July 16, 1931

Dear Dr. Warren:

I have just been looking through your interesting article on "Lincoln's Early Political Background" in the January number of the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society. For my information will you not tell me your authority for the quotation from Prof. John C. Gulliver? I never before have seen any reference in this quotation to the discussion of politics. The statement as I have it is printed on Page 43 of Volume I of my Life of Lincoln - first edition. A specific reference to political discussions is of course important. I have no doubt in the world that such political discussions did go on; that politics and religion were the chief talks of these fireside meetings of neighbors. As I say I never before saw the version that you give of this explanation of Lincoln - how he came to be so clear a thinker.

I shall greatly appreciate it if you will give me your authority.

Very sincerely yours

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Director, Lincoln Historical
Research Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

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