

December 19, 1933

Dear Mr. Fahnestock:

I am sending back your paper on your recollections of the Battle of Gettysburg and of Lincoln's speech at the dedication of the cemetery four months later. I found it of deep interest. You have told your story so simply and directly, so modestly, too. What an experience for a boy and what a wonder that dashing about as you seem to have done you didn't get a bullet in your head. But it was a marvelous thing to have had the experience and I think that everybody who reads this paper will feel as I do that they have a more vivid picture of the battle than they have ever had before.

Of course I was most interested in what you have to say of the impression Lincoln made upon you. I have talked with many men who at one time or another had heard Lincoln deliver speeches, most of them in the Lincoln and Douglas debates, when they were boys, and who have carried away a feeling of his profound earnestness, his struggle to pass on his thought with which he was wrestling. It is a great thing to carry through life a memory such as this of yours.

Thank you for letting me read the paper. I shall always remember it.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. G. D. Fahnestock
National Arts Club
New York City