July 26, 1927

Mr. George P. Hambrecht
State Board of Vocational Education
Madison, Wisc.

My dear Mr. Hambrecht:

I have been looking over and classifying recent Lincoln gatherings, and suddenly remembered with shame that I never had properly thanked you for sending me a copy of your appreciation of Lincoln, in the address "Abraham Lincoln - His Spirit Still Lives."

It came, I think, while I was in Europe, and ever since I returned last November, I have had a rather difficult time. I have been putting off everything that I could, and among other things the Lincoln material which has come to my desk - I like to have a leisurely mind for going over that.

I have read this pamphlet two or three times. It is admirable, and so harmonizes with the way that I feel about him. I am glad you wrote it, and particularly glad that you put it into this attractive form that one may pass it on to a coming generation.

I never have been a Lincoln collector, though of course many items have come to me - so many that I have recently decided that it is not right for me to let them scatter. I have made up my mind to have them catalogued, to fill out as I can afford to, and turn the collection over to my Alma Mater, Allegheny College in Northwestern Pennsylvania. So, you see, your pamphlet will be in a place where it will carry on because I propose to put together the best of the addresses which I have received, with comments, my own or others'. If you have received anything that particularly pleased you in regard to your address, I wish you would, at your convenience, have it copied for me that I may insert it in the pamphlet.

And now that I am writing, my dear Mr. Hambrecht, I want to ask if you know anything about Mary Todd Lincoln. I am gathering material for an article on her, and I should greatly like to have as much fresh material as possible. I received not long ago a letter, which I have not yet answered though I am just about to do so, thatmight interest you, for I think you

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

asked me once to let you know if I heard of any Lincoln autographs.

This is a letter from one William A. Robinson of 404 Revere Beach Parkway, Revere, Mass. He says that the original of the Bixby Letter is owned by a grandchild of Mrs. Bixby, whom he knows, and that he would like to be put in touch with those who might be interested in Lincoln autographs.

This letter was called out by Dr. Barton's article, published a year or so ago, in the Dearborn Independent.

Pardon this long letter, my dear Mr. Hambrecht, and with all good wishes, believe me

Very sincerely yours

Digitized Image 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library