2339

M. B. T. CO.

MEMORANDUM

10/19/37 19

Fred:

Attached are copies of the correspondence on the Mrs. Lincoln jewelry, which I promised the man in your office I would send.

Anything more I can do, will be done

Tom





(COPY)

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION

First National Bank Building,
Springfield, Illinois

Harry E. Pratt, Executive Secretary

October 18, 1937

Mr. Thomas I. Starr,
1101 Bell Telephone Building,
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mr. Starr:

There is a fellow here in town who has an option on three pieces of jewelry that belonged to Mrs. Lincoln which he is trying to sell. They belong to Mrs. Mary Edwards Brown, former custodian of the Lincoln Home and a relative of Mrs. Lincoln. The jewelry is O. K. but the man, whose name is Starr also, I do not know more than to speak to. He wanted the name of some man in Detroit who might give him the name of the man who buys things for Henry Ford. Rather than give him your name and address I told him I would make inquiry through you is Mr. Ford's buyer was interested. If you wish I can have him write to you.

Just between you and me if I were interested in the jewelry I would go direct to Mrs. Brown.

Have you finished with the Weik list? We are to have some kind of a Centennial Celebration here this weekend. Three different pageants etc..

Sincerely,

Harry E. Pratt

COPY OF A PORTION OF T. I. STARR'S
ANSWER TO HARRY E. PRATT

Detroit, Mich.
October 19, 1937

Dr. Harry E. Pratt, Secretary,
Abraham Lincoln Association,
First National Bank Building,
Springfield, Illinois

Dear Dr. Pratt:

XXXXXXXX

After reading your letter of yesterday I telephoned my friend Fred L. Black at Ford's and read it to him. He didn't wax hot over it, but his answer is to send along good photographs, complete authentication and the price. If the price is xxx too much, or if there is any question concerning the authenticity, it's out. This information is submitted to Mr. Ford and if he wants it they buy. They are not enthusiastic about buying from a third party, even though his name is Starr, but would much rather buy from the owner at a fair price. Too often they get stuck buying through a third party.

I am under the impression that they would much prefer to deal directly with Mrs. Brown at some later date, after Starr's option has expired. Do as you see fit about disclosing this information to Mr. Starr. I am turning over to Mr. Black a copy of your letter and a copy of this portion of my letter to you.

XXXXXXXXX

Sincerely yours,

TOM STARR