

WILLIAM FORTUNE

WAR MEMORIAL BLDG

INDIANAPOLIS

November 5th, 1928

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 E. Nineteenth Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

I have read the review of Beveridge's biography of Lincoln in the magazine of the American Bar Association which you were kind enough to send me. I heartily agree with you. It is my impression that he may have come to the realization that there might be bitter controversy over some statements regarding the Indiana life of Lincoln. He privately encountered a good deal of this during his life and Mr. Ford, the editor, had to contend with much of this during his revision of the manuscript. The subject has finally been treated conservatively enough to avoid serious controversy. He was so much more interested in the period of Lincoln's political activities that I believe he was, as you suggest in your review, eager to dispose of the Indiana period and to get into Lincoln's political activities. He has, therefore, left earlier formative years to more thorough treatment hereafter. I am glad you contemplate giving this further attention. I regard it as important. Lincoln grew out of his southern Indiana experience. The qualities that commanded such prompt recognition when he arrived in Illinois were derived from his earlier years and there has never been adequate treatment of this part of his life.

Your assurance that you will let me know whenever you come in this direction pleases me very much. I hope your coming may not be long delayed.

I have not heard from the Rices recently. I hope all goes well with them. I shall try soon to get in touch with them again.

With best greetings,

Cordially yours,

William Fortune

WF:MRO