August 14, 1924

Mrs. Zenobia Sniffin
422 The Ontario
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Sniffin:

I have been in the country for several days, so that your letter of July 31st has just come to me.

I am sorry that Major Putnam did not see his way to pubbish your manuscript. I think myself that it would be rather a difficult thing to handle commercially; but I felt sure that if Major Putnam saw the need as you do, he might be willing to make the venture. However, he evidently does not, and I am not sure but the wisest thing for you to do would be to turn your manuscript over to the Historical Society of which you wrote me before.

I am not prepared to say how much I think there is in the Southern Confederate activities, but I know there is something in it. I think you are right, too, in saying that it is having its effect - particularly on the young. How deep this effect is, and how lasting, I have no idea.

I am making a collection of Miss Rutherford's publications and one of these days I am going to make a study of them from a historical standpoint. She is obviously entirely wrong in many of her statements. I follow that up by going over a file of the Confederate Veteran; but at present, I do not see the leisure for this work. I shall keep it in mind, and would be glad if you will, my dear Mrs. Sniffin, now and then call my attention to something which seems to you particularly significant.

We must bear in mind that defeated "causes" die hard. This is the history of all causes. It is the human nature of it. I rather think it is natural that the young of today in the South should stand up in a way for their grandfathers. In the smaller places and in old fashioned groups not invaded by modern ideas - where contacts are few outside of their own circle, they must hear so much of the "cause" that they are unwilling to believe it is lost - a point of view which would quickly change, I am convinced, were they thrown into the active life of any of their own great cities. Nevertheless, it is a fact to be studied and dealt with.

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and I hope your book will find a printer.

I am asking my publisher to send a copy of the "Boy Scout Life of Lincoln" to Mr. Walter Lundrigan, Wilcox, Sask., Canada.

Yours very truly,

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