30,000 3-4-24 800 F K—Spl

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company

OFFICE AUDITOR OF DISBURSEMENTS

G. H. PRYOR,
AUDITOR OF DISBURSEMENTS
S. W. HILL,
ASST. AUDITOR OF DISBURSEMENTS

BALTIMORE, MD.

FORD MOTOR CO.
DEARBORN

May 23rd, 1925

IN REPLYING QUOTE FILE NO

MAY 25 1925

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Mr. F.L.Black,

The Dearborn Publishing Company,

Dearborn, Michigan.

My Dear Sir:-

Your letter came to me promptly,and in the next mail, the copy of the Dearborn Independent,came to me. Iam very grateful to you and to Miss Jane Hicks for sending me this copy of your paper and thank you very much for your kindness. It is a superfine Lincoln number,and all of the articles contained therein are of great interest.

Regarding any further data of the facts connected with the assassination, I would say that one of my fellow clerks here in the office about two years or more ago. knowing of my interest in Lincolniana,told me about a letter which his wife(s father,Dr. Todd, the surgeon of USS Montauk had written, on the morning following the assassination to his brother in Rochester N.Y. Dr. Todd with a large number of the officers and crew of the Montauk were present when Booth fired the fatal shot,and according to this letter of Dr. Todd, He,(Dr. Todd) received orders from one of his superior officers, to take the news of the Assassination to the Telegraph office. Dr. Todd in the letter to his brother.described in detail the facts of the assassination. The only strange part of the letter is,that it describes a visit to the Montauk on the morning of the day that the President was shot,by

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by President and Mrs. Lincoln attended by a party composed of friends and acquaintances. An inspection of the vessel was made,and when the party were about to leave the Montauk, Mr. Lincoln extended an invitati tion to those of the officers and crew who would be able to secure leave of absence to visit the theatre that evening to Witness the performance of Our American Cousin". None of the accounts of the doings of the day refer to thi s visit to the Montauk,and one or two who have writtem and published their account of the assassination have written to me about it,and tried to prove that the Doctor was not at all reliable. At. my suggestion, the original letter of four pages ,a portrait of Dr. Todd,and several views of the Montauk cut from the Newspapers were sent to me,and I made a negative for each sheet, of the letter,one of the Doctor,and picked out the newspaper cut showing the interior of the Gun Room of the Montauk. I have these negatives,and have sold many copies of the set of 6 prints at $1.25 per set. If you wish, I will be glad to send you a set of these 6 prints without charge,as I will be much interested in having the matter investigated. The wife of my fellow clerk, Mrs. Florence Hoffman, was talking to me of her father,Dr. Todd on last Monday night,and telling me what a fine man he was. not knowing anything about the discussion concerning this visit to the Montauk. If you can throw any light on the matter I would be glad to know what you have found. One Lincoln collector,who purchased a setyof these prints,with whihh I send a statement telling how I came to have the opportunity of making the copies corrected my statement in saying that the visit which I described as occurring in the morning,advised that the visit of Lincoln to the

Very truly yours E. L. Bangs

Montauk was early in the afternoon. He was Mr. Jerome Williams of Kingston,N.Y. where he obtained his information,I am unable to say.
Room 801 Baltimore & Ohio Building Baltimore,Md.