February 14, 1940

The Honorable Claude Bowers
Ambassador to Chile
c/o State Department
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I am an old-time Lincoln student and a long-time admirer of much of your own work, so you will forgive me for asking if the Lincoln incident credited to you by the writers of the "Washington Merry-Go-Round" under date of February 12 is correct in essentials. It is the story, of course, of Lincoln's rescue of the British Minister who with his lady-friend had been locked in Lafayette Park.

May I ask too if the memorandum which the article mentions is in your possession, as the reporters say, and if it has ever been published? And I hope you do not think this is an imposition -- but is it possible for me to have a copy, preferably a photostat of the document?

Perhaps I can justify that request by saying that all my Lincoln material is going to my old college, Allegheny College at Meadville, Pennsylvania, where we are starting a Lincoln collection with the hope of incorporating the study of the man more closely into the curriculum.

I hope I am not imposing upon your generosity, Mr. Ambassador. Believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

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