

May 25, 1939

Dear Helen Burr:

The item of which I spoke the other day was this:- In the Seneca Kicker for the 23rd of November, 1909, is a long obituary notice of Isaac McKinney in the course of which Elizabeth McKinney is quoted as saying that he was hauling coal near the well Booth was putting down on Two Mile Run when he heard Booth say that he meant to kill Lincoln. As I understand it an issue of the Kicker soon after Lincoln's assassination carried this story. Mrs. McKinney or the family still live at or near Seneca. A member of my class at Allegheny, a granddaughter as I remember, said that they had this early paper but that it has been mislaid. If you are still on the Booth trail maybe this might interest you.

I am returning Mrs. Bergener's letter.

I wish we had had more time in Allegheny. I thought I was going to have the morning and lunch hour entirely free for you, but it was my last day and things had sadly accumulated. It was fine of you to be so considerate. I hope you will find things to interest you in the Reis Library. I know Miss Rowley and her associates will do everything they can for you and that Dean Skinner will be glad to put you up in my black marble bath suite if there are no mothers on hand who have to be coddled, which sometimes happens. I would love to have you there.

Affectionately yours

Ida M. Tarbell  
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Mrs. Helen Burr  
Franklin, Pa.