

Chi Chicago Feb 27. 1850

Dear Sir

I received yours of the 13th inst. In order to
prop our rail road Bill - as reported by the ^{Senate} ^{THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES} in the
Senate, it will be necessary that the delegation in Congress from
this State should encroach should do to shoulder in Solid
Column - and vote down all amendments - I presume that
since I ^{am incorporated} ^{our} ^{particular} ^{particular} project - petitions are getting up in Kentucky
and elsewhere for donations for other rail roads, and
there is no doubt but an attempt will be made to ride
them Bills in on ours, and to load our bill down with
amendments so as to kill it - now the only way will be
for our delegation to agree before hand to propose no
amendments themselves and to oppose all amendment that may
be offered by others - our delegation should support
the Bill as a measure "to connect the commerce of the
Upper & Lower Mississippi with the Lakes." if I supported
on this ground, you will see that no other rail road
can be brought within the purview of this Bill
and therefore it would be unjust to attempt to ride
in other rail roads upon our Bill -

If any of our own delegation concur in the ground of
approving amendments themselves, with what grace can
they oppose amendments offered by other states?

You speak of obtaining an amendment from
the road from Springfield to Wilm.
There are not two towns in our State that have

Mason so much a party towards the completion of
the central mail road a Springfield & Cotton.
Springfield in particular refusing to sign the petition
which I sent them, and also has refused to call
a public meeting on to counteract in the least
the project - they have acted at Springfield as
though there ought to be no other mail road
in this world, than Col. Matthews mail road
from Springfield to Cedar do cies; - and I will
leave it to you whether it would now be right
for Springfield to endanger the passage of this
Bill by attempting to make it ride through a
mail road to Cotton; I say let every ^{part} stand
on its own bottom - after this Bill is passed I
would much certainly be in favor of a grant
of land for a mail road from Springfield to
Cotton - but that come up as a separate measure -
at all events if a mail road is made from
Chicago to ^{branch} Cairo - it will make the Rock
Island for a mail road to connect after and
Springfield unto it -

Whether there shall be any amendment offered or
an attempt made to fix the line upon the intermediate
points of the road between Chicago & Cairo, leave
all that to our own democratic Legislature.
The great object now is to get the grant
of land - and that object should not be
hazarded by raising minor questions which
can - and should be settled among ourselves.

I will now make a prediction, that the Bill will pass the State Senate; and as you are an only Whig member from this State, if it should be lost in the house, which is Whig, all the loco members from this State, will change its loss to you as a endeavor to make you the victim; and you have some Jesuitical friends in one about Springfield who want you placed who will unite in the Eng^t. I do not say this to influence your votes, ^{In exertions} I know you too well--.

We have nothing new here, the Canal will be completed by the first of April and no mistake

I think Clay will be nominated for Pres^t. what is your opinion about it -
I believe the Whigs in the Southern part of this State are for Taylor but in the Northern part
for Clay, but the Whigs in this State
can do nothing - I think the nomination for
Pres^t. ought to be made by the States
that ~~are~~; or by any probability may give
a Whig vote = and that it becomes
as the Whigs in Gt^ts. to be very mum and
modest on the subject = I shall be
happy to hear from you frequently - I have not
written you since you said you would
see me

Yours truly

H. A. Linc.
H. W. H. Lincoln

Batterson