65 Waverley St.,
Roxbury, Mass.
Oct. 28,1895.

Publishers McClures Magazine,

Gentlemen:-

I notice that you are publishing the life of the late President Lincoln, and no doubt you desire to get everything in connection with his life and death correct. This letter is written that justice may be done to the dead. My brother-in-law, William T. Clark of the 13th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, was on detail service in the War Department at Washington at the time of the assassination of President Lincoln, and was boarding at the house opposite Ford's theatre, on 10th St., at the time that the President was shot. He had been to the theatre that evening himself, and it being a rather close,hot night,in April, he came out before the play was through and went across the street to his boarding place and stood on the steps of the house debating whether he would go in and retire for the night, or go up to the Department and finish up some work that he had left unfinished at closing time that night. While standing there the crowd came rushing out from the theatre and he heard the remark that President Lincoln had been shot. Just at this moment the police came out bringing Mr1 Lincoln, and, of course, as the play was not finished of course there were no carriages there and the bearers of the body, as they came out, said, "Where will we take him." Mr. Clark being a man who was a great admirer of Mr. Lincoln, immediately stepped forward and said, "Take

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him right to my room across the street." And the police, or bearers followed him into the house, he opening the door with his night-latch key They followed him into his room, and he assisted in putting Mr. Lincoln on to the bed. And there Mr. Lincoln remained until he died. After (Mr Lincoln) his death several reporters and artists from Harpers and Leslies pictorials, came there wishing to make a sketch of the room, and also a portrait of ~~himself~~ Mr Clark to be published in their papers as the man who befriended Mr. Lincoln at the time when he needed a friend. But Mr. Clark, being of that retiring disposition, and one who was not willing ever to put himself forward, declined to give even his name to be published. And in doing so I think, and told him so at the time, he made a great mistake, for I notice since his death, which occurred ten years ago, that another man is claiming the honor and distinction of having carried President Lincoln to his room to die. And even while Mr. Clark was alive such intimations were occasionally published by this other party, and I called my brother-in-law's attention to that fact. But, as I say, he was one who would never put himself forward, for his own rights even, and would therefore do nothing that the truth might be published. But now that he is dead and I notice that you are publishing the life of Lincoln, I, as a relative of his and also an old soldier, desire to correct what to me seems an injustice, and have no doubt that you, when the time comes to publish that part of Mr. Lincoln's life, will see that justice is done to him and not otherwise allow an imposter to have the honor. For to me it seems that it was a great honor that such a noble man as was PresidentLincoln should die in his bed.

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All of these facts are capable of being substantiated in a manner I think entirely satisfactory to you, if you wish for further information.

I give you above, at the heading of this letter, my permanant address, being on the road myself, any inquiries sent to the above address will reach me, and I trust I may be able to help you to get the matter correct, ere it is published.

I remain,

Yours truly,

H. E. Wright.

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