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Home

Marionville May 21<sup>st</sup> 1887

Dear Judge Tompze

Since the receipt of your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst, in answer to mine of the 10<sup>th</sup>, until now I have had no leisure that would allow of a formal expression of gratification afforded by the assurance that my own views upon the political situation were so nearly in accord with your own.

I was early impressed with the soundness of your views, and several times in New York intended (before the meeting of the Chicago Convention) to see you, but was always unfortunate in the selection of time in calling at your rooms, and when you were here in our city last, again failing I felt that really the gates were against me.

I look upon the movements of Pelamie, and those of his henchmen in the same light that I view  
Sincerely,  
A. H. Tompze

Marionville and York,

in 84 previous to the assembly of the Convention  
 at Chicago, one of false pretences, He was then  
 and now is insane upon the question of the Pres-  
 idency, He seems to think that he was born to  
 be President, and being a Presbyterian as  
 he is, it would seem that his brilliance  
 should teach him, if there is any instruction to  
 be gotten from the past, that his influence  
 of the White House never has place in the  
Decrees, and that he has an "Calling that  
 made an election sure".

It is disgusting to hear the Walter Phelps saying  
 sounding the brasses of the Maine man,  
 and sounding off with the declaration  
 that he can have the nomination if he will Con-  
 sent to take it, that he would not have  
 it unless his acceptance would be human-  
 -ized by the party, for the success of the party,  
 and the party goes; that if the Convention were  
 to meet to day, he would be nominated  
 by acclamation, it is more it is ridicu-  
 -lous. No Republican National Convention ever  
 countenanced the stuporous blunder and  
 the

one of, 84 die in Chicago, and I have no idea  
 how the folly will soon be repeated. The  
 mob selection Blaine him, but will soon  
 control another Convention of the Rins. And  
 those 800 men from locked in a room by their  
 doors, compelled to deliberate by themselves.  
 Mr Blaine would soon have learned or  
 talked the ticket home more than selected,  
 The Eckins, Dray, Phelps, Clayton, and their  
 gang can burn dictators to the party again  
 as they did in '84

My own opinion is that Blaine is failing in  
 health, but with all the tenacity of his na-  
 ture is clinging to the Presidential phantom  
 as if it was a reality, with a grasp  
 like that of death upon the hand of I may  
 be permitted the expression.

I am sorry that you have so much trouble  
 about Mr Lincoln, and my regrets come  
 in consequence of the confidence I have in your  
 judgment. Well so I remember what you said  
 to me in the first full letter I received from  
 you in '84 touching the action which he  
 and

and his friends in Chicago should take pains  
to the securing of our Convention in this city?  
Has he done what you suggested, he would  
have been nominated and elected. It must  
however be remembered and admitted that the situa-  
tion in Illinois was different from what it is now,  
Lugan had all the machine workers in hand, and  
with Colburn at the head as Master of Ceremonies,  
Lugan is gone, and Colburn is short of much  
of his strength. I am sure in the eyes upon Pro-  
fessional Business for times within the last  
3 months our town is a different feeling  
towards Lincoln's Candidacy than ever before, &  
it is mainly attributable to the feeling of  
availability that comes into Illinois from  
every point of compass. The great draw  
back, if any there be, is his pronounced  
opposition to the case of his name in connec-  
tion with the nomination. I know him well  
and I know that such is his earnest and  
sincere desire. His return to the White House  
is the occupation desired. The Mass  
assassination of his father, the numerous taking  
off

off of Harfield who has summoned him back  
 to the Courtroom scene of, let's say it is with  
 to be wondered at that such associations possess  
 no allurement to him. He is the only man that  
 I ever know <sup>who</sup> could not take off Bennett (Nat) to  
 let the Presidential Run in, when buzzing a-  
 bout his nose.

I'm thinking that possibly Mr L. did not,  
 or does not thank you for the importance and  
 notariety you gave him as a Presidential factor  
 in '84. You fall into error, I know of the  
 gratitude he felt, for I was with him fre-  
 quently, and probably was as close to him as  
 my republicanism, and our relations were more  
 than interrupted for a moment, and were more  
 than severed between his father and myself  
 from the middle of July, '81 to the day of  
 his death. - He felt that you overrated him  
 both in ability and availability, but you  
 did not.

I believe to say that he is the only man in  
 the Republican party who can head the ticket  
 more best Cleveland, and for these reasons  
ends

-sons, He can sell any Republican vote N. S. E. and West, Conkling cannot support him I have no doubt, I do not believe he would support either Sherman or Blaine, Conkling even, Arthur men, Conkling men, in fact all men of one political faith would rally around <sup>him</sup> for persons so overwhelmingly advanced by you in the Continental of '84. My own copies that you sent into this County, scattered in a popular expression at the polls in May of this year to the extent of 500 votes, when Lincoln was our candidate, but at the primary election for County Officers, in which town was returned to the Democratic position, nearly a third as many as Blaine received when the polls all over the County, have been clamoring for.

Can you think of '84 in '88 and the party will sweep the County, or if you put on the Carr of our Park, instead of the Hawley, and I think you will have the same result.

I agree with you perfectly in all you say about Little, Hill, and in fact Southern representa-  
-tion

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-tion upon the 10th Jan. '88.

If there is anything in this world politically speak-  
-ing that I desire above all others, it is that a Re-  
-publican Administration be placed in power that would  
promptly send unto you, your deserts, for ser-  
-vices rendered, for sacrifices made for the es-  
-tablishment of the right. I say this in all  
sincerity, for I am not in the habit of  
saying vain things, and for the rea-  
-son that I have been coadjutor in a  
limited sense of some of the many sac-  
-rifices you have made and the good  
you have done.

I wish you could see in this matter, the ar-  
-ticle <sup>from your pen,</sup> & editorial in an other paper touching  
-for your tract the murder of Elijah P. Lovejoy  
in 1839, his dying declaration, "that for the  
"just wrong done him by the murderous mob  
"would cry aloud from the ground until a  
"vengeance, and that the time would come when the  
"grass would grow in the city principal street",  
"would kindle to a flame the republican fires  
upon every hearth in Illinois, for I believe  
I have the honor to be your faithfully & truly  
Yours