

Swark N. Jersey, March 5, '58

Hon Stephen A Douglass

Dear Sir

Allow me
to request the favor, that you send
me pamphlet copies of your
recent speech and Report on
the Kansas Bill.

Very sincerely yours

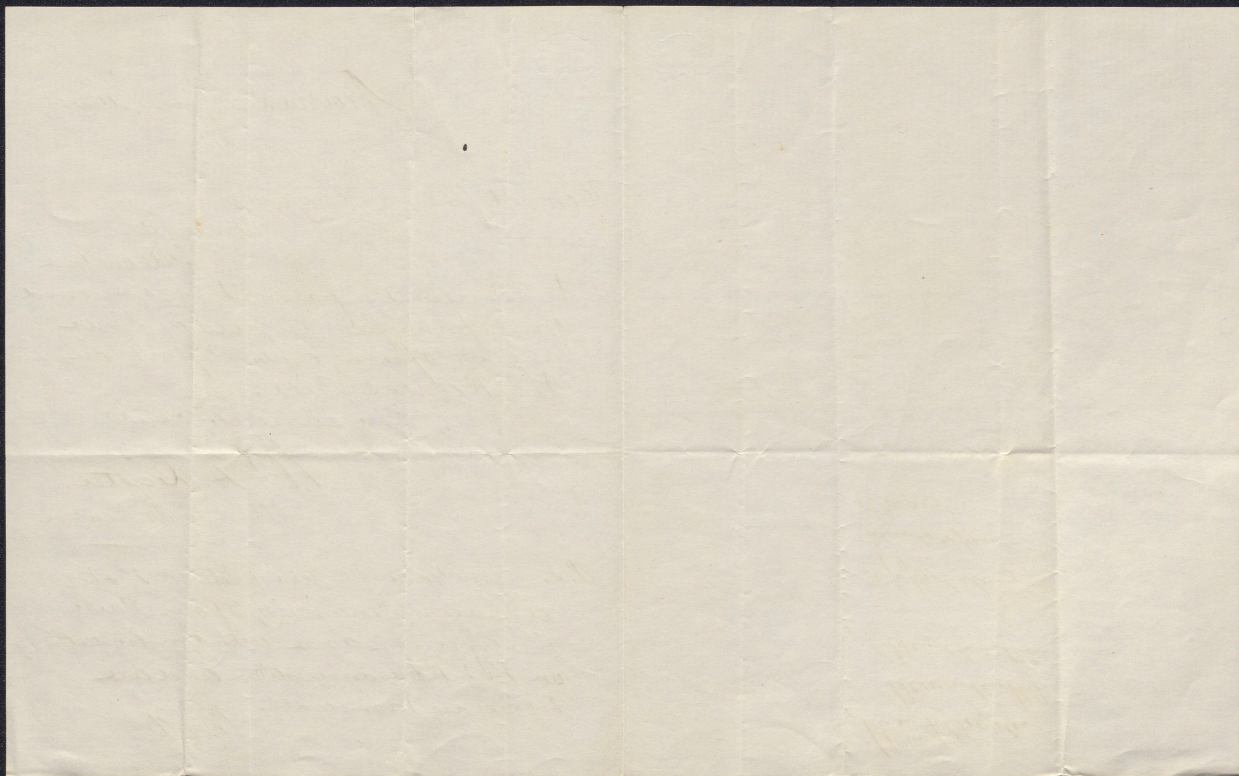
Wm A. Richter,
Attorney at Law &c.,

P.S. You may be confident that
a large majority of our Party
in N. Jersey - agree with you in sentiment
on the Kansas Question, and are
Douglass Democrats.

W. A. R.

Wm A. Righter
Newark. N.J.
March 5. 1858.

approbating
wants Speech
Report.





Pittsburgh March 5 1858.

Hon. S. A. Douglas
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

Will you be kind enough
to send us a few copies of your "minority Report"?

Respectfully & truly
W. D. Knicker

W L Rinchard
Pittsburg, Pa
March 5, 1853,

Want copies of
Minority Report



Prattsville Greene Co N.Y.

