January 10, 1934

Mr. Gabriel Wells
145 East 57th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Wells:

I see by this morning's paper that you have bought the Herndon collection of Lincoln documents. As a Lincoln student I have long been interested in this collection. I feel that it would be a disaster to have it broken up; the proper place for it is in the Congressional Library. If I read the reports right you, too, are interested in seeing it there and seeing the Government buy it. Now if there is anything in the world that I can do to help in the matter please command.

Some months ago I urged the George Baker Company to take the matter up with Speaker Rainey. I shall be glad to write him if you think it necessary. Let me say how relieved I am to learn that the collection has not been scattered as I feared the Baker Company might finally feel compelled to do.

Very truly yours

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.