Notes: Life of Abraham Lincoln, Office Seekers

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Office Seekers

Lincoln and Office Seekers.

The Diary: The office seeker was truly Mr. Lincoln's bête noire. While the fate of the country was trembling in the balance, he was constantly being called on to solve some squabble over patronage, to put good men in office, while heading at the same time what he called "the shrieks of locality." Mr. Bryce tells how a man, meeting Mr. Lincoln on the streets of Washington and noting with alarm his unusually worried and abstracted look, asked anxiously: "What is the matter, Mr. President—has anything serious happened at the front?" "No," replied Mr. Lincoln, wearily; "it isn't the war; it's the postoffice at Brownsville, Mo." Very humorous, if summary, was his disposal of a delegation that once called on him to solicit a place as commissioner to the Sandwich Islands for a friend whose chief stated qualification for the post was that he was in poor health and needed a balmy climate. "Gentlemen," said Mr. Lincoln, kindly but firmly, "I am sorry to say that there are eight other applicants for that place, and they are all sicker than you.

N. & H. Vol. 4, p. 69

Office Seekers

He said he felt like a man setting lodging at one end of the table while the others and

was on fire.

Office Seekers - Make it on the beginning of Springfield - see second letter of April 1 - 2-29

Greatly - 2 may say顺便地-Decidedly

Letter to Cheek - wired & Cheek joined us then

Mending - Annuity - p. 44

"shall have to do it" p. 44 V 2 - 47

Meigs appointment - 52