Dear Mr. Farbell:

Yours of 24th is just at hand.

The editors of the Forum may use my manuscript to which you have put the title "I Come" on the terms you suggest — "as a free will offering." You are kind in keeping me in mind and thus securing that articles appear in the Forum.

The introductory note you suggest would be helpful to me in view of the "Personal Recollections of Abraham Lincoln, the Irish American" to soon be issued by Messrs. Putnam's Sons Co. How much reference to that and my personal connections with the Lincoln-Thurmond Life might be one the publishers should be consulted with. Your experiences with publishers make your decision on this final to me.

To write this introduction myself however would be difficult — really unpleasant and impossible. The Putnam's insisted it should
I should write a preface to my book. I turned
their request and a copy of my MS. over to Mr.
Joseph Fort Newton, for his reading, and asked
him to relieve me, which he kindly consented
to do. He had never met me but once and
that for a few hours when he was in this City
gathering material for his "Lincoln Kentucky vol.
Could you write an introductory note for
me to "I Come," something added to the one
you made on the copy once set up for use in
"The American"? I am enclosing that
proof copy, also a copy of Mr. Newton's "Introduce-
tebook" to my "Lincoln." If you write the
introductory note to "I Come" in the "Forem,
Mr. Newton's paragraphs will be more helpful
than any I would furnish you or Mr. Kenneally
for that purpose. I prefer your signature, or his,
to the note of introduction in the "Forem.
I send the "Author's Proof" proof—lest you
may not have the last revised copy to hand
to Mr. Kenneally. I wish to see the introductory
and the "Forem's Proof" before it is closed up.
The copy of Mr. Webster's 'Introduction', please return in the addressed envelope herewith. That and your 'American proof' of 'I Borne' are all the copies I have and I do not wish either to get beyond my reach until they are in print. Mr. Geo. H. Putnam has been the member of the Putnam's Sons Co. I have had most of my correspondence with and he has been very gracious and obliging in all ways so far. He has had no intimation from me of the limitations and hindrances my Ms. has grown up under. How I wish for—and would enjoy—spending this winter in New York! I know I am asking much of you in the busy life you are in. But it is the busiest people who do best work and they are the most obliging to take on one job more. Most Truly

[Signature]

Henry B. Rackham