June
14
1922

Mr F L Bates
1234 Harbert Ave
Memphis Tenn

Dear Mr Bates:

With reference to your letter of June 3rd to Mr. Liebold.

We received the copies of statements of Wilson Kenzie and Blanch Booth both of which are quite interesting. A careful search of war department and Congressional records, 1865 newspapers and the transcript of the Conspiracy and Surratt trials all of which repeatedly gave the names of those in the party which made the trip to the Garrett place, do not give Kenzie's name.

All statements made by members of the pursuing party, officers and men, Baker, Dougherty, Corbett, etc. the Garretts, father and sons, agree that Booth did not die for a couple of hours after being shot. Kenzie says he was killed instantly.

Kenzie in additional statements made to our representative, says in attempting to explain the reason for not receiving any recognition or reward for his part in the pursuit, that none was paid. That it was paid is a matter of voucher record.

Unfortunately we must conclude that Mr. Kenzie's part in the pursuit and capture is purely imaginary.

Miss Blanch Booth's identification of John Wilkes Booth is from pictures. How about the identification of Rev. James Glasgow Armstrong of Atlanta as John Wilkes Booth by many people who knew Booth personally.

Very truly yours

THE DEARBORN PUBLISHING CO

F L Black

Business Manager.