Honolulu
October 16, 1994

Mr. Brian Lamb
C-SPAN
400 North Capitol Street NW #650
Washington D. C. 20001

Re: Lincoln-Douglas and 1858

Dear Mr. Lamb:

Enjoyed debates very much.

Even better perhaps was your questioning of the historians which helped pull the pieces together.

Figured you might like to see a different kind of look at 1858--a slice of each president's life in that year--Van Buren to Theodore Roosevelt. Sort of a frozen time frame sandwiched around the time of the debates.

This is an unpublished work.

My purpose is to juxtapose presidents, in their interpersonal relationships, their views of each other and their written or spoken opinion of major events, such as the XYZ Affair, Mexican War, Dred Scott, John Brown, tariff, the battleship Maine, etc.

Pass this around to colleagues.

Am looking for a publisher and appreciate leads on this front.

Sent similar sampler to novelist John Updike after his *Memories of the Ford Administration*, an account of James Buchanan's lost love, came out. He like it and said I obviously knew my Buchanan.

Other samplers have gone to published presidential scholars of different periods for comment.

It's a labor of love and will never earn me a buck. But good fun.

Go C-SPAN!

Sincerely - aloha,

[redacted]

1858

MARTIN VAN BUREN, 76, was in retirement at Lindenwald, his Kinderhook, estate near the Hudson River in upper New York.

James Parton, Jackson's biographer, asked for some information.

JOHN TYLER, 68, in retirement at his James River plantation near Richmond, Virginia, suffered through a long winter illness. For a while he thought he wouldn't survive. He later wrote "Nothing but the kind Providence of our Heavenly Father could have saved me."

While usually writing friends on political matters, Tyler also wrote frequently to his friend Matthew F. Maury on the latter's research on ocean sciences.

PRESIDENT JAMES BUCHANAN spent much of the year battling his 1856 Democratic rival for the White House, Illinois's Senator Stephen A. Douglas, over somehow bringing Kansas into the Union family without tearing the country apart in doing so.

Buchanan was aligned solidly with the pro-slavery Lecompton constitution for Kansas, feeling the people there could adjust their document's language at a later date after obtaining statehood.

As Douglas took stage as Buchanan's antagonist, in an oblique way, so did Abraham Lincoln enter the national psyche with a third view on how divided Kansas fit into the larger slave controversy.

In foreign affairs Buchanan was expansionist, willing and even threatening to put American military forces into Nicaragua and Mexico while still seeking to add Cuba to the United States.

On Kansas, in order to quiet high feelings in the South, Buchanan said in January that he would transmit the Lecompton constitution to Congress. He felt he had sufficient votes to pass it. Buchanan's note to Congress February 2 said "I am decidedly in favor of its admission and thus terminating the Kansas question."

Buchanan believed Democrats would support the Lecompton document; Douglas felt he had to oppose Lecompton or lose

his opportunity to be Buchanan's successor as President in 1860.

The two clashed often. Douglas said "I made Mr. James Buchanan, and by God, sir, I will unmake him."

T. W. Thomas wrote Alexander H. Stephens February 7: "Nothing short of seeing the Holy Ghost descending on Old Buck in the shape of a dove. . . Could ever make me trust him again."

Buchanan felt that in a post-statehood Kansas, slavery would die out "by the silent operation of economics and moral forces." He wanted statehood first, adjustments over slavery issues later.

Douglas fought immediate statehood on the grounds that the majority in Kansas did not rule at Lecompton.

Buchanan wrote Robert Tyler February 15: "Everybody with the least foresight can perceive that Kansas admitted, and the black Republican party are destroyed; whilst Kansas rejected, and they are rendered triumphant throughout the northern states. . . I very much fear that the fate of the Union is involved."

Before the House count the President wrote Hiram Swarr March 12: "(people of Pennsylvania) have not deserted me in my last political trial nor deserted the cause of Union and Democracy. I say the cause of Union, because if the Lecompton Constitution should be defeated in the House. . . I apprehend it will be the beginning of the end."

The administration lost the House vote, 114-113, when some of Buchanan's Democrats straggled into the chamber late. The vote followed a filibuster and fistfight. The Senate passed the statehood bill March 23 as the President did everything he could to throttle Douglas's effort to defeat the administration measure.

