From Hertz collection
Thru Emerson Galleries
to B. Burton

Springfield, Ills., May 28, 1860.

Hon. Saml. Haycraft.

Dear Sir:

Your recent letter, without date, is received. Also the copy of your speech on the contemplated Daniel Boone monument, which I have not yet had time to read. In the main you are right about my history. My father was Thomas Lincoln, and Mrs. Sally Johnston, was his second wife. You are mistaken about my mother. Her name was Nancy Hanks. I was not born at Elizabethtown; but my mother's first child, a daughter, two years older than myself, and now long since deceased, was. I was born February 12, 1809, near where Hogginsville now is, then in Hardin County. I do not think I ever saw you, though I very well know who you are, so well that I recognized your handwriting, on opening your letter, before I saw the signature. My recollection is that Ben Helm was first clerk, that you succeeded him, that Jack Thomas and William Farleigh graduated in the same office and that your handwritings were all similar. Am. I right? My father has been dead near ten years; but my stepmother (Mrs. Johnson) is still living.

I am really very glad of your letter and shall be pleased to receive another at any time.

Yours very truly.

A. Lincoln.

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