

OREGON-WASHINGTON RAILROAD & NAVIGATION COMPANY

OFFICE OF
Right of Way and Tax Agent

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

No.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

December 21, 1915.

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

I trust you will pardon the liberty I take in addressing you. I am a collector of Linconiana and am very desirous of ascertaining the accuracy of a certain statement that I have recently seen in print to the effect that after the Battle of Getysburg Mr. Lincoln wrote a personal and confidential letter to