Buchanan sought a compromise within a House committee inorder to get the Senate bill through by working on an anti-Lecompton congressman, William H. English of Indiana. Buchanan wrote English: "It will be your fate to end the dangerous agitation, to confer lasting benefits on your country. . . "

The next House vote was 108-108. Speaker James L. Orr then voted in favor of Lecompton with a Montgomery-Crittenden amendment attached that said if Kansas rejected a reduction in its public land grants it could reapply for statehood at a later date. Douglas opposed English's bill of changes in the statehood bill and on Orr's vote Buchanan thanked English for bringing about a settlement.

In June Howell Cobb and Slidell urged a Buchanan-Douglas reconciliation. The President, now 67 years old, was agreeable although he felt Douglas had betrayed the administration. Douglas announced to the Senate June 15 that he wished to rejoin the regular Democratic ranks.

But in a debate in Chicago July 9 with Lincoln, his opponent for his Illinois seat, Douglas attacked both Lincoln and Buchanan, deciding he could lick them both.

The Lincoln-Douglas summer debates on Kansas and the English bill was just what Buchanan did not want since he thought the sectional issue had been buried with passage of the English bill. He didn't want the slavery issue reborn.

Douglas's attacks were directed at Buchanan as often as Lincoln and the President condemn both for sacrificing the public interest for personal gain.

Cobb informed Stephens September 8: "Publicly he (Douglas) attacks the administration. . . Privately he indulges in the coarsest abuse of the President. . . to ask our support is. . . asking too much. . . (Douglas) determined to break up the Democratic party. . . unite with anybody and everybody to defeat us."

Governor Wise of Virginia wrote Buchanan October 12 that if Douglas won re-election without administration support, then Buchanan will have been rebuked and reduced by the Douglas faction. If Douglas lost with administration opposition, the administration would be dead. Wise felt Buchanan could be saved only if Douglas won with Buchanan's support. Buchanan agreed, but Douglas spurned peace overtures.

After Douglas's victory and loses for Buchanan Democrats everywhere, the President wrote his sister Harriet October 15 "we have met the enemy. . . and we are theirs. . . our crushing defeat. . . so great that it is almost absurd. . ."

In the campaign in the North Seward reported a future collision "is an irrepressible conflict between opposing and enduring forces."

Buchanan then appointed his defeated friends to foreign posts or to fill expired posts filled earlier by Pierce, thus helping eliminate his own support nationally for any political battles ahead.

Buchanan's message to Congress in December said the nation had survived Kansas and a financial panic, that Great Britain would withdraw from Central America, that trade treaties were being signed. He asked for an increase for the Navy, protection for Americans in Central America and the purchase of Cuba.

Instead, Congress was interested only in the slave question.

Mexico returned to the American agenda when Buchanan requested that the United States be allowed to occupy Mexico in times of civil disorder but the Senate refused to ratify such a diplomatic course. Buchanan wanted Mexican territory, specifically Chihuahua and Sonora.

Mexico at the time was in political chaos and John

Forsyth, the American minister to Mexico City, told Cass in January that the United States should seize Sonora with the demand: "Give us what we ask. . . or we will take it."

After numerous incidents in which Americans were killed, Forsyth, on his own, broke off diplomatic relations in May.

By December Buchanan, in his message to Congress, asked for an American protectorate over Chihuahua and Sonora and ". . . establish military posts within (Mexico). . . " The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations favored this idea; the Senate rejected it, 31-25, in February of 1859.

Earlier Buchanan asked congressional approval to use troops if necesssary to protect American travellers in Central America. Congress declined. But Buchanan negotiated a treaty with New Granada and obtained United States transit rights in Nicaragua.

He also asked Congress for funds to purchase Cuba and settle claims with Spain left over from the *Amistad* case.

Buchanan miscellany for the year:

--Nathan Clifford of Maine was named to the Supreme Court January 12.

--Minnesota achieved statehood May 11.

--After a United States Navy sailor was killed in Paraguay, the President sent 19 naval ships there in a show of force and to demand redress. The objective also was to impress on Europe how the United STates intended to enforce the Monroe Doctrine.

