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SECRETARY OF STATE,
SUPT. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

CHARLES ALDRICH, Curator and Secretary.

Personal.

Des Moines, Dec. 28, 1898.

Dear Miss Tarbell:--

I enclose you typewritten copies of the Lincoln letters in my possession. I have tried to follow the punctuation as far as practicable, leaving you to arrange that as you see fit. You will see that in one of the letters the words "balance" and "schedules" are mis-spelled. You will, of course, understand that Mr. Lincoln spells Keokuk in the old-fashioned way. Hawkins Taylor, to whom he wrote, was a member of the first territorial legislature of this State. He was a politician of considerable note in Iowa up to the time that he settled in Washington, about 1860 or 1861. He lived on Capitol Hill in B street, I believe, where he died some years ago.

If I can be of any further service to you it will afford me great pleasure.

The letters marked "A," "B," "C," and "D" came to me from Hon. John A. Kasson, who was at the time they were written 1st Asst. P.M.G.

My article about which you inquired appeared in The Midland Monthly for May, 1896.

These letters have been compared with the originals.

Very respectfully yours,

Charles Aldrich.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
The Edward,
816 Fifteenth Street,
Washington, D.C.

P.S. I have all the original of one of Mr. Lincoln's despatches to Greeley about Jeff. Thompson & some other rebels who tried to kidnap him with peace propositions - from General Campbell. That despatch is in the Newbury & Henry.

Copy.

Springfield, Ill. Feby. 16-1842.

G. B. Sheledy, Esqr

Yours of the 10th is duly received- Judge Logan and myself are doing business together now, and we are willing to attend to your cases as you propose- As to the terms, we are willing to attend each case you prepare and send us for \$10- (when there shall be no opposition,) to be sent in advance, or you to know that it is safe- It takes \$5.75 of cost to start upon, that is, \$1.75 to clerk, and \$2 to each of two publishers of papers- Judge Logan thinks it will take the ballance of \$20 to carry a case through- This must be advanced from time to time as the services are performed, as the officers will not act without- I do not know whether you can be admitted an attorney of the Federal court in your absence or not; nor is it material, as the business can be done in our names.

Thinking it may aid you a little, I send you one of our blank forms of Petitions- It, you will see, is framed to be sworn to before the Federal court clerk, and, in your cases, will have to be so far changed, as to be sworn to before the clerk of your circuit court; and his certificate must be accompanied with his official seal- The schedules too, must be attended to- Be sure that they contain the creditors names, their residences, the amounts due each, the debtors names, their residences, and the amounts they owe, also all property and where located.

Also be sure that the schedules are signed by the applicants as well as the Petition.

Publication will have to be made here in one paper, and in one nearest the residence of the applicant- Write us in each case where the last advertisement is to be sent, whether to you or to what paper.

I believe I have now said everything that can be of any advantage.

Your friend, as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

the word "to" is not in the original