

(Strictly Confidential.)

Chicago August 7th. 1858.

Amel A. Lincoln

Dear Sir



Your letter in reply to mine was recd. of course you are excused from not writing a longer letter to me or in fact from not writing at all as your time is very greatly occupied of course :- ere this you have doubtless read Dickey's letter in the "Times" of to day :- I will give you a little of the secret history of that letter :- one day last week upon arriving late at my office I found Dickey & Mrs. Hemington then having arrived in the City late early that morning :- soon after. Dickey sent the boy for John M. Douglass & the two locked themselves up together in my back office for 3 hours :- after that - Hemington & Dickey were in confab for some time & on my going in of an errand I heard D. reading H. a document which I at once recognised as a political document :- later in the afternoon Judge Dummer and of Utah sent Dickey word that Ben Edwards was in town & he at once shut for Ben & they were locked up together for some time then I left Dickey at my office when I went home at night writing a revised edition of his letter

also he came to the City & went direct to Gus Hering-
ton at Geneva & stayed a day or two before he came
here to write the letter. - Judge Drummond told me
that Dickey got Gus Herington to write to Ben Ed-
wards to write to Dickey for his opinions; on yes-
terday Gus was in town and he told me that he was at
the Times office for two hours by which I suppose
he was attending to the publication of the letter correct-
ing the proof &c. - when I saw John M. Douglass
here I knew instinctively that the I. C. R. R.
wanted Douglass elected for some reason and
an article in to days "Chicago Herald" which
I send you ~~with~~ may explain the true object
no better thing can be said against Doug-
lass than the sentiments of that article: - ~~if I~~
~~wanted to be killed with a stone I should select~~
~~the hatred of the people against R. R. & especially~~
~~the I. C. R. R. if you can only turn the ha-~~
~~tred of the people against the I. C. R. R. against~~
Douglass no argument could be better and I
trust that our papers will use it: - of course
they will try to turn it against us by saying that
you are the Atty &c. but they can't make
it mis I think: - think of it: - Scripps pro-
mised the data to Pine for the article I think

that the Republican paper had better wait
a little before using that argument but
agrees with me that it is a powerful thing when the
time comes for using it :- Scripps has writ-
ten a fine article in reply to Dickey's letter
which you will see in Monday paper :- I hope
you will recognise the necessity of caution
in those Leavell &c. districts since Dickey's
pronouncements :- I think that S. A. Douglas
got J. M. Douglas to get Dickey to make
this letter & that they are going to run Dickey
for Congress & Douglas men for Legislation
as I stated :- Had not the newspapers better
expose the plot & guard the ^{Republican} people against
it :- These representative districts must
be watched with eagle eyes :- for God's sake
don't let any indiscretion occur there

Truly Yours Friend
A. L. Whitney

Can the M. C. W. B. B. move
Bipeds in any way?

Aug 7, 1858

W. L. Whitney

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Wm A. Lincoln
Springfield
Miss.

