

JOSEPH BENJAMIN OAKLEAF
MOLINE, ILLINOIS

May 13th, 1925.

FORD MOTOR CO.
DEARBORN



MAY 15 1925

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Mr. F. L. Black,
The Dearborn Publishing Co.,
Dearborn, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Black:-

I thank you for your very courteous letter of the 11th. I forgot to tell you that Donnelleys are not printing the Bibliography. It is being printed by the Torch Press at Cedar Rapids. They do all the printing for the Bibliophile Society and do nothing else but book work and I get the personal attention of Mr. Luther A. Brewer, the head of the concern and we are going to have a better job than Donnelleys could have given me, which almost seems impossible but it is true nevertheless, for having the personal attention of the head of the firm means much.

Yes, I have read all the articles concerning Booth and had a talk with this man Sampson here in Moline before his death and it did not take me long, in the conversation with him, to learn that his statements were not reliable, but I did not call attention to his mistakes, for that would not have helped me and would have made him feel badly. I have had so many of the G. A. R. men who, knowing my interest in matters concerning Lincoln, have come to me and volunteered information, "Thinking it would help you in your research, for you are getting it first hand from me", but I simply thank them for their kindness and tell them how they are helping me, etc., and they go away pleased and I am not hurt.

Concerning the impeachment of Andrew Johnson, I have the book containing the whole proceedings and I reviewed it again after reading your story in the May 2nd issue.

Now, concerning the Bibliography, there will be no copies for sale after the subscription list is closed, so if you desire to subscribe for a copy you should do so at once, as the subscription list will be published in connection with the book and, thus, you will be placed in the list of the "Immortals". The edition is practically all subscribed for, but there

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is a half dozen still in the "Reserve" list. I hardly think the Dearborn Publishing Company would care for a copy. As I told you, the Bibliography is going to be much better than the Prospectus would lead you to believe, as it will be printed on hand-made paper, with other illustrations that were not contemplated at the time the Prospectus was issued and also additional matter. The Bibliography proper is closed, so far as titles are concerned. There are 1534 titles, not counting those taken care of in footnotes and exclusive of those titles contained in the Fish publication of 1906, but I find it necessary to add an addenda, for some items have come in within the last few days that were unknown to me, especially one Welsh item published in 1866. It is a large 8vo volume that is not mentioned by Fish nor is there a copy in the Library of Congress or in any of the other large collections, and the only copy I have seen was purchased by the Illinois Historical Society two weeks ago through a dealer who had found it.

I am enclosing with this a reprint of an article by Ulm that appeared in the Independent and you may be interested in having it, and I am also enclosing another subscription blank, in case you have mislaid the one sent with the Prospectus.

I shall surely make it a point to meet you in Chicago sometime, but I do not know of any business that will bring me to Detroit. Chicago is so near to us and we have so many business connections in Chicago that we are there at least every month, if not oftener.

Yours most cordially,

JOSEPH BENJAMIN OAKLEAF.



JBO/H

Could not find a blank. If you have not the one which was laid in the prospectus would a letter enclosing your card for 100¢ to bank & state the bal. for use by fund which Bib is receiving. Done