

Rockford May 24- 1858
 Winnebago Co. Illinois

Senator A. A. Douglass

My Dear Sir

Your speech delivered in Congress
 March 23 has been recd
 please receive my best thanks -
 three families of Wilsons live in
 this place and from Massachusetts
 I voted for Sumner many times
 on his first election to the Senate
 well acquainted with him
 Wilson & Banks
 you may depend on our best
 service if you so require in the
 political field
 Yours truly Martin Wilson

Justin Wilson
Rockford, Ill.

Delavan Illinois May 24th 1858
Mr Stephen A. Douglass:

Dear Sir - I take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you upon a subject, which although it has never been introduced into the halls of Congress, in my estimation is of far more importance than many questions which have occupied so large a share of the deliberations of that body. I refer to the subject of public highways. Although your residence and profession have kept you aloof from the difficulties encountered by our farming interests in consequence of our crippled road system you must have noticed in your extensive travels in our state the miserable condition of public highways generally. This difficulty arises from the fact that every man who purchases land from the government pays a bonus therefor, and receives a patent, in the course of time it is improved, becomes valuable, is divided and sub-divided, Public roads become more necessary and more difficult of construction. And according to the laws of our country the property of individuals cannot be taken by the public without just compensation; accordingly our State legislature has formed a code of laws for the construction and maintainance of public highways, with which you are no doubt, familiar; But now it is found that the right of way over almost all the roads, especially

in central Illinois, has never been obtained, and the owners of lands over which they pass shut them up entirely or turn them into difficult or circuitous routes at their pleasure after hundreds and even thousands of dollars have been expended in their construction. Thus subjecting the people to the necessity of getting up petitions, the decision of highway commissioners, appeals, and numberless lawsuits, the cost of which, amounts annually to many thousands of dollars besides oppressive taxes levied for the purpose of paying damages. It is useless to say that every man should feel interest enough in the public welfare to give roads, for you are well aware that there are a certain class of men who will hold out against their own interest for the sake of drawing something from the public in the way of damages, or discommoding a neighbor. Now I do not ask, or expect you to do any thing for us, for it is beyond your reach, but we have a vast amount of territory in the west subject to public sale which is rapidly filling up, and to save the inhabitants of those territories the difficulties under which we labor I would respectfully request that you bring forward a bill in the senate authorising the President to sell 154 acres of land in place of 160 as is now done, and in that proportion for a greater or less amount, reserving the remainder for the use of the public as highways to be taken from any part thereof which may be necessary and subject to the laws of

the State in which they are situated. I am a farmer in a small way, living a considerable distance from market and consequently feel these difficulties keenly. I have given the subject considerable attention and am convinced that the evil can be remedied only by beginning at the fountain head; your influence in the Senate, and position as chairman of the committee on Territories will enable you to bring the matter prominently before Congress. I hope therefore that you will ^{give} it at least a passing notice, and feel confident that you will be convinced of its utility and practicability.

Respectfully yours
G. W. G. Wendorf
Hon Stephen A. Douglass

G W C Brundorff
Helavan. Hls

no

5-29

Ann Arbor Mich

May 24th/38

Hon S. A. Douglas

Dear Sir,

I extend my
compliments and would respectfully
request you to favor me
with a copy of each of the
several speeches you have made
during this session of Congress
together with the report.

I am
Sir

Yours very respectfully

S. E. Perry.

S E Perry
Ann Arbor Mich

O. W. Barrell
Senate Clerk

Senate of the United States.

Committee on Public Buildings & Grounds

Washington, May 24th 1858.

Sir:

A meeting of this Committee will be
held on tomorrow, May 25th
at 10 o'clock, A. M., which you are respect-
fully invited to attend.

O. W. Barrell, Clerk

To the

Hon. S. A. Douglass.

George Washington

Committee on the Judiciary

Washington, D.C.
1858

Sir,

At meeting of this Committee will be

held on Thursday, the 11th inst.

at 10 o'clock, A.M. which you are requested

to attend.

