

Chicago, April 30, 1887.

Clinton L. Conkling, Esq.,

Springfield,

Illinois.

My Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 25th instant is received informing me of your conference with a Committee of the House of Representatives appointed under a resolution looking towards the purchase of my father's homestead in Springfield, and I take pleasure in saying to you that you represented me properly in your conference with the Committee.

I assume that the Committee did not consider its conference with you as a formal communication to me of the purposes of its appointment, and that the members of the Committee merely wished to ascertain what would probably be the nature of my reply to a formal communication. I beg, therefore, that you will call ^{on} the chairman and say to him that I would not voluntarily sell the property at all or transfer my control of it to any private person, but that I regard the action of the House as an indication of a desire of the representatives of the people of the State that my father's residence should, so far as possible, be preserved to gratify a public interest, and that my action will be in harmony with

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that wish.

I appreciate this public interest and realize that while I may be able to continue such a management of the property as to gratify it, the accidents of life, if I retain the ownership, may cause changes in that regard and that it is proper that I should adopt, if practicable, some measure to guard against the effect of such changes. If the State will offer to preserve the house as an object of public interest all question will be avoided and you may say to the chairman that upon such an offer being made I will convey the property to the State without compensation.

I am

Very truly yours,

Clinton L. Conklin

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, oriented vertically.