

To-bell - August 22, 1927

Mrs. Louise Savage Ireland  
643 Massachusetts Ave.  
Peoria, Ill.

My dear Mrs. Ireland:

Pardon the delay in replying to your letter of August 8. I have been out of town and exceedingly busy since I returned. I was very glad to receive it, and I want you to know that the package of material you were so good as to send is here. I have not had an opportunity yet to go through it, and I am afraid it is going to be a little time before I shall - that is, thoroughly, as I am off for a much needed vacation. However, you may depend upon it that the material is safe and that it will be carefully examined.

Most of the printed matter I probably have, but I feel sure that there is much that I could get only through you. After I have sifted it down, I want to write to you. I would not be willing to use what you have gathered without some satisfactory arrangement.

I cannot understand how Robert Lincoln could make you promise never to write anything on his mother. I can understand why he should not wish it done in his life time - I myself was never willing to write anything on Mrs. Lincoln as long as he lived, but certainly he must have known that her life was sure to have close scrutiny, and he ought to have realized that it was better to have friendly people like yourself than malicious ones handling it.

I am afraid I am not quite as lenient in my feeling toward Mrs. Lincoln as you are, though possibly before I get through with this study I shall be. I would like to have a talk with you some time. It is possible I shall be in Illinois before I finish this work; and if so, may I drop in on you?

Just as soon as I have gone through the material I shall write you again.

Thanking you for your confidence and your generosity,  
believe me

Very sincerely yours