

June 5, 1923

President Fred W. Hixson,
Allegheny College,
Meadville, Pa.

Dear Dr. Hixson:

How kind of you to send me this Lincoln incident from Dr. Stocking's Decoration Day address in Meadville. It is quite new to me.

You are quite right that Mr. Lincoln's policy, so far as the preservation of the Union was concerned, was fixed at that time. As a matter of fact, it had been for a good many years. There were two things on which from the start he had never wavered - that there must be no extension of slavery, and no breaking up of the Union. Outside of these he would accommodate, make concessions, do anything for peace; but he was unbending on these two points.

I wish that I could promise you that I will be at Meadville on the 19th. I am afraid it is out of the question. I have illness in my family, which, in addition to the work I have on hand, is taking all my strength and time. I hardly see how I can get a day off as things now are, but will promise to go if I can steal hours.

I have heard with the deepest regret of the sorrow that has come to Mrs. Cannady and Mrs. Hixson. I am writing them today.

Sincerely yours,