

Washington City

June 15. 1858

Dear Sir.

I intend sending you now and then such papers and documents as may fall under my observation that I may conceive to contain articles which may assist you in the approaching canvass. Douglas left yesterday for Illinois via N. York. He says his intention is to thoroughly canvass the state.

His last speech, in Executive session gave his "boiling" friends fits. I suppose you have seen it. I will send you any documents you may want, if they can be obtained here.

J. Campbell, of California, is here - he tells me he has left said state for good and intends settling somewhere in the west - he further said that he was going to Illinois to help his old friend Douglas out - that he was going to put on the harness for the campaign.

I was told the other day that Douglas was advised that the probability was that a man would be elected in Kane County that would go for him. Look to it in time - I believe there will

be all sorts of jockeying to secure the legislature for Douglas. It is no less singular than true, that almost every political move that is being made in Illinois, however trivial, is known here in certain quarters. Club rooms, for almost every state are in full blast - conducted, principally, by the clerks of the different States. Illinois ^{club} ~~club~~ at present has suspended operations. I was formerly invited by the President's private Secretary, to sign patents &c. to assist their club in sending documents to Illinois - To satisfy my curiosity I went once and but once. They said they had a million to send off. The matter was principally composed of Buck's special message, Goen's report, English's report and Stevens report. I stuffed a copy of each in my pocket and bowed myself out of the buzzard's roost. and that is the last time they will see this child there - I have scarcely got clear of the snail yet. These documents, I think are intended to beat Mr. D. Colby Young (a good and true man) and myself, refused to assist them, for which we receive an additional spot, I suppose. The corruption & tyranny, prevailing here is perfectly appalling, and should the powers that be, succeed in perpetuating their dominion for four years more it will be nothing less than a reign of terror.

Unfortunately for the country, there is no opposition paper here. The "Intelligencer", has no taste for such a foray - their dignity has "struck in" - The "States"

which I occasionally send you, is doubtless in the
interest of Douglas - but ^{its} great fort is "our
foreign relations": and pillibustering generally.

Every thing here smells of nigger - and if a
^{man} ^{in office} is heard to denounce the incroachments of
the South, or speaks in kind terms for the
Republicans he is immediately denounced as
a spy, an abolitionist, and the cry is, ^{instantly} raised, turn
him out, "crucify him" &c. I will know that
I am obnoxious, and should not be surprised that
at any moment to receive a "yellow river", or an
invitation to resign.

I wish that you would tell the "Journal"
men to send me their paper during the cam-
-paign. Of course my letters must be considered
private.

I think I will furnish the Journal some
items occasionally?

I hope to be home in October

Yours truly
J. M. Lucas

PS Send me the paper containing the proceedings of the
convention

Wm. A. Lincoln }
Springfield }
Illinois }

June 15, 1858

J. M. Lucas

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Hon: A. Lincoln

Springfield
Illinois

