

(Confidential)

Washington Dec
12th 1854

Dear Sir:

I beg you not to attribute my delay in answering your note to any lack of interest. After the close of the Census I had so many duties pressing upon me prior to my leaving home, that I thought best to write answering you till my arrival here. Sickness delayed me a few days on the way, & I now embrace the first opportunity, since my arrival to write you.

I may say, I think, with confidence, that amongst the Whigs of my District, you are

the decided choice. But the
delegations, are a good deal
mixed so far as old party
designations go, though all anti
Nebraska. Stinson of Kankakee
is an old fashioned Whig. A plain
sensible man, I think you had
better write him a kind letter.
Residence Womence. I meant to
have seen him, but could not. I
talked with Ethelfield his Pastor
& neighbors, & he assured me Stinson
would be all right. Judge Parks
of Solist, is a Democrat, but anti
Nebraska, anti Pierce, anti Doug
las, & anti Shields. Elected by
fusion, in opposition to the regular
Democratic nominee. Parks has
a very good opinion of you, & you
will do well to wait on him
when he reaches Springfield. I would
suggest that you write A. McIntosh
Ed. The Democratic Solist, for his good

offices generally, & particularly with
reference to Parks. We may be of a good deal
of service (K. W.). Wheeler of Kendall
is a Whig (or Republican) I will en-
deavor to get a letter to him & to
some of our friends in Oswego. I cannot
tell certainly his P. O. address - I
know him well. The Representative
from Dupage, I am not personally
acquainted with. He is a free
Soiler, but what his former associa-
tions were, I am not informed. He,
Parks & Strunk were elected on one
ticket. The two Reps. from LaSalle
were elected as Rep^{ts}, but were
formerly Democrats.

Allow me to make a suggestion
or two as to persons outside of my
district. Adams of Rome,
(St Charles) Galeott of Munnings,
Gage of M^{rs} Henry, Swan of Lake,
are all first rate fellows, all

of Whig predilections, and I think ought all to be secured for you, with proper efforts, in the final action. Ben: Edwards knows Adams.

I will write to Sturges before he goes to Springfield.

As to Longjoy, you can judge as well as I can.

The lower part of my draft is all right of course, & could not be made righter.

If there is any thing I can do, command me unhesitatingly.

I shall write to Eustace of the Free Press, & try to induce him to stop his clamor.

The weather is fine, & the health of the city good. Doug has not yet returned.

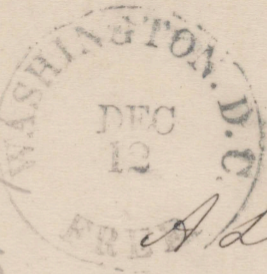
Truly,

Shelton,

P.S. Don't fail to write McLutens a kind & confiding letter —

Wm. J. Norton

Dec 12/64



Wm J Norton Esq



A Lincoln Essay

Springfield
Ills