Castle de Bayleuse
et Saus Souci
No 20 Bedford St.

Atlanta, Ga.,
December 21, 1924.

Dear Miss Mildred:

I received your letter and I am glad my last letter added a mite to your joys for speaking the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. I will in this letter endeavor to speak more in detail, and I hope add more mites to your joys.

Abraham Lincoln was killed at Ford's Theatre, the night of April 14, 1865, by John Wilkes Booth, six days after Gen. Robt. E. Lee had surrendered. I am glad to say this - the South and its leaders had no part or portion in his assassination. It was purely a Personal matter between Lincoln and Booth. Lincoln hung John Y. Beall, Booth's intimate friend and told a lie in regard to the hanging and paid the penalty by his death.

February 22nd, 1884, my brother and myself landed in Atlanta, Ga. Our firm was Baylor & Baylor, Civil & Consulting Engineers. We came from Virginia to Georgia.

I was named for Hon. Henry Bedinger, Minister to Denmark under President Buchanan. Henry Bedinger was my father's dear friend and my father named me for him.

I was born January 7th, at Wood End, Va. My father was Robt. Wm. Baylor, and my mother Mary Catherine Moon.

I married Anne Shirley of Va. October 27, 1880. We have two children, a boy and a girl, both married and live in Atlanta.

I saw in the LaCrosee Democrat (LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Brick Pomeroy, Editor) some time in or after 1884, the story of Booth, Beall and Lincoln. I had known Beall before and during the war. His mother lived in my native county Jefferson and was a distant relative of mine.

After I got the paper I went to my home in Charles Town (now West Va.) and called on Mrs. Beall and showed to her the article in the paper and asked her what she had to say about the truth or falsity of the article. After carefully reading the article, she frankly said, as far as I can go it is the truth.

She said, "Booth and my son were friends before the war and during the war, and the war did not terminate this friendship, Booth living in Maryland and my son in the Confederate Army with the Potomac River between them almost weekly letters passed between them. My son was wounded in the forehead by a ball, which made the bone press upon the brain, and he became unable for regular army service, and was found on a mission to liberate the C.S.A. prisoners on Johnson's Island and was captured on the eve of its accomplishment, carried to a Yankee prison from which he escaped. After his escape he was found in New York one rainy day with a C.S.A. grey coat on, every button in its place, a C.S.A. Captain's Commission in his pocket, wearing a raincoat which covered all his uniform, except one foot and his grey pantaloons, demanding $500,000 or he would burn the City, was captured again and tried by a military court and found guilty as a Southern spy and condemned to hang.

Mrs. Beall now goes to Booth and asks him to save her son from the gallows. Booth tells her he will move Heaven and Earth to do so. He goes with her and meets Lincoln and Booth does the talking. He tells

Lincoln he would be a fool to hang John Y. Beall, a d--- fool, for Beall was no spy, and from all the evidence given he could not be tried as a spy.

Lincoln then placed his head on the table for a few moments, and then said to her and to Booth, "He shall not be hung."

With this assurance from Lincoln, she returned to her home happy, after thanking Booth for his true friendship to her son (Jno.Y.Beall).

The next day Beall was hung. She said she could tell no further, but felt Seward and Stanton had prevailed upon him to break his word and to hang her son.

Then Booth began to lay plans to assassinate Lincoln, Seward and Stanton."

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I have Mr. Baylor's signature in the presence of a notary public of Fulton County, Dated January 5, 1925.

(Sd.) Milared Lewis Rutherford
Editor Scrap Book.

Athens, Ga