To the

Chairman of the Committee

Pro L. Sturges
Le Boeuf
Erie Co. Pa
May 24. 1858

Political
Wants & Likes of
Mr. W. Douglas

W

5737

Le Boeuf May 24. 58
Monday

Honored Friend

I would not willingly
wage nor uselessly occupy one moment
of your time that the demands of our
whole country require when I wrote
to you it was in haste and not
carefully considered it was at the
same time strictly true I still tell
you after having fairly good opportunity
of examining the Democrats in north
western Penn that after three months
of the basest misrepresentations by a few
of the leading Democrats and the Erie
Observer (the Benbow Rev) the Administration
has lost at every ~~long~~ turn in their
cards At Washington the Observer claims
to speak for Poor Old Buck in this section
and constantly misrepresent you and the
Anti-Lecompton Democrats claiming they
never were Democrats and have done
this to sell out to our party for pay

I mean the Post-Masters and I ^{have} ~~very~~
more of the same political jumble
for this ^{Day} there is not one in six in
their party that sustains the President
We although at a distance can anticipate
the long hard struggle this winter
in the Senate and House in Freedom
the Country knows it all and
in Gods good time you will get your
reward

As I told you I never acted
with that party calling themselves Democrats
but they have shown that long honest men
must love and to them I like to own
my indebtedness although I cannot pay
now I can thank you ten thousand times
and only say the time may come when
I can pay back some of the service you
have rendered my whole country
Kindly Remember me to Mrs Douglass
and if its not inconsistent please send
me Mrs & Miss Douglass in one case Daguerotype
likeness it shall not be misgaffed
if I can render you any service in

this part of the State say what
it is and to the best of my abilities
I will work for you, if the request
I have made puts you to trouble I
do not ask it but if you send
it just it in any case and I can
fix it to suit my self when it comes
I mean as cheap as it can be sent
Direct LeBeau

