Mr Lincoln as President-Elect.

By the election of November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln became the president-elect of the U.S. For four months, however, he could exercise no direct influence on the affairs of the country. If the South tried to make good their threat ~~to secede~~ in case he was elected, he could do nothing to restrain her. The South did try and at once. ~~Almost as tele-~~ ~~graphed~~ with the very election returns the telegraph brought Lincoln news of disruption ~~and the news in the South~~. ~~and morning and evening~~ ~~this continued in newspapers of all the~~ ~~news heads in the Union.~~ Day after day this news continued and always more serious. On Nov 10, the U.S. Senators from South Carolina resigned; ~~one~~ 5 weeks later that State passed an ordinance of secession and began to organize an independent government. By the end of ~~[illegible]~~ December the only remnant of U.S. authority in South Carolina was a small garrison commanded by

Major Anderson and occupying Ft Sumter in Charleston Harbor; the remaining forts and batteries of that harbor, the light-house tenders, the arsenal, post-office, custom house, everything in short in the state over which ~~the~~ the ~~U.S.~~ stars and stripes had floated was under the palmetto flag.

In his quiet office in Springfield Mr Lincoln read in January the reports of conventions in Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia & Louisiana all of which united in that month ~~in~~ the passing of ordinances of secession. ~~by [illegible] 6 States~~ In February he saw representatives of these same states united in a general convention at Montgomery Alabama and the newspapers told him how promptly and intelligently they went to work to found a new country - the Southern Confederacy, to provide it with a constitution, and to give it officers.

Mr Lincoln observed that each state as she went out of the Union prepared to defend her course if ~~need~~ necessary

Same – On Nov. 18 Georgia appropriated $1,000,000 to arm the state and in January she seized forts Pulaski and Jackson and the U.S. arsenal. Louisiana appropriated all the federal property in her borders even to the mint & custom house & the money they contained. Georgia, Florida, Alabama & Mississippi were not behind in their seizures and when the new government was formed at Montgomery it promptly took up the question of defending its life.

Mr Lincoln was ~~not~~ not only obliged to sit inactive for four months & watch this steady dissolution of the Union but he was obliged to ~~sit~~ see ~~the~~ what was still harder that the administration which he was to succeed was doing nothing to check the destructionists. Indeed all through ~~[illegible]~~ the period proofs accumulated that members of Mr Buchanan's cabinet had been systematically working for many months to disarm the north &

4

equip the south. The ~~unprecedented~~ amount of arms sent, quickly from northern arsenals became so great that the citizens of the towns from which they went ~~at last combined against it~~ became alarmed. Thus the *Springfield Republican* of Jan 2 '61, noted that the citizens of that town were greatly excited over the,

(copy)

In

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] for state militia.

In Pittsburg Pa, in December the citizens ~~[illegible]~~ made ~~such~~ energetic protests when they found that 123 cannon had been ordered south from the arsenal there ~~that~~ President Buchanan was obliged to countermand the order made by his secretary of war

In a note on Lincoln's note in the South Rep. claims Lincoln had 30,000 while in 1856, Fremont received but 1,194. (Look this up.)

SPRINGFIELD REPUBLICAN, Jan. 2, 1861.

The citizens of our town (S.) have noticed with some considerable remark, ("the procession of government license, which during the last Spring and Summer, and also quite recently, have been engaged in transporting from the United StatesArmosy to the U. S. freight station, an immense quantity of boxes of muskets marked for southern distribution. We find tha$ in 1860 there were removed for safe keeping in other arsenals 135,430 gov. arms. Nothing to do with distribution occasional made for state militia.")

The rapid disintegration which followed the election of Mr Lincoln filled the north with dismay. There was a general demand for some compromise which would re-assure the South and stop secession. It was the place of the Republicans the conservatives said ~~for~~ to make this compromise and a furious clamor broke on Mr Lincoln's head. His election had caused the trouble, now what would he do to quell it? How much of the Republican platform would he give up? Among the newspapers which plead with the president-elect to do something to reassure the south the most able was the N.Y. Herald. Lincoln was a "sectional president" ~~plead~~ declared the Herald who out of 4,200,000 votes cast had received but 1,850,000

The clamor about M L's head ~~was~~ ~~soon~~ became Even quite as loud on the subject of coercion as on that of compromise. indeed in a fine issue with its power If the states did go out — if no nothing compromise was hit upon on what was to be done? Was he in favoring of compelling them to give up the forts & arsenals & mints — and revenue cutters they had confiscated? ~~was~~ would he force them to remain in the Union If he would not compromise did he propose to coerce?

