

Oakland, January 12, 1934.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,  
Bethel, Conn.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

I don't want you to think this is just a trick to get your autograph, and would not bother you with a question that I have tried to solve by myself except that I have made no headway, and think that perhaps in your research on Abraham Lincoln's life you might possibly remember coming across the name I am looking for.

In one of your books on Lincoln I remember your statement that one of his ancestors was married into the Yarnall family of Pennsylvania, and that another ancestor married a Mary Yarnall in Virginia after both families had emigrated. Then in Illinois a Mr. A.Y. Ellis is mentioned as a friend of Lincoln's. Have you ever come across this man's full name? Was it Alfred <sup>(Yarnall)</sup> Ellis?

(check mark on this line)

(Check mark on this line)

If you will merely check on either line as to the question just above it, I will appreciate it very much, and will be glad to forward any amount you mention for sharing the results of your research with another. I am very anxious to learn this Mr. Ellis's full name.

I have enjoyed your books on Lincoln more than I can tell and am astonished at the number of American surnames you have given the lineage of in your trailings of the Lincolns. Ellis was a Quaker family in Pennsylvania's early days and there is a book by Ellis Yarnall in the public libraries, giving his correspondence with Coleridge, the author of "The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner".

With best wishes for you during the new year and apologies for intruding on your privacy, I am,

Sincerely

B. Yarnall

B. Yarnall,  
841 - 42nd St., Oakland, Calif. )