

Bates Scrap Book

Racine Wis. July 27<sup>th</sup> 1915

Mr. Finis L. Bates  
Memphis Tenn.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 18<sup>th</sup> rec and duly considered.

My relatives in Missouri informed me some years ago that John Wilkes was rumored to have escaped capture and was living under assumed name, but no word has ever come to me of his suicide.

I never know the man and could not identify his photograph. Should not want to have my photo. appear in the book you propose to publish, as his act was both foolish and diabolical. It damaged the Confederate Cause beyond all estimate. Henry Watterson of the Louisville Courier-Journal, in his splendid editorial upon the fiftieth anniversary of Lincoln's assassination expresses my feelings. Lincoln was a Kentuckian, a true friend of the South. Had he lived, the mistakes of the reconstruction period would never have occurred, and the Confederate States welcomed back with the same kindly regard which they enjoy to day under President Wilson whom we all honor. Respectfully B. Booth Northrup

After 10 days, return to



RACINE, WIS.

Mr. Finis L. Bates

Suite 817

Tennessee Trust Building

Memphis

Tennessee

ATION

e matter, even the excitement ently by the afterward com- who claimed to

that Booth was away after the y a number of ad is yet alive," happen to know foundation. I Wilkes Booth after Lincoln's e came to me f. I was lead- for several sea- friends. He told ee, and I have ter to anyone, have mentioned concerning the t in Oklahoma.

ASSINATION.

's assassination Matthews, as- Actors' fund in the same com- Booth, and was shot was fired. ent Lincoln on rd's theater, in ws saw Booth box on to the er that Booth drapery of the n to break his stage entrance, waiting in the back and es- lge to Virginia. Dr. Mudd, and South. It was kidnap Lincoln. follows: Sam- Laughlin were officer. Lincoln Stephens, severl and the plan was ad, but Arnold out at the last

house painter, President John- Payne, a block- ecretary Seward are, afterward laine, and now theater.

leg set by the or the job, he where he was pathizer named ed there several his flight as far which point he surrounded by force of men. in which to re the barn. n a cripple, a aw your forces and I'll come. life, captain. I

WORDS.

to agree to any nder. Booth, said: 'Captain, w off your men I could have ight, but I be- man and would a lame man a

to the rear and straw through a t the barn was d instructed his as he knew the ed to come out.

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