

Columbus, Georgia
March 4, 1929.

Miss Ida Tarbell,
c/o Paul Reynolds,
599-5th. Ave.,
New York City,
Dear Miss Tarbell,

I have in my possession a book written by you in 1895, published by the McClure Publishing Company, in reference to Abraham Lincoln. I also have the child's chair shown in the book with another New Salem chair, given to my Father John Hice (now deceased) by Abraham Lincoln.

This Samuel Hice, whose picture is shown in your book was my Grand Father, and as you know he and his wife Parthenia Hice were closely associated with Lincoln, and that he had the post office in my Grand Father's store. I have an article in an old scrap book, where Mrs. Parthenia Hice a pioneer of Menard County was an ~~early~~ associate in her early life with Lincoln, and was the last, but one of the early settlers in Old Salem. She had a vivid recollection of many interesting

incidents in the formative years of the Martyr President, and was often appealed to, to verify facts in connection with his life in Menard County. In another article it states in McClure's Magazine of Dec. 1895 contained a sketch and also a picture of Samuel Haier, (my Grand Father,) the occasion being the publication of some reminiscences of the late President Lincoln.

This chair is now in the possession of my daughter Mrs. E. F. Adams, Fort Moultrie, South Carolina, which she is anxious to get some information and identity of same, and has asked Mr. Burgess of Charleston, South Carolina who is familiar with getting information on relics, and antiques, who I understand has already written me in regard to this chair.

I also am very anxious to get this information, as my Father once while on a visit to this Mother, who then lived in Petersburg Ill. brought this chair home with him, as my Grand Mother was very feeble, and wanted he and his children to have this chair as it was given to him by Lincoln in his early life. I can prove that in the museum in New Salem Ill.

is the little china doll which
 Lincoln brought to me. Parthenia
 Heil's little girl, having purchased
 it when away from home, and
 carried it in his coat-pocket
 for a great distance, riding on
 horse back the entire distance,
 in fact they have asked for the
 loan of this chair I have for this
 museum. We prize your book
 and this chair very highly, and
 would appreciate any information
 or identity of the chair. When your
 book was published my Father bought
 one for each one of his children.

This is not a fraud, my Father
 John Heil came to Columbus, Georgia
 in 1872 from Jacksonville, Ill.
 where he had been operating a
~~wooden~~ mill. I was born in 1882
 and am the youngest of four
 children. My Grand Mother, Mrs.
 Parthenia Heil, died July 1898.

Thanking you for an early
 reply.

Yours truly,

B. J. Heil,

1502 Wildwood Circle,