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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

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MISS IDA M. TARBELL,

Care "Mc Clure's Magazine",

New York City.

Dear Madam;-

I have been intensely interested in your series of Lincoln articles as published in MC CLURE'S MAGAZINE, and desire to offer a suggestion regarding an incident at the nomination that has been refreshed in my mind, which might be of value to you. It bears upon the demonstration at the nomination of Mr. Lincoln, so beautifully and graphically outlined by you in November's issue, and some unwritten history regarding it that will show well why the plan worked so admirably. I got the fact from General A.H. Connor, at the time of the Convention Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Indiana. I studied law with the General at Kearney, Nebraska, his home from 1872 until his death some four years ago, and was his fast and constant friend during the later part of his life. ~~Mr. Judd, Mr. Swett~~ and others who had in charge Mr. Lincoln's canvas, had not anticipated that the other candidates would bring large delegations and brass bands, which was particularly the case with Mr. Seward. As the delegations began arriving, as outlined in your article, telegrams were at once sent to all sections of Illinois, and Indiana where Mr. Lincoln had friends, urging the people to come in large numbers. General Connor had been in favor of the State of Indiana in Convention declaring for Mr. Lincoln. Because he

took this ground he was turned down in the Convention, and not allowed to go as a delegate to the national Convention.

When the wire came to him he took up the new fight over the entire State, and urged all of Mr. Lincoln's friends to go at once. His keen judgment showed this move to be strategic. Being in close touch with the workers he was able to command and call to his aid a host of the best men in his State. The following day showed that this quick action of one man had placed about five thousand "Hoosiers" on the ground. Not only this, but he found as many more from out side of Chicago in the State of Illinois. Use at once they must this vast army, but to their chagrin found that Seward and other Eastern contingents had control very largely of the issuance of tickets by the National Committee, and that the late comers could not obtain an entrance into the wigwam. T'was not to lie down and cry but quickly remove or walk over the difficulty.

Mr. Connor had a personal and intimate friend who had moved his printing office from Indianapolis to Chicago and was somewhere on State Street, but his name I have forgotten. General Connor finally succeeded in getting a ticket for himself and found that they were printed. He went down to his printer friend, and asked him if he could duplicate the ticket. After a good deal of scheming and borrowing some type from another office, it was found that they could re-produce the ticket if they could get the card board. It took some hours to locate the quality but it was finally found. It was a delicate undertaking however, and they discussed the question as to whether they might not be punished for counterfeiting if they should carry the plan

into effect. So earnest however were they both in the cause of Mr. Lincoln, and feeling keenly the wrong as they believed, of the Committee giving all the favors to the other candidates' helpers, it was decided to make the attempt.

Five thousand tickets were printed. They were given out about one half to the Indiana contingent, and the other half to the Illinois shouters. No one receiving a ticket suspected that it was otherwise than genuine, but each man thus favored was urged to be in attendance very early at the opening session for nominations. Each one was given some instructions about the demonstration, but as stated in your article, this was not thoroughly understood in the first instance, and there was not entire harmony of action, but in the seconding speech the inspiration of the occasion caused perfect harmony of action, and in one mad and mighty outburst of enthusiasm born of determination to succeed, every "Hoosier" and "Sucker" rose to the occasion, and as General Connor has often said, "It seemed as though they would raise the roof from the wigwam, so tremendous was the enthusiasm, so great was the intense interest, and so deafening the thunderous roar of a mighty shout from five thousand voices as a unit."

After the election was over, General Connor on his first visit to Washington City after Mr. Lincoln's inauguration, acquainted the President with these facts, who enjoyed the scheme wonderfully and afterwards wrote a letter to the General in which he spoke of the matter. This letter I remember of seeing when I first went into the office, but in later years, my search failed to locate the document, as it seems to have been lost in a fire that occurred in the General's office. So far as I have been able

to learn, this incident has never been made public.

Such is the story as told to me by a warm hearted friend of Mr. Lincoln, young then in years, but high in the councils of his party.

Possibly these facts may be of some interest to you and if so I am glad to give the information.

I am a native born "Hoosier" and my family have been acquainted with General Connor from early boyhood.

Very truly yours,

John P. Hartman Jr.