Lincoln in the Campaign of 1860.

The files of the Illinois State Journal for 1860, from July 1 to election day (I have been unable to find the files for the previous months) contain almost nothing about Lincoln of a personal nature. While Douglas traveled over the country making speeches, Lincoln remained quietly at home, courteously but firmly declining to make a speech on any occasion. The following article from the Albany "Journal" is reproduced in the State Journal of July 10:

"Douglas is making campaign speeches 'on the sly'. He dare not so far brave public sentiment as to take the stump. But as he passes from city to city his friends take occasion to serenade him, and he improves the opportunity to commend himself to the suffrages of the people. 'Old Abe' does not deem it necessary to journey about the country to 'blow his own horn.' He will have to make the journey about the 4th of March next, but meanwhile he is content to stay at home. From appearances we think the sooner Douglas goes home the better it will be for him. His public exhibition of himself is as irritating to the Breckenridge men as would be a thistle to a raw wound."

The State Journal of July 30 contains an editorial criticizing Douglas for taking the stump, saying that the performance had disgusted even his Springfield organ, the State Register. Carl Schurz, then a resident of Wisconsin, was making speeches in the German language in Illinois. At Springfield he was the guest of Mr. Lincoln. "Mr. Lincoln accompanied Mr. Schurz as far as the state house," the Register said,

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"flattering itself," as the Journal remarked,"that it has found a parallel case",and thus sought to justify Douglas. That such a trifling incident should excite newspaper comment shows how completely Lincoln refrained from participation in the campaign. His only public appearance seems to have been on the 8th of August,the date of the great rally; and then he appeared only to decline to make a speech. "It has been my purpose", said he,in the course of his brief remarks, "since I have been placed in my present position, to make no speeches."

The Journal of July 18 notes the fact that "Mr.Lincoln was treated to an elegant serenade by Sanford's opera troupe on Monday evening"; but if Mr.Lincoln made any remarks on this occasion the Journal gives no clue to the fact.

That many newspaper men visted Springfield and sent letters to their papers in the East is no doubt true,but the fact cannot be proven by the Journal. Allusion is made to a man from the New York Tribune who presented the Journal editor with a new kind of paper file, but whether or not he was a correspondent does not appear.

The Journal of Sept.26 republishes portions of a letter "written from this city to the "Baltimore Patriot",one of the leading Bell papers of the South." Following is an extract:

"Some of the most interesting interviews which Mr.Lincoln has had have been with extreme Southern gentlemen who came full of prejudice against him,but who left satisfied with his loyalty to all the constitutional rights of the South. I could tell you of some

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most interesting cases,but it is enough to know that the general sentiment of all Southern men who have conversed with him is the same as that publicly expressed by Mr.Goggin of Virginia,Mr.Perry of South Carolina,Mr.McRae of North Carolina and many others who have not hesitated to avow their intention of accepting Mr.Lincoln's election and holding him to the constitutional discharge of the Presidential office."

Singularly the Journal gives the names of none of the distinguished men who must have called on Lincoln during the canvass. The following,however,indicates that he had at least an occasional "busy day":

"MR.LINCOLN'S FRIENDS.--On Thursday a very large number of Republicans who were in ~~this city~~ our city called on Mr.Lincoln,by whom they were received with his a customed urbanity and kindness. A great many 'Hickories' also visited Mr.Lincoln and expressed themselves as highly pleased with the cordiality and courtesy with which they were received--a number of them declaring that he was 'good enough for them'. Mr.Lincoln's office was thronged continually,throughout the greater part of the day,with visitors of both parties,and the interchange of courtesies was productive of mutual satisfaction."--State Journal,Oct.30,1860.

The Journal of ~~Sunday~~ Nov.1 says that it "noted a few days ago the arrival of Mr.Atwood,a distinguished artist of Philadelphia,for the purpose of painting Mr.Lincoln's portrait". The portrait was then completed,lacking only a few "finishing touches",and was on exhibition at the Senate Chamber.

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Lincoln appears to have had the unanimous support of his relatives. The Journal of Oct.1 contains this paragraph:

"Lincoln All Over.--The Staunton Gazette says that a Republican club was organized at Norton,Mass.,last Saturday evening and officered as follows: President,Annes A.Lincoln,Jr.; Vice Presidents, Senaca Lincoln and Silas W.Lincoln; Secretary and Treasurer,S.Leprelate Lincoln; Executive Committee,Daniel B.Lincoln,Harrison T.Lincoln and Calvin C.Lincoln."

John Hanks,who had carried the Lincoln rail into the Decatur convention in May,was very much exercised over a statement published in the Coles County Ledger that,although he had never been a Democrat, he was against the Republican nominee because he knows Lincoln to be a humbug." Hanks wrote a letter more than a column in length, published in the Decatur Chronicle and reproduced in the Journal, in which he said that he had theretofore been a Democrat,and had voted for Douglas in 1858 against his "old friend Lincoln",but that he now proposed to vote for Lincoln. He recounted their boyhood days together,saying:

"In boyhood days we toiled together; many are the days we have hugged the heavy oar on the Ohio,the Illinois and the Mississippi rivers together; many are the long cold days we have journeyed over the wild prairies and through the forest,with gun and ax; and though it is now pleasant to refer back to it,well do I remember when we set out together in the cold winter to cut and maul rails on the Sangamon river in Macon County thirty years ago to enclose his father's little

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home,and from day to day kept at work until the whole was finished and the homestead was fenced in. We often swapped work in this way, and yet during the many years we were connected together as laborers, sometimes flat-boating,sometimes hog-driving,sometimes rail-making, and,too,when it was almost impossible to get books,he was a constant reader and I was a listener. He settled all disputes of all the young men in the neighborhood,and his decisions were always abided by. I never knew a man so honest under all circumstances for his whole life."

Hanks says that as soon as he heard that the Republican state convention was to be held at Decatur he decided to get some rails made by himself and Lincoln and present them to that convention, and he did so.

John Hanks concludes his letter as follows:

"Though not a very beautiful symbol of honesty,I think a rail a fitting honor,and mean to present Abe with one of his own make,should he be elected,in the city of Washington,on the day of his inauguration,to be kept in the White House during his administration."

The Journal of July 5,1860,in reporting a meeting of the board of trustees of the University of Illinois,says that several vacancies on the board "will be supplied by the election of Hon. Abraham Lincoln" and others named.

The Journal of July 19,1860,contains a defense of Lincoln against the attack of Wendell Phillips in the "Liberator",in which Phillips called Lincoln "the slave hound of Illinois."

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