--And when American settlers in the Northwest disputed Hudson Bay Company agents' claims of ownership of the San Juan Islands off Vancouver Island, Buchanan ordered the Navy and the Army, under Scott, to hold possession until negotiations could begin.

--Sir William Gore Ousley, the British minister, had accompanied Buchanan to Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania, August 5 when news was received that the Atlantic cable had been completed. Queen Victoria sent the first message on August 16.

MILLARD FILLMORE was 58 years old when he married for the second time, and, after Tyler, became the second widowed President to do so.

He was in retirement in Buffalo, western New York, still interested in politics but permanently on the sidelines as observer.

The marriage to Mrs. Caroline Carmichael McIntosh, 44, took place in Albany February 10. They were married in the same room where Hamilton had been married 75 years earlier. Fillmore had been widowed nearly five years since leaving the White House in 1853.

The bride was the childless widow of Ezekiel C. McIntosh, Albany merchant. She was born in Morristown, New Jersey, and her estate was in excess of $100,000. Her education was confined to a finishing school for ladies.

They selected Madrid and Paris for a honeymoon over the winter of 1858-59.

He turned down a Buchanan offer to promote trade with Russia and seek out new immigrants.

The couple bought a huge Victorian house, the John Hollister mansion, on Niagara Square and Delaware Avenue in Buffalo.

She soon became well-known to Fillmore's Buffalo friends and frequent entertaining speeded this social process. The new Mrs. Fillmore placed portraits and busts of the ex-President all over the house.

Fillmore shunned all political meetings in Buffalo but remained interested. He wrote W. W. Corcoran October 12: "I take no part in political affairs. I dare not go to Washington (lest) I am publicly attacked for interfering."

Fillmore was critical of Buchanan and felt his own course was still the correct policy.

An economic conference in Cincinnati to stimulate exports from the South made Fillmore the chairman.

Fillmore contributed to and worked toward building the Buffalo General Hospital which was completed in this year.

FRANKLIN PIERCE spent the year in Europe on something of a grand tour.

After a winter far from New Hampshire's cold, at Madeira in the Atlantic, the retired President and his lady, in the spring, moved on to Portugal, Spain, France, England, Belgium, the German states, Austria and Switzerland.

Most of the summer was spent on Lake Geneva. And the following winter found them in Italy.

Hawthorne visited in Rome and wrote of Pierce: "Something. . . seemed to have passed away out of him, without leaving any trace."

Campbell, McClelland, Cushing and Davis often wrote news items for Pierce who enjoyed a sense of satisfaction on hearing that Buchanan was in constant trouble.

Pierce was 54 on November 23.

UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM TENNESSEE ANDREW JOHNSON voted for the Lecompton constitution even though he considered slavery an evil. He also didn't believe in

freedom for blacks and owned eight slaves himself.

His son Robert, 24, passed the bar, became secretary of the Greeneville Bar Association, and then was elected to the Tennessee House.

On January 23 Johnson wrote Robert that Buchanan was a failure due to his being ". . . too timid. . . " And he felt later that Kansas killed Douglas.

Johnson frequently was at odds with Senator Jefferson Davis and hinted that Davis wanted to be President. "The Presidency has become a great absorbing idea. . . public business ruined because Senators are President-making. . . Damn the Presidency--It is not worthy of the aspirations of a man who desires to do right."

During a Senate debate on railroads Johnson said it was unconstitutional for the government to build railroads. When Senator Gwin reminded Johnson that the Democratic convention of '56 supported a railroad to the Pacific Johnson replied: "I am no party man, bound by no party platforms, and will vote as I please."

Johnson again pushed his Homestead Bill and it was put on the agenda for discussion May 20. Said Johnson: "I do not look upon the growth of cities and the accumulation of population about cities as being the most desirable objects in this country."

In one speech Johnson said: "In 1820 we had a compromise; the republic was agitated, dissolution threatened. . . In 1850 several measures were passed as compromise measures; they produced a great agitation; a dissolution of the Union was threatened; in 1851. . . another compromise. . . and increasing source of agitation. Compromise--I almost wish the term was stricken out of the English language. . . . I am for the Union (but) this thing of saving the Union. . . has been done so often that it has gotten to be entirely a business transaction."

