

New Material.

Inclosure

Washington, Ind., Dec. 3, 1895.

S. S. McClure, New York,

Dear Sir:— I have always taken great delight in reading anything which pertains to the immortal Lincoln. You may rest assured that I am deeply interested in the Lincoln history you are publishing in your Magazine. In 1886-7 and 8 I traveled as pastor of United Brethren Churches in Spencer County, Indiana. I have known Rev. Allen Brooner, whose excellent picture appears in your Magazine, for many years. I have often been at his house, and heard him talk of Lincoln, but it was his mother who was acquainted with Mrs. Lincoln instead of his wife. Mrs. Allen Brooner is yet living.

I was also acquainted with Henry Brooner

who was nine years older than his brother Allen. He died five years ago. Henry Broome was very familiar with Lincoln's early days in Spencer County. I have before me some notes taken down direct from "Uncle Henry's" lips which I submit to you.

"I was born in Breckenridge County, Ky., Feb. 7th, 1804. We came to Indiana when Allen was one year old, in 1814, two years before the Lincoln family came, and we lived one half mile apart. I often went with Abraham Lincoln on horseback to Huffman's Mill on Anderson Creek, a distance of sixteen miles. Lincoln had a wonderful memory. On the way to and from the mill he would tell me what he had read. Dennis Hanks and his sister Sophia lived with some old

folks by the name of Sparrow, and they heired the estate. I helped drive up the stock at the time of the sale. Dennis Hawks married Lincoln's step-sister.

"Mrs. Lincoln often came to see my mother while she was sick. ~~My~~ There was only one week between their deaths, my mother ^{The bodies of each were conveyed to their graves on a sled.} dying first. I remember very distinctly that when Mrs. Lincoln's grave was filled my father, Peter Brooner, ~~extended~~ his hand to Thomas Lincoln and said, 'We are brothers now' - meaning brothers in affliction.

"When I was about 25 years old (1829) Abraham Lincoln came to my house and left an article of agreement which he had written for me to hold. One mile north of my home there was a distillery owned by John Dutton. He employed

John Johnson to run it one winter, and the article of agreement was made between them."

I think I have given you some material which has never been published. "Uncle Henry Broome" had remarkably good memory and was one of God's noblemen, a highly respected Christian, and a member of the United Brethren Church. As to myself, I am a minister of the U. B. Church, and pastor of the Church here (Washington, Ind) have served as annual Conf. secy sixteen years, and as presiding elder four years. I have taken the above from the lips of one who knew Lincoln well. Any part, or parts of the above which you can make use of, giving credit, you are welcome to. Yours truly. (Rev) J. T. Hobson.