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Letter: H.C. Greening to Ida M. Tarbell, March 30, 1937

Greening, H.C.

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301 West 57th Street,
New York City
March 30, 1937

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East 19th Street,
New York City

Dear Miss Tarbell:

That book review of yours of the blood and thunder Lincoln plot yarn was good, plus. It was too good for the subject.

I worked on McClure's when you did years ago, also I was born in Titusville, in 1876. They held a celebration that year in Philadelphia but the two events were not connected.

You may recall my aunt, Anna Hurst, for I think you and she attended the same school, not in Titusville. We came east when I was eight and landed in East Orange. I got into Who's Who as a comic artist but they took me out when I went Hollywood.

My grandmother knew Lincoln, probably in Illinois. She was a lovable sensible woman, yet she saw Lincoln's clowning only. Always she laughed in her goodnatured way over "Abe", but when Lincoln pennies came out she was flabbergasted, couldn't figure it. "That big lummox" was her laughing expression.

Tried to sell the movie people a scenario founded on the oil discovery, but most of them thought oil was first found in California or maybe Texas. My idea has been swiped and is now being made into a picture.

I worked since a cub for the Herald comic supplement, then Munsey took over. Our war comic was mine, founded on "Percy, the Mechanism Man; Brains He Has Nix."

I suppose you know Bob Davis. He has Lincoln's original death mask taken by Douglas Volk's father. Bob is a great guy.

Here's trusting that your health is as vigorous as your review was.

Cordially,

H.C. Greening