Sept. 29, 1922

Mr. W. W. Ellsworth,
The Century Co.,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Ellsworth:

How very kind of you to give such prompt attention to my letter; and, above all, to send me the copies of entries in the records of the little Pigeon Baptist Church.

Have I the right to reproduce the entries? Of course in doing that I should want to give full credit to you.

I expect now to be in Kentucky and south-western Indiana within the next month, and I shall try my best to get a look at the book, or books. Do I understand that Mr. McGregor has the records in his possession? Or were they, and are they still with the authorities of the Pigeon Creek Church?

If I should find anything new on my trip - though I doubt very much that I shall find anything that will be new to you, I will be only too glad to pass it on.

I am particularly glad to get my hands on a document that shows Thomas Lincoln not to have been the shiftless, no-account that tradition has persisted in making him.

I have been following the footsteps of his ancesters this summer, from Samuel down - a fine, sturdy line. There certainly was nothing of the poor white in Thomas Lincoln's line, and for my part I don't believe there was any in his life.

I am returning the clippings in this envelope.

I was very sorry when I learned of Mr. Newkirk's death. I had had a correspondence for years with him, and it was particularly painful to me that I had owed him a letter for some little time.

With renewed thanks for your courtesy, believe me, my dear Mr. Ellsworth,

Very sincerely yours,

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