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Nov. 1st, 1922.

Mr.J.S.Phillips,
Players Club,
South Gramercy Park,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr.Phillips:-

I came across a quantity of valuable Tom Lincoln material in Kentucky, unearthed by a young minister who has been working there for five or six years. His story in itself, is interesting. He came to Hodgenville, where the memorial is, with no particular interest in Lincoln, but the welter of contradictory tales about Tom and Nancy Hanks set him to trying to find out the truth. He has unearthed, in his combin of records, in some nine different counties, so he tells me, at least a hundred hitherto unknown references to T.L's. life. He asserts that they all show him to have been a decent fellow, a good citizen, active in affairs, though the affairs may have been small. This boy, he cannot be over 30, has done this at his own expense. He has a family and his salary is probably not over $1,000. He has a large collection of pictures, which I am going to draw on for my work.

Now here is the point of all this. Do you think that Colliers would take an article, mainly of documents, proving that Abraham Lincoln's father was a very different person from what tradition has made him? The little minister is writing a book, but it will be some months before it will be out. If he could get some money, and Colliers ought to be willing to pay well for such an article, it would help him to carry on his researches.

I would be glad enough to write an introduction for such an article, if they wanted me to, pointing out its value. I do not know of course, that he would consent to do this, but my impression is that he would jump at it if he was offered a good price.

I cannot of course, draw on his material now and I am selfish enough to want to see some of it released before I reach Tom Lincoln in my present undertaking, though really I would like to see this boy get something out of his work.

I have written to you about this. If you dont care to handle it, and think I better write direct to Colliers, all right. I am rather inclined to think it would be something of a scoop for them.

There is another thing that somebody ought to do, and that is write for Colliers, the story of Rob Colliers' interest in the Lincoln Memorial at Hodgenville. I know Jenkins, Lloyd Jones was very active, but if I dont mistake, Rob was behind him. If I am right, Colliers ought, on some Lincoln Day, exploit this.

I have not had time to do anything on my reports since I stopped at Troy ten days ago. There is everywhere being so much more to do than I expected that it has kept me driving. I am behind my schedule, but it is all worth the time I am taking.

Faithfully yours,

Address:
Hotel Leland,
Springfield, Illinois.

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