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Lincoln's Renomination in 1864.

(Statement of ex-Gov.Richard J.Oglesby,of Illinois,to J.McCan Davis, Oct.27, 1898)

I went to Washington,I thing in December, 1863, to preside at the Court Martial that tried the Surgeon General of the Army. I remained there three or four months. I saw Lincoln many times. I often went to the White House in the evening and talked with the family. I accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln to the theater several times, on invitations from Mrs. Lincoln.

Early in 1864 I went to see Lincoln, in company with Judge David Davis. We went to talk with him on the subject of his renomination by the national convention at Baltimore. He wanted to be renominated and felt that he would be, but he wished to avoid the mistake of over-confidence. He asked Judge Davis if he was going to the convention.

"Oh, yes, I will go," replied the Judge, "but there is no necessity for anybody going over there."

Lincoln cautioned Judge Davis against being too confident; but the Judge kept on insisting that there was no use of his going; that Mr.Lincoln would be renominated by acclamation.

Then Lincoln got off a most humorous but rather coarse anecdote,illustrating forcibly the danger of counting too dead certainly on a thing. I cannot now recall the story,but I remember that the Judge professed to be greatly shocked. "Oh, Lincoln!" he exclaimed. "You must not do that! It will never do!" Lincoln's

only reply was to scratch his head and laugh heartily. The story, as I say, was a trifle coarse, but it enforced Lincoln's point powerfully.

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