

Thomas Herndon re: Lincoln  
del. - Oct 1, 1910  
- Lincoln speech inside

# 630 East Penn Street.  
Princeton Illinois. October 1, 1910.

Colonel Edwin P. Hammond:

La Fayette, Indiana:

My Dear Colonel:

Enclosed is a copy of the Reprint of a speech, made at a Political Discussion in the Hall of the House of Representatives, December, 1839, at Springfield Illinois - a pamphlet copy of which, I told you I preserved from my boyhood, and if I had not done so, I have strong reasons for believing the speech would have been lost. I was attracted by the closing paragraph of the speech, which I recited to you, having committed it to memory, when I was not more than 16 years of age. And by request, I had a Reprint of the speech, made in Washington - several years ago. The original pamphlet copy I have in my possession, in a somewhat dilapidated condition. I allowed Nicolay and Hay to publish the speech in the last volume of their life of Abraham Lincoln; and Secretary Hay, but a few years before his death, told me, that he and Nicolay, in all their researches, had