

Racine Wis
July 27, 1915.

Mr Finis L Bates
Memphis Tenn

Dear Sir:

Your letter of 18th read 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 knew 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 today under President Wilson, whom we all honor.

Respectfully

(Sgd) B. Booth Northrop

COPY OF ENVELOPE.

After 10 days return to
B B Northrop
Racine, Wisc

Racine
7 A.M.
Jul 28
1915
W I S

Mr Finis L Bates
Memphis
Tennessee

Suite 817
Tennessee Trust building