

Hennville Ills

Aug 31st 1858

Mr Abraham Lincoln

Sir



Can you find it within your convenience (I almost had said within your power) to address the People of this County in the month of September, or at furthest, in the early part of ~~September~~? Knowing your hands to be already full, and your whole time as it were, burthened with the labour of the campaign in other localities, the central committee have tried to procure other speakers but without success. We deem it of paramount policy to have a mass convention in Vermilion; many who were with us in '56 are now lukewarm, whom it will take a demonstration to warm, many who were against us in '54 are now ready to cooperate with us if the issues of the day were only laid open to them

Samuel Douglass is to be here on the
21st Sep. and we are afraid his
demonstration will ^{have} ~~an~~ influence
on the "Weak Sisters" which will
be injurious to us. We want to get
up a meeting before, or imme-
diately after, that of the Remov-
ing. Your popularity with the masses
and I know the feeling for I have
enquired) would ~~be~~ give what
you might say more influence
in the right direction than the
speaking of any other man in
the field. If you find it beyond
your reach to be here about the
time proposed, please inform us
whome we can get.

Yours truly
H W Beckwith for
the Central Committee

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[Aug. 31, 1858]
Danville -

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Mr. Abraham Lincoln
Clinton
McC. Witt County
Illinois