As soon as he heard the first timber in the Union structure fall L. seems to have begun to ~~bore~~ studied this subject — for less than a week after his election a correspondent of the Evening Post found him engaged in reading the history of the attempted nullification in 1832 and the summary & efficient way in which

Andrew Jackson had squashed the revolt. ~~The correspondent felt that he would not repeat what Mr L. said at the time but he assured his readers that while the president had no ambition to imitate the old chief, he had as much sagacity, honesty & firmness as old Hickory.~~ & [illegible]

In his opinion (as so he more Thurlow Weed did) - no state could in any way lawfully get out of the Union without the consent of the others; & that it was the duty of the president & other government functionaries to run the machine as it was. He never encouraged [illegible] expecting in any way in his [illegible] of the government to let the wayward sisters go in peace. Indeed it was believed in Springfield that he considered it dangerous -

12

and illogical" although no direct expression on the subject is recorded. He certainly was very amused at Fernando Wood's ~~scheme~~ plan to take N. Y. city out of the Union and make it a free city — a modern Hamburg. "I reckon" he told a New Yorker in ~~which~~ whom he discussed the subject, "that it will be some time before the front door sets up housekeeping on its own account".

2 As to the [illegible] future of other government property he would say nothing for the public though in Dec. 21 in reply to a letter from his friend E. B. Washburne who had just had an interview with General Scott on the dangers of the situation he wrote

(same day L. wrote letter to A. H. Stephens. q. v.

2.

and never been published; —

3 | 2 | 2

3.

From the above letters. it is evident that ~~It was undoubtedly~~ Mr Lincoln was at this time sure of what ~~he thought~~ [illegible] which sureness of mind enabled him to meet with serenity the ~~wrath~~ fury of the South, the abuse & plots of the Democrats of the North & the vacillation & defection of his own party. It will be seen from the quotations that He had the whole question stripped of verbiage & non essentials. He had reduced it to a few propositions & these he stuck refusing to yield them or to confuse things by compromising with local or irrelevant matters ~~So~~ sure of himself in this matter which he considered vital he went about the labor of preparation for his inauguration. ③ things occupied him especially: Getting acquainted with the men he was to be associated with in the administration (2) framing his cabinet (3) writing his inaugural. ~~One of~~ the first letters he wrote after the election was to the vice-president Hannibal Hamlin asking him for a personal interview at Chicago. ~~The two gentlemen met on the 23~~ at the Tremont House of Chicago and ~~they seem fin~~

~~the first to have conceived a cordial liking for each other.~~ ~~Indeed the~~ two men were antithetic in character & experience. Like Lincoln Hamlin had been born poor & had had a hard struggle ~~in life. He had~~ to get up in the world. He had worked on a farm, chopped logs, taught school, studied law at night, ~~turned~~ went with ~~happy~~ cheerful eagerness ~~from~~ to any job which would help him to gratify his ambitions & get on in the world. Like Lincoln he had gone early into politics & in Maine he had been a Democratic leader for many years tho always opposed to slavery indeed it was he who introduced the Wilmot proviso. In 1856 ~~then~~ at the same time that L. left the Whigs he left the Democrats. There was much of same kind of democratic feeling in the 2. Hamlin always "marched with the boys" & in 1856 entered the ~~[illegible]~~ Convention in Maine which nominated him as governor at the head of a party of lumbermen carrying a banner inscribed "the Jamie [illegible]

These ~~life~~ first pictures were most interesting according to Mr Hamlin story which he once gave to a friend Mr C. J. Prescott of N.Y. & which Mr P. ~~has~~ kindly written out for these articles

(see copy)

Hamlin since the nomination Hamlin
had done no part since a L
thing, too, since Mr ~~s~~ L's
nomination. The night the news
reached Washington, Seward's
followers were in despair but
nevertheless they went to call out
Hamlin, His first words ~~at the~~
angry (?) noisy crowd in which he
faced from his balcony were
"What is one man in this
crisis" & he reconciled the
crowd to the nomination
see Dawes in Century July '95.

~~The nomination in Chicago (with~~
~~fairly [illegible] field~~

He was a companionable man too
fond of a pipe & a story and L delighted
in Hamlin's ~~quaint~~ yankee expressions
& quaint ways of putting things

16.

