

October 23, 1923

Mr. J. H. Wixon,
Sawtelle, Calif.

My dear Mr. Wixon:

When I make mistakes I like to have them amusing; and I have not made one for a long time that has seemed so funny to me as that to which you call my attention in my article in the American Magazine on "Lincoln's Money Sense."

I have a certified copy of Judge Davis' inventory among my papers. The note is correctly down there "M. B. Church" but I carelessly read it and as carelessly misinterpreted it. Even after having found that I made an "E" out of a "B" I did not sense that it was a man and not an organization to whom the note was given. I really think this very amusing.

Now as to your theory that that \$57,000 in U. S. Bonds came from the money that is said to have been raised for Mrs. Lincoln by loyal Republicans after the President's assassination. I am not convinced that you are right. In the first place I don't believe Mary Lincoln would have allowed that money to have gone into the estate - it would have been hers. Certainly the pension granted her afterwards was considered hers. I have more and more come to the conclusion that Mr. Lincoln was "better off" when he went to Washington than we have so far been able to prove. I am inclined to think that whatever investments he made, it was in Government bonds. And it is certain that they saved while in Washington. Of course you may be right, but I have still to be convinced. I am glad, however, to have the point raised, and I certainly shall follow it up as I have opportunity.

Let me thank you for having written the letter. I am always glad when I have a reader who is sufficiently interested in something I have put out to correct a mistake or call my attention to a new point of view; and you have done both in your letter.

Very sincerely yours,