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The Ida M. Tarbell Collection of Lincolniana

Correspondence, research materials, writings, etc. about Abraham Lincoln

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# Letter: Jules F. Cornelius to Ida M. Tarbell, January 23, 1932

Cornelius, Jules F.

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Miss Ida Tarbell,  
7/8 The Cosmopolitan Magazine,  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

As Chairman of the Lincolniana Committee of the Illinois Century of Progress Commission, I am taking the liberty of addressing you in the hope that I might obtain your opinion relative to the presentation of Lincolniana in the Illinois Host Building during the Century of Progress Exposition. There will be available for this purpose three rooms, the largest of which has dimensions of 25 x 33 feet, the interior to be finished similarly to that of the living room in Lincoln's home at Springfield. The other two will be about one-half the size of this room.

While no definite plans have been arrived at as yet for this presentation, we are considering seriously utilizing the rooms in the following manner: The first room off of the foyer we hope to treat simply with a replica of one of Lincoln's monuments in one corner and on the walls inscriptions quoting some of Lincoln's famous speeches. The larger room adjoining, to be furnished if possible, the same as the living room was in Lincoln's home at Springfield during his life-time. The next room adjoining, we may display manuscripts or relics of his life which we are confident can be borrowed from individuals, state or national institutions now possessing them.

being fully cognizant of the fact that because of Lincoln's great simplicity an expression or symbol of his true greatness is not easily portrayed. We are therefore reaching out for help. Please know that we would appreciate, very much, obtaining any ideas you will be kind enough to give us.

Thanking you for your kindly interest, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

  
President.