

Peoria Sept. 28/54

Hon. Abram Lincoln

Sir:-

Understanding that Judge Douglas is expected to address our citizens on the 16th of Next Month, on the principles of the Nebraska-Kansas Bill, and feeling that what he may then advance should not be suffered to pass without suitable notice - the undersigned, on behalf of themselves and the Whigs of Peoria, are exceedingly desirous that (if not too great a tax upon your time & strength) you will consent to be present, and take a convenient opportunity, after the speech of Judge D., to reply to it, and give us your own views upon the subject: Permit us to say here, that we are not unmindful of the good service you have here to you repeatedly rendered us; nor insensible of what we already owe you on that account: But this the rather encourages us to solicit & look for a renewal of the favor:-

Hoping you may find it convenient to respond favorably to our wish, and that, at no distant day, it may be in our power to testify our high & warm appreciation of your patriotic & efficient public services, we remain very truly

Your friends & fellow citizens:-

J. H. Hancock

A. P. Bartlett

Sam. G. Pratt

Joseph C. Tracy

C. Mallory

Geo. C. Vestris

Wm. D. Arnold

Hugh W. Reynolds

Jonathan B. Cooper

B. W. McClallen

Thomas Bryant

John D. Lindsay

Mollie Coy

U. D. Cross

V. Herwin

A. M. Coy

Wm. A. Herwin

John Frey

Edward Dickinson

John King