A great many other men were summoned to Springfield by Lincoln in order that he might learn their views more perfectly. Among those who came either of his direct or indirect invitation were:-

While most
many of these
^ Mr Lincoln did not hesitate to talk over the cabinet with ~~some of~~ ~~these men~~ Weed says that L. introduced the subject himself in Dec when he was in Springfield by (over)

~~The cabinet was of course a subject of frequent discussion with the politicians of political experience. Indeed it was a matter of most burning interest to the country at large. Would Mr L. select conservative conciliatory associates or would he call to his side radicals & abolitionists. The press discussed the subject constantly and a new slate was set up from [illegible]~~

Since him nr

The making of a cabinet now that he had it to do was by no means as easy as he had supposed; that he had even before the result of the election was known assuming the probability of success fixed upon the two leading members of his cabinet, but that in looking about for suitable men to fill the other departments he had been much embarrassed, partly from his want of acquaintance with the prominent men of the day and partly he believed that while the [illegible] had supply. Saying that he supposed I had had some experience in cabinet making that he had a job on hand & as he had never learned that trade, he was disposed to avail himself of the suggestions of friends. He [illegible] talked freely of these opinions he sought but to [illegible] of others who sought him ~~and~~ continually trying to find out who were the best men & those for he could appoint them without injury to the party

more generally he sought that many [illegible] search

than during [illegible] to the

17

Cabinet

~~Almost daily, Lincoln's correspondence w.~~
~~kept his committee~~ [illegible]

State
Treasury
War
Att Genl
Navy
P.M. Genl
Interior

He had 7 places to distribute. He wished to call to his aid the best ability of his party but such ~~was the apathy of the times that~~ he ~~could~~ make no appointment which would antagonize any faction of the party — above all the Republicans must be held together. It was ~~strongly~~ desirable too that two or more ~~[illegible]~~ men of Democratic antecedents be called in order that they might be influential in rallying the Democrats to a union policy. There was besides the sections to consider. N.E. must have ~~at~~ one representative — Pa one, Indiana one. Many of his party were hoping that the South at least one if he were to be found.

the
Of two on
whom he
settled
one

He had ~~one name~~ his secretary of state he settled as soon as he knew of his own nomination — ~~this~~ was Seward. "It has been my purpose" he wrote Seward on Dec 8 "in offering this appointment from the day of the nomination at Chicago etc"

p. 657 L. & S.

Seward took 3 weeks to consider & finally on Dec 28 wrote that after due reflection & while under self distrust he had concluded it was his duty to accept. Strong efforts pressure was made ~~brought to bear~~ ~~on~~ L from time to time by S's opponents to persuade L to ~~accept the~~ erase S's name but to no avail

The other member of the cabinet on whom L had settled before his election was Salmon P Chase of O. ~~as in~~ ~~Sewards case~~. L wanted C. as he did Seward because of his experience in affairs, his ability & learning. He did not ~~make~~ ask his consent to the appointment however until Jan. On Dec 31, he wrote Chase to visit him:—

20

in the state - there was [illegible] [illegible] whose name appeared in many states than was th

The pressure in favor of Cameron began to be felt in Nov. for ~~good~~ the day after L. returned home from his visit with Hamlin at Chicago he wrote the V. P. elect; I deem it proper to advise you the

p 45 5. V. 1. L 25,

And from that time on L. was beset by ~~its~~ friends & opponents of the candidate. ~~He~~ He heard everybody patiently ~~in~~ trying his best to do what he called "balancing matters" and never committing himself. "I can only say" he wrote Ryan who continued him by ~~can~~ appointment that "I shall have a great deal of trouble do the very best I can. I promise you that I shall myself try to deal fairly with all men and all shades of opinion among our friends". It was in trying to do their duty he ~~appointed~~ Cameron at Dec. 31 in the following letter. (Dec 31. p. 662, But Cameron had scarcely rec'd this letter before his opponents in Pa. headed by Curtin the new governor & A. K. McClure had frightened L. into believing that ~~cause~~ the lack of trust in C. prevailing the country would do much to destroy faith in the new cabinet – & he recalled ~~the~~ the offer in his letter of Jan 3.

Naturally Mr Cameron was hurt by this letter. When Mr L. found that out he immediately tried to smooth matters by ~~[illegible]~~ substitution / "I wrote that letter under great anxiety" he told Cameron etc.

In place of the first letter he sent the following. It was a most characteristic amende honorable.

Of course all of this was at the time unknown to any but confidential friends and the press excitement over Cameron continued up to the day until L finally named him in March.

~~The [illegible]~~ Among conciliatory Republicans there was a great desire for

Cabinet –
[illegible] – Seward.

~~See L's letter of Dec. & "been his purpose from day of nomination" etc.~~

Southern members – Seward writes L. suggesting Hunt – Gilmer. Rayner – Scott

p. 487. Seward at W.

a southern member in the cabinet ~~Seward~~ suggested ~~several prominent~~ Southerners to L & Weed when he was in Springfield in Dec ~~talked with him on the subject~~ told L in his judgment at least 2 members of the cabinet should be from the ~~South~~ slave holding states. L was doubful ~~[illegible]~~ could they be trusted he asked? "There are men in Md. Va. N.C. & Tenn for whose loyalty I would vouch under any circumstances & in any exigency" replied Mr Weed.