March 5th 1858.

Hon Stephen A Douglass

Washington D.C.

Dear Sir

Will you do me

the favor to send me your Report (if printed)
on the Bill for the admission of Kansas
under the Leecompton Contⁿ, and much
oblige,

Yours very respectfully

Emas V. Sage

Ch Sage
Prattville
Ms.

March 5. 1858.

Wants Reports.

Princeton March 5th 1858

Hon. S. A. Douglass

Dear Sir

You will receive copies of the "Democrat" and "Republican", each containing reports of the Democratic Convention held here on the 26th ult.

The report of the speeches and proceedings in the "Republican" are correct and reliable, while the report got ^{up} by Pine, and his statements are misrepresentations of the facts and motives, not only of the meeting, but a personal attack upon all Democrats who have "dared" to speak out against this Becompton fraud, and by calling the meeting compelled Stevens & Pine to leave the fence, where they have been since the receipt of the Becompton Message.

Threats of "being outside of the party organization"—
"calling the meeting at the dictation of the Republicans"—
"acting under the lead of Covejoy"—"opposing the Administration", and advice to stay away for "we dare not meet and carry out our opposition to Becompton", were freely circulated through the "Democrat", and on the streets, and many deterred from attending the meeting.

Their force consisted of five, Stevens and family connections and dependants, always on hand and well instructed as to the course to be pursued, which was to delay by speeches & motions until the voters from a distance should weary and leave. This was partially accomplished, some forty having left before the vote was taken. Their next move was to break up in a row. But in all this they most signally failed.

In town we have all the influential and reliable Democrats, and I can say the same of the County. The Democrat to the contrary notwithstanding. Had it not been for the P. Office influence, all the little officers through the County, had having been whipped in, we would not have had a dissenting vote. Up to the receipt of the Decem-
-pton message, we never heard of a Decempton man.

Mr. Fin refused to publish the Official report ^{proceedings of the} of the meeting, when Mr. Peters gave him five dollars to publish them. This is his Democracy & gratitude for our furnishing him with a new press and material, (Mr. Peters has the use of one) And some \$400 over, he refunding only \$800 of the \$1200 advanced.

Give one 1/3 in two & one half in three years, without interest. Two payments of which are due the 23rd inst; Not a dollar of which has been paid, except to a few in advertising & paper - Not will it be paid //

He has been and will continue to be the tool of Stevens, at the expense of the best interests of the party. No Democrat has any confidence, morally or politically in either.

I will give you one specimen of falsehood out of many in this week's issue, of the Democrat. He says "he gave made a positive pledge that he would publish a Democratic paper according to the policy of the Democratic Administration." Mr. Fin's Band to certain "Democrats," who he now terms "Blackguards," for certain money's advancement, says - "The principles & policy of which shall be the same as have been or shall hereafter be determined & laid down by the respective Conventions, National and this State of the Democratic party." Then we must have money from the "Democrats," we "pledge" ourselves to be governed by the principles enunciated by Democratic Conventions - Not we must retain the P. Office & we "pledge" ourselves to the policy of the Democratic Administration to be governed by its dictation.

Having the control of the press and C. Office is all that gives them any influence, as that reaches outside the County, and influence from abroad increases their influence at home.

We all have some hopes of being freed from this ~~evil~~ ^{evil}. Mr Pine is reckless & extravagant. He has used up the surplus we furnished, and it is currently reported, and considered true, that Stevens, who is on his P.O. bond had to pay \$500—deficit, on last P.O. gr. He is \$225 in arrears on rent—his men can get no pay, with many other outstanding debts, and old debts coming on from the East, yet he has been well patronized. I have just paid him \$74.00 for advt & papers. A spendthrift in principle as well as in money, his race here is nearly run.

