

Washington, Feb. 2, 1849.

Friend Schooler:

A true Copy
J.M.

In these days of cabinet making we out West are awake as well as others. The accompanying article is from the Illinois Journal, our leading whig paper; and while it expresses what all the whigs of the Legislatures of Ills Iowa and Wisconsin have expressed - a preference for Col. Baker - I think it is fair and magnanimous to the other Western aspirants; and, on the whole shows by sound argument, that the West is not only entitled to, but is in need of, one member of the cabinet. - Desiring to turn public attention, in some measure to this point, I shall be obliged if you will give the article a place in your paper, with or without comments, according to your own sense of propriety.

Our acquaintance, though short, has been very cordial, and I therefore venture to hope you will not consider my request presumptuous, whether you shall or shall not think proper to grant it.

This I intend as private and confidential. Yours truly
(signed) A. Lincoln.