1938 Aug. 13

LYTLE MOTOR COMPANY

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DAVENPORT, IOWA

August 13, 1938

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 E. 19th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Ann Rutledge has written me of her very enjoyable visit with you. It was a happy event for her. I am very grateful to you for having made it possible.

In her letter, she speaks of you not having a copy of Mr. P. G. Rennick's book "Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge". Mr. Rennick was one of the most brilliant accountants and tax experts in the state of Illinois and he was as fine as he was brilliant. Years ago, he and Mrs. Rennick while on their honeymoon, met with an accident leaving her an invalid for the balance of her life. His devotion to her is one of the most beautiful things we Lincoln students of this country know. He was one of the most faithful and ardent believers in the Ann Rutledge - Abraham Lincoln romances either fact or legend. He was a charter member of our little Oakwood Lincoln group that meets occasionally and was the second of our membership to pass on, Mr. Oakleaf of Moline, Illinois being the first.

When Ann's letter came, I wrote Mr. Rennick's secretary. In her letter to me she states, "What a coincidence -- the other book I sent you was the last one that Mr. Rennick autographed and this one I am sending today is the last copy I am able to find, and I believe the last one -- with the exception of two that he started to sign and date in 1932 and "spoiled." Isn't that a coincidence and such a fitting one, the last autographed copy having gone to the great grand neice of Lincoln's Ann and now the very last copy in possession of the family in perfect condition, goes to the mother of the modern Lincoln biography. I am happy in being able to perform this service.

Sincerely,

H.J.Lytle
GM

See her letter Aug. 26. 1938

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