

Joy Gate

Over. Ills.

May 2. 1896.

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

For days I have been thinking of you not planning however to inflict you with anything until tonight's mail came.

Do you remember a letter written you during the winter by a Mr Enos Clark of Richwood. No giving you the address of Col Blodgett of St. Louis as possessing much Lincoln anecdote?

Mr Clark wishes me to say to you, - having just learned Col Bledgetts reply to you - that he is positive that in a personal interview Col B. would give you these things and he - Mr Clark hopes that if any thing brings you to St. Louis you will obtain such an interview. He will be glad to assist should you need any help which he does ^{to that he is acquainted with other fertile} this. He also wishes me to ask you if you know, or he feels sure you do, that Congressman Hitt of Ill. took all the Lincoln & Douglas debates as they were delivered & has unpublished incidents concerning the men and period. Clark also tells me a little story which interests him much as an example kindly witty and just reproof. At the risk of being troublesome I'll put that in

wilderness at St. Louis

too. It was at the time
just preceding the war
when a company of men
representing heavy com-
mercial interests that
would be jeopardized by
war, tendered Mr
Lincoln a banquet in
N. Y. hoping to influence
him to avert war - not
proclaim it. In a
speech that evening
one of these men with
much insistence urged

Mr Lincoln to remember
who composed the com-
pany and added that
their aggregate possessions
represented many mil-
lions. Mr Lincoln
rose and said with
a smile "You must
remember we that
I am, myself, somewhat
of a millionaire, as dem-
onstrated by my recent
election - This reference
to the mill of the people

proved convincing as to his intentions.
or so. You no doubt are flooded
with things like this - substantiated
by names, dates or place -

Monday A.M. May 12. I had
proceeded thus far when your
pleasant note was brought in. A
case of telepathy. And you ask
if I remember you. I wish I
dared tell you what a help and
inspiration knowing you ever
so little has been and is to me.
You cannot realize perhaps what it is
to the incompetent people in ^{corner}
to come in touch with those of ^{world} pur-
pose who are doing noble work in
the "world outside". Perhaps I
should not either, from my corner.
sure it is not that this time the
worker who is accomplishing is
you - a mighty little word this time

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However - I digress -
You wanted something
and I am giving you
instead only a bit of
myself which is not to
be held in hand. I
sent your letter to Mr
Anderson and have
just received the en-
closed which will I
fear not help you
much. The letter to
which he refers from
Mr Charles Blanchard

I forwarded you early
in the winter. It would
seem that the only data
at all to follow out
would be that this old
negress Mrs Susan
Van Allen is still living
in Galzburg and that
possibly Mr Clark Carr
could interview her.
If you think it worth
while, or best, I shall
be very glad to ask
Madame Lavey for

her knowledge of Mrs Van Allen who
was a member of her household
for some weeks in her "fugitive
slave state" Mr Anderson pub it.

I still much regret that we
had not the time to visit Mrs
Lovjoy, one of the most impressive
and beautiful of old ladies - Her
husbands "Life" would make inter-
esting reading - you find men in
most communities do you not -
who have lived for something for
the world's sake and not their
own.

I enclose also the
clipping Mr A. refers to, concern-
ing Hale & Parker. When you
come again - and I hope that
is not a possibility but a certainty
- I hope to meet you. and in

my home. If there is
anything whatever
in which I can at any
time serve you pray
command me -

With sincere affection
Grace L. Clarke.