November
30th
1926

Mr Robert Hunt
Editorial Department
Nashville Tennessean
Nashville Tenn

Dear Mr Hunt:

Somehow the attached letter addressed to the Managing Editor of the Christian Science Monitor came to this office. We presume you intended that we receive one of the proofs of your John Wilkes Booth story and merely got the letters mixed.

We would not be interested in this as we have carried considerable material about the various Booth myths. We don't doubt at all that someone who may have claimed to be Booth married Payne's mother and that this same chap may have been John St Helen. It is much harder to prove that David George was this same John St Helen and we feel that it is impossible to prove that any of them was John Wilkes Booth, who was shot in the Garrett barn April 26, 1865.

The writer has personally examined various proofs of identity in possession of the War Department and the testimony given in the trial of the Conspiracy and the Surratt trial. Also dozens of statements by members of the pursuing party and is thoroughly satisfied of the Booth identity. This, however, does not prevent your story from being good. You might tell Mr Payne that there is absolutely no fortune coming under any of the identities for I have carefully checked that as I went along. They are wasting money if they ever spend any on legal fees trying to collect.

Very truly yours

THE DEARBORN PUBLISHING CO

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