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Feb. 13, 1925.

*How's it going?
 my dear Cousin
 A. E. W.*

Ida M. Tarbell,
 120 E. Nineteenth St.,
 New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

The purpose of this brief letter is to express my thanks to you for your favor of the 10th, with the two Barton pages from the N.Y. Times of the 8th. Except for your thoughtfulness, I should doubtless have lost this article. I was fortunate enough to secure two additional copies this morning from one of our hotel news stands,-- all they had left.

It occurs to me also that you are carrying a heavy correspondence with many persons interested in your research work, and, while it looks like a pittance, I beg to at least cover the expense in postage, and for the copy of the Times, you have been put to in your desire to keep your correspondents posted. Find, therefore, a small block of stamps.

I have by no means lost interest in the Hank-Hanks genealogy. I am handicapped for want of time and access to original records, and, like others in my class, we are more or less forced to take things second handed from original investigators like yourself, Mrs. Hitchcock, Dr. Barton and others.

During the past year or so, I have contented myself in such small assistance as I could give to my cousin (several times removed), Myra Hank Rudolph, of Warren, Ohio, with whom you have had some correspondence. I have read her letters to you and your letters to her, and it occurs to me now that her last reference to her correspondence with you, she sent me a copy of your letter of Dec. 4, 1924. Since then, I have been desirous of obtaining Rev. Barton's address, and the Times article furnishes it. I believe I shall write him. Possibly Myra Hank Rudolph sent you a copy of my letter of her of Dec. 10, 1924, in which I repeated much of our family tradition. I believe Barton's "Paternity of Abraham Lincoln" is in our public library, but the last time I called for it, it was out. Think I shall order a copy.

I will defer comment on the Times article until I have read it studiously. Your communication reached me yesterday, Lincoln's birthday, and have had but time to give it a hurried reading.

Any discovery from a conscientious investigator who has had access to original records is of great value. Without the Tarbells, Hitchcocks, and Bartons, the bibliography of Lincoln would rest back on Herndon, Dennis Hanks and others who picked up the tag ends of tradition and wrote it into history.

Thanking you again for your thoughtfulness,

Yours very sincerely,

A. E. W.