



much matter that has not been published and which we cannot reveal to anyone for the reason that it will form several of the most important chapters in the biography.

But we would be glad to give any assistance possible on other lines. Your life of Lincoln is exceedingly interesting and ought to be very successful. If you intend to go into Mr. Lincoln's relations with his prominent supporters we can put you in the way of finding some incidents which, when taken together, reflect strong side lights on both Lincoln and Hamlin.

Howard Carroll's "Twelve Americans" (Harper Bros. 1883), contains an authentic sketch of Hannibal Hamlin and some stories that show how adroit Lincoln was in forming his Cabinet, in appointing Seward and making friends with men who might have been his opponents. It also shows how close Mr. Hamlin was to Mr. Lincoln as proved in the Proclamation of Emancipation matter and the arming of the colored men. When Mr. Hamlin retired from the Vice-Presidency, Mr. Lincoln offered him the Secretaryship of the Treasury, but Mr. Hamlin could not accept. To show his appreciation of Lincoln, Mr. Hamlin decided that his last public act should be a speech advocating the Nationalizing of Lincoln's birthday as a holiday. This was made in February, 1891 before the Republican Club in New York City and the effort may have hastened Mr. Hamlin's death. The speech is one of the most touching tributes ever paid to Lincoln.

As for the Baltimore convention, Mr. Lincoln actively managed his own candidacy and frequently consulted Mr. Hamlin about his interests in New England. Mr. Hamlin never had the slightest suspicion that Lincoln

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was unfriendly to him and the noble, honest nature of Lincoln is a refutation of all stories that represent him intriguing against his friend. Lincoln expected the old ticket would be renominated and strongly desired it. See Herndon's life of Lincoln for his estimate of Andrew Johnson as told by Mr. Lincoln. Also see Noah Brooks' Washington in Lincoln's Time, page 160. The testimony of Nicolay, Hay, Brooks, Cooke and others who were with Lincoln continually, and Mr. Hamlin's belief, outweigh stories that present Lincoln in the light of an intriguer. The dramatic speech by Horace Maynard in the convention for the was Democrats was a strong factor in nominating Johnson.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles Hamlin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text "Yours truly".