

Abraham Lincoln papers

From F. W. Emmons to Abraham Lincoln, November 9, 1864

Sturbridge, Mass.

Nov. 9, 1864.

President Lincoln:

I send you, with this, a pamphlet of "The Centenarian, Deacon John Phillips — of the celebration of his One Hundredth birth day: And am happy to inform you that he still lives, now in his 105th year.

He is a Democrat, of the Jeffersonian School; voted for Washington, as President of the United States; and, yesterday, voted for your re-election to this honorable and responsible place.

He rode from home, two miles, to our Town Hall, with his son, Col. Edwd Phillips, aged 79 yrs., to cast his vote. He entered it between two unfurled flags of his country, bearing on them the Stars and Stripes; all within, at the time rising, with uncovered heads to do him homage. And when offered two votes, to take his choice, he said: "I vote for Abraham Lincoln."

He has been, for several years, the oldest citizen of this town; and is now, probably, the oldest man in the commonwealth.¹

1 A copy of Lincoln's November 21 letter of thanks and congratulations to John Phillips is in this collection.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Very Respectfully

Yours.

F. W. Emmons