3758

Indianapolis Feb 24/58

Dear Sir

In my valedictory as Pres^t of the Mass Convention of the Democracy of Indiana after its deliberations were closed - I stated that ~~it~~ its call was addressed to the entire democracy of Indiana, that the call upon its face, was predicated upon the false interpretation of the popular sovereignty resolution of the Convention of the 8th - ~~all~~ that all democrats were entitled to participate in its deliberations & none had been excluded. That the call was responded to by all who felt an interest in the settlement of the party creeds, and whether treated as a distinct body, or a convocation of the elements of the old ~~it~~ spoke in an authoritative voice ~~and~~ uttered the true party sentiments and that those who did not

subscribe to it as an interpreta-
tion or as original rightful exposition
of the Creed in Indiana were outside
of the party. If knowing the objects
& purposes of the Call made default
when summoned, and there was
an exigency to warrant the Call
they are bound by it - at least by
Secumptor Logic, there were
but two solitary dissentient voices
to the whole series of resolutions
and ~~they~~ the resolutions are intelligible I trust
even to the dull intellects of our
Senators, We are right upon the
record ~~either~~ taking it either as
an authentative explanation of
the old or as a new assertion
There never was no question as
to the position of the Indiana dem-
ocracy prior to the enumeration of
this meeting of the position
Bright & Fitch are dead cocks
in the pit it required only ~~a~~
the tearing the mark from

the dictorial visage of Bright to
arouse the just resentment of the people
to it. You may rest assured
that the people in mass are with
you. //

truly your friend
W. M. McCarty

Hon S A Douglass
Washington

Indianapolis, Ind
Febry 2-4 58

W. W. McCarty,

Political

3759

Linden Feb. 24th 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglass

Dr. Sir Having heard considerable of the great speech you made in Decr 57 in regard to the Lecompton constitution — You will oblige me greatly by sending several copies thereof for I do assure you that it has gained for you a large number of friends in my district who have always been (as well as myself) sound democrats — Your course on Kansas affairs has been endorsed by a large number of democrats in my district — Hon. J. Glancy Jones member from my district and with whome I am personally acquainted, sent me a copy of Mr. Bigler's speech in reply to yours, now I would wish to read your side of the argument likewise as from what little I have noticed in the public press I fully endorse your course

Yours with Respect

D. B. Yeager

Address —

Douglassville P.O.

Berks Co.

Pa.

Douglasville. P.O.
Berks. Co. Pa.
Feb. 24. 58.
D. B. Mauger.

Wants several copies of
Kansas. Speech.

3760

Bristol, Penna.
Feb 24 58.

Hon Judge Douglass

Dear Sir

As I feel great interest in the proper settlement of the Kansas affairs, upon a fair and honest basis; and disapproving in toto of the Lecompton fraud, I trust you will deem it a sufficient excuse for me troubling you. I find that those who are anxious to force this matter through Congress are busy in their endeavors to manufacture public opinion at home, or rather to change it. Now I would like to direct it in the channel that I think an honest one & one by which alone we can hope to hold the democratic party together, and that is the path

Hon. Judge Douglass
Feby 24. 1858.
Bristol

you have laid down
and so nobly follow.

I find the Accomptantships are busily engaged in sending the Special Message, the Report of Committee on Territories, Speeches, &c, all over the country. Now I should like to have a little of the antidote to send with the bane. But as I have not the utmost confidence in our Past Master, knowing he would rather suppress any thing of the kind that might come into his office, than send it out, if you will send me some of your reports & any other matter relating to Kansas enveloped & franked I will address them & put them into the hands of the right persons.

I have had them sent me in this way on many occasions (being done up in bundles afterwards) and addressed to me. In fact Senator Bigler is doing it this winter to the Accomptantships.

Should I reach Washington next month, as I desire, I hope I may have the pleasure of meeting with you. God speed you in your good work.

Very truly yours

G. L. Mendenhall

Direct to the care of
Wm H. Reese
N. E. corner 4th & Chestnut sts
Philadelphia
Pa

3761

Alexandria Mo. Feb. 24/58

Hon S. A. Douglass

Ill

If you should at anytime have "Documents" to dispose of and need a subject please favor me if I can be so remembered I occasionly need food for the mind in those parts.

