

January 26, 1929

Mr. George A. Lawrence
First National Bank
Galesburg, Ill.

My dear Mr. Lawrence:

Thank you heartily for your letter of the 19th, enclosing Mr. Thornton's reply to the letter that you sent him while I was in Galesburg.

Yes, I do know the letter Abraham Lincoln wrote in 1848 to David Lincoln, making inquiries as to his family. It is printed in various collections, and I have commented on it two or three times in referring to Mr. Lincoln's interest in his ancestors.

Five years ago I went through the Shenandoah Valley, following the Lincoln tracks in that region, and looked up Dr. J.E. Lincoln at Lacy Springs. A full account of my visit there I have never published. It added nothing documentary to my researches, though it did much to enable me to picture more fully the kind of man John Lincoln, who was the first to come into the Valley, was.

I think you told me that you had never seen a book of mine called "In the Footsteps of the Lincolns." It was really a report of a Lincoln pilgrimage that I made in 1923-24. I am sending you a copy.

The chapter on Virginia John may interest you. You will find a reference to Lincoln's correspondence with David Lincoln, as well as to my visit to Lacy Springs, on page 289.

I hope, dear Mr. Lawrence, that you are well. Please be very careful during this treacherous weather. The light attack of influenza which I had just before I left Galesburg hung on and I came down the day before Christmas with the real thing. I have been in or on my bed most of the time since. It is amazing how it takes one's strength, but I am getting on.

With all good wishes and renewed thanks for your many kindnesses to me, believe me, dear Mr. Lawrence,

Very sincerely yours