Johnson clashed with Senator Bell of Tennessee in the spring since the Tennessee Legislature had instructed Bell to favor Kansas-Nebraska and he was one of the few southerners to vote against it. The legislature called on Bell to resign and Johnson joined in, calling Bell his "competitor." Bell resented this. Johnson's answer: "A gentleman and well-bred man will respect me; all others I will make do it." Rumors of a duel ended when they apologized to each other the next day though without doing so in a friendly manner.

Governor Harris of Tennessee often wrote Johnson urging him to come to the aid of the Democratic Party.

Johnson favored the purchase of Cuba.

He was injured in a train accident, his right arm broken. He was treated in a Philadelphia hospital and the injury impaired his handwriting.

By this year Johnson owned a home, office and hotel in Greeneville, an estate valued at more than $50,000.

Johnson belonged to no church, accepted Christ as a model, was Baptist in his thinking and admired the classless quality of Roman Catholicism. In fact he occasionally attended mass and sent one son to a Catholic school. Mrs. Johnson was Methodist.

Johnson reached 50 on December 29.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN spent much of the year locked in debate with United States Senator Douglas, a political vaudeville-carnival road show that covered nearly every nook and cranny of Illinois. No campaign anywhere in the country so saturated a state's countryside as completely as did the Lincoln-Douglas debates.

Douglas won re-election but lost the interest of the South as a presidential prospect; loser Lincoln gained national attention.

Lincoln began the year a railroad lawyer; he ended it saying he wanted to be President.

Oddly, the debaters agreed on many matters relating to Kansas as crucible for slavery as a national issue. When pressed by Douglas, Lincoln admitted to a belief in white supremacy, that blacks and whites would never achieve social or political equality.

At this point in his legal career Lincoln was one of the top lawyers in the state, winning cases everywhere and often making appearances before the State Supreme Court.

Lyman Trumbull warned Lincoln in January that deals were cooking back East to get Seward, Simon Cameron, Greeley and others to support Douglas for re-election as a Republican since he had taken a stance against Buchanan. Newspapers in Illinois voiced opposition and told eastern "wet nurses" to keep their hands off Illinois politics.

Lincoln worried now that he would be politically sidetracked. Republicans (former Whigs) had been fighting Douglas for years and were not anxious to support him now. Lincoln wrote party leaders that Douglas was still for popular sovereignty and in agreement with the Dred Scott decision.

Now 49, Lincoln, in February, went to Chicago to talk strategy with Norman B. Judd, chairman of the Republican state central committee, while Billy Herndon went East to talk to Republican leaders there.

The *Chicago Tribune* supported Lincoln over Douglas and 95 Republican county conventions in the state named Lincoln for the Senate race.

Law sidetracked Lincoln in May. He received word that

the son of an old New Salem rival and later friend, Jack Armstrong, faced a murder rap. The boy's mother, Hannah, urged Lincoln to help. Lincoln went to Beardstown, worked without a fee and gained an aquittal with tears in his eyes during his summation.

The state Republican convention held in Springfield June 16 passed a resolution unanimously that "Abraham Lincoln is the first and only choice of the Republicans of Illinois" to replace Douglas even though the decision itself would come from the Illinois Legislature.

In reply, Lincoln said "We are now far into the fifth year since policy. . . (to) end slavery, agitation. . . not ceased, but has constantly augmented. In my opinion, it will not cease until a crisis shall have been reached and, and passed. 'A house divided against itself cannot stand.' I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved. I do not expect the house to fall--but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other."

Lincoln came out strong against all the previous views on slavery and its extension taken by Douglas and he suggested a conspiracy to extend slavery which linked Douglas with Pierce, Taney and Buchanan.

Douglas said of the Lincoln nomination, "I shall have my hands full. He is the strong man of his party--full of wit, facts, dates--and the best stump speaker, with his droll ways and dry jokes, in the West."

Douglas opened his campaign in Chicago July 9 with Lincoln on hand to listen. Douglas discounted sectionalism, said the government was founded for white people with rights for blacks to be decided by each state.

Lincoln replied the next day, saying his house divided theme "may have been a foolish one," that it was a prediction, not a wish. Discard quibbling about race, he said, "Unite as one people throughout this land, until we shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal."

