

Stamp Endorsed

WM. H. BAILHACHE

GENERAL AGENT

NOTARY PUBLIC

CORNER FIFTH AND E STREETS

Personal

San Diego, Cal. Dec. 16, 1895

RECEIVED

DEC 23 1895

Entered.....
Answered.....

New York.

Pub. McClure's Magazine.

Sir: I have in my possession a printed copy of President Lincoln's first Inaugural, in Bill form, being one of 20 copies printed under my personal supervision in January, 1861, in a private room in the Illinois State Journal office. This was printed from the MS. which he placed in my hands, and was intended for submission to the gentlemen he had selected as members of his cabinet. I was at that time general manager of the State Journal at Springfield, Ill., and was of course well acquainted with Mr. Lincoln.

I do not know whether public attention has ever been called to the original draft, or to comparisons of it with the Inaugural as actually delivered - but it has occurred

to me that such comparisons might prove
of interest, as showing how much, if any,
important modifications resulted from the
submission of it in advance to his confi-
dential advisers.

I can make affidavit to the facts as stated.

Please advise me whether this matter has
ever appeared in any of the histories or
other publications concerning our Neatys
President, and much oblige -

Very respy. J. Abbott

Wm. H. Railhach