"Well" said Mr L "let me have the names of your white crows"

Weed gave them. Henry Winter Davis of Md. Jno M. Botts of Va. John A. Gilmer of N.C. & Bailey Peyton of Tenn. Mr Seward a little later suggested several names to L. & Greeley likewise sent him a list of Southerners whom he declared it would be safe to take into the official family—

p. 604

~~on~~ your arrival [illegible] after the election
it was announced that I intended to
appoint only a [illegible]. I [illegible]
[illegible] first step [illegible] the practical
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

nevertheless [illegible] appointed
[illegible]

This report [illegible]
[illegible]

Please Resign

Ida M. Tarbell

22

of Missouri. He was one of the men upon whom the president had decided as soon as he knew of his election. He was ~~one of~~ the first — after Seward. Seward must be notified. 8 days after this interview Lincoln ~~sent Bates~~ that he ~~[illegible]~~ be pleased ~~sent him~~ the following ~~pr~~ curious little note:

P. Ced. R S. V. P.

~~It was while [illegible] by [illegible] & [illegible] to [illegible] this night in [illegible] & [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] by cabinet [illegible] a [illegible] up [illegible] that L. sat down [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].~~

23

Lincoln preferred John A. Gilmer of N.C. and had a correspondence with him in which he tried to make Gilmer see that he (Lincoln) "never had been, I am not now, & probably never shall be in a mood of harassing the people either north or south." He ~~Gilmer~~ tried if the South would explain his views they would see there was no cause for fear. The [illegible] a welcome for some time & L. invited G. to come to Springfield in January. In late [illegible] he wrote & refused.

See p. 464 V. I. [illegible] 25

But Gilmer could not be brought in to cabinet & declined an interview. By the end of Jan. L. was convinced that he could get no Southerner to accept a place in his Cabinet. The nearest to the South which L. so came nearly in his cabinet was [illegible] selection of Bates

cabinet ~~[illegible]~~ even the middle
of January ~~[illegible]~~ he
began to prepare his inaugural.
A more desperate condition
of public affairs could hardly
have been imagined. Every
peace measure had failed. 20
for and the men at that mo-
ment before Congress - the Critten-
den compromise had little
chance ~~of success~~. 4 states

27

were out — Southern members were rapidly resigning from Senate & House, the North was desperate and divided. The confusion and danger of all this beat in L. more heavily than on any other man in the country yet all in turmoil he calmly locked himself up in an ~~Store of~~ upper room in a store across the street from the State House where he had his office & there with no books ~~around~~ ~~up~~ but a copy of the constitution, Henry Clay's speech of 1850, Jackson's proclamation of ~~[illegible]~~ against nullification, & Webster's reply to Hayne he wrote his inaugural. Wishing a few extra copies of it he went to the General manager of the ~~[illegible]~~ Illinois State Journal to ~~arrange~~ Major Wm. H. Bailhache now of San Diego Cal. to arrange it. Major Bailhache has prepared for this article a statement of the incident (See Copy)

See note —

28

~~Trying to~~ Lincoln met with ~~such~~ some outward calm the ~~procession of~~ appalling events which crowded his term as president elect. ~~Refusing to be [illegible] all demands for a public expression of his views held firmly that there was no compromise ~~possible~~ which would really settle the slavery question save a prohibition against acquiring any more territory and that~~ that many a visitor went away from him in ~~doubt~~ despair, ~~and~~ the president-elect did not realize the seriousness of the situation. ~~Few men knew enough fully realized what Lincoln was struggling delicately with~~ No one seemed to realize that ~~underneath~~ underneath his firm cheerful exterior the president ~~was carried~~ carried an awful burden of forebodings and of uncertainty. So full of trials and alarms had his life become by the time of his election that ~~it had awakened into strong~~ a vein of mysticism in his nature was awakened and he was clear seeing a vision or hallucination which he described at different times to friends, among others

There is no doubt that he did his utmost to ~~[illegible]~~ quiet alarmists & to avoid giving an idea of his own anxiety

~~He had a way of turning the conversation~~

to

~~see Henderson's story~~

~~never once a word until I got there~~

as often as not it was by a story that he sought to do this.

See Henderson.

Of far deeper significance than this ~~story~~ touch of superstition is a look into the inner heart which Judge Gillespie a life-long friend of L. has left and which his daughter Mrs Mary B. Gowdy of St. Louis has kindly put at my disposition. Early in Jan Judge G. was in Springfield & ~~went~~ to spent the night at Mr L's home. It was late before the president elect was free & then the two men ~~sat~~ settled comfortably by the fire for a talk.