He has been already trying to dispose of the press, but by his contract he cannot sell, & an attempt to sell authorizes us to take the press. This last sumersault of Stevens & Pine, will close the political career of both, for now no one has any confidence in them. Should the principles you are now advocating be triumphant, they would swear most roundly, they had always been with you, and point to the Democrat some five weeks back for proof. Your old friend H. L. Miller hit Pine on this in his speech in the Convention. He told him "he would not live long enough to answer his own arguments against the Leecompton swindle."

Mr Pine has taken his cue from Washington, and discharged Mr. Demas, a steady gentlemanly printer, who has been with him ever since he came here, as Demas says and no doubt truly, because he signed the call on the Central Committee to call the meeting & voted with us, as I know he did.

Truly Yours

L. S. Salisbury

W G Salisbury,
Princeton
J.C.B.

March 5, 1858,

Political
Affairs of the
"Democratic"
newspaper &
Mr. Davis, its Editor

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Mr. J. B. ...

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District Attorney's Office, Kings County,

City Hall.

Brooklyn March 3rd 1858

Hon Stephen A Douglass

W. S. Senator -

Dear Sir -

I hope you will pardon

me for troubling you again,

I have quite a taste for
literary matters, to the west - and would like for "Love
and money" together to get the works ~~of~~ reports
of a "Rail Road to the Pacific"; have you and
me?

I have been introduced to
you frequently in New York, but suppose you
have forgotten me,

Yours truly
John S. Schumaker
Dist. Atty.

Jno G Schumaker
Dist. Atty of Kings
Co. N.Y.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
March 5, 1888,

-Want Pac: RR
Reports. -

J. W. Sheahan
Chicago
Mar. 5. 59 J. W.
asking globe
disposed of

✓

7026

Chicago, March 5. 59

Dear Sir.

Will you have the
kindness to send me one or two copies
of the report of the great Senate debate
upon Hales amendment. We do not
fit the globe & have never had any
opportunity to publish any portion
of the debates of the Session.

Tom Fessenden has sent me one copy of
your reception speeches. If another could
be had I would like to have it.
I sent you in December some
manuscript with a request for its return
as soon as convenient. I have never heard
of it since. Mr. D. Blocher will call upon
you in a few days; will you be kind enough
to deliver it to him. Yrs. truly,
J. W. Sheahan

Columbus Iowa March 31st 58
 Wm Stephen A Douglas
 Dr Sir

With you I have no personal acquaintance, yet I have pleasure to write to you in order to satisfy myself on an all important matter. Sir I was born and raised in the city then for 30 years and have ever been a Democrat, even in the dark hours of 54 when we were swept down every where, I met the Open Enemy and fought the secret foe. I fought Sir upon the principles of the Kansas Nebraska Bill though the theory might be partially new yet the principle is as old as our free government. And now Sir for the first time in my life I find myself differing from the bias of the Administration, what I did all in my humble weak place in power. I have had no peace day or night when awake for 6 weeks, to find myself in antagonism with those I have ever acted as a source of severe trial to me. And to see men willing to lose their lives to uphold a principle we fought so hard in 54 and upon which we was Defenders and which in 55 & 56 we had fully established and upon which we have gathered ^{gathered} strength as we went until we had become as it were a mighty and insurmountable Army. And if we had have continued to have advocated these principles and quieted our actions to our words and carried them out in good faith, there would be now remaining ^{un}improvable

And meeting would have been held upon
our Barren wheresoever they were
unfettered and thrown to the breeze. It
is said by some Sappers Kansas be
admitted now, what else is there in
guaranteeing among ourselves, that once
admitted we can't resolve her out
of the Union. My answer to this is
that we would be charged more justly
to of having isolated & solemn pledge
of faithful faith, and whether it
shall be done because of the situation
- any conduct of Jim Lane and his
party or some other cause it will
be sufficient for the people to know
that such is the case, and it will
be short time to restore as to their
confidence again. After saying thus
much and fully defending my position
to you, may I not presume to ask you
a question and expect an answer upon
one point. It is in relation to
an omission in the Report made upon
Mr. Sumner's Bill as an Enabling Act
for Kansas and which paper the Senate
was passed in the House. It is upon this
point - where Mr. Bigler charged in
his speech that the original Bill
provided for the submission of the
Constitution of Kansas to the People
and that when it was reported back
by the Senate so much of it as related
to the submission was stricken out, and
now this is often thrown in my teeth
to show your inconsistency as they
say. I hope you will answer me.
Yours being on the Committee