The Douglas campaign train had mounted cannon to boom notice of the senator's arrival at each stop. Lincoln rode along as a passenger. Lincoln's strategy was to trail Douglas.

When Douglas complained about being shadowed, Lincoln's advisers suggested a debate. Douglas was opposed, feeling he had nothing to gain by it, that it would be free publicity for Lincoln, that his state travel schedule had been announced well in advance.

Then Douglas switched and agreed. Between debates they made separate speeches almost every day.

The first debate, at Ottawa on August 21, drew 10,000

who stood in the sun for three hours.

Crowds were large everywhere, the prairie ablaze with the Lincoln-Douglas debates. There were special trains, oxen-pulled wagons, glee clubs, fireworks, a carnival atmosphere.

Nothing new was said. Each reiterated his positions. They respected each other but lost their tempers a few times. Douglas's voice gave out.

Douglas sought to tie Lincoln to the abolitionists; Lincoln accused Douglas of a pro-slavery conspiracy and said a Supreme Court decision eventually would say no state could exclude slavery. Douglas said this was ridiculous.

Douglas pressed Lincoln on the matter of racial equality. At Charleston September 18 Lincoln said "I am not. . . in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races." He said he was not in favor of blacks voting or holding office or marrying whites. "There is a physical difference between white and black races which. . . will forever forbid the two living together on terms of social or political equality. . . there must be the position of superior and inferior and I. . . favor. . . the superior position assigned to the white race."

Douglas criticized Lincoln's record on the Mexican War, said slavery could be excluded from a territory by the people's refusal to enact protective legislation.

At Galesburg October 7 Lincoln stressed the moral issue involved. At Alton October 15 he said "The real issue" was "one class looks upon slavery as a wrong. . . another. . . does not. . . " Those who felt it wrong, he said, wanted to "make provision that it shall grow no larger."

Both men agreed on preserving the Union, against black-white equality, against sectionalism, against agitation, against the extension of slavery. Their differences were on the moral side.

In addition to the debates Lincoln spoke alone in 25 other towns and covered Illinois so thoroughly that few politicians ever got to know as many people within their own region.

The legislature voted for Douglas, 54-46.

The debates killed off Douglas's presidential hopes in the South; Lincoln was transformed into a national figure.

Lincoln wrote Dr. A. G. Henry, "I am glad I made the late race. It gave me a hearing on the great and durable questions of the age." He wrote Judd "I have been on expenses so long without earning anything that I am absolutely without money now. . . "

Small Illinois newspapers boomed Lincoln for President; Jesse Fell asked for biographical material. Lincoln told Fell he would like to be President but thought Seward or Chase were more prominent. "I. . . admit that I am

ambitious and would like to be President. . . but there is no such good luck in store for me. . . " He said he wanted another crack at Douglas's Senate seat in 1864.

U. S. GRANT was ill with ague and fever and was in a semi-invalid condition for six months.

Recovering, he quit farming and went to St. Louis as a rent collector.

Grant's father Jesse decide the Army had ruined his son.

To make ends meet Grant rented his Hardscrabble home and farmed his father-in-law's land when Frederick Dent moved to the city.

Grant, 36 in April, worked in the fields with blacks. Julia's father took a dim view of this practice whether the farmhands were slaves or freed blacks.

Grant hired a few and borrowed one. Later Grant bought a black, William Jones, and they often worked together. Julia owned four slaves. She later leased them out but later reclaimed a slave named Julia. Eventually Julia became Julia's maid.

Farming was going well until Grant took sick. He suffered for almost a year in a recurrence of childhood ills. He found work in the fields more difficult once he was back on his feet. With production down, Grant sold his stock, crops and equipment at auction.

That winter he established the collection agency with Harry Boggs, his wife's cousin in St. Louis.

Grant spent the entire winter alone in St. Louis and soon quarreled with Boggs.

Grant read all the Lincoln-Douglas debates and while admiring the points Lincoln made sided with Douglas. John W. Emerson, a Missouri friend, later claimed Grant was very informed on the slavery controversy.

Before joining Boggs, Grant talked of finding work in St. Louis or Covington, Kentucky.