Respectfully

A. Moore

Alexandria

Mo

A Moore
Alexandria
Mo
Feb. 24. 1858.

Wants Speeches &c

3762-Z

A C Shepard
New York
Feby 24/58

Political

3762-1

New York Feby 24. 1858

Hon Sir

I have on a two former instances presumed to address you on the Kansas policy of your Democratic administration, and in my humble way approved of your course in regard to the position you have assumed on that subject

Having been an admirer of your political course since you have been on the political boards, I have watched with deep interest every move on the board, having in view the prosperity of the Democratic party and its policy. I hope you will permit me however to suggest that the promises set forth in your recent minority report

In that report you adopt the policy of an enabling act which to my view is right and just yet it is not a Concern the policy of the democratic party in former case and consequently not a cardinal creed of democratic principles. Also, you devote at length on the intended charges of frauds in the late elections held in Kansas, This seem to be just, also but it is the principles creed of the Black Republican and Judges to be adopted

with a bad Grace by leading democrats and particular by the Father of the Kansas Nebraska act, who has so ably battled the opponent of that measure, it looks to the Eyes of democrats like a change of sentiment and an adoptation of the Black Republican basties, which is a very unpopular position to occupy at the present crisis.

Also your position that the Lecompton convention was illegal and not the just offspring of law, is also to my view not well founded as I think you have formerly expressed a view fully sustaining the legality of that convention, I think you did on your Springfield speech; these circumstances give the Lecomptonites a chance to charge you and those who fully sympathize with you, with inconsistencies.

Now Sir, be so kind as to allow me to point to you my views and objection to the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution, firstly, that constitution, altho legally (if not justly) constituted did not in its acts express the wishes and voice of the people as expressed in the popular election held according to law, and as expressed through their Representative in the Legislature or their Representatives in congress and as admitted almost unanymously by the masses of the people Secondly! It should not be admitted for the reason that the administration has receded from the doctrine of the right of the people to have the constitution fairly submitted for adoption or rejection as they were promised through all the Cabinet instruction to Gov Walker & Secy Stanton and through them to the people of Kansas

This fact proves beyond a doubt that the people of Kansas have not enjoying the privilege of expressing their views on that subject in case on this election on the 4th of January in which they decided to reject the constitution by a very large majority of the votes of the Territory as well as the solemn protest of the Territorial Legislature

It does not seem to me to be a well established doctrine of the democratic party to force a form of Government on a people in opposition to their will so often and emphatically expressed as in the case of Kansas, and the fact that the majority of the people of Kansas are opposed to admission under that constitution is reason abundant why the measure should not be pressed forward as the administration are now preparing to do.

But after all the preservation of the democratic party in its strength & vitality should be a point of ambition by every Democrat, & it seems to me that if the clause prohibiting the alteration amendment or the right to take legal measures to form & adopt a new constitution could be stricken entirely from the instrument it might so far do away with the objection to the Lecompton constitution to entitle it under the existing circumstances to the approval of the democratic party, and more particularly if the certificate of the last Election could be secured so far as to secure the success of the New State party that they might immediately take measures to form a constitution compatible to the will of majority of the actual settlers of the State or Territory, what do you think of these views? It is certainly a bad policy to endanger the unity of the democratic Organization in the Union, no Democratic Statesman can ever exercise a National influence that does not reflect the voice of the nation regardless of locality. Judge, I hope you are not so far committed as to be unable to regard the vitality of the party as uppermost in your course in this matter.

Yours very truly &

A C Shepard

3763

Walnut Hill Feb. 27. 1858

Hon S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir.

Being desi-
-rous of obtaining the Autographs
of some of the distinguished men
of our country. I now address
you. Hoping that you will favor
my request at your earliest
convenience I remain

Your Obt. Svt

William H Shepard

Walnut Hill

Geneva

N.Y.

To

S. A. Douglas

U. S. S.

Walnut Hill.

Geneva. N.Y.

Wm H. Shepard.

Desires an Autograph.

Cincinnati Feb 24th 1858

The Hon. S. Douglas

Dear Sir:

I have always been an admirer of yourself and the principles which you have advocated, and was never more highly pleased with your Course, than when you opposed the "Lecompton Swindle" and when I say this I know I speak the sentiments of nine tenths of the Democrats of Hamilton County. I therefore hope you will send me a few Copies of your Kansas Speech and such other papers connected therewith as you may have at your disposal, and I will read them and hand them to my friends, thereby disseminating the principles of the Kansas & Nebraska bill, so ably and eloquently advocated by yourself.

