

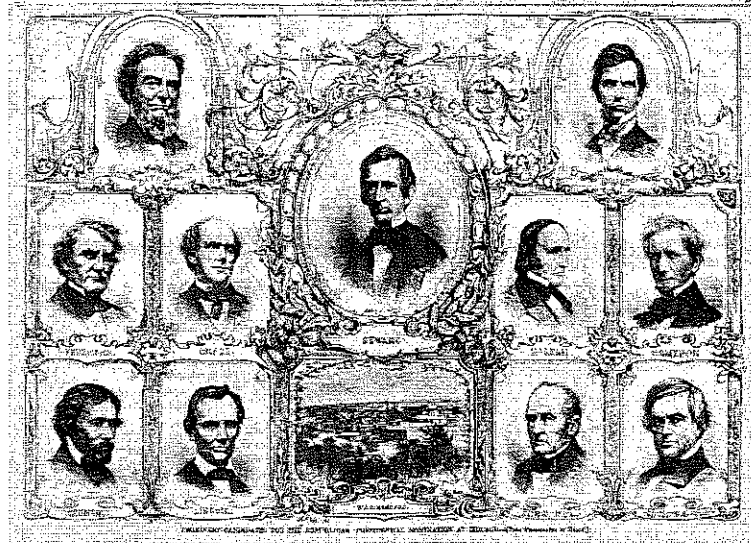
Election of 1860

Notes and Documents

"I think I can safely say that of all living men you have no truer more devoted friend and admirer than in the person of Judge Davis. And if I were going to select that man of all others whom we are under the greatest obligations for your nomination at Chicago I unhesitating say it was him" - Jesse Fell to Abraham Lincoln, 1860

Republican Convention of 1860 - David Davis' Strategy

1. Organize lawyers and assign them to their native state to get the votes from that delegation.
2. Stop Seward on first ballot
3. Make Lincoln the best of the rest



Not having yet been made acquainted with Lincoln's ethical tendencies, Davis got Dubois to telegraph Lincoln that they could secure the Cameron delegates from Pennsylvania if they might promise Cameron the Treasury. Lincoln replied: "I authorize no bargains and will be bound by none." ...And he added, "Make no contracts that will bind me."

Everybody was mad, of course. Here were men working night and day to place him on the highest mountain peak of fame, and he pulling back all he knew how. What was to be done? ...But David cut the Gordian knot by brushing all aside with: "Lincoln ain't here, and done know what we have to meet, so we will go ahead, as if we hadn't heard from him, and he must ratify it." The Cameron contingent was secured for Lincoln on the second vote. -Recollection by Henry C. Whitney, May 16-18, 1860

Analysis Question: What does Lincoln's response say about his "ethical tendencies"? In other words, how does Lincoln feel about David making deals with the other politicians?

Lincoln is honest and disagrees with making deals.

Name _____

Hour _____

Election of 1860

Election of 1860 - 152/180 electoral votes to win

Popular Vote	Candidate	Political Party	Electoral Votes
40%	Abraham Lincoln	Republican	180
18.2%	John C. Breckenridge	Southern Democrat	72
12.6%	John Bell	Constitutional Unionist	39
29.5%	Stephen Douglas	Democrat	12

Why did Lincoln win the election?

* the democratic party was split

	Definition	Significance
Secession (11 states)	The action of withdrawing formally from membership of a federation or body, especially a political state.	- unconstitutional - seen as first act of war

Fort Sumter

- South Carolina
- Start of Civil War

States Secede - "The Union is dissolved"