His son Jesse was born on February 6. Grant liked to romp on the floor with his children in contrast to the austerity of his own upbringing. Fred, though 8, still could not read.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES was appointed City Solicitor for Cincinnati in December at a salary of $3,500. His selection was made by the City Council.

Hayes, 36 in October, now was a reliable party man, the party right or wrong. In that sense Hayes was seen as kind, upright, dependable, safe.

The *Cincinnati Commercial* called him "honest and capable. . . "

Hayes' son Rutherford Platt was born.

The Lincoln-Douglas debates made Lincoln's name known to both Grant and Hayes in this year.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR took his first look at the South to meet his future in-laws.

He spent two weeks in February in Fredericksburg, Virginia, to meet members of the Herndon and Hansbrough families. The Herndons owned slaves.

Arthur made a good impression. Dr. Brodie Herndon, Dabney's father, wrote in his diary on February 26: "He is a fine looking man and we all like him very much."

In March Arthur wrote to his father in Albany that he would be in the capitol in connection with arguments in the Lemmon Slave Case. Arthur was listed as "attorney for the people."

On February 3 Arthur received a commission in the militia as a judge advocate of the Second Brigade.

Arthur, the unmarried New York City attorney, was 29 in October.

JAMES A. GARFIELD, the youthful college president, at long last tied the knot but not without one more swing east to see Rebecca and Maria.

Garfield also became an ordained minister and, often depressed, wondered what new worlds he could conquer.

One conquest came in a highly-charged five-day debate with an evolutionist.

Western Reserve had 250 students and Garfield held a training workshop and prepared the lectures on American history.

His teaching staff was five, including Booth and two specialists. Youngest faculty member was James Harrison Rhodes. Each teacher was expected to be able to teach everything.

Garfield himself handled the ancient languages, math, history, philosophy, English literature, rhetoric and geology. English was his most popular class. Geology was taught at 5 a.m. He was against rote memory and students long remembered his many kindnesses.

Intending to stay a year, now Garfield turned restless in the head chair, felt he was sitting still.

He wrote C. E. Fuller on January 16, "My heart will never be satisfied to spend my life in teaching. Indeed I never expect to be satisfied in this life, but yet I think there are other fields in which a man can do more."

In the spring Norman Dunshee was still working to oust Garfield but the trustees gave Garfield the title of Principal. Dunshee and Harvey Everest charged that Garfield had plotted to gain leadership of the college.

Garfield now was more interested in the study of science that anything else in the cirriculum.

Garfield was fond of chess and tried to arrange an intercollegiate match (which would have been the first in the country) but local conservatives objected on the grounds that it was a vain amusement.

It was on January 1 that Garfield heard that Maria Learned was very sick with lung fever and calling for him.

Garfield went to Poestenkill, New York, and sat at the sickbed with Rebecca. In his diary he noted how "strong the cord" that bound him to Poestenkill.

By April Garfield had decided to "try life in union." He wrote Lucretia on June 29 that "all who love me can aid me by support and forebearance." She had waited four years.

Garfield debated building or renting a rooming house for Crete who had gone to Bryan in northwestern Ohio to teach drawing.

After commencement in Hiram that summer Garfield was restless and rushed around Indiana visiting relatives and colleagues and looking into business opportunities. He seemed preoccupied when he was with Crete. He toured Illinois with old friend and enemy Wilber who lived there. In Chicago he visited for an hour with Douglas, before the debates, then stopped in Bryan and when he left she cried.

He wrote Rebecca again, went visiting with Almeda. He had suggested to Lucretia that he was marrying out of a sense of duty.

Garfield was ordained a minister on September 18. The certificate entitled him to perform marriages.

In late September Garfield had a long talk in the woods with Zeb Rudolph, the father.

The couple married on November 11 at the bride's home in Hiram, Ohio, strangely, by a Presbyterian minister, Henry Hitchcock. The bride wore white with a low neck. The attendants were described as a "galaxy of beauties." Garfield was not 27 until eight days later; Lucretia was 26 having been born in Hiram on April 19, 1832. James had a savings account of $1,200. There was no honeymoon.

Between December 27-31, at Chagrin Falls, Garfield was locked in a debate with an itinerant freethinker, Denton, 37, an Englishman.

