

*Mr. Schneider  
surveys*

October 7, 1930

Dear Mr. Fay:

As usual I am coming back for help. You have a copy of that early "Life of Abraham Lincoln" which I published so long ago and in it on one of several frontispieces is the Schneider photograph of Lincoln - in 1854. The picture here published was made from a photograph which Mr. Schneider gave me when I was gathering material for my "Life of Lincoln." The question has recently risen here as to whether the original was a photograph, as I understood from Mr. Schneider, or whether it may have not been a daguerreotype from which later photographs were made. The note under the picture was made so soon after I received it that I hardly think I could have been mistaken in what he told me.

Do you know anything further about this picture than what I have stated here? Have you ever seen other copies of it? I mean by that, have you ever seen photographs that you considered originals? Or do you by any chance know where the daguerreotype is, if it was a daguerreotype or where the negative of the photograph can be found? You see what I am after is whatever you know about this picture.

And can you tell me in what year Mr. Schneider died? I do not have it in my notes here. Also, if any good sketch of him has ever been written. I would be very much obliged for any information you can give me.

I hope you are well and that the work of the Lincoln Memorial is going on smoothly. I understand that the monument is to be made over. Is this true?

Very sincerely yours

P.S. Have you a record of any photograph earlier than this, excepting, of course, the one known as the earliest portrait of Lincoln. The original is owned by Mr. Robert Lincoln's estate.

Mr. H. W. Fay  
Springfield, Illinois