Herdon's Remarkable Appraisal of Abraham Lincoln.


A very remarkable letter and perhaps the finest Herdon-Lincoln letter extant. "............. I call you friend, because you are a friend to my good friend, - Pres'idt Lincoln. He was a good man, a tender one - a noble man - a lovely - the loveliest character that belongs to American History. He will grow and widen with the ages! he had great honor - integrity, and on the whole a grand character. I never heard of an authentic case of his doing wrong. I never knew him to do one, after a close acquaintance of thirty years. He had more virtue than other men because he had less vice. He was human, and hence was not a perfect being - Still he was more perfect than is now known to the world....."

My Dear Friend:

You request me to send to you an autograph of Mr. Lincoln. Each day you will find a letter - a receipt, and other letters of Mr. Lincoln: they are true and genuine. I call you friend, because you are a friend of Mr. Lincoln. He was a good man, a lovely man - a lovely - the loveliest character that belongs to American History. He will grow and widen with the ages! He had great honor - integrity; and on the whole a great character. I have heard of an authentic case of his doing wrong. I never knew him to do one, after a close acquaintance of thirty years. He had more virtue than other men, because he had less vice. He was human, and hence was not a perfect being. Still he was more perfect than is now known to the world.

Yours truly

W.H. Herdon
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A very remarkable letter and perhaps the finest Hernnd-Lincoln letter extant. ".............. I call you friend, because you are a friend to my good friend, - Presid't Lincoln. He was a good man, a tender one - a noble man - a lovelv - the lovelvist character that belongs to American History. He will grow and widen with the ages! He had great honor - integrity, and on the whole a grand character. I never heard of an authentic case of his doing wrong. I never knew him to do one, after a close acquaintance of thirty years. He had more virtue than other men because he had less vice. He was human, and hence was not a perfect being - Still he was more perfect than is now known to the world...."

My dear friend: You request me to send to you an autograph of Ab'l Herbert. Evidently you will find a letter - a receipt, and the letter of Mr. Herndon: They are true and genuine. I call you friend, because you are a friend of my friend - Presid't Lincoln. He was a good man, a tender one - a noble man - a lovelv - the lovelvist character that belongs to American History. He will grow and widen with the ages! He had great kindness, honor, integrity, and on the whole a grand character. I have heard of an authentic case of his doing wrong. I never knew him to do one, after a close acquaintance of thirty years. He had more virtue than other men because he had less vice. He was human, and hence was not a perfect being - Still he was more perfect than is now known to the world...."

Wm.H. Herndon

Yours truly,

Wm.H. Herndon