November
18th
1926

Mr Bruce H Franks
Inter-Southern Life Insurance Co (Newport Rolling Mills)
Newport Ky

Dear Mr Franks:

Forgive me for not sooner answering your kind and interesting letter received October 25th.

I agree with you thoroughly that if you can convince me that this man Newton was John Wilkes Booth you will have accomplished a lot for I have made about as thorough an investigation as could be made into the proofs existing in various government departments as to the identity of the man shot in the Garrett barn, and became satisfied that he could be no other than Booth.

I have a lot of this material that has not been published and should I get the opportunity I expect to pack it into a suitcase and go over it with you. I don't doubt in the least your sincerity and I am inclined to believe that your real story lies in the great similarity between two different men.

I do not believe Mr Ford is at all interested in the thing. As a matter of fact, I am about the only one here at our place who is interested. I doubt whether there would be any possibility of convincing our Editorial Department that they should re-open the discussion. They claim already that we have published more material than the subject would stand. I have discussed with several publishers the possibility of issuing a book stating the various claims but none of them think the thing would sell in sufficient quantities to pay. However, it does not prevent you and me continuing our research and satisfying ourselves about various things.

Very truly yours

THE DEARBORN PUBLISHING CO

F L Black

FLB/L