Eric & PA

With sincere respect

John D. Stranahan

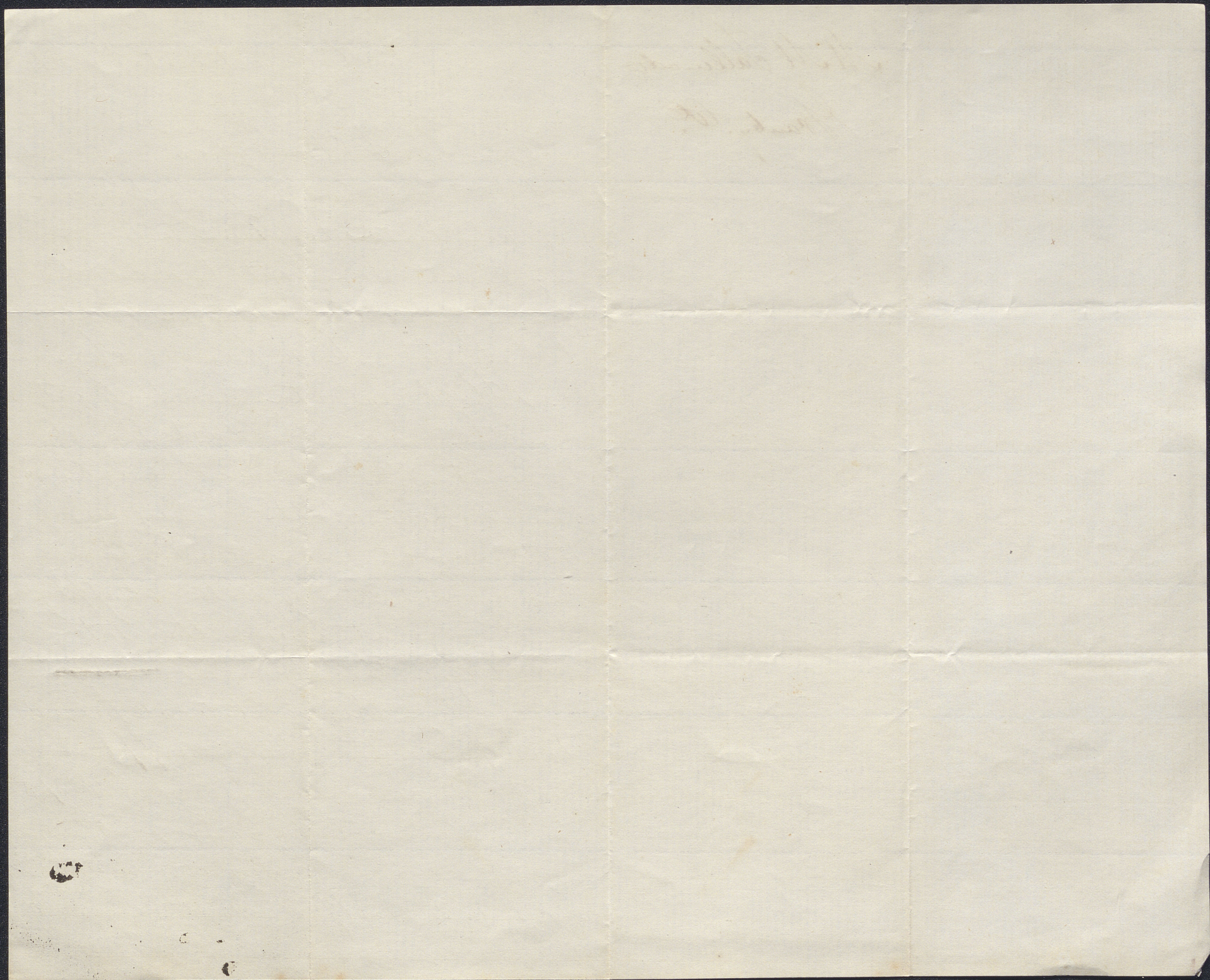
our post Office

is LeBeau

Eric
PA

M M Tallmadge
Granby Ct.

5738 1858
Granby Connecticut May 24
Hon S A Douglas
Dear Sir Having the pleasure
of an introduction to you
in December last by a card
from Gen Cass I take the
liberty to ask a favor of you
as I feel quite an interest
in the Pacific Rail Road
I want to procure through you
the Reports of the Surveyors of
that Project you may think it
some what strange I do not apply
to the Senators from this State
I suppose they have as ~~many~~^{many}
calls from their Political friends
perhaps as they can supply—
I am Dear Sir very Respt
your obedient Servant
M M Tallmadge
Address to Tariffville Hartford County
Connecticut



Cleveland, Ohio, May, 24th 1858.

The Honorable Stephen. A. Douglas.
Sir.

Some friends of mine, and of your's who reside in this city having suggested to me that by applying for it, I might obtain the post of mail agent, may I take the liberty of soliciting your interest in my behalf. I am extensively and favorably known in this city. I am favorably known to Bishop, Rapp, and I think I risk nothing when I say that I stand well in the estimation of that Right Rev. and learned Prelate.

I enclose a note from the Bishop, and one from professor C. R. Citygeared, of this city, who has just been elected by a large, and complimentary majority justice of the Peace.

Mr. H. Maher, of Chicago is a
relation of mine and to him I
would refer you.

I am Sir,
yours most respectfully,
Thos. J. Quinn.

Thos. J. Quinn
Chicago
Ill.
May 24, 1858

Received of
Thos. J. Quinn
\$10.00
for
rent of
office
May 24, 1858

Thos F. Tobin
Cleveland
Ohio
May 24, 1858

Wants to be
appointed
Mail Agent, &
enclose letters
from J. H. Fitzgerald
L. Bishop of
Cleveland

Magnolia May 24th 1858

Hon^{ble} C. A. Douglass

Dear Sir being one of your
constituents and one that has
and still does support those
principals that you are now
championing for supporting

I take the liberty to request
you to send me the Patent Office
reports for 1855

I am in the manufactur-
ing business and am particularly
interested in Patents for agricultural
instruments and all favors
in that line will be thankfully
received by your friend

Jas. Vaughan
Magnolia Ill.

Sent agricult^l to Jas Vaughan
Mechanical to Van Hook Co. May 29/58.

