

Potnam, Conn.,

March 23, 1916.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

132 East 19th Street, N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

The extreme severe winter weather has often kept me in this house, that I have delayed making announcement of my visit to N. Y. until the weather conditions would improve, but they still hold us as rigid and frigid as ever - snow and ice being all of two feet deep on a level. I venture to state, however, that I shall try to see you on the 4th day of April, Tuesday. Perhaps I have never informed you that I am leaving my home for ever; am a retired farmer

who has turned his ears now to a
 son. I turned my attention and
 interests in collecting these unpublished
 Lincoln letters from a profound admiration
 and love for the most remarkable
 man of the age, perhaps any age;
 and I have done it without any
 idea of pecuniary gain but rather
 a love to myself, believing that the
 letters, speeches and state papers
 of Mr. Lincoln in a complete
 published form would constitute
 the noblest and most enduring
 monument and memorial to
 his renown and greatness as a
 politician, diplomat and statesman.

I am enjoying the work im-
 mensely because it has afforded
 me an opportunity to study his

boldness and remarkable char-
 acter in all its salient points.

I never tire of the work or read-
 ing about him - his is an unique
 character, noble and great in com-
 prehension of mind and understanding.

Well, if the railroads are
 not blocked by snow drifts, I shall
 try to reach St. L. on the night of
 3rd proximo and visit you the next
 day if convenient and agreeable.

With my best regards,

Yours, ever truly,

Gilbert H. Tracy.