"I attempted" says Judge G.

etc see copy

Seward on Dec 28 wrote Lincoln on the subject:-
Seward. p 486.

Lincoln answered on receipt of this letter, I have been considering the ~~ff~~
p. 663. V1 L & W,

Before the end of ~~a~~ January ~~month~~ ~~[illegible]~~ L. he had decided to start for W. on the 11th of Feb ~~as he had decided~~ to ~~accept invitations at several points en route, he would be on his way when the votes were counted Feb 13. His [illegible]~~ and began accordingly to make his arrangements.

At the time of these letters & indeed for some time before it was believed that before the electoral vote could be counted Washington would be seized by the seceders. Genl Scott ~~the~~ the commander of the army succeeded in Jan in securing a company of volunteer militia & a few regulars to defend the capital & a committee to investigate the rumor was appointed. These precautions did in way allay the popular nervousness.

Most of the fortnight before his departure he took for settling up his private affairs and saying farewell to his old friends. His step mother was still living ~~near~~ Charleston his old home and thither he went at the end of January for a ~~day~~ visit with her and a visit to his father's grave. Lincoln's attachment to his mother was very real. ~~and~~ He had helped in her support from the day that he himself began to earn his livelihood and he had remained always in close touch with her. ~~and~~ She was now fully – years old and it was doubtful if she lived until the end of Lincoln's term but it was not her own death that occurred to the old lady in this last interview with her son. The threats which pursued L. had reached her ears and as she bade him farewell she sobbed out her fears that he would never return, that his life would be taken. This same fear was expressed by many of his ~~the~~ humble old friends ~~of~~ who now came from the surrounding country to bid him farewell. In the multitude of partings which took place there is not one more

Farmington

Ill State Register

The write | he was to take, the only
to accompany him ~~[illegible]~~
to a [illegible] of [illegible]
his most unpleasant act of separa-
tion being a visit to ~~[illegible]~~
Charleston Ill.
Mrs Thos Lincoln at
his step mother
yet still living in the old farm
of Charleston Ill

33.

more characteristic than that with his law partner. Herndon. On the day before his departure he went to the office to settle some unfinished business. "After these things were all disposed" writes H. "he crossed to the opposite side of the room and threw himself down on the old office sofa etc.

page 483. Herndon. V. 3,

34.

Though no doubt profoundly glad to be at last on ~~his way~~ started to Washington the moment of parting with his Springfield friends was one of deep emotion. He was to leave ~~early~~ at 8 o'clock in the morning on ~~another~~ train. ~~It was dark gloomy morning and~~ (and long before six-scores of his Springfield friends filled the little station ~~waiting~~ [illegible] for a farewell ~~hand~~ word) as he came into the waiting room ~~&~~ they pressed about him shaking his hand and repeating in a broken voices "God bless you" ~~and~~ "Do your Duty".

"At precisely 5 minutes to 8 o'clock ~~the whistle~~ summoned ~~at~~ into the train & slowly wended his way across the platform ~~his~~ through the crowd of friends ~~who~~ to the platform of the car. It was a dark morning, cold with the air full of flopping snow flakes

where he stopped [illegible]
y ~~faces~~-kindly inquiring faces. For a moment he paused

35

At precisely 3 minutes to 8 o'clock he was summoned to the train. Making his way slowly through the crowd he mounted the platform of the rear car & turning stood looking down into the multitude of sad friendly upturned faces. For a moment a strong emotion shook him then ~~lifting~~ removing his hat & lifting his hand to command silence he spoke.

'My friends' he said —

~~Everything that could~~ ~~a speaker~~ of his deep emotion the words stirred, the profound impression they left has been described by numberless who heard them.

~~The listening~~ crowd ~~was~~ ~~bathed~~ almost in tears. "I was ~~there~~ only a lad of 14" says Mr Lincoln Dubois of S. "but ~~the~~ ~~ope~~ to this day I can recall almost ~~to~~ ~~the~~ the exact language of that speech". Henry Villard, the correspondent of the Herald recorded in his

?

x Mr L. D. was the

3e

to his paper how both L. & his audience were moved to tears & how his exhortation to pray editor described exclamation "We will do it; we will do it" "We have known Mr L. for many years – the editor of the State Journal; we have heard him speak" etc

The special train which took Mr L. out of S. on Feb 11. carried a pleasant company of his friends. These he had himself chosen, ~~[illegible]~~ in ~~whose~~ t plans he had consented to please ~~[illegible]~~ members of his family friends. "The ~~general~~ whole matter of transportation;

