

August 19, 1924

Mr R. N. Lloyd,
4409 North Ashland Avenue,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Lloyd:

I have your letter of August 11 enclosing the account of your father's night and day with Mr. Lincoln.

It is a captivating incident, but it is an incident. Something might be made of it of course, but, as I see it, it would be something short. An incident of the Lincoln and Douglas debate to have any real value should be given as nearly as possible as your father would have given it to you. There should be no attempt to fictionalize it, that is, to make a story of it. I am willing to try my hand at developing it as an incident, if you are willing, and to show you the result. Then we can decide what should be done.

I may be wrong, but I have an impression from your letter that you think this episode could be made to carry the story of the Lincoln and Douglas debate. It could not, successfully, in my judgment. The debate is too weighty to be hung on anything so slight.

Please let me know if you want me to go ahead.

Sincerely yours,