September 14, 1920

Mr. Garrett Newkirk,
Pasadena, Calif.

My dear Mr. Newkirk:

Thank you for letting me see your article "Baptized by Lincoln." I had no idea of what you meant.

I enjoyed your paper thoroughly up to the point of explanation, and then, I must confess, I was a little offended. I doubt really, my dear Mr. Newkirk, whether it is quite permissible to give this title to such an incident. It is not that I object to your describing what really happened, but this emphasizing it with such a title. I hope you don't mind my saying this quite frankly. The description of the article is capital. It is a reminiscence which ought to be saved. From a journalistic standpoint, I suspect your title would carry it when the really valuable description might not.

Why not try it out on a paper like The Outlook? or the Independent? They publish short articles of this sort. I should like to know, too, whether they would feel the same as I do about emphasizing the baptism.

Let me say again, I am praying you won't mind my being so frank.

Very sincerely yours,

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