Aug. 24, 1927
to Barber, Mrs. C.J.

Mrs. Clayton J. Barber
Springfield, Ill.

My dear Mrs. Barber:

When I came in from the country yesterday I learned for the first time of the death of your father, Mr. Henry B. Rankin.

It brought me real and deep sorrow although I realised of course that he must go before many years. It is hard for me to associate death with him. There was something of the immortal about him - a vivid spiritual something, quite apart from the physical being. I have never known anyone like him. His courage, his interest in life, his superiority to those things which drag most of us down, were quite outside and above my experience with human beings.

Will not you and your brothers accept my sincerest sympathy in your loss.

Sincerely yours

found in Rankin's Intimate character sketches of Lincoln

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