fully upon this point - I would like
you to send me your speech on
this subject and your Report and
any other also showing the Congress that
I'll render me any assistance as
I expect to have to go before the people
and want every thing that will
avail or render me any service in
defending my position if you wish
to know any thing farther of me
than my letter shows John J. Davis
or Wm. English are acquainted
with me - hoping to hear from
you directly on the question upon
which I have interrogated you
I remain truly your Obedt Servt

D. D. Smith

(Confidential)

J. P. Smith
Columbia
Ind^a

March 5 1858.

Political.

Wants Speeches &c

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Vincennes, Ind, March 5, 1858

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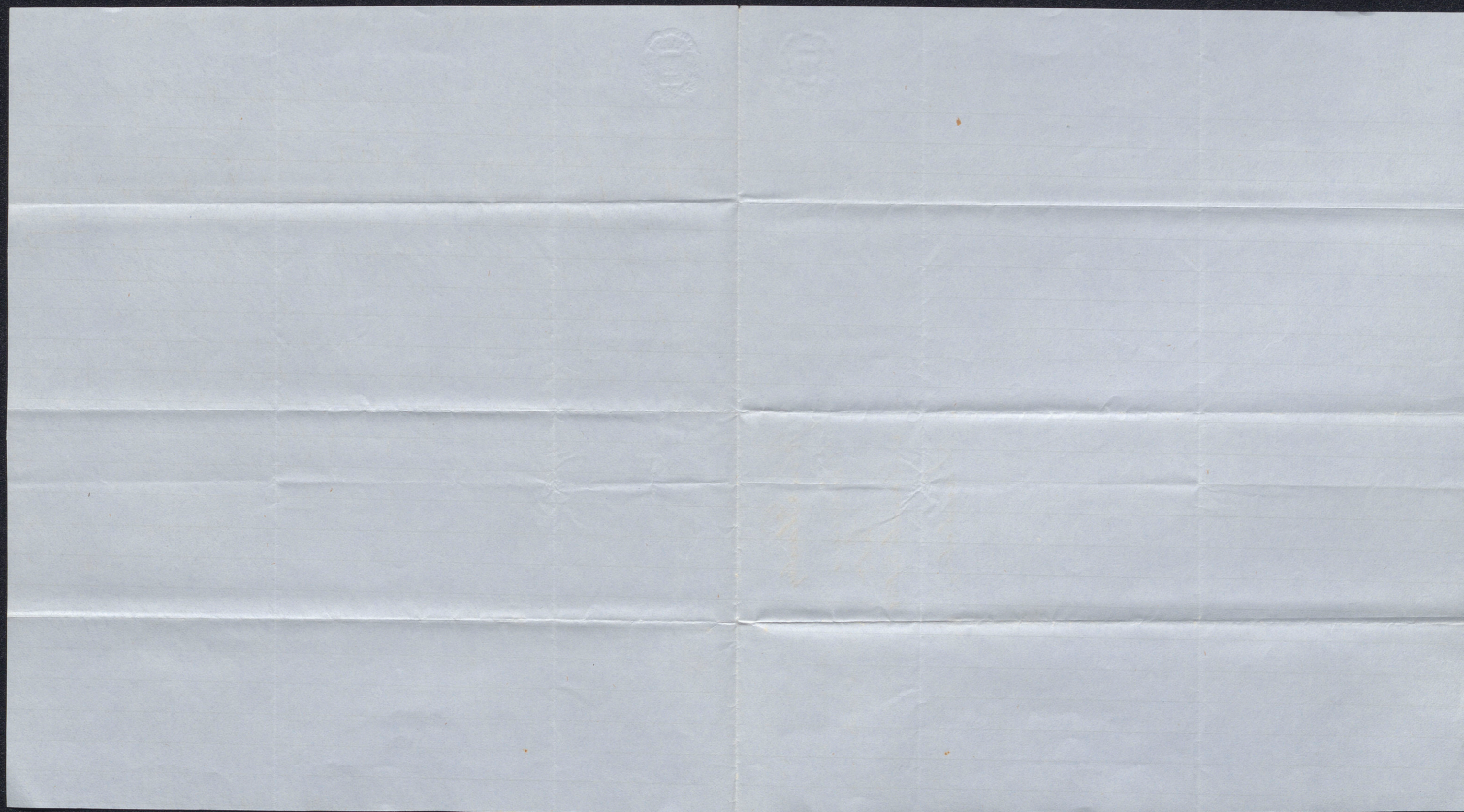
Dear Sir,

