Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library



"The name indicates its character"

LINCOLN
HISTORICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
LOUIS A. WARREN, DIRECTOR

RESEARCH BUREAU
INTERPRETS THE LIFE OF LINCOLN AS REVEALED IN AUTHORIZED PUBLIC RECORDS AND ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

PUBLICATION BUREAU
PREPARES HISTORICAL DATA FOR RELEASE IN BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, AND MAGAZINES.

INFORMATION BUREAU
COMPILES AND INDEXES ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION BEARING ON THE SUBJECT OF LINCOLNIANA.

EXHIBIT BUREAU
COLLECTS PORTRAITS OF LINCOLN, CURIOS, MEDALS, SOUVENIRS, ETC. FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY.

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PROVIDES SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS OF CIVIC CLUBS, SCHOOL GROUPS, CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.

EDUCATIONAL BUREAU
PROMOTES CONTESTS, ARRANGES PROGRAMS, AND STIMULATES AN INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF LINCOLN'S LIFE.

MEMORIAL BUREAU
MARKS SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE ASSOCIATED WITH LINCOLN, AND EMPHASIZES ANNIVERSARY OCCASIONS.

THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

October 19, 1931

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 East 19th St.
New York, N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

With reference to the Schneider portrait I find this paragraph in my clipping file although I regret to say the source of this information is not available.

> "This rare photograph of Abraham Lincoln is owned by Edward C. Merservey of the law firm of Haff-Merservey-German and Michaels."

There follows then a story of how Mr. Merservey acquired this photograph from George Schneider, a German banker living in Chicago who had been a personal friend of Lincoln. The story follows:

> "I transacted some business for Mr. Schneider who was then about eighty years old," said Mr. Merservey. "He told me he had fled from Germany in the revolution of 1848 and had come to America. He became identified to the Republican Party at an early age and was always one of its most enthusiastic adherents. He showed me passes he had kept to every Republican Convention from the time Fremont was nominated to the late nineties.
>
> "He also had many important letters from Lincoln, Grant, Johnson, Seward and many other Republican leaders. He was at one time identified with the first so-called 'underground railroad' by which slaves escaped from the South and made their way to the North.
>
> "Mr. Schneider learned I was born on the day Lincoln was inaugurated. And one

day he came into my office bringingthis photograph, which, he said, was a copy he had had made from the original in his possession. He said he was present when the photograph was taken in Chicago. He was in Lincoln's office one day, not long after Lincoln began to practice law, and Lincoln told him he was just going out to have his picture taken and asked Schneider to go with him; so Schneider was present when this photograph was taken. That is all I know about it, except that I value it highly as a rare picture of Lincoln."

I hope this information will lead you to the individual you hope to reach.

Respectfully yours,

Louis A Warren Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW:MH
L. A. Warren

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