Letter: Yaichi Akiyama to Ida M. Tarbell, September 13, 1931

Akiyama, Yaichi

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September 13, 1931.
Imperial Marine & Fire
Insurance Co.
Ohtemachi, Tokyo, Japan.

My dear Madam Tarbell:

I received your kind letter of July 28 for which please accept my very best thanks. I am greatly delighted that the knowledge of my humble though ardent study of the life of Lincoln affords such satisfaction to you.

Indeed all people in this country who have received any school education know the name of Lincoln. He proved how little necessary all origin is to happiness, virtue, or greatness; and youths are almost insensibly led into the resolution to become as good and great as himself.

I had been adding here and there, and finished my MS. in the beginning of September. It has come home to me that it is not an easy thing to write a book, it requires an indefatigable mind that would not spare pains, honest and sincere character to crown all, and I well appreciated the tremendous amount of labour you must have spent on your splendid work.

This country is now suffering from the business slump, with every thing in the doldrums, and naturally the publishing world is no exception. After much trouble, I
happily succeeded in getting one of the leading publishers to take up my work. Dr. Inazo Nitobe who is closely connected with the League of Nations and is a noted Japanese scholar has preaced my work.

I would like to insert several photographs out of your excellent book as I do not know otherwise how to obtain them in this country. Would you be good enough to assist me further and give me the necessary permission to reproduce some of the photographs in your book. I shall greatly appreciate your early reply, and in the meantime my work remains in manuscript.

With many thanks in anticipation of your favourable answer, I am yours most cordially,

Madam Ida M. Tarbell

New York, U. S. A.