I have shortly travelled through a considerable part of the U.S. and found out, that the general opinion is against that Lecompton Constitution Swindle. Even in the South we found many honest men against it. Now if you succeed to defeat this swindle and help Kansas to a fair vote according to the will of the majority, I tell you, who will be elected President of the U.S. in 1860. His name is Honorable Douglas, that is as certain as you are borne. The eyes of the whole world are directed on you, in Europe as well as in America. Fight bravely, God is with you and your friends. The hell is with Buchanan.

Respectfully yours

John Stanley
a true Democrat anti
Lecompton Swindle

John Stanley
Vincennes
Ind.
March 5. 1858.
Laudatory.



Byron March 5. 1858

My Dear Sir

I hope my Silence of late, has not caused you to conclude that I am not as I always was your friend, and admirer.

My Silence has been caused from the fact of certain Communications recd. from distant friends - to - keep - Quiet

What their Motives are, I can only conjecture. I shall

keep those Communications for your inspection at some future day. I was always ~~was~~ satisfied

that your principles on which James Buchanan was

Elected, are true to the "Act -

repelling the Compromise Law, - they are true to the principles of the Cincinnati Platform - And

They are true to the great principles
on which we as a great
National party must Act to maintain
the glorious principles on
which our Republic was founded.

Acknowledging
those principles to be correct
and acknowledging no compromise
of principles — And upon
this the Democrats of Ogle stand
or fall. And believe me they are
willing to do you justice on
every occasion with more zeal
than has ever been made manifest
in any previous struggle.

I hope these hasty lines will
be satisfactory to you on what
I consider my duty to communicate.
Believe me as ever

Yours
Wm. H. Swan, P.M.,
Beyron Ogle, Ills

A.B. I have been anticipating a
Patent Office Report, and favour me
with such notices as you please. Very respectfully

Geo. L. Swan
per
Byron. Cgl. Co. Ills

March 5, 1858.

Approbatory

Wants Pat. Off. Rep.

Private } 1

4030-1



St. Louis, March 5, 1858

My Dear Sir: - Your esteemed favor has been received.

As you are fully informed of my views upon the ~~the~~ Ler Compton question, it would be useless for me to repeat them. I regret extremely that we have been compelled to differ on that subject; and that a comparison of views and consultation among political friends have not caused a plan of operations to be adopted which would command the assent of every Democrat. It has

happened otherwise, however,
and it only remains to dis-
pose of the subject with
as little asperity and schism
as possible. As I wrote
to you before Congress met
last December, and a few
days subsequently, I was
afraid that you would
take a position on the
"Submission" question which,
(whilst I considered it
wrong and would yet
be willing to make no direct
issue upon it as among friends),
I thought would furnish
an occasion for your
enemies to assail you
with more success than

they could otherwise do. -
I was sincerely anxious
to have you avoid, if
you could do so consistently
with your sense of duty,
what seemed to me to be
an unfortunate position
before the country. I
am not at all surprised
at the bitterness which
the Administration has
manifested towards you
and your friends, because
I was satisfied that the
disposition existed in that
quarter to overthrow
and destroy you politi-
cally. The turn which
Kansas affairs have taken,

