

November 26, 1929

Dear Mr. Howell:

I have been out of town for some days, or I should have written you more promptly in answer to your letter of November 18th. There is an interesting point to be followed up in what Colonel Kold tells you of President Taft's salary-saving, when President. I wonder what other Presidents have done and if there would be any way of finding out. I suspect that the thrifty ones have been able to get along by means of perquisites and presents without heavy extra expense. Of course, Hoover is spending largely, if rumour is true, but he has it to spend, but not many Presidents have. I am going to follow this up, and I shall be obliged for any further information you can give me.

Some of these days, I hope we may have another Lincoln talk. I have just read the proofs of a book, which I am sure will interest you, the best analysis of Lincoln's Military problem in 1861, that I have ever seen. The book is by General John Palmer, the regular Army, published by Doubleday Page. It will be out soon.

Thanking you again for your letter,
believe me

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Alfred C. Howell
524 Fifth Avenue
New York City