June 4, 1935

Dear Mr. Walsmith:

Please do not think because I have so long neglected your letter in regard to Lincoln's reading and revising Scripps' Campaign Life of ~~Lincoln~~ that I was not glad to receive it and that I am not interested in the point.

Your letter came when I was out of New York on a business trip. Since my return illness in my family and a pressing piece of work has made me neglect all my correspondence.

Now as to the point. I think perhaps Mr. Angle may be right that there is no written document by any one of the principles that is, Lincoln, Scripps, Medill or Horace Greely. I certainly know of none, but I have always believed that there was sufficient evidence to believe that Scripps stated that Lincoln read it. Medill certainly believed so. I haven't my notes but I am quite sure that somewhere I have his statement made in conversation to the effect that Lincoln read Scripps' manuscript. I know at least that I talked with him about it. It would seem that the belief of men closely associated with Lincoln and Scripps at the time should count. It always has with me.

Have you seen the reproduction of Scripps' life with notes made by M. L. Hauser of Peoria. Mr. Hauser's work as you know is most careful. If you have not examined the book you certainly should do so. I think you could get a copy by writing the printer - E. J. Jacob, Peoria, Illinois.

I am glad to have my attention called to this point and if I come across anything that seems to me more conclusive than I can now muster on either side of the question I shall be glad to pass it on to you. Also, if you find anything that seems to settle the matter for you and will send it to me I shall be very grateful.

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And again I hope you will pardon my long delay in replying to your letter. Letters like yours are always stimulating. Thank you for writing and believe me

Very sincerely yours

Mr. A. J. Walsmith
Oskaloosa, Iowa

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