

February 6, 1934

Dear Mr. Stahl:

Pardon the long delay in replying to your letter of January 5th. I have been out of town only just returning a few days ago.

Now as to your question as to the four photographs of Lincoln which I favor. It is not easy for me to decide, but on the whole I think, if I were making a selection, I should say:

1) The Earliest Portrait of Lincoln, made from a daguerreo-type owned by the late Robert T. Lincoln. You will find a reproduction in Volume I of my Life of Lincoln, Page 208.

2) What is known as the Macomb Portraift of Lincoln, Volume I, facing page 316.

3) The Cooper Institute picture, Life of Lincoln, Volume I, Page 326.

4) The last portrait taken the Sunday before his assassination. You will find this in Volume II of my Life of Lincoln, Page 232.

I suppose that this choice will be challenged by many Lincoln students, but I have my reasons for making it.

You ask me for any other information. It is too great and too large an order. When I was collecting material for my Life of Lincoln I paid a good deal of attention to the collection of portraits. If you have a file of McClures Magazines, in which the articles were first published back in the '90's, in the library you will find there a large number and under them all you will find notes showing the source. Possibly this should be my best answer to your question for information.

I suppose you know the collection of Meserve
the most complete that has ever been made. Hoping this
gives you something of what you want and regretting my
delay, believe me

Very truly yours

Mr. F. William Stahl
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