

The letter of Dec. 1. 1854 is in reference to the approaching election of a U.S. Senator to succeed Gen. James Shields whose term was expiring.

My father was then in the state senate.

In the contest, which occurred Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 1855, Shields was the democratic candidate and Lincoln, the whig.

After the sixth ballot Shields name was withdrawn and that of Joel Matteson substituted.

Mr Lincoln had believed, that bring an Anti-Nebraska candidate, he might receive that vote of each party, but upon being assured that he could not get the Anti-Nebraska democrats, he instructed withdrew his name and instructed his followers to vote for Lyman Trumbull, an Anti-Nebraska democrat, who was elected senator on the tenth ballot.

Josephine Gillespie Brackett