

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN ASSOCIATION

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PURPOSES:

"To observe each anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln; to preserve and make more readily accessible the landmarks associated with his life; and actively to encourage, promote and aid the collection and dissemination of authentic information regarding all phases of his life and career."

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Jan. 18, 1940

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Your letter in regard to the hanging in Springfield came to this office and I am answering it for a couple of reasons. I asked Paul about the hanging in the '40s or '50s and he says he has never heard of such. I looked through the 1881 Sangamon Co. Hist. chapter on "Dark Deeds" and they have a fine selection of murders, knifings, brawls etc. but there appears to have been no hanging here from the hanging of Van Noy along about 1826 to the hanging of a negro barber for marrying a white wife here a few years before the World War. If you could get a clue to the name possibly we can work it out in better style. Sorry not to be able to help.

I have wanted for a long time to write and tell you how much I enjoyed your Autobiography. When Miss Cushman was here last summer she told me of you and I resolved I would write at once but a half year has elapsed.

I am having some interesting correspondence with several people about the Sandburg. Mr. Bullard is giving it a fine tooth reading and finding some things not according to Hoyle. At Sandburg's request I made a list of discrepancies I happened to note for the pub. who appeared anxious to make some changes in subsequent printings. If you are interested I shall be glad to send you a copy. I should like to have a list of any things you noted if it is not too much trouble. Have had time to read only a small part of it a second time, but intend to do so as soon as I can find time.

Sincerely,

Harry E. Pratt