

**A BRIEF TREATISE UPON
CONSTITUTIONAL AND PARTY
QUESTIONS AND THE HISTORY
OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649034420

A Brief Treatise upon Constitutional and Party Questions and the History of Political Parties by
J. Madison Cutts & Stephen A. Douglas

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J. MADISON CUTTS & STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS

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OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

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A BRIEF TREATISE
UPON
CONSTITUTIONAL
AND
PARTY QUESTIONS,
AND
THE HISTORY OF POLITICAL PARTIES,

AS I RECEIVED IT ORALLY FROM THE LATE SENATOR
STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, OF ILLINOIS.

BY
J. MADISON CUTTS,
BREVET LIEUTENANT COLONEL, U. S. A.

NEW YORK:
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY,
443 & 445 BROADWAY,
1866.

U. S. 324.4
~~7397.31.7~~



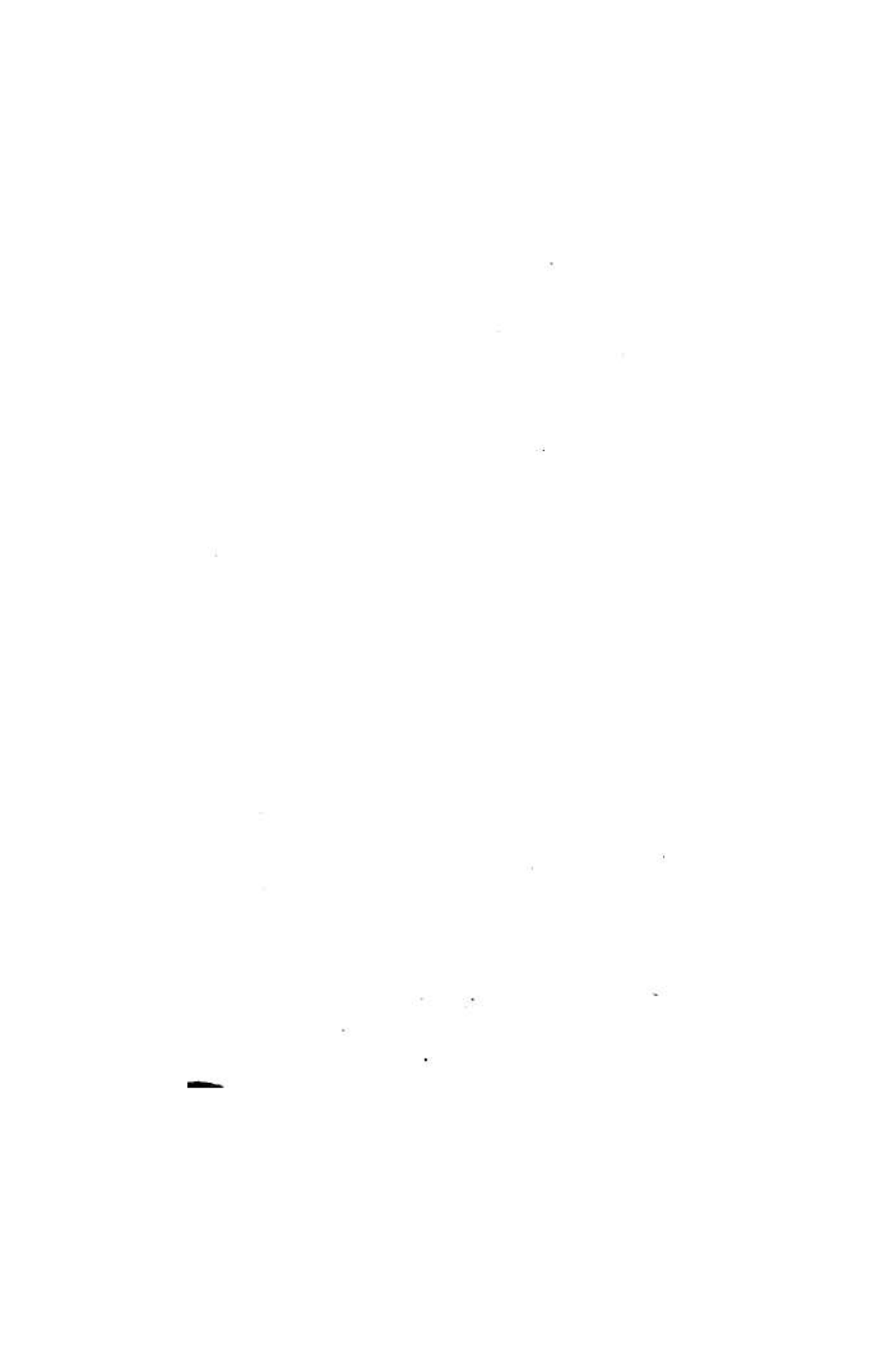
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Southern District of New York.

TO THE FRIENDS
OF THE
HON. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS,
NORTH, WEST, AND SOUTH;
AND IN AN ESPECIAL MANNER MOST WARMLY AND AFFECTIONATELY
TO THE
HON. DANIEL P. RHODES,
OF CLEVELAND, OHIO,
HIS RELATIVE, VERY DEAR FRIEND, AND FAITHFUL EXECUTOR,
THIS VOLUME
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.



P R E F A C E .

IN the summer of 1859 Mr. Douglas remained in Washington ; and as I was very desirous of receiving from him a statement of his own political faith, with the general views of a statesman upon Constitutional, Political, and Party Questions, I prepared, with his consent, a brief analysis of such subjects as I wished him to explain to me. We were in the habit of spending an hour together each evening, until all the questions I had proposed were answered.

The following brief treatise embodies all of these conversations, which were taken down in writing, verbally, at the time—Mr. Douglas always pausing long enough to enable me to obtain his exact language.

As these conversations were not intended for publication, and were entirely free and unrestrained, wanting all of that method and careful thought which the term "treatise" implies, I have been induced to rely entirely upon the dignity of the subjects discussed, and their general interest to the friends of the late Senator Douglas, to justify the title I have adopted.

I am persuaded that this volume contains a more complete and perfect statement of his opinions than any original work of compilation by another could possibly embody, and that it will be generally acceptable to his friends, and be found worthy of their perusal, *because it came from himself.*

J. MADISON CUTTS,

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. A.

NEW YORK CITY, June 1, 1866.

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