June 22, 1933

Dear Mrs. Sherman:

I am ashamed that I have been so long in passing on to you the little Lincoln problem in your New Jersey country - a problem which I tried to settle several years ago but was never able to master. Briefly, it is the location of two spots which figure in the orders given to the Commander of the Militia of Monmouth County in 1779.

It was the custom to pass around orders for the points at which beacon fires were to be kindled in case of danger. Of course all this you are familiar with. Now in the printed orders I find two Gaps mentioned which undoubtedly were named after the New Jersey Lincolns. These men, Abraham and Mordecai Lincoln, came into New Jersey early in the eighteenth century. Mordecai married into one of the first families - the Saltar family - and held a good deal of land in Monmouth County. They had a forge, but I never was able to locate it exactly, but approximately. The location of the Lincoln land is clear. I have a map of that.

Where this Mordecai Gap and this Lincoln Gap were I don't know and that is what I should like to know. If it interests you to follow this up let me send you a copy of my "In the Footsteps of the Lincolns" and possibly some documents which might help in the search. But don't go into it unless you really want to do it.

I am not sure but if you are not already tied up with a historical novel you might find in this Lincoln-Saltar connection some interesting material. I see no reason, of course, why you should not fictionalize Mordecai and his wife, Hannah.

Does it interest you?

Affectionately yours

Mrs. Edith B. Sherman
453 Melrose Place
South Orange, New Jersey

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