Says Mr ~~E~~ F. Leonard of Peoria Ill who was with the party as far as Indianapolis * "was under the direction of ' Wood

~~The rear car, was [illegible]~~ in the train reserved for ~~Mr L's and him [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Quite Leonard [illegible] [illegible] the party [illegible] [illegible] at Indianapolis~~

~~Special~~ arrangements had been made to secure Mr L's comfort the rear car being ~~set aside for his smoking & resting~~ room. The journey [illegible] [illegible]

* Interview for this magazine

Mr Leonard [illegible]

that February morning gave Lincoln little time to himself however. It seemed as if the entire population ~~of~~ along the route had turned out to see the train go by. At every country school house ~~a company was~~ the pupils were gathered; at every station there was a cheering crowd. Four stops were made ~~at~~ these ~~[illegible]~~ were short a few moments at Decatur where L went on the platform & shook hands with a score or more of old friends & ~~a [illegible]~~ quarter at Tolono ~~at~~ where he ~~spoke his [illegible] the sentiment~~ said cheerfully "Let us believe that behind the ~~[illegible]~~ clouds the sun is still shining"

~~[illegible]~~ at Danville a town in which he had tried many a case & where he told the crowd that if he had any blessings to dispense he would certainly dispense them on his good old friends of Vermilion Co. The Indiana line was reached ~~the~~ a committee of the state legislature joined the party. ~~and~~ It was evident that the people of Ind. were not less interested than those of Illinois for ~~as~~ the train passed through

The entire management of the presidential trip to Washington was under the direction of W. S.

and were sought zealously to draw out some expression from him on the public situation. The danger of expressing himself freely was only too apparent to Mr L. and he parried the queries of his visitors by stories & ~~good humored tactful~~ jests. The ~~sup~~ reports of his levity as more than one felt this to be was telegraphed over the country & bitterly commented upon by the opposition press even caricatured in Harper's Weekly. So far, however, as the stories Mr L. told ~~same~~ have come to us they contain a vast deal more of political sense than many ~~of~~ a sober dissertation.

~~Thus~~ ~~It was during this journey that being asked by one of ~~the~~ his evening visitors if he thought that the southern & northern democrats could be harmonized that he replied,~~

44.

Mr Lincoln was ~~only the~~ perhaps more gay during this trip to Columbus to forget the solicitude in merriment than at any time since he had left Springfield. For ~~it was day for~~ at Washington the electoral vote was to be counted ~~and~~ at least an effort to count it was to be made but ~~whether~~ it would be successful ~~would~~ many people well acquainted with the condition of affairs doubted.

At Columbus the brilliant receptions of Indianapolis & Cincinnati were repeated ~~and~~ Mr Lincoln addressed ~~the~~ very briefly the legislature of the state. One clause of the address was ~~most~~ ~~unquestionably~~ splendidly as ~~it proved an argument~~ made into the weapon ~~to those~~ of his enemies who declared him a weak man who did not understand the gravity of the situation. Lincoln had explaining to ~~the~~ his auditors why he had kept silence through the campaign, ~~and~~ claiming that he had done right.

"I have not maintained silence from any want of real anxiety," he said etc a hostile press took up the phrase "there is nothing going wrong." "It is a consoling circumstance that when we look out there is nothing that really hurts anybody" and coupled them with the reports of his jokes and merriment on the journey arguing that such a man was ~~[illegible]~~ a weakling not a knave and could never be anything but a puppet in the White House. A week later at Newark a sinister ~~[illegible]~~ use ~~When the president elect's train met they~~ was made of these phrases, a poster being scattered on ~~quoting them~~ which they were quoted and a call made for the unemployed of the city to assemble at the station to show ~~the~~ Lincoln that they emphatically differed from these sentiments. Nothing however came of ~~the~~ call on the poster.

It is not impossible that the turn Lincoln gave his phrase was due to the fact that while he was speaking a telegram was handed him announcing the result of the counting of the vote at Washington. "The votes have been peaceably counted, you are elected it – read

On Thursday morning Feb 14. the presidential party was again en route. this time for Pittsburg. Up to this point the weather had been beautiful but now a pelting rain began to come down. It did not prevent enormous crowds gathering at the stations to cheer & salute [illegible]. ~~and the~~ The country was strongly Republican tho much [illegible] was pressing and cries of "No compromise" greeted the president at every stop. A delay from a wrecked freight train of several hours brought Mr Li[illegible] party into Pittsburg ~~late~~ several hours late. ~~He~~ The [illegible] [illegible] ~~ed~~ was raining heavily so that it was not until morning that he addressed the people. ~~Then~~ he spoke to an immense crowd ~~thus~~ & as the issue in Pa. had been so largely the defence of protection it was of that – tariff – he spoke principally. No more popular utterance could have been possible

47

and the great iron city — was, it is said, with enthusiasm such that it took the combined efforts of local police and militia to get the presidential party in its train out of town.