Denton believed life began by spontaneous generation and without God's assistance. Denton's views were a year ahead of the publication of Darwin's *Origins of the Species*.

Garfield prepared for weeks, read Denton's essays but stayed away from Genesis. Each man made 20 speeches and most spectators felt Garfield the winner. The godly saw him as the champion though some were upset when Garfield said the earth was millions of years old.

This would be the first year Garfield and Arthur had heard of Lincoln.

INDIANAPOLIS CITY ATTORNEY BENJAMIN HARRISON moved upward in Republican Party ranks when he was selected secretary to the State Republican Central Committee.

The job made him the party's fund collector and through correspondence the name Benjamin Harrison quickly became known to Republican Party leaders all over the state.

There was talk early in the year that Harrison should run for the Indiana Legislature. Benjamin turned to his father, a Congressman from Ohio, for advice.

John Scott Harrison, a Know Nothing, cautioned his son never to run unless victory was a certainty. Father added that he didn't think the Republican Party had a future.

Obviously the son felt otherwise.

Benjamin received the fatherly advice in a letter on January 29: "I look forward . . . when you may occupy a high position among the political men of Indiana. But a false step now might spoil all." John Scott warned Benjamin that as a Republican, "You will not long be popular with the American people. . . "

John Scott added, "You would be at home (since the legislature met in Indianapolis)," didn't think it would hurt his law practice except that "it might create an impression aboard that you had turned politician. . . I. . . would not consent to run unless. . . prospects of being elected was pretty good."

Father also predicted Douglas would run for President as a Republican.

Benjamin decided against seeking a second term as City Attorney but if his friends perceived him as being indecisive on the question of running for the legislature it was because they did not know that he had been offered the choice job with the central committee.

The committee met at Bates House on July 10 and passed a resolution calling for a $25 assessment for each 1,000 voters who had favored Oliver P. Morton for Governor back in 1856.

Harrison was responsible for collecting and distributing these funds. Another resolution requested lists of all voters in every district with notes on whether they were known to be Republicans, for the American Party, for Buchanan, for Douglas, and so forth with this information to be forwarded to Harrison.

Harrison, 25 in August, mailed out the fund appeals.

Harrison's notary public was renewed for four years.

At home, Carrie had a difficult labor and delivery of a daughter, Mary, called Mamie, who was born on April 3.

GROVER CLEVELAND, 21, became a ward worker for the Democrats in Buffalo, New York, during the 1858 election, usually a sign that a political career was about to bud.

His legal studies, however, created frustrations.

As he wrote his sister Mary Hoyt on January 1: ". . . holidays are over, and I am glad. I didn't get no presents and I am glad of that. . . " He added that he would get paid $500 for the year, and that he was "ashamed of myself after allowing such a swindle to be practiced upon me. It shows how selfish the men (he worked for were). . . " .

He wrote that he wished he hadn't signed the contract yet later a pay of $913 was listed for his "services."

Cleveland volunteered to help get out the vote. He would go to Democratic ward caucuses and go over lists of voters to make sure that each would vote.

Democrats controlled Buffalo and Israel T. Hatch headed the party which elected a series of different mayors in the 1850s.

Cleveland must have heard of Lincoln for the first time in this year.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, 15, lived in Poland, Ohio.

In this year he must have been aware of Lincoln and probably heard about Van Buren and Tyler by this time.

WOODROW WILSON, a baby of one, lived in Augusta, Georgia, where his father was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church.

His father Joseph was installed as the minister on May 2 and asked Samuel K. Talmage, president of Oglethorpe University, to participate in the installation. Later Wilson received a Doctor of Divinity degree during Oglethorpe's commencement ceremonies.

Wilson's brother-in-law, James Woodrow, was then on the Oglethorpe faculty.

The church in Augusta had 224 members, larger than the one Wilson had left in Staunton, Virginia, the year before.

The Wilsons lived in a large house and had slaves to help with family chores.

Wilson gave a sermon to the Greensboro Female College of Greensboro, Georgia, on May 23 in which he said that the man heads the family and the wife must be "subject to that head." The women's place was in the home, he believed, but he wanted women to seek education.

Wilson's covenant theology was aimed at working within government and thus was cited as the "theology of politics."

WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT, one in September, lived in Cincinnati, Ohio.

