October 5, 1928.

FRANCIS WILSON
LAKE MAHOPAC
NEW YORK

Dear Mr Black,

God bless your soul, the pictures have all arrived just as you checked them off! --Eleven cardboads full, with 3 pieces, the tintype (cracked) alleged Booth, and two prints of affidavits and the seal with which our friend Bates "monkeyed."

I promise as religious care and return of them as in me lies, and everlasting gratitude for their use. I'll surely check them carefully before mailing to the publishers.

What is the history of the Booth with the signature? It's a treasure. I know it so well! I found the cane Booth holds in his hand at his old home, Belair, Md. It was broken and at my instance was mended.

Yes, I have nearly every book, I think, written on the Booth subject. Last spring I went over the ground, the route Booth took from the back door of Ford's Theater to the Garrett porch. Did the Bates book ever contain a likeness of Bates? I mean his Escape and Suicide of John Wilkes Booth. I need a Bates picture. I now have Ferguson, the house where Lincoln died, Surratt Tavern pictures

I can easily return your fifty cent postage, but how shall I ever repay your courtesy.

Very sincerely,

Francis Wilson





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