

February 9, 1925

Rev. Henry E. Wing,  
Bethel, Conn.

My dear Mr. Wing:

I fear that you and Mrs. Wing feel that I have been sadly neglecting you. But please do not feel that I have forgotten you or that I am not giving as much time as is possible to your Lincoln story.

What I found when I began to thoroughly examine it was that there was a great deal more outside work to be done than I had realized, that is, if we really were to get anything out of the story. The fact that so many of the episodes have been published and that the manuscript has been offered in different places, makes it imperative that there should be an entirely fresh attack. You see, we have got to make the editor who has seen or heard of the material - and there is nothing that travels about that these editors do not hear of - we must get at it in such a way that they will not realize that they have ever heard tell of it before - and that is not so easy a task, remember, when, as you know, I started into this thing loaded up to my eyes with contracts that run two or three years ahead.

I had hoped to get through with the story in January - indeed set aside January for it; but I had hardly started before the pressure became too much. Now, I am off for my annual lyceum work. I shall not get back until the middle of March, but please believe I will not forget you.

You remember that I said to you that I thought I could find someone to rewrite the murder story which I found in the bundle of miscellaneous articles which you turned over to me. A very good short story writer, Mrs. Folsom, has taken the material and has almost, if not quite, finished a story. It will not bring a large price when done - not over two or three hundred dollars, I expect, but I told Mrs. Folsom that I would expect her to send you half of whatever she got, so I am hoping that this will come on very soon. What I hope of course to do with my story is to get you anywhere between a thousand and fifteen hundred dollars.

You say that you sent me some Lincoln material a few weeks ago which I have not acknowledged. I am afraid I never re-  
will not let me know just what it was? It is

