mcl

Washington
Feby 20th 1846

nnl

My Dear Sir,

I have just received the result of the deliberations of the State convention, and I need not tell you how much gratification it afforded me to learn that you received the nomination for Governor. As you are aware, I anticipated this auspicious result, still I have my apprehensions, in consequence of the multiplicity of candidates and inconsiderate feelings engendered by those who delight producing discord and mischief. I rejoice that harmony has been restored to the party – that we have candidates in the field around whom we can rally with pride and satisfaction – and that when victory shall have crowned our efforts, we can

I rely upon an honest and patriotic administration of the government. Personally you know I feel highly gratified at the choice, and on account of the harmony and success of our party, I regard it as still more important. I cannot claim for myself any of merit of this happy result - I can only say that I rejoice over the good others have done.

Here the Oregon question is the great measure of the day. The notice will be given. Our laws & institutions will be extended over the country - and adequate protection given to our people there. The news from England today is important and favorable to our interests. The prospect is that the corn laws will be speedily abolished & the ports thrown open to our produce. There is no prospect of war - England cannot fight us at this time - she does not risk such a contest. Please write me often, and give me all the news. Let me know what documents you want & I will furnish them, if in my power.

Truly your friend

S. A. Douglas

Col A. C. French

Douglas

60. **DOUGLAS. (STEPHEN A.).** Celebrated opponent of Lincoln, with whom he held the historic debates. A.L.S. 3PP., 4TO. Washington, Feb. 20, 1846; to Col. French. A valuable historical letter ON THE OREGON QUESTION:

"... Here the **OREGON QUESTION** is the great measure of the day. The notice will be given and laws and institutions ... and **ADEQUATE PROTECTION GIVEN TO OUR PEOPLE THERE. THE NEWS FROM ENGLAND TODAY IS IMPORTANT AND FAVORABLE TO OUR INTERESTS.** The prospect is that the corn laws will be speedily abolished and the ports thrown open to our commerce. **THERE IS NO PROSPECT OF WAR—ENGLAND CANNOT FIGHT US AT THIS TIME. SHE DOES NOT DARE RISK SUCH A CONFLICT.** ..." etc.

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