

*Miss Rowley*

President Tolley:

In regard to the enclosed letter and inquiry concerning Judge Pettis, I wish to say that the Judge was an influential factor in swinging the Pennsylvania delegation into line back of Lincoln at the Chicago convention in 1860.

Judge Pettis was a delegate to the convention. On a Wednesday of the Convention, the Pennsylvanians held a caucus and agreed to support Simon Cameron as the first choice, McLean for second, and Lincoln for third choice. On Thursday a hot struggle was waged to secure the vote of the Pennsylvania delegation as a unit for Cameron until a majority of the delegation otherwise directed. Judge Pettis, who proposed this resolution, worked all night to secure votes for it at the caucus to be held the next morning. On Friday morning the convention began to ballot for a presidential candidate. On the first ballot Lincoln had 102 votes. At this point the Pennsylvania delegation hurried away to a committee room where Pettis, ~~disregarding the action of the caucus~~ moved that on the second ballot that Pennsylvania vote solidly for Lincoln. The motion was carried.

It is apparent then that Judge Pettis was very active in ~~getting~~ the Pennsylvania delegation to swing to Lincoln on the second ballot. That fact that he was later appointed by Lincoln to the Supreme Court of the Territory of Colorado would indicate that he must have been influential. However, Lincoln did not appoint him minister to Bolivia; he was appointed by President Hayes.

If the person who wrote this letter would like to have a short sketch of Judge Pettis and something about his trip to Colorado in 1861, refer him to my article in The Colorado Magazine for January, 1938; the article refers to the experience of Pettis while in Colorado.

*Enders*