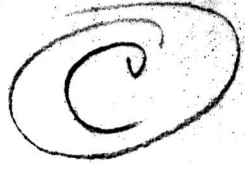


Digital image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

*Confess  
this letter will  
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Merrill  
Tracy*



Minflinburg Bank,  
MINFLINBURG, PA.  
DAVID L. GLOVER, President. JOHN W. LINCOLN, Cashier.

Jan. 17, 1923

Miss Ida Tarbell,  
120 East Nineteenth Street,  
New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

A letter recently reached me making inquiry about a letter from Abraham Lincoln to my father Richard V.B. Lincoln. The following is a copy of it.

Springfield, Ill. April 6, 1860.  
Rich<sup>d</sup> V.B. Lincoln, Esq  
My dear Sir

Owing to absence from home, yours of March 19th was not received till yesterday. You are a little mistaken. My grand-father did not go from Berks Co. Pa.; but, as I learn, his ancestors did, sometime before his birth. He was born in Rockingham Co. Va. went from there to Kentucky, and there was killed by Indians about 1784. That the family originally came from Berks, I learned a dozen years ago, by letter, from one of them, then residing at Sparta, Rockingham Co. Va. His name was David Lincoln. I remember, long ago, seeing Austin Lincoln and Davis Lincoln, said to be sons of Hannaniah, or Annaniah Lincoln, who was said to have been a cousin of my grand-father. I have no doubt you and I are distantly related. I should think from what you say, that you and my father were second cousins.

I shall be glad to hear from you at any time--

Yours very truly  
A. Lincoln

The original is in our family, but not easily accessible, and some years ago I had it photographed and placed a copy in the hands of each one of our family.

I am truly yours,  
*John W. Lincoln*