

*

Springfield, Nov. 4- 1858

Hon. J. J. Crittenden

My dear Sir

Yours of the 27th ult. was taken from the Post-Office by my law-partner, and, in the confusion consequent upon the recent election, was handed to me only this moment. I am sorry ^{many in the No. Republican} the allusion to the private correspondence between yourself and me, has given you any pain. It gave ^{me} scarcely a thought, perhaps for the reason that, being away from home, I did not see ^{it} till only two days before the election. It never occurred to me to cast any blame upon you. I have been told that the correspondence has been alluded to in the No. Rep. several times, but I only saw ^{of the allusion, and} one, in which it was stated, as I remember that a gentleman of St. Louis had seen a copy of your letter to me. As I had given no copy, nor ever showed the original, of course I inferred he had seen it in your hands, but it did not occur to me to blame you for

showing what you had written yourself. It was
not said that the gentleman had seen
a copy or the original of my letter to you—

The emotions of defeat, at the close of a
struggle in which I felt more than a
merely selfish interest, and to which
defeat the use of your name contributed
largely, are fresh upon me; but, even in
this mood, I can not for a moment
suspect you of anything dishonorable.

Yours Obedt Servt
A. Lincoln.