has given the power to
assail with force, and a
pretext for doing so. I
am still, none the less,
satisfied that its course
ought to have been more
tolerant and just. As
you are aware, I am not
indisposed to favor friends
in politics rather than op-
ponents; yet I am also
^{certain} ~~certain~~ that a Federal
Administration should
not become the head of
a faction; and cannot be
~~so~~, with a proper regard
for its exalted position.
I have felt, consequently,
indignant at the proscrip-
tive, harsh and vindic-
tive spirit manifested to-
wards you and your friends,
and whilst believing that



the logical results of the Kansas-Nebraska act lead to the admission of Kansas under the Leecompton Constitution, I would not quarrel with Democrats who arrived at another conclusion. // But I did not design to write on that point.

Persons out of the turmoil and excitement at Washington can judge more coolly than actors in the conflict. As a calm and unbiassed spectator I wish to suggest a few considerations in the most friendly spirit.

11
You ought to disappoint in
the most marked manner
those who wish to goad and
betray you into the attitude
of factiousness. You have
presented your views fully
and frequently. There is
no necessity of interrupting
the regular order of debate,
or of getting up side issues.
If you are voted down,
- or rather, if another policy
is adopted by the Democrats
generally in Congress, you
should submit gracefully
to your political friends.
Do not seek to annoy or
embarrass them. Whilst
vindictive in a becoming

and dignified manner
what you consider the true
policy to be adopted, do
not be betrayed into a
spiteful or personal con-
troversy, as if the personal
were of more moment than
the political and national
aspects of the subjects. The
position you occupy be-
fore the country not only
justifies, but demands the
most elevated, dignified,
patriotic and calm atti-
tude, betraying no personal
feeling or asperity.

Avoid all appearance
of consulting with or
acting with those enemies

of the Democracy and of
the country - the Black
Republicans. They are eager
to assume, for the time, the
championship of your cause,
only that they may destroy
you before the country by
creating the impression that
you have gone over to them.
This has been the most diffi-
cult, as well as the most
injurious, part of this whole
controversy. The country has
been flooded with rumors,
that at your house in Wash-
ington, the Black Republicans
have their head-quarters,
and that there all plans
of opposition to the Adminis-
tration and the Democratic
party are contrived and
matured. The fact that
there is a common opposition
to the Leecompton Constitution
as the basis for ^{the} admission

of Kansas at this time, Causes those rumors to have a force which otherwise they would not have - many confounding the common opposition with a common view of the subject in all of its aspects. It is important that, at an early day, you should correct such a false impression. It is due to yourself and to your friends. It seems to me that, inasmuch as the Black Republicans, despite their platforms and speeches for the last three or four years, - indeed since the days of the Wilmost proviso, - have suddenly become converts to

Non-intervention or popular
Sovereignty, you could well
take occasion to congratula-
late the Country, that now
all appear ~~and~~ anxious to out-
vie ^{each} others in professions of
approbation and support of
the principles of the Kansas
Nebraska Act. - that the
principles of that measure
had triumphed over all
opposition and become the
avowed doctrines of all.
On that theme you could
show, that the Black
Republicans had come over
to the Democracy, instead
of your yielding to them
in any respect whatever.

You should also make known
in the most pointed manner,
that you not only belong
to the Democratic party,
~~but~~ that you cannot be
made, by any personal
unkindness or difference
on this question, to either
leave it, or become an
ally of its foes. Do
not suppose that I would
insult you by supposing
you could abandon the
Democracy; but I am ap-
prehensive that others,
who are not equally well
acquainted with you, may
be led to adopt false im-
pressions of your party
fealty. I speak plainly

because I am a friend,
and not a flatterer or
a foe. // As to the petty
persecution or proscription
of your friends, it will
work no injury to them
or you, unless under the
natural exasperation caused
thereby, they and you give
way to anger. If you
keep cool, calm and philo-
sophic, the country will
see that not personal am-
bition or ^{love of} office governs your
action or the conduct
of your friends. If amid
such petty action, you and
those who agree with you
rise to the heights of pa-
triotism and statesmanship,
no reaction will come -
a recoil which the proscrip-
tionists will feel. If, on
the other hand, rage or anger
controls, the persecutors will

