July 23, 1924

Hon. John E. Iglehart,
Evansville, Ind.

My dear Judge Iglehart:

I am sorry my answer to your letter of June 18 has been so long delayed.

You ask the name of the friend of Lincoln who is authority for the statement that I quote in my Life that he had read through every book he had ever heard of in that country (South-western Indiana) for a circuit of fifty miles.

You will find it in Leonard Swett's article in "Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln by Distinguished Men of his Time," published in 1886 by the North American Publishing Company. Swett writes there (p.459) in talking about Lincoln's education:

"He said to me that he had got hold of and read through every book he ever heard of in that country for a circuit of about fifty miles."

What would that take in? Evansville, New Harmony, Booneville, Troy - were there any other important places?

Sincerely yours,

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