Your friend and fellow Democrat
M. Snyder

Cincinnati O.
Feby 24 1888.
M. Snyder.
approves
Yr. Course &
wants copy
of speech.
(Sent Copy)

3765

A Joseph, Mich. Feb 24. 1858

Dr Sir:

I Read with no ordinary Pleasure your Speech In the Senate Some time Since. In Reply to Senator Bigler, & as also your Letter to the Philadelphia Convention, both of which So Commended them Selves to my feelings & views that Notwithstanding the Strong feelings of Opposition to you growing out of some your former acts in the Senate which I had Entertained & for aught I now Cherished, I did feel a Degree of Pride & Satisfaction & forgot, as I wish to forget, that I Ever felt otherwise & In this feeling I Speake I believe the Sentiment of nineteen twentieths of the Germany in In this Region. I have Little Expectation of your Succeeding In Having the Lecompton Constitution, Satisfactorily adjusted, but for what you Have Done you Have, as you are Entitled to The Heart felt thanks of the Freemen of the North. My Cousin Col D. Frast of Lee Center Lee Co Ill, & my Self have Had worm words over your acts, He is an ordent & friend & Supporter of yours & Some time In Oct Last wrote me Saying. Stephen A Douglass is Just as Certain to be the next

President as that the Seen will Rise on the Day of Election, "How he feels now I know not he is an incumbent of Office sender" Old Buck, Post Master & may be Some what Chorry — my own opinion is, your Recent Manly, yes Thrice manly Course has Contributed much to Such an Event I will be Most Happy to hear from you, If you will Condescend to write a Republican. Yankee as to Who the writer Is. I Refer you to Hon I P Hale Hon H Hamlin, Chs E Stuart or D Wolbridge of the H.R.

Believe me to be Sor as I am
Yours in the Cause of Justice

A. P. Stinson

Hon S. A Douglass
U S. Senator

A P Stinson
St Josephs. Mich
Feby 24. 1858.

Political.

40

3766

Newport. R. I. Feby 24th 1858

Hon Stephen A Douglas

Dr Sir.

Will you have the kindness to send me a copy of the Lecompton constitution, and a copy of the Topeka Constitution, — with the Presidents Mespage on the — Kansas affairs — and the speeches you & Others have made on the whole matter, so far as they have been published. Our State Election is coming on soon & Myself & a large number of Others would like to be well posted up on Kanzas affairs — By attending to this you will much oblige many Democrats, and

Yours Respectfully

Charles A Tilley

Newport.

R I

Newport. R. I.
Feb. 24th 1858

Chas. A. Tilley.

Wants Lecompton and
Topeka Constitution.
Message Speeches on
Kansas Affairs.

Kingston N.H.
Feb. 24th 58

J. R. Westbrook.
Wants Copies of the
Reports on Kansas
Constitution

Kingston February 24. 1858

Hon Stephen A Douglas
Dear Sir

Send me
if you can your report to the Senate on the
"Lecompton Constitution". I would like to
have the other two reports which also
emanated from Com on Territories, but yours
particularly I want.

Lecompton is no go
with us. If pushed, and made a party
measure, the Democracy will be unable, all
told, to make a decent Convention.

Truly Yours
J R Westbrook

3768

West Salisbury Feb 24–58

Dear Sir

Will you please send us a few copies of your speech on Kansas affairs delivered in the United States Senate. Any other speeches would be gladly received by your friends

Tho. H. Whittaker
Hamilton Gowkins

West Salisbury, Pa
Feb. 24th 1838

Chas. H. Whitaker.
& Hamilton Gorkin.

Want. Kansas Speeches
and other documents

Boston, Mass. Feb. 24th

Sir,

By enclosing to my address a copy of the "report" presented by yourself from the Committee on Territories upon the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution you will confer a favor upon

Very Respectfully Yours
William H. Whitaker

Hon. S. A. Douglas
U.S. Senate

Boston. Mass.

Feb 24th 28

Wm R. Whittaker

Wants Copy of Report.