[illegible] remarks made at Columbus

From the time that L's evasive remarks at Indianapolis had reached the country he had been ~~[illegible]~~ receiving telegraphic congratulations & remonstrances in about equal number. The commotion he had created seems to have brought him to the conclusion that for the rest of his journey his remarks ought to be as general and non committal as possible. ~~At~~ Cleveland which he went from Pittsburg on the 15th he spoke briefly ~~but very gen~~ and where a most brilliant reception was given him but very genially & he continued his policy to the end, most of his speeches being repetitions of remarks he had already made — that he regarded the demonstrations as honors given his office not to him personally – that he rejoiced to know that Republicans & Democrats united alike in these celebrations, that ~~excitement~~ if everybody kept cool the excitement would subside, that if they all ~~would~~ must make common cause to save the good old ship Union, else nobody would have a chance to pilot her on another voyage (omit)

Nor was the journey from C. on in any ~~par~~ way different from what it had been from S. to C. There were the same masses of humanity at the stations, the same booming of cannon, gifts of flowers, receptions at hotels, breakfasts, dinners and luncheons with divers celebrities. All along the route in the east as in the west little groups were gathered everywhere to see the train go by. Everywhere were flags and banners. The party in the train continued to shift as it had done till every station, committees & "leading citizens" ~~com~~ replacing each other in rapid succession. No visitor on all the journey

When the time does come for me to speak I shall take the ground that - I think is right - right - for the north, for the south, for the east, for the west, for the whole country.

perhaps created quite as much interest as the unexpected appearance at Girard of Horace Greely bag & blankets in hand. He rode for 20 miles with Mr Lincoln & then departed.

~~It was~~ just after Mr Greely's departure ~~that the~~ a pretty incident ~~of the~~ occurred. The train had stopped at North East & Mr L. from the rear platform was making the usual brief remarks. He ~~put a~~ gave them an entirely new turn. Soon after his election he said he had received a letter from a little girl living in North East who wanted him to let his whiskers grow.

See letter.

at Buffalo where he spoke on Saturday the 16th a bit of fun was infused into the celebration by

see note

It was on the morning of the 18th that the party started at dawn across New York state - The day was as full as every preceding one though perhaps a little more serious. At Montgomery Alabama there was an ~~inaugura~~ing going on that day which made Mr Lincoln's own seemed far seem ~~[illegible]~~ graver & older than ever when ~~he spoke~~ the fact was referred to - Jefferson Davis was being inaugurated as the president of the Southern Confederacy. Still there was little time to consider the South in the constant succession of ~~events~~ receptions & speeches with which the ~~two~~ week was filled, Albany

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new jers.- Trenton with all the leading intermediate stations had their claims on the president elect and by the time he reached Philadelphia on the evening of the 21st he was thoroughly worn out ~~& very~~ some so ~~hoarse that he could scarcely speak. Nevertheless here he had nevertheless the elaborate ceremony consisting of a procession and speech from the balcony of his hotel~~ followed by a very ~~long~~ [illegible] ~~through which~~ It was [illegible] o'clock ~~He had hardly escaped from this ordeal when one of his party Norman Judd of Chicago called him into a private room & laid before him a story which he Judd had just received.~~

afterwards in relating the occurrence to Benjamin Lossing etc

See Lossing. V. 1. 279

Mr L. left the detectives and ~~started~~ to his room. On the way he met Ward Lamon of his party while Frederick

The day had been a hard one. He had left New York early. Had replied to greetings at Jersey City - & again at Newark - had addressed both branches of the N. J. legislature - Spoken to the crowd at his hotel in Trenton - gone through a long dinner and now through it - was dusk & very cold he ~~was expected to go through an elaborate ceremony of reception.~~ ~~was driven to his hotel in an open barouche through a bu~~ was obliged to go through the another elaborate reception. Late in the evening [illegible] of Phila & his hotel & there while the hotel was still crowded with guests, he was summoned to the room of Norman Judd one of his party. There he was introduced to Pinkerton who as Mr Judd explained was a Chicago ~~[illegible]~~ detective, ~~He laid before the president-elect a remarkable story~~ who had a story to lay before him. "Pinkerton told me" said Mr L

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The next day was Washington's birthday ~~and~~ Largely unimportant quiet episodes of the Senate & Mr Hamlin's the flag had for months had been filling a larger & larger place in the north. All along the line of L's trip eastward it had been conspicuous and on the 22d flag raising had been planned for many cities. In Philadelphia it was arranged that ~~that~~ the new flag be raised over the Hall of

It was a particularly appropriate time for Kansas had been admitted without slavery on Jan 29 and a new flag- one of 34 stars was now required.

