January 20, 1939

Dear Mr. Hauser:

Forgive me for having been so long in thanking you for your letter with the enclosure of the list of Library of Congress books which one time or another Lincoln had withdrawn. I lent the former list which you sent me and alas I fear it has gone the way of so many lent books. The borrower seems not to be able to put his hands on it.

I am particularly interested in this article of yours on Abraham Lincoln's Favorite Histories. I have personal reasons for knowing that he would get something from them, but I also have a doubt about any advertising blurb that the Abbotts had a part in.

I am glad, however, that you unearthed this item. It sets me off on a trail that I have long had in mind. Jacob Abbott wrote a life of Madam Roland and of Josephine. I have given enough attention to both of these ladies to have certain ideas about them. And when I set down these ideas I was battered by readers brought up on Abbott for my heritage. He had an immense power of exciting hero and heroine worship.

One of these days I am really going to get out to Peoria, dear Mr. Hauser. I want so much to talk things over with you and see your books. You are doing most useful work for the Lincoln cult.

Even if belated, please accept my hearty best wishes for the New Year and my apology for my delay in replying to your letter and my hearty thanks for your kindness.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. M. L. Hauser
Peoria, Illinois

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