

July 2, 1930

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I hope you will pardon my long delay in replying to your letter of June 13th, I have been out of town almost constantly since it was received and so busy when here that I have neglected all my correspondence.

I am, of course, deeply interested in the Memorial Highway Plan from Hodgenville, Kentucky to Beardstown, Illinois. I should be surprised and disappointed if the route did not pass through Charleston as well as the Shiloh Cemetery. Charleston is certainly one of the most interesting points within reach of the planned Highway. It was connected with Lincoln's life from the time he entered Illinois, or at least very soon after he entered, up to his death. It would be a serious criticism against the route, in my judgment, to pass it by. I hope you and your Committee can persuade the Commission that Charleston is one of the important Illinois points for such a Highway as they are planning.

Thank you for the copy of the paper on the Lincoln and Douglas debate. It is interesting and I am glad to have it for my files. I certainly shall be glad of a copy of your report when finished.

Very sincerely yours

planned

Mr. S. E. Thomas
Department of History
Charleston, Illinois

prepared

by

Digitized Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.