Sug in Cr

50 Granger Place, Buffalo, N.Y.
June 19, 1923.

Miss Ida Tarbell,
132 East 19th Street,
New York City.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I can no longer refrain from writing you to tell you how deeply my family and I appreciate and enjoy the work you have done in giving us, in minute detail, the Lincoln biography, published in the Buffalo Evening News, and by whose courtesy I have obtained your address.

I feel that you are one of the great benefactors of this present age and, indeed, of the great future.

I feast my soul on your painstaking and inspiring chapters, and then feast my eyes on a fine medallion of Lincoln, an heirloom which I possess, and in the spirit of humility I feel that I am in regal company.

Your portrayal of the character of Thomas Lincoln, so misrepresented by other biographers, makes him a man of such fine patience and courage that, upon reading about him one

evening I exclaimed, "God bless Ida Tarbell," and I can easily imagine how happy you are to give to the world a truer and better picture of Abraham Lincoln's father.

I would that a colossal statue of pioneer womanhood might be erected to honor Lincoln's mother, or, for that matter, his two mothers, for "as one star differeth from another star in glory" so both his mothers helped in the rounding out of Lincoln's immortal character, and both women truly belonged to that constellation that began when Hannah knelt at the altar and promised God that if she might but have the supreme glory of motherhood, that she would do her best to give to the world a man after God's own heart, and like the name of Hannah the names of Nancy Hanks and Sarah Bush will live while the world stands.

Being a writer of national fame, you, Miss Tarbell, are the one to start the project for such a monument, and after all your strenuous labor and endless patience in giving us "In the Footsteps of Abraham Lincoln" it would be but a logical conclusion to the fine work you have already accomplished, to see that such a splendid project was carried through to the end, and I hope that in the goodness of your noble heart you may see this as your next work.

Most sincerely yours,
Annie Grove McClellan (Mrs. I.A.)
Annie Grove McClellan (Mrs.I.A.)

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