

The Milwaukee Sentinel,

DAILY, SUNDAY AND WEEKLY EDITIONS.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

Milwaukee, Wis., Nov. 4, 1895

Ida M. Tarbell,

McClellan's Magazine.

Dear Madam - The manuscript - no longer complete owing to the inopportunities of friends who had albums to round out - is that Mr. Lincoln read from at our State fair in 1859, the only time, I believe, that he addressed a Wisconsin audience. As that address was reprinted in the Nicolay-Hay work you have all that you may care to utilize. I regret that I have no other Lincolniana to place at your service. Judge G. J. Mills, now on his deathbed at Manitowoc, Wis., some thirty years ago published an account of his visit to Mr. Lincoln, but as the talk was mainly political, it cannot be used as part of a work that must necessarily be non-partisan. However, I enclose several paragraphs from it, having copied them some time ago for a work that never reached the public owing to the bankruptcy of the publishers who had undertaken to bring it out.

Respectfully,

H. W. Sawyer.

Slavens

9th There have been men base enough to propose to
me to return to slavery the black warriors of Port Hudson
and Clustee, and thus win the respect of the masters they
fought. Should I do so I should deserve to be damned
in time and eternity. Come what will I will keep my faith
with friend and foe. My enemies now pretend I am
carrying on this war for the sole purpose of abolition. So
long as I am president it shall be carried on for the
sole purpose of restoring the Union. But no human
powers can subdue this rebellion without the use of the
emancipation policy, and every other policy calculated
to weaken the moral and physical forces of the rebellion. 9th

91

Freedom has given us 200,000 men raised on Southern soil. It will give us more yet, just so much it has subtracted from the enemy, and, instead of alienating the South, there are now evidences of a fraternal feeling growing up between our men and the rank and file of the rebel soldiers. Let my enemies prove to the country that the destruction of slavery is not necessary to the restoration of the Union. I will abide the issue. 91

Judge Mills, who was introduced to Mr. Lincoln by ex-Gov. Randall of Wisconsin, afterward Postmaster-General Randall, adds to the above paragraphs:

"I saw that the President was not a mere joker, but a man of deep convictions, of abiding faith in justice, truth and Providence. His voice was pleasing, his manner earnest and emphatic. As he warmed with his theme his mind grew to the magnitude of his body. I felt I was in the presence of the great guiding intellect of the age, and that those huge Atlantean shoulders were fit to bear the

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weight of mightiest monarchies. His transparent honesty, republican simplicity, his gushing sympathy for those who offered their lives for their country, his utter forgetfulness of self in his concern for its welfare, could but inspire me with confidence that he was Heaven's instrument to conduct his people through this sea of blood to a Canaan of peace and freedom. W