servant,
Charles H. Hodgman.

To Hon. Stephen Douglas.
Washington.

Manchester, N.H.
Febry. 3/88
Chas H. Hodgman
Wants Pub Doc

3247

W G Hitchcock
Union Grove
Whiteside Co. Ills
Feby 2/58

Wants Pat: Off:
Report. —

Union Grove Feb 2d/58

Stephen A Douglas Esq

Sir will you oblige me by sending me the last Patent office reports agriculture and mechanical if so you will much oblige your most obt servt

Stephen, A, Douglas, Esq. W G Hitchcock
Union Grove
Whiteside Co
Ill