For Vaughn
Magnolia, Ill.

May 24. 1858.

no

J. VANHORN & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

**John VanHorns' Patent
CORN SHELLER,**

ALSO,

**TWO AND FOUR HORSE
HORSE POWERS,
Magnolia, Putnam Co. Ill**


[JAS. VAUGHN.]

[Commercial Press.]

[JAS. VAUGHN.]

5740-2

This machine took
the premium in
Ills at the State
Fair of 1853/56/57

Leecompton - Kansas - May 24/58
 Hon. Stephen A. Douglas -
 Sir -

The Board of Commissioners met to day - Senner hesitated some time as to my right to sit upon the Board. - but after some argument - yielded - We organized - by making him Chairman & Walsh - Secretary. - The instructions of the Secretary of State - of date May 9 - were read. They were a fair election - but advise a late one - in order evidently to have time to operate in. He also advises no meeting of the Board until a new District Attorney is appointed which he says must be made on the following Monday. I insisted however on my right to act as my successor is not yet qualified. Senner & Walsh tried hard to prevent action at all - then wanted to stave off the election to a late period. The Territorial members were anxious to get a unanimous selection of the day and we

Accordingly compromised in the 1st Monday of August - which will be published this week as the day of election. The appointment of Judges &c will be made so as to secure a fair election.

// Description will be badly beaten. The few-slavery men are generally going to vote against it. In fact I can find no where any movement in its behalf - There is much bitterness felt by the southern men here against the Administration.

The Southern part of the Territory is again the scene of bloodshed & violence. Large organized parties are committing all imaginable outrages - entirely hounded by the spirit of retaliation for former injuries - Authentic information of particulars is awaited - when the troops will be marched down there. There does not seem to be any general disposition in this quarter to engage in such trouble - but how long this ~~thing~~ ^{state} of quiescence can be maintained is doubtful - The people of Missouri have - it is charged entered into the latest disturbances - which if continued

will lead to general trouble.

Senor told me to day that he would certainly resign as soon as a vote was taken on the Constitution. He gives up that it will be defeated nearly unanimously. H

I see from the Globe that the Sec. of the Interior - had sent to the House - a letter on the subject of the Kansas Half-Breed Lands. - I am deeply interested in this matter as the Attorney of some 60 Settlers on the tract. I insist that they should be allowed to buy the land at an appraised value. While he is in favor of giving a fee simple estate to the heirs of the Half-Breeds - Great loss would follow such a course. - and would in my opinion be gratuitous in the part of Congress. I conferred with Judge Sebastian upon the subject - & have filed arguments ~~thereon~~ with the Secretary. - as to the legal rights of the Settlers - I must beg of you to interest yourself - to prevent any Bill passing - which will give these Half-Breeds any other or better title than they already possess under the Treaty. I would prefer under

a bill could be passed like one - I left with Star-
train - that the whole thing should lay over
until next session.

Yours Truly
Jm. McR.

John McR.
Locustport,
Hawaii,
May 24, 1858

Wallace Nightman
Cannonburg.
p. a

5742

Cannonburg May 24 '88
Hon Stephen A Douglass

Please send
to me your speech &
admission of Kansas under
Leaumont Constitution also
so on other subjects especially
on President message

Yours V. L.

Wallace Nightman

Hon. Stephen A Douglass
M.E.

Handwritten text, possibly a name or address, in the top right corner.

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Handwritten text, possibly a name or address, in the top right corner.

H. W. Williams
Princeton, N.J.

Princeton May 24. 37.

Dear Sir.

I am very sorry to trouble you, and I owe you an apology certainly for putting you to inconvenience in my case but necessity knows no law either of civil right, or of etiquette.

Mr. Knodess has given me a boldness in trespassing on your generosity - one more and it is to obtain a copy of "Maj. Emory's expedition and survey of Mexican Boundary line", and the "Pacific R.R. Survey" either or both these works would be exceedingly acceptable, how much so I need not say.

Respectfully,
H. W. Williams
Cal.

Wm. S. A. Douglass.

