Miller Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church

FIFTH AND CLEARFIELD STREETS
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Rev. Thompson W. McKinney, D. D., Minister
3046 N. FIFTH STREET

Financial Secretary
JOSEPH S. LOCUSON, 3153 N. Franklin St.

Secretary of Official Board
FRANK DESJARDINS, 7121 Bingham St.

FORD MOTOR CO.
DEARBORN

SEP 6 1927

Mr. F.L.Black,
Dearborn, Mich. My dear Mr. Black:-

I am in reciept of your most ~~interesting letter~~ of interesting letter of Aug., 30th. in reference to the hoax of Finis L. Bates, regarding J.Wilkes Booth, etc. I thank you for the information contained in thi letter, and will greatly appreciate recieving the pictures and MSS., to which you refer.

Clarence True Wilson is a vigorous speaker, and has gathered together quite a collection of data, which, he says, completely proves his contention. I am informed by a mutual friend who recently visited Dr. Wilson in Washington, that he, (Wilson), has a room well stocked with Booth matter and has employed a man to clip, classify, etc.

Dr. Wilson recently wrote me stating that he had finished the MSS., of a soon to published, book taking up the case where Finis L. Bates left off. I know Dr. Wilson so well, that I am sure that he will get every thing that is gettable. However I cannot see how he can successfully deny the facts of history, and especially the sworn testimony of Jett, Ruggles, Bainbridge, Dougherty, et al.

I have made careful analysis of the St. Helen "Confession", and have noted its inaccuracies. I have done the same with the false statements of Bates. Either he was unfit to weigh evidence, or he deliberately intended to decieve. The only motive for the latter is a mercenary one. Your letter answers t a question as to the financial rationg of Bates.

We now have the strange spectacle of Bates who wept when he identified the body of his former friend, a little later hocking the body from town to town, at so much per. It reminds one of that sordid creature who sold his Master for thirty pieces.

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I now propose to give this thing more time than it deserves, and will therefore greatly appreciate any advices which you may give me, and will be pleased to recieve the pictures, MSS., and the hand bills of which you write.

Believe me to be,

Most sincerely yours,

Thompson W. McKinney