

May 9, 1924

Mr. W. T. Norton,
1023 George St.,
Alton, Ill.

Dear Mr. Norton:

Thank you very much for your letter of
the 18th of April with enclosure from Mrs. Hitchcock.

I know how distressed she is about Mr. Barton's book.
I am not quite sure that she is right in her feeling that he is going
to strengthen these scandals by repeating them. As a matter of fact
I think that any person of any intelligence reading the various
stories that he has set down would be convinced of their falsity.
Their backing in every case is of the slimmest kind. I wrote Mrs.
Hitchcock some time ago that I felt that their very publication was
their repudiation. At all events, there is no way that he can be
stopped that I can see, and I think it is inadvisable to try to
stop him.

Thank you for saying that "In the Footsteps of the
Lincolns" deserves the kind things that have been said about it. / I
have been surprised and of course deeply pleased by its reception.

Sincerely yours,