

North Carolina State Agricultural Society,

Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 1st, 1887.

Hon. A. W. Touger,

Mayville, N. Y.

My Dear Sir:

Your very welcome letter received for which I thank you. As to what may happen in this State, is of course uncertain. I have not encouraged my nominating work by sought influence in my behalf, but there is an evident drift in my favor. As to whether I would accept if nominated is a matter I have not determined on. Success in this State will depend largely on the Presidential Candidate. We could do absolutely nothing with Sherman - I fear we could not win with Blaine taking over the field. I had thought that Hawley and Harrison would be as popular as any ticket that could be presented so far as North Carolina is concerned. Hawley being a native of the State would create some enthusiasm here. The result in the Nation

however, is of more importance, ^{than} that of this State. I believe that Lincoln would get a better vote than any other man, because there is no faction of the Republican party that would antagonize him.

Thus far, I have not avowed myself in favor of any particular candidate, although I have freely expressed myself as feeling kindly to Hammon & Hamly. But little has been said in this State about Lincoln, from the fact that Canada has been booming Sherman and Keogh & Boyd have favored Blaine. The advocacy of Lincoln would not, or ought not to be offensive to either of these two elements of the party. Indeed, so far as Canada and Sherman are concerned, they can do nothing in this State. The people have no confidence in Canada, and the nomination of Sherman would be a wet blanket on the hopes of the Republicans of this State. That he is an able man, and would make a good President, I believe all will concede, but he could not carry a single Southern

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State. Why? The name, I say little Dem-
ocratic speaker in the State would swear
that it was "old Bill Sherman," the man
who burnt houses, stole chickens, &c &c
Deny it - prove it was false - what the
good? They would prove it on us.
As to Blaine, with all his bril-
liancy, people shake their heads, and doubt
his success. Lincoln would create
an enthusiasm in the Southern States
that would be contagious, and we could
runak for him. So we could for
Hawley, but not to the same extent.

I thank you, dear Sam, for your
friendly suggestions. I have been free
to tell you just how I felt about
the matter. I do not think there
is much difference in our views.
I shall act on your advice, and
the first fitting opportunity will make
a public expression of my preference.

for Lincoln. Should you have occasion
to note the matter, I have no objection
to your ~~noting~~ using the information that
Lincoln will have some friends in this
State, and that I will head that
movement. I believe it is the very
best thing we can do.

Let me hear from you often, and
believe me

Your friend,

John Stroh