

1527 Virginia Park,
Detroit, Michigan.
March 16, 1934.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
c/o Harper & Brothers, Publishers,
New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Our friend, Florence Davidson, whom we knew both in New York and Detroit, used to speak of you frequently, so you do not seem as a total stranger to me. Then, too, I want to express to you at this time how deeply impressed we were at the radio reading of your "He Knew Lincoln" a year or two ago on Lincoln's birthday. I wish it would be repeated some time.

I have just finished reading your extremely interesting book "In the Footsteps of the Lincolns", published ten years ago. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed it.

John Lincoln ("Virginia John") 1716-1788, the great grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln, was my fourth great grandfather. I descended through the youngest child of John and Rebecca Flower Lincoln - Rebecca (1767-1840), who married John Risel. I was therefore very much interested in the fourth chapter of your book, entitled "Virginia John".

I am trying awfully hard to find some information relative to the activities of this John Lincoln during the Revolutionary period, but to date have found no data other than a record of his will, landgrants, etc. He was too old for active service, but I am sure he was a patriot and did what he could to aid in American independence, perhaps serving in a civil capacity, as an officer or on some committee, or furnishing supplies for the Continental army or in some other manner rendering material aid, no matter how seemingly small. Anything at all that would show his unfailing loyalty to the cause of American independence is acceptable as a line for the Daughters of the American Revolution. I already have several D.A.R. lines, but am so anxious to have my Lincoln ancestry represented.

It occurred to me that perhaps since your book, referred to above, was written, you may have continued your study of the Lincolns and may have unearthed some such data as I am so anxious to find. I do so hope you will be able to help me.

Thanking you in advance for any information or suggestions you may be able to give me, and with kind personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Beth S. Peterson
(Mrs. J. R.)

*Communist Party
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