Independence & ~~that~~ by Mr Lincoln ~~again~~ ~~it~~. The ceremony took place at 7 o'clock in the morning. Mr L's brief speech in the old hall was full of patriotic emotion:- "I have often pondered" he said "over the dangers which were incurred by the men who assembled here" etc

Mr Lincoln's returned to his hotel from this ceremony & here informed his friends that he had decided

in the South ~~[illegible]~~ "di" apparently flew
permitted to fly state ensigns hoisted
deeply [illegible] crossed the minister and

Begin at last of speech

to comply with their wishes & go on to Washington at whatever time they arranged. after his existing engagements was filled. that ~~was~~ met to, address the Pennsylvania legislature at Harrisburg. ~~I met~~ that afternoon. The engagement was carried out and late in the afternoon L. was free. He was told that arrangements had been made for him to leave the hotel quietly with Col Lamon & Mr Pinkerton at six that evening ~~to be taken~~ a special train to ~~Baltimore~~ Phila. ~~He began to pack up his baggage which was now he wanted to take and suddenly discovered that the valise containing his manuscript was missing. The consternation was great. "Damn" he said~~

At six o'clock he left his hotel by a back door bareheaded — a soft hat in his pocket — & entering a carriage was driven to the station. The car & engine — utterly unlighted save for a head light, awaited him. ~~A~~ few moments after 11 he was in Philadelphia where the night train was by order of the presd. of the road being held for an important package the package was delivered to the conductor as Mr Lincoln entered the train at 6 a.m. after an undisturbed night he was in ~~Baltimore~~ Washington where Mr Washburne & Mr Seward awaited his coming and with devoted watchfulness conducted him to Willards.

There were still 9 days before the inauguration and ~~perhaps~~ 9 so busy ones had not been passed by the ~~president elect~~ Mr Lincoln since his nomination. His cabinet, his appointments to minor offices, his inaugural, the influence he might ~~still~~ yet have on the efforts at compromise ~~measure~~ all of these matters scores of people came to see him about so that night & day he was listening and deciding. There were numerous visits to make on Presd. Buchanan on Congress, on the Supreme Court & under Mr Seward's guidance he made these at once. He in turn was obliged to receive a constant succession of visitors including many delegations & committees ~~who~~ sent to inform and advise him on the condition ~~of the country~~. The most important of the delegations was that from the Peace Convention - an organization made up from representatives from all the states [illegible] and which under the presidency of ex-president Tyler had been sitting since Feb 4 in a hope of arriving at a compromise. ~~Every effort was made to find out~~ the recommendations ~~of his inaugural to discuss~~ of the inaugural were actually completed and of 20 but all to no purpose. That document remained as it had been written in Jan ~~some of the printed slips he had made in S.~~ 8. As soon as he reached W. he gave copies to Seward and a few other friends for criticism. Seward on the ground of conciliation offered

[illegible] Governors [illegible] sent with [illegible] try to [illegible]

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several recommendations these Mr L. adopted almost in full The Cabinet caused him the most anxiety in this period. He had it practically made up as we have seen before he left S. but now the factions came down on him in force striving by threat & argument to change his ~~matter~~ mind. Radical republicans who feared Seward's conciliating spirit besought him to drop Seward for Chase. The conservatives urged him to leave Chase out of the cabinet altogether. He warned them that Seward with his policy of peace & Chase with his stern no compromise notions could never be made to work together in the same body. There were protests against coalition, ridicule of Blair & Welles, and yet at the

See N. A. Review 187[illegible]

Seward felt that this mixed cabinet project was impossible & on Mch 2 resigned. Mr L. ~~[illegible]~~

end of the 9 days although every ~~day~~ man had listened candidly and patiently - no change was made. Lincoln found himself on the morning of inauguration with an inaugural written ~~six~~ weeks before & yet practically unaltered and with a cabinet selected in the main 4 months before & still unchanged. These two ~~facts did not~~ had they been known might have done something to modify ~~[illegible]~~ ~~harmonizing~~ ~~Equality~~ the ~~[illegible]~~ opinion expressed generally that the real president elect would be either the cool of Seward or Chase - that is if he were really unguided. Of that many had doubts and even on the morning of the 4th ~~bet~~ belief was [illegible] freely expressed in the [illegible] of Washington & in the streets of [illegible] that A. L. would never be president