

In June, 1864, Jacob T. Wright then chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Indiana with his brother Dr. J. J. Wright on their way from Indianapolis to attend the Republican National Convention at Baltimore, arrived in Washington City the Saturday preceding the Convention. On the following Sunday morning at 9 o'clock by previous arrangement, the Wright brothers together with John D. Defrees Government printer, and who was personally acquainted with President Lincoln, called at the Executive Mansion. The party was immediately ushered into the library in a very informal manner, where the President greeted each one very cordially. During the 30 minutes conversation which ensued Mr. Defrees said among other things: "Mr. President how would you like when the war is over to visit your old home in Kentucky." Mr. Lincoln replied in these exact words. "Mr. Defrees, I would like it very much. I remember that old home very well. Our farm was composed of three (3) fields. It lay in the Valley surrounded by high hills and deep gorges. Sometimes when there came a big rain in the hills the water would come down through the gorges and spread all over the farm. The last thing that I remember of doing there was one Saturday afternoon, the other boys planted the corn in what we called the big field; it contained seven (7) acres, and I dropped the pumpkin seeds, I dropped two seeds every other hill and every other row. The next Sunday morning there came a big rain in the hills, it did not rain a drop in the valley, but the water coming down through the gorges ~~WASHTH GRONHTXSRN~~ washed ground, corn, pumpkin seeds and all clear off the field."

From J. J. Wright, M.D.,  
Emporia, Kansas?  
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