

Springfield, Nov^r 19. 1858

Henry Astbury, Esq.

My dear Sir

Yours of the 13th was received some days ago - The fight must go on - The cause of civil liberty must not be surrendered at the end of one, or even one hundred defeats - Douglas had the ingenuity to be supported in the late contest both as the best means to break down, and to uphold the slave system - No ingenuity can keep those antagonistic elements in harmony long - Another explosion will soon come -

Yours truly

A. Lincoln.

On the 13 I had written him a cheerful letter telling him not to give ^{it} up so - The above is his glorious answer
Henry Astbury