

Washington

2129 Florida Ave.

Washington Feb 3.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

I am delighted that you are interested in the idea of a book contrasting Lincoln and Wilson as War Presidents and that you are to give me a chance to discuss it with you. I am however some business in Garden City about the middle of the month and after that is out of the way I will call you up and ask for a chance to see you.

I have mentioned the Lincoln-Wilson theme to a number of my friends. They seem interested but apparently assume that the contrast will be unfavorable to Mr. Lincoln. The fact is that the two situations are entirely different. Our conduct of the World War was no problem to Mr. Wilson. It was an immense task but he was able to delegate almost all of the burden to prepared, competent and loyal subordinates. All of the energies of a united and thoroughly aroused nation were behind him. He never had the travail of one that Lincoln had. Wilson's travail came later after the war was over. Lincoln had to awaken the soul of a nation. He had to create the moral forces upon which the successful conduct of war must rest.

You need not fear that I will approach the task with any lack of reverence for your great hero.

I indeed I hope than a better understanding of the
technical military burdens were from a new light
on the greatness of his intellect and soul. He was
as strong as steel when the men he was using,
thought him weak

Very truly yours.

John M. A. McKim

I was much interested in a recent article of yours in which
you described how General Grant felt the pulse of the man in
the army under Grant.