Tuscola, Ill. August 11, 1931.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

120 E. 19th Street,

New Yprk, N.Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell;- I hesitate to write to you concerning this, but I think perhaps you could tell me what I desire to know, and Iam presuming on your time in the hope that you will get enough interest from the story, to pay for the possible annoyance.

For seven years I have been writing for two daily newspapers of this locality, the Champaign-News-Gazette, and the Decatur Herald. Features and news.

And for some twenty years I have been tracing my mother's mother people, as a hobby. They were Yarnall's of Philadelphia and vicinity. I have the lineage of the family generally, and have only to locate my ancestor Jesse Yarnall(through marriage) to the main line.

In your "Footsteps of Lincoln", I read that a Lincoln girl married a Yarnall. That is the point. Can you tell me where I could find the record of that marriage ? The wanderings of the Lincoln

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Family so closely parallels that of my line of Yarnalls, that I hope to find THERE, the connecting link.

Here is the information that I have.

Jesse Yarnall, a Quaker, was born about 1750. He came to Harrison County, Kentucky as early as 1793 according to court records. His wife was Ann------(somebody). In 1775, a Jesse Yarnall, only son of John Yarnall, Jr. and his wife Sarah Ellis Yarnall, "married out of his faith" in accordance with data found in the Warrington Meeting minutes. For this reason, (out of his faith) his wife's name is not given. He had three sisters;- Rachel, Ann, and Sarah.

Rachel married Nehemiah Underwood, a Quaker. (Warrington Meeting).

Ann married "Out of her faith".

Sarah married a Tomlinson, (out of her faith) and is "removed within the verge of Exeter".

(Seems to have been a family failing). Jesse Yarnall reared his family in the Baptist Faith in Kentucky.

In 1775, at the time of his marriage, Jesse Yarnall "Left for parts unknown." In 1793, I find him in Cynthiana, Harrison County, Kentucky. He left an interesting will. To my great-grandfather

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David Yarnall, he left 139 acres on Mill Creek, . In the Lincoln Family I found they had land on Mill Creek.

In 1830-'31 the family of David Yarnall emigrated to Illinois, Vermilion County through Davies County, Indiana. In the year 1831 the Thomas Lincoln Family came to Illinois.

(Jesse Yarnall died in 1809).

David Yarnall had a son Jesse. In the early 1850's or late 18,0's he went to New Salem and established his home, (where Abraham Lincoln located).

The analogy may mean nothing. But to me it is significant. The Lincolns and the Yarnalls came down the Shenandoah Valley, and their wanderings parallel.

Is it not interesting ?

If you feel disposed to tell me where I might find the Lincoln-Yarnall marriage record, I shall be very happy, indeed.

My mother's paternal line was the McDowell's of Virginia and Ken--tucky, which is an interesting family. I correspond with the man who owns my great-great-grandfather McDowell's old farm, where he had a grist and saw mill, .I find he was a member of the grand Jury /

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1800, and his wife was Catherine Davis .

I have found so much enjoyment in the family research(though no profit) that I can guess how much you must have enjoyed tracing the Lincoln family through its wanderings.

I had in mind that Jesse Yarnall's mother(Sarah Ellis) may have been a Lincoln(Sarah Lincoln-Ellis),-but that is only a guess.

Or he may have been only a cousin in some degree and followed with the family in their wanderings. Only records can establish it of course.

Thanking you for any information, and hoping that you can find some entertainment in the recital of my "deductions",

Very sincerely yours,

Lida Jane Hunt.

Miss Lida Jane Hunt,
103 E.Van Allen
Tuscola,Ill.

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