Dr. F. D. Byington
Chief Clerk, Pension Bureau
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Byington:-

I was surprised and gratified this morning at what you told me about one of your teachers in your boyhood, and a daughter of the man, Garrett, at whose barn John Wilkes Booth was said to have been killed by Boston Corbett, April 26, 1865, and I would be much under obligation to you if you will, after having read my completed letters on the subject of Booth's alleged death at the hands of Boston Corbett, give to me in a letter addressed to me, and in your own way, just what Miss Garrett told you about this historic matter, all that she said, and the reasons she gave going to show that the body of the man killed in their barn, and thrown out in their yard was not the body of John Wilkes Booth. Do this, and oblige

Very truly your friend,

(Signed) Henry C. Bell.

Washington, D. C.
February 6, 1915.