

January 16, 1914.

Mr. Henry Greenleaf Pearsen,
Dudley Road,
Newton Center, Massachusetts.

My dear Mr. Pearsen:

In going through a package of old papers the other day I came upon a letter of yours dated April 13, 1911, and I judge from the enclosures that it was never answered. I make it a practice to answer all letters sent to me and particularly I regret to have overlooked one which raises so interesting a point as that in yours. Will you pardon me?

You ask if I know whether the letter said to have been written by Mr. Lincoln to General James S. Wadsworth, from which you quote, is authentic. The quotation sent is credited to Isaac Arnold's "Lincoln and Slavery," page 656. I know nothing of this letter. I have never seen it quoted anywhere excepting in Mr. Arnold's book. However, Mr. Arnold is good authority on anything concerning Lincoln. Moreover, that Mr. Lincoln held views similar to that expressed in the

letter is true.

I am enclosing you copies of two expressions of his, with both of which you are probably familiar, which are in line with this letter quoted by Mr. Arnold.

You also send me in your letter a very interesting quotation from an address by Leigh Robinson at Richmond, Virginia. One cannot but have much sympathy with what he says. Or, at least, I can't.

I hope, my dear Mr. Pearson, that this belated reply to your very kind letter will prove that I am deeply penitent for what must have seemed to you a discourtesy.

Very sincerely yours,

You ask if I know whether the letter said to have been written by Mr. Lincoln to General James S. Woodworth, from which you quote, is authentic. The quotation sent is credited to Isaac Arnold's "Lincoln and Slavery," page 688. I know nothing of this letter. I have never seen it quoted anywhere excepting in Mr. Arnold's book. However, Mr. Arnold is good authority on anything concerning Lincoln. Moreover, that Mr. Lincoln held views similar to that expressed in the