

November 13, 1930

Dear Mr. Hertz:

I am sorry you had to jog my memory. As a matter of fact I had only just undertaken the classification of these papers and was finding a little difficulty in putting my hand on the Tracy letters. I am enclosing copies, which were verified by the stenographer, not by me, when made. Here is their story.

Just before Gilbert Tracy's death in 1918 he wrote me that after the publication of his "Uncollected Letters of Abraham Lincoln" published in the fall of 1917, pieces had been coming to him, none of which he found in any edition of Lincoln's letters and all of which he believed, from his correspondence, to be genuine. He told me that he would never be able to add them to his volume - I think he knew he had not long to live - and asked me to take charge of them and see that they were published.

I determined then, sooner or later, to write an article on Tracy himself, and include in it such of these items as I had satisfied myself had never appeared in any collected edition. I gathered considerable material on Tracy himself, but have never had time to finish the article.

I am glad enough to pass these pieces over to you for the book you are about to bring out. I think that you should have your Secretary go through the collections now out to verify Tracy's belief that none had ever been included.

Regretting my delay and thanking you for the opportunity to carry out my old friend's request in a much more satisfactory way than I could ever have done, Believe me, dear Mr. Hertz

Very sincerely yours

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