

Washington, Jan'y 29. 1859.

Hon. A. Lincoln,

My Dear Sir,



I have been

shown the copy of an article said to have been prepared by Col. John Wentworth for publication in the Chicago Journal, the object of which evidently is, to stir up bad feeling between Republicans who were formerly Whigs, & those who were Democrats, and more especially to create prejudice against myself and the Democratic portion of the party. The article is an insidious one and well calculated to do mischief with those who do not understand facts as well as you & I do. It contains a number of statements utterly false but mixed up with others which are true and so colored as to give an entirely wrong impression to the

uninformed reader. The article pro-  
fesses to be a justification by Charles  
Wilson Esq. for having nominated you  
as a candidate for Senator in the Re-  
publican convention, but this is a  
mere pretence to get at something else.  
It seems that Wilson refused to publish  
the article, but the substance of it will  
probably be published in some way by  
its author. I hope you have seen it, if  
not I will furnish you a copy.

It is a despicably mean thing, and just  
such an act as it would take a man  
of Wentworth's reputed character to be  
guilty of. I have never had much to do  
with Wentworth & really know person-  
ally, but little of him, but it is right  
that friends like you and I should not  
permit any person whatever his motive  
to stir up unfounded suspicions and  
bad feeling between our friends it to  
prevent it effectually, it is only necessary

that we see they are not imposed upon  
by designing mischief making persons.

It needs no assurance from me  
to satisfy you of the good faith with which  
Messrs Sudd, Cook, myself & others who  
are assailed in this article worked for  
your success in the late canvass. I am  
so constituted as to be incapable of prac-  
ticing disguise and deceit if I would, &  
now write you with that frankness  
and candour which is so characteristic  
of your course towards everybody.

The Democracy here are very much  
demoralized & broken down, & I think it  
will so turn out, though I do not now  
see exactly how, that we will beat them  
even in Ill. in 1860. They are attempting  
to get up a new issue on the Cuba  
question. What think you of it? Of course  
we Republicans can never consent to put-  
ting thirty million in the hands of Mr. Bu-  
chanan in the present state of things, but

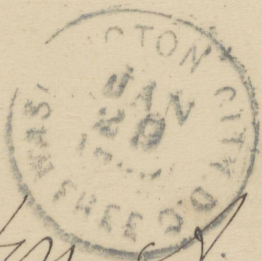
will  
our opponents make any thing  
by the attempt to put themselves  
for and us against the acquisition  
of Cuba? I am inclined not to  
place myself against the acqui-  
sition of Cuba under any and all  
circumstances, but against  
this foolish attempt to acquire  
it now in the manner proposed  
& with the knowledge we have that  
Spain will not sell.

Douglas looks badly, & is not  
the big man in the Senate he  
was two years ago. The Fitch  
affair has I think damaged  
him with the Shoulder Hitters and  
Rowdies, who constitute a  
large portion of his supporters.

Very truly Yours  
Lyman Trumbull

Jan. 27, 1857

L. Trumbull



Hon. A. Lincoln  
Springfield,  
Illinois