M. L. Houser
BOX 55
PEORIA, ILL.

Sept. 3, 1938.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
New York.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

Perhaps you have seen the enclosed essay. If not, I believe you will enjoy it. The writer, Mrs. Nenry E. Pond, Petersburg, Ill., got possession of an old trunk containing many interesting Kentucky and New Salem documents dated from 1830 to 1860.

I feel so grateful to you for all you have done for the Lincoln cult in general, and for me in particular, that I rather long for an opportunity to add to your great store of knowledge from my little one. It seems to me that it was you who led the way for the modern researchers who have given us an entirely different picture of Lincoln; made him real, human, and lovable.

Perhaps I am led to this outbreak by the circumstance that just now I am using to a good purpose some information you so kindly gave me, some time ago, about John Phoenix -- Squibob, and for the further reason that I have just finished reading everything I have of yours about Lincoln's humor.

With every good wish for your health and happiness, I remain,

Your very sincere friend,

M. L. Houser.

M.L.Houser.

See Miss Tarbell's letter Sept. 15. 1938
Enc. Intellectual New Salem in Lincoln's day - by Fern Nance Pond.

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