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Tevis Greathouse and His Lincoln Story.

I have talked with three men who knew Judge Tevis Greathouse intimately,and who ought to know something of the truth or falsity of his story, recently printed in the Philadelphia "Record", about being arrested in 1862 for connection with the "Sons of Liberty" and being royally treated by Lincoln at Washington and sent home by him with the request to tell his old friends that he "was doing his duty to the best of his ability". These men discredit the story entirely.

Gen.John M.Palmer read law with John S.Greathouse,father of Tevis, and knew the latter from early manhood. "Tevis", says Gen.Palmer, "was a strong Rebel sympathizer and may have been arrested, but I never heard of it. As to the story which he is said to have told, it may be true, although Tevis was a great liar."

Hon.R.W.Ross, of Vandalia, a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, knew Judge Greathouse intimately, having lived in Vandalia with him for many years. "I knew him so well", says Mr.Ross, "that when a boy I delivered the cards for his wedding. He was a prince of good fellows and a very talented prevaricator. I have no doubt that he told this story. It is a pure fabrication. He was not arrested during the war, and no such incident happened. In 1862 ~~w~~ I was attending school in Pennsylvania, but of course knew all about things at home. The next years and until the end of

ne war I was at home and was as active as anybody among the "Sons of Liberty". As I was constantly associated with Judge Greathouse until his death a dozen years later, and never heard him speak of having been arrested, and never heard anyone else speak of it, I am quite positive the whole story is a fiction."

Judge W.J.Allen, of the United States District Court, at Springfield, was well acquainted with Greathouse. He unhesitatingly and very emphatically pronounced the story untrue. "I was arrested myself and taken to Washington in 1864", says Judge Allen, "and I think I knew everybody of prominence who was arrested in Illinois during the war. I am sure Tevis Greathouse was not among them. He no doubt invented the story." Judge Allen corroberates Gen.Palmer and Mr.Ross as to Tevis's imaginative tendencies.

J.McCan Davis.

Springfield, Ill., March 7, 1899.

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