

January 24th, 1931.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East 19th Street,
New York City.

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

I wish to acknowledge your letter of the 21st. While I am very sorry that your plans have somewhat miscarried, I nevertheless appreciate your efforts and good will.

A rather striking coincidence: Your letter arrived as I was talking to Mr. Gutzon Borglum, when he was examining the ambrotype with great care. His wife was also present. He was immensely pleased with it, and remarked many times upon the whimsicality and suggestion of a smile. He also stated that in his belief, Lincoln was essentially a poet, and would have assuredly achieved greatness in that field, had he been drawn therein; that his poetic nature was clearly indicated in the picture. I do not know whether he would wish to be quoted or not, but he remarked that I might again hear from him. He is a delightful personality.

I thought that you might wish to know his reaction, in view of his magnificent work on the Essex Court House Lincoln.

You are quite at liberty to do as you please with reference to reproduction now or at any future date. It occurred to me, that the New York Times itself, might be glad to supplement the article to which you refer, and which is about to be published by them, with this picture, and a short note from you concerning it. If they are publishing only letters, it might be that they would be very happy to illustrate it, even though the article is by some one else.

The Newark Sunday Call, a Newark Sunday paper of large metropolitan circulation, would like to publish the picture in their rotogravure section. They knew the picture, because their official photographer is a client of mine, and he made the reproduction. They have no book or magazine section, and I think their circulation is a little too limited for your purpose, and I

Miss Ida M. Tarbell

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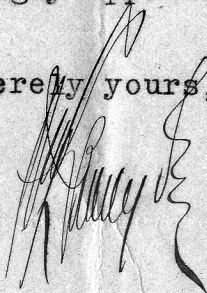
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am inclined to deny them the privilege, so you may have the first opportunity of publication.

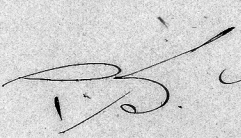
A further suggestion occurred to me. I assume you are familiar with the new magazine "Fortune." They do really magnificent reproduction work, usually a whole page, and inasmuch as they lay so much stress upon art, with rather brief articles, I should think it would very largely meet your desires. Perhaps you would like to get in touch with them.

At any rate, I am exceedingly appreciative of your courtesies.

Very sincerely yours,



WLB P

 Mr. Lum, Mr. Borglum's host for over the week end just 'phoned me to say that Mr. Borglum "was enamored with the print" and said that he "would prize it highly."