

June 5, 1930

My dear Mr. Sauliere:

Please forgive me for having delayed so long in answering your courteous note of April 20th. I have been out of New York a great deal since the note came to my desk and as a result have put aside all correspondence that was not imperative.

Now, as to your question - what age did Lincoln lose his mother? Lincoln was born, February 12, 1809. The inscription on the head stone over Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave gives her death as October 5, 1818. Lincoln was about eight years and eight months old at that time. I think there is no doubt that he was old enough to have appreciated his mother. I have supposed that it was to Nancy Hant's influence that he referred in saying, that all he was he owed to his mother. If you will consult - Herndon's Life of Lincoln, Volume I - See Index for page - you will see that it is obviously Nancy Hanks he had in mind when he made the remark quoted.

Hoping this will answer your query and again apologizing for my delay, believe me

Very truly yours

Mr. Frank R. Sauliere
Harvard Law School
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