October 23, 1935

My dear Mr. Kingery:

I have just received your letter telling me that the Village of New Salem will be dedicated on Thursday, October 26th, and honoring me with an invitation to join Governor Horner and other Lincoln students in the presentation to the State of this restored town.

I cannot think of any Lincoln event in which I would be more glad to take part than this. I have always felt that the most interesting monument to the memory of Abraham Lincoln that could be erected would be to restore New Salem. I have followed the effort to re-create the Village with warm interest and now that it is really done and you are about to turn it over to the State I am deeply disappointed not to be present at the ceremony. It is quite out of the question. If I had known earlier I might have attended, but I have a long standing engagement to speak in New York on that day, so you see I cannot join you. But you have my hearty congratulations on the completion of this fine undertaking.

Best wishes for a happy gathering on the 26th.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Robert Kingery
Springfield, Illinois
Department of Public Works and
Buildings

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