

387 HARVARD STREET CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS

JANUARY 29, 1923.

MISS IDA M. TARBELL

NEW YORK -

DEAR MISS TARBELL :

SURE IT WAS A CRUSHING BLOW TO NOT BE REMEM-
BERED .TO FEEL THAT ONE HAS GROWN SO OLD AND CHANGED SO MUCH IN ONLY A QUARTER
OF A CENTURY !- AND I WAS SO PROUD OF YOU TOO AND TOLD MY FRIENDS WHAT A GOOD old
~~FRIEND~~ YOU WERE ! IT WAS SURELY ONE ON ME - AND THAT'S WHY I'M WRITING THIS IN RED -
THATS FOR COURAGE !

WELL AS YOU WERE SO QUICK TO FORGET ME IN TWENTY FIVE YEARS, SO MUST
I CONFESS THAT IN THE SAME LENGTH OF TIME I HAVE FORGOTTEN WHERE THE OLD LETTERS ARE -
AND ALMOST ALL ABOUT THAT LITTLE BOOK - SINCE I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER I HAVE BEEN
LOOKING DESPERATELY FOR THEM . I CAN FIND EXTRACTS FROM ALL THE LETTERS WHICH I
RECEIVED , AND AMONG THEM MANY FROM THOSE YOU MENTION IN ILLINOIS . I HAVE EVIDENTLY
COPIED INTO BIG BOOKS ALL THE INTERESTING FACTS FROM THOSE LETTERS - BUT UP TO DATE
I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND THE ORIGINALS - AND I SUPPOSE THAT IS THE ONLY THING
YOU WAST . THEY MAY TURN UP YET, OR THEY MAY HAVE BECOME A PART OF THE GENERAL CONFLA-
GRATION STARTED HERE A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN SOME BURGLERS GOT IN AND FAIRLY RANSACKED
OUR HOME . THE BIG BOOKS WERE NOT TOUCHED BUT THE PAPERS WENT FLYING ALL OVER THE
HOUSE AND MANY UTTERLY DESTROYED . I WOULD GLADLY SEND YOU ALL THE EXTRACTS I HAVE -
IF THAT WILL DO ANY GOOD .

I HAV'NT SEEN THAT MAN WEEK'S BOOK, BUT I UNDERSTAND ITS THE
OLD JESSE WEIK AND HERNDON'S REHASH. I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ANSWER IT, BUT IT SEEMS TO ME
THAT WOULD ONLY ADVERTISE HIS BOOK - WHICH HAS NOT AS YET SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN VERY POPUL-
LAR. THE MAN BARTON HAS WRITTEN THREATENING LETTERS AS TO HIS GREAT NEW DISCOVERY
OF THE ILLIGITIMACY OF LINCOLN'S BELOVED MOTHER - OUR NANCY HANKS - BUT I HAD AN IDEA
THAT HERE TOO IT WOULD BE BETTER TO WAIT UNTIL HE EXPOSED HIS TRICKS AND THEN
HASH HIM UP A BIT . IN THE MEANWHILE SOME OLD LETTERS AND RECORDS MAY TURN UP .

I NEVER PUBLISHED THE GENEALOGY FOR TWO REASONS - FIRST BECAUSE THESE HORRIBLE
PEOPLE WANTED ME TO - AND SECONDLY BECAUSE IT WAS SO EXPENSIVE . PLEASE LET ME KNOW

HOW I CAN HELP IN ANY WAY AND I WILL START RIGHT IN AND TRY TO RENEW MY YOUTH
SO THAT MY FRIENDS MAY KNOW ME ONCE MORE !

UNCLE ED WISHED TO BE KINDLY REMEMBERED TO
YOU- BUT I TOLD HIM IT WOULD BE OF NO EARTHLY USE, AS I WAS SURE HE HAD CHANGED
A HEAP MORE THAN I HAD - BESIDES HE IS A BITTER ENEMY OF WILSON AND THE LEAGUE OF
NATIONS - AND AS FOR THE WOMAN QUESTION GENERALLY - WELL TRULY "SINCE SUFFRAGE - EVERYTHING
HAS BEEN GOING TO THE DOGS AND WOMEN ARE TO BLAME FOR IT" AS FOR ME - I GLORIED IN YOUR
TALK, AND I'M GOING TO ELECT YOU PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES - AND ALL OTHERS IN
AUTHORITY " ? ESPECIALLY THE SENATE AND HOUSE - THEN WE'LL SHOW E.B.H. A GOVERNMENT
WHAT IS A GOVERNMENT !

TRULY I THINK YOU ARE DOING A WONDERFUL WORK IN THE WORLD IN
SO MANY WAYS THAT I ^{know} "GOD'S IN HIS HEAVEN .ALLS RIGHT WITH THE WORLD."

PLEASE TELL ME WHAT I MAY DO, IF ANYTHING, TO HELP - AND I DO WISH
YOU WOULD FIGHT THESE WOULD BE DETRACTORS OF THE GREAT EMANCIPATOR . YOU ARE THE ONLY
ONE TO WHOM THE WORLD WOULD LISTEN ,

YOURS FOR ANOTHER TWENTY FIVE YEARS -- "THOUGH LOST TO
SIGHT TO MEMORY (MINE) DEAR "
FAITHFULLY

*Yours old friend
Frederic Hanks Hitchcock*