

510 S. 2^d St.,
Springfield, Ills.,
Apr. 15th 1914

Dear Miss Farbell:

In a recent No. of Harper's
Weekly the "New Lincoln Portrait" interested
me. Your endorsement of something in
the eyes and mouth's expressiveness has
my hearty approval. From 1847 to 1861
I knew Lincoln well - the last 4 or 5 yrs.
was in office familiarity at Lincoln &
Hendons.

Friends have often desired me to
write out my personal recollections of Mr.
Lincoln as I intimately knew him from
from 1855 to Feb. 1861. This I have just
finished - about 100 pages, (typewritten)

I have always refused to be inter-
viewed by reporters - making but one
exception, that to Joseph F. Hendon of
Cedar Rapids, Iowa, when he was preparing
his No. of "Lincoln & Hendon" a few years since.

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I am undecided what to do with
my MS. When I was writing it - my
intention was to deposit the MS. in our
State Hist. Lib. in this City. Since finishing
some of my elderly friends here insist
I should publish it. I am in my 78th
year, with no financial incentive to pub.
or literary ambition to gratify - I am in
a "straight-between-two" as to what to do
with the MS. now.

If I might have your judgment
as to the "worth while" in this MS. - my
confidence with what literary and histori-
-cal work you have done would be a
most controlling influence as to what
disposal I should make now of this MS.

I enclose a sheet giving sub-titles
to divisions or chapters that my MS. is
divided into. This may slightly guide your
decision to read my MS. and give me your
judgment as what to do with it - or if you
be too busy, too lazy, or too rich to have my bother.
- toss this in your waste basket and forget the
request of your ^{already} sincere Reader + Debtor, Henry B. Rankin.

Rankin

- 1 Personal Mention - 5 pages
- 2 Lincoln's Easy and Friendly Manners - 4 pages
- 3 Lincoln's Resources & Peculiar Conscience. 5 p.
- 4 From Salem and After: Lincoln's first Law Partners. 5 p.
- 5 William H. Herndon; The Last Law Partner. 30 p.
- 6 Three Characteristic Moods of Mr. Lincoln. 9 p.
- 7 Abraham Lincoln as seen in Two Speeches. 8 p.
- 8 The Farewell Address: Feb. 11, 1861. 5 p.
- 9 The Real Lincoln in Portraits & Photographs. 6 p.
- 10 Between The Two Speeches of National Importance. 5 p.
- 11 The Cooper Institute Speech (its preparation, etc) 6 p.
- 12 Abraham Lincoln's Position in History 4 p.
- 13 Appeal to Citizens of Springfield, Ills. 7. pages.