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PEORIA, ILL.

Feb. 2, 1931.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,  
120 E. 19th St.,  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I am preparing a small book, "Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, An Old Salem Romance," which is to be printed privately, partly for the benefit of the Oakwood Lincoln Club. I have gathered together copies of all the manuscripts and letters which have been heretofore quoted and possibly some others. I am quoting Herndon and sustaining his story. Dr. Barton gave me full privilege to quote from his 1927 book and Houghton Mifflin have given me permission to quote from Beveridge. I am using these two because they make light of the story as told by Herndon. Lamson and Whitney had original testimony and you had original testimony in regard to Lincoln's love and his great distress when Ann Rutledge died. The only person whose authority I need, or wish for the purpose of quoting a portion of this story, is yours. I have prepared a short extract from the McClure Magazine of 1896 (by the way, I have the original magazine which I purchased at the newstand at the time you were publishing these stories) and four or five lines from "In the Footsteps of the Lincolns." Will you please grant me permission to use these quotations by giving book, author, etc.

Yours truly,



PGR/EP