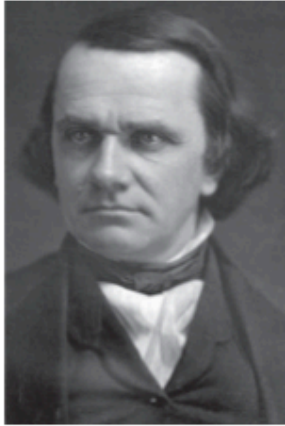


SENATOR 4
ILLINOIS (D)



YOU ARE SENATOR
STEPHEN A.
DOUGLAS

You may be kinda short, but you're hugely influential in Illinois politics, and a major player here in the Senate: a skilled debater and tactician. You've put your reputation on the line for this bill, and you're going to make sure it's fantastic.

Democratic Electoral Ticket.



Democrat

As a Democrat, you feel that you represent the common people of the United States: small farmers, laborers, and settlers moving west. You think that wealthy landowners and businessmen shouldn't have as much influence over politics—they're overrepresented as it is!



ARISTOCRATS



EXPANSION



FARMING



Illinois

Illinois is full of small, independent farmers, so you respect the common people's desire to run their states however they see fit. That said, your state's cities are growing, too, so you know that it's important to bring America into the modern world. In fact, you've recently been seeking funding for a new railroad: Chicago needs it!



RAILROADS



STATES' RIGHTS



SLAVERY

Stephen Douglas (Democratic Senator, Illinois): Speech on the Compromise of 1850

My first proposition was to bring the *whole* of the country acquired from Mexico into the Union as *one*, and reserving the right to subdivide all that portion of it east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains into as many States as Congress should determine...under this bill the whole country would come in as a free State, and that each of its parts would be free or slave not by an act of Congress -- for I do not think that Congress has that power -- but by the decision of the people inhabiting the country, the only sure guarantee of freedom.

The people of California have settled to slavery question for themselves. Slavery is now prohibited by a provision in the Constitution of the State of California, covering less than one-third of all the territory acquired from Mexico...The people [of California] have decided in favor of freedom, and slavery has been excluded to the extent of the present limits of the State of California

Whose rights have the people of California usurped [taken]?... What rights then, have they usurped?...What laws have they violated?...They recognize, to the fullest extent, that Constitution as the paramount law, and have formed for themselves a State constitution in strict obedience to it. No Senator pretends that any provision of the Constitution of California is repugnant [contrary] to the Constitution of the United States. I hold that the people of California had a right to do what they have done -- they had a moral, political, and legal right to do all they have done.

It was my desire to have said something of the resolutions [compromise bill] introduced by the distinguished and venerable senator from Kentucky, [Mr. Clay;]...this nation owes him a debt of gratitude for his services to the cause of the Union on this occasion. I care not whether you agree with him in all that he has proposed and said, you cannot doubt the purity of the motives, and the self-sacrificing moral courage of standing between the two great hostile factions, and rebuking the violence and excesses of each, and pointing out their respective errors...and all this with an impartiality so exact, that you could not have told to which section of the Union he belonged...The people of the whole country, North and South, are beginning to see that there is nothing in this controversy which seriously affects the interests or invades the rights or the honor of any section or State. They will not consent that this question shall be kept open for the benefit of politicians, who are endeavoring to organize parties based on geographical lines...The Union will not be put in peril; California will be admitted; governments for the territories must be established; and thus the controversy will end, and I trust forever.