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June 13, 1923.

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

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I am in receipt of your letter in reference to the quotation on the question of prohibition which has been credited to Abraham Lincoln. ~~It~~ We have had hundreds of letters in regard to this from all over the United States and also from England. This statement cannot be found in any of the public writings or speeches of Lincoln and I herewith enclose to you the extract from the House Journal of December 19, 1840-41, page 136 entitled "An Act to amend an Act, etc.

There were no speeches made on the subject. The files of the Springfield newspapers covering that period have been gone over very carefully time and time again by both the people in favor of prohibition and those against it, and they have failed to find that Mr. Lincoln ever made such a statement, so I do not know where they could go to verify it. ~~It~~

I am very glad at any time to be of service to you in looking up matters that may come up with regard to Mr. Lincoln and will be glad to consult the files of the papers for you. Trusting that you are well and with kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

(Miss) Georgia L. Osborne
Assistant Librarian, Illinois State Historical
Library.