

38 West 52^d St
February 8/03.

Miss. Ida M. Tarbell.

Dear Miss. Tarbell:

After reading with

keen interest your

writings on the various

portraits of Lincoln,

& the four volumes

of the "Life" which I

have just finished, it

seems to me that you

will surely be glad to

have something of two
portraits of Lincoln, which
if I am not in error,
are not mentioned by
you. These two
portraits - both by Healy -
are exactly alike &
one is in the possession
of the Hon. Robert
Lincoln - Lincoln's son -
& the other, which
belongs to the late
Elihu B. Washburne, is

now the property of my
friend, the Hon. W. D.
Washburn, Ex-Senator,
his brother hangs on
the walls of his library
at "Fairbanks," Minneapolis
Minnesota, where for
many years I have
seen & greatly admired it.

I have recently been in
correspondence with Mr.
Washburn who very kindly

sent me the following
information about the
portrait which he took
from his wife by Cornish
with his niece Miss.

(now Mrs. Fowler)
Washburn, daughter of
Elihu B., & with the
Hon. Robert Lincoln.

(now Mrs. Fowler)
From Miss Washburn's letter

I quote the following:

I) "Regarding Mr. Lincoln's picture
... I went to father's book,
in which he tells of it. I
copy it exact. Mr. Lincoln

Portrait, now in possession of the
 son, the Hon. Robert J. Lincoln,
 Ex Secretary of War, of Chicago,
 is by far the most remarkable
 one ever painted of that
 illustrious man. It is a
 pleasure for me to know that,
 from the knowledge that Wm
 Stealy has of Mr. Lincoln,
 & from the stories which
 he has, maybe, of him, he
 is now painting a duplicate
 for my brother, W. D. Washburn,
 of Minnesota, & myself to be
 placed in the Washburn
 Memorial Library, at the

Norlands, in Lussmore, Maine,
 to the memory of our parents.

II. Quotation from letter to me
 from Hon W. D. Washburn.
 Jan 22/03

"Not being quite clear in
 my recollection, I wrote to
 Mr. Rott Lincoln who
 informs me that the sketch
 from which the portrait was
 taken was made in the
 winter of 1864-65 at
 City Point, at the time
 when Mr. Lincoln went there
 to meet General Sherman
 and Commodore Porter"

III. Ditto - Feb'y 4/03.

(This letter I have just received from Mr. Washburn acknowledging the receipt of your "Life of Lincoln" which I recently sent him, & speaking again of the Healey portrait. -

"The fine portrait of Lincoln I regard as one of my greatest treasures. It is an exact duplicate of a portrait owned by Mr. Robert Lincoln, he says in a letter which I have just received,

"It is, in my opinion, the best portrait of my father in existence. In fact I do not know of any other that I would care to have."

Such are the facts in regard to these two Healey portraits. Mr. Washburn has just sent me a photograph which he has just had taken, & should you be interested in seeing it, it will give me pleasure to send it to you. To me the painting is by

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For the first I have
the serm of Lincoln &
is a work of great
quality & power. It
is of life size &
shows with singular
fidelity that pathetic
sadness that so
characterizes that wonderful
face.

I trust that my
quotations from personal

letters will still leave
the main facts clear
to you. If you
have not known their
portraits their history
cannot fail to be of
interest to you, as I
know from what you
have written.

Yours sincerely,
Geo. M. Tuttle, M.D.