

September 8, 1939

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Do forgive this long delay in replying to your letter. I have been away from New York since the middle of July, convalescing from a slight illness, and in that time all my correspondence has been neglected.

I am glad you are going to arrange for an annual Lincoln lecture at Cooper Union. Certainly it is a great opportunity for both the speaker and the institution. There are certain rather obvious names to be considered. There is Dr. Butler who will give you, I fancy, an eloquent and arousing speech - John Finley would do well. Dr. Moldenhawer of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church gave an admirable address in Springfield last February, the annual celebration of the Illinois Lincoln Association. This was published in the May issue of the Church Tower. The subject was "Lincoln of the Second Inaugural Address."

I am inclined to think that you couldn't do better than to get J. E. Wilkie ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ who has recently made so fine a compromise with the T V A. There is nobody I would like to hear better on Lincoln.

If I think of other names I will pass them on to you. In the meantime the best of success in the undertaking.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Houston Peterson
Cooper Union
New York, N.Y.