

December 6, 1922

Mr. M. J. Fitzgerald,
Assumption, Ill.

My dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

I hope you will pardon the long delay in replying to your letter of November 11. It was received by me in Springfield, but at that time I was overwhelmed with work and obliged to defer my correspondence until my return to my desk here in New York.

And now as to the content of your letter that Sarah Bush Johnson and Thomas Lincoln were Catholics. I think you are wrong. The minutes of the little Pigeon Baptist Church in Spencer County, Ind., show that Thomas Lincoln joined that church by letter on June 7, 1823, and that on the 7th of that month his wife Sarah Bush Lincoln joined by experience. In 1830 Thomas Lincoln and his wife took letters from the church.

So far as I know, there is no record of these letters having been presented to any church in Indiana, but the certainty is that they were in good and regular standing in the Baptist church in 1830. I think Father Kenny is wrong, and that there is a confusion of Lincoln families.

If you have any further information on this subject, I will be very glad to have it. I am returning Father Kenny's letter to you as you asked.

Very truly yours,