Cashmere, Washington
Aug. 27th 1929

Miss Ida M. Tarbell

Dear Madame,

I am coming again about our Mt. Lincoln. In a former letter to me you were kind to say "I shall always be interested in any thing you send me about the progress of the work." Well I have this to say, I mailed by every G.R.R. Post in this state a copy of the Circular letter which I sent to you last April and when we held our An- nual Encampment for this Dept in June last I discovered that the "circular" had accomplished the work I wished for. There were about 450 old Veterans present and fully as many patriotic organizations Relief Corps & of women and they
all, to a man and woman endorsed a memorial to The Hon. Geographic Board at Washington D.C. asking for a change of the name from "Reunion" to that of "Lincoln" and as I was the founder of the movement in this Dept. The Encampment elected me as a delegate to the National Encampment to be held in Indianapolis, beginning Sept. 19th next, to present the same matter there. Of course it won't do for me to "take hold of the plow and look back" so I expect to be there and hope not to be out-classed by any opposition though I can easily see how much better it would have been if a more prominent man had started the movement. I believe a state having a mountain or lake ought to have the right to name it but the jurisdiction of this question seems to come before the Geographic Board for the reason that the
title to the land on which the Mountain stands is still in the
goods, and this is you and me
and every citizen, and especially
those who fought and saved this Na-
tion under Lincoln. I am glad
for this because it gives to every
old soldier in the Nation the privilege
and pleasure of having a part in
naming the Mountain for their
very illustrious leader, and we
have want them to have that pleasure.

It surely is not right to compel
the old veterans to beg for this
privilege. They have earned the
right to name it, and especially so
when the present name is nothing
but an affront to every American
who knows what it means.

The action of this Dept. has
not been sent to the "Board." It
was sent—more as a justification for
The action of the National Encampment, and if ratified there, it would go to the Geographical Board as a memorial or resolution for the nation. If ratified how will it stand? A million, more or less, old soldiers who volunteered their lives to save this Nation under Lincoln and did save it—asking for the change on one side, and ten or fifteen men constituting the Board on the other? I hope they will not refuse the veterans.

But the wording of this "Memorial" to the Board. Perhaps you personally know some of them—do it not convenient to you to write it and send it to me? I should feel more safe if you will. I shall not leave for the Encampment till Sept. 16th. But please reply any way.

Very respectfully,

James A. Garfield