Friend, Lincoln,

Your was that rec'd, but Dept. Sprague was drunk in New York, and I have been myself absent, so that a reply has been somewhat delayed.

We understand that you will be here about the 12th when although I shall be absent Dept. Sprague will help you the 950 fee, which one report as a very reasonable fee.

Touching politics, although not

Exactly a Republican in the conventional sense of the term. I do not heartily desire your election and shall do what he in my power to check a man that will vote for you. Believing sincerely
that whatever may turn up, you will act honestly and truthfully.

Allow me to suggest, whether you may not, in the position of the Republican party, commit to vote against the admission of another Slave State.

May it not be so said, that we are bound by our constitutional action, the admission of slave into territory where it does not exist, in every mode. I speak all with common story, but that cannot be, then may the case be as they should be, if Texas should be admitted to a new State formation. When we are not prepared to say we would not admit such a new State as a Slave State. Rather than seem...
to be an implied obligation, not to make
the objection as slavery has gone to
Penns. with the common understanding
that that territory was open to slavery.

It has always struck me that there
was great eloquence, in the idea
that - had it the appeal of the Mis-

That notion was that every question should
be settled upon what is theoretically
right - no more compromising with
principle.

If you use your strong power of analysis
will, full to hear the idea of Com-

It negates the idea of abstract thought.

Now so far as all sectional
questions are provided for in the Constitu-

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of the U.S. - they are all wrong in the abstract - that is according with the views of either side - in such a spirit then the constitution was made. In such a spirit so far as these sectional questions are concerned - the constitution must be administered ever -

Now if Douglas system of policy is to prevail of compromising - or rather the spirit of compromising is to be abolished - for example (as you have suggested by Douglas design) the same argument that establishes that by a power of principle in the Constitution of the U.S. a man may take his slave into a territory or properly establishes the right to take a slave into a State - If the Constitution is higher than a Territorial Legislation - so is it higher than a State Constitution - To administer the government on this system of what is - by the Constitution theoretically right (I mean the sectional questions bounded by the Constitution) will ruin the ship of state as here.

Knowing that quid pro quo comes in my suggestion as an offspring of necessity.

[Signature]

H. E. Dammer.
Abraham Lincoln
Springfield
Illinois