His mother wrote her sister Delia Torrey on December 13 that, "I delight in large families," and hoped to have more children.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT was born at 7:45 p.m. on October 27 in a three-story brownstone in New York City at 28 East 20th Street. He weighed 8½ pounds.

His father was Theodore Roosevelt Sr., 27; his mother Martha Bulloch Roosevelt, 24.

He was a partner in Roosevelt & Son, dealers in imported glass, located on Maiden Lane. A rise in competition in domestic glass later made him enter the banking business.

Theodore Sr. was born in New York City on September 22, 1831. Martha was born on July 8, 1834, in Roswell, Georgia.

They were married in Roswell, 20 miles north of Atlanta, on December 22, 1853. She was 18, petite, and had grown up on a southern plantation.

There was plenty of inherited money in the Roosevelt family. The home on 20th had been a gift of Theodore Sr.'s father. It was built in 1848.

The Roosevelts were upper middle class. Theodore Sr., the youngest of five boys, was interested in business and philantrophy. He had little interest in politics except to hate Tammany Hall.

Theodore Sr. was a founder of the Orthopedic Hospital, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Newsboys' Lodging House and the YMCA.

Every Sunday he taught at a mission school or interviewed wayward children. Never a snob, he was interested in slum children and tried to settle them on farms in the West.

He also showed charity for sick kittens.

Theodore Sr. had a lot of drive, power, was persuasive, rode a horse in Central Park, could dance all night.

Martha, called Mittie, liked painting and sculpture, put porcelain about the house, was a wine connoisseur, was witty and a good story teller.

The baby's ancestry was mostly Dutch, Scotch, English, Welsh and Huguenot.

Theodore Jr.'s ancestors were early settlers in New Amsterdam, mostly as merchants.

But a farmer, Klaes Martensen van Roosevelt, was the first. He landed in New Amsterdam in 1649.

Nicholas Roosevelt was the first born in New Amsterdam and he became an alderman (1698-1701).

Klaes was also the ancestor of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt.

A Roosevelt was in the New York Senate at the time of Hamilton. Another Roosevelt was married in Paris with Lafayette giving the bride away.

James Roosevelt served in the Continental Army and opened a hardware store on Maiden Lane.

Grandfather Cornelius van Schaack Roosevelt, born in 1794, was worth $500,000. Cornelius's wife Margaret Barnhill was born in 1799.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was a fifth cousin. Mittie introduced Franklin D. Roosevelt's parents to each other.

One of Martha Bulloch's ancestors tried to colonize Darien near Panama. Five ships carried 1,200 people to Darien in 1698. A second sailing out of Glasgow, Scotland, in 1729, included the Reverend Archibald Stobo. They found that Spaniards, the climate and disease had decimated the Darien settlement. The ship then headed north to Charleston, South Carolina.

Jean Stobo, Theodore Jr.'s great, great, great grandmother, married James Bulloch and moved to Georgia. Their grandson, James S. Bulloch, had a daughter, Martha.

Martha's paternal grandmother was Welsh and English and lived in Pennsylvania. Other ancestors included Scotch-Irish and German.

Martha's half-sister Susan Elliott entertained Dr.

Hilborne West of Philadelphia who was the brother-in-law of Theodore Sr. West was in love with Susan. West returned north and later brought Theodore Sr., 19, to Roswell. There he met Martha, then 15, and was enamored by her.

For their wedding later, ice was hauled 200 miles from Savannah to make ice cream. Then the couple settled in New York City.

Her father James Bulloch moved in high circles in Georgia and used to entertain Governor James E. Oglethorpe. There were many politicians in the Bulloch family.

Martha's mother, Martha Stewart Bulloch, was born in 1834.

Theodore Jr.'s older sister Anne was born in 1855.

Both grandmothers were present at the birth of Theodore Jr., described by Martha's mother as "sweet and pretty," but by Mittie as more like a terrapin.

Mittie usually dressed in white and would bathe twice a day.

At the time of Theodore's birth New York City had a population of 750,000 and Brooklyn 200,000.

On the night of Theodore Jr.'s birth, Donizetti's *Daughter of the Regiment* was the opera of the evening.

Macy's opened for business for the first time the next day.