be the gainers. //

It is to be regretted that those who agree with you, have attempted to hold separate meetings in any part of the country. It creates the belief that a separate organization is designed - that a third party movement is to be made - and experience has demonstrated the utter failure of all efforts of the kind. // Years ago in our Missouri difficulties I counseled against all such attempts, and although overruled in the canvass of 1844, I induced my friends

to come into my views in
time to correct the error, and
work out legitimately their
great purposes. The result
you know. The asperity
caused by years of bitter strife,
I controlled to such a degree
that the leading Benton men
over the whole State became
my most zealous collaborators
in 1849, - and now Bentonism
has hardly an existence here
beyond St. Louis County. It
was a wise maxim of
Lord Bacon: "Learn to labor
and to wait." Hence
I urge most earnestly that
separate organizations be
discountenanced and abandon-
ed - that there shall be no

further violence of language
or manner - no disposition
manifested to push this
difference to an open
rupture - that your enemies
be left to rage, if any anger
is to be shown, and that
you do no more than is
necessary in debate to per-
sue clearly your views,
leaving to time and the
people to take a dispa-
sionate view of the whole
matter. || Certainly every
patriot must desire a
speedy restoration of harmony
and peace. Every one ought
to contribute thereto. You
can do much, and the doing
of it will outweigh all possible

Calumny and proscriptions.

But I have written very hastily, and unmethodically during the few moments snatched from pressing business, and it may be have failed to make myself properly understood. I wish it were so that I could visit Washington and aid in the restoration of Democratic Union; but I cannot leave. While Buchanan's Special Message meets my full assent and is a clear statement of the views I wrote to you long before that message appeared, I do not see the soundness of the policy in a party or even a larger sense, of forcing a scheme where to my mind none is necessary. There are

Many men in the Union who, like myself, agree with Mr. Buchanan in urging the immediate admission of Kansas under the Lez Compton Constitution, but who at the same time are averse, firmly and determinedly, ^{to} ~~against~~ any effort to proscribe or persecute you or your friends on this question and who, if you and your friends on that subject act discreetly, keep within the Democratic organization, eschew Black Republican alliances of all kinds,

and act boldly on other ques-
tions for the Democratic
Cause and mildly on
this point of difference,
will rebuke at the proper
time and in an effective
manner, the schemes of
a personal character
looking to your injury
for ambitious reasons.
It is with you to calm
this storm, and to turn
aside, unhurt, the arrows
aimed at you. It is for
you to relieve your friends
from the embarrassment
of appearing to be allied
with Black Republicanism.
You have friends, willing
and anxious to serve you,

who agree with the Adminis-
tration on the present Lan-
sas policy. The clamor
against you will not af-
fect them, so long as they
can show your firm
adherence to the party
and its organization.
suffer no taunt, no wrong,
no insult to you and those
who agree with ^{you} to better
you beyond your self-control
or into any rash expressions,
factions course or false
alliances. The only hope
of beating you in Illinois
is based on the expectation
of making the Democracy
there believe that you have
deserted them. They will

be slow to believe it; but
whilst others are ever busy
against you, it is necessary
that your friends there
should have a speech
from you, showing that
you are just as firm
in the Democratic cause
as ever, and under no pos-
sible contingencies can be
made to quit your party as-
sociations and faith - And
if I could shade the speech,
I would insert in it that
whilst I was firm and honest
in my convictions with regard
to Kansas affairs, those who
desired me to be a factionist;
if there were any such, would
be disappointed - that no one
by any contumely or injustice
should so provoke my resent-
ment as to cause me to forget
my Democracy and patriotism.
Excuse this fragment though hastily
written. Give my best regards to Mr. D.
Yours of Great

S Treat
St Louis
Mo

March 5. 1858.

Political.

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