Royal Collection!-

Troy, Mich.,
Oct. 11, 1929.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East Nineteenth St.,
New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

The day after receiving your letter of Aug. 29, I ordered "The Life of Abraham Lincoln (two volumes) that I particularly wanted to send to you for autographing and they just arrived from New York this week. That was the longest five weeks I ever experienced. I am sending them to you tomorrow.

As nearly as I know how, I have them ready to return. They will be priceless to me after

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you have had them, Miss Tarbell, — money would be no inducement to part with them. Any additional expense incurred, I shall, of course, refund you and even then I will be hopelessly indebted.

I never dreamed my letter to you would survive a secretary or two and the waste basket. I was as thrilled as a little girl with a new doll when your answer came back and never a secretary in sight.

In reference to your statement that you "must have strained the patience" of your Royal Oak audience," the audience was good for at least two hours longer. Really, everyone was so pleased that you didn't notice Mr. Donders trying to tell you that you were talking over time — one hour and 20 minutes of pure enjoyment for us. However, I can appreciate the fact that when an audience becomes physically uncomfortable it is hard to hold them, isn't it? If only some of our effervescent senators would agitate a movement to equip all public auditoriums with comfortably upholstered chairs, they would be doing something really constructive.

Mr. Donders now has both of those letters he mentioned, the one from Grace Bedell to Mr. Lincoln and the answer to it. Isn't it unusual to have both? I have seen them. They are dated Oct. 15, 1860 and Oct. 19, 1860.

I'm awfully sorry about the length of this letter,

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but I'm finding it strangely hard to say good-
bye to you. These contacts have been the very
finest things that ever happened to me.

Thanking you again from the bottom
of my heart, I am

Most sincerely yours,

Jessie G. Aspinwall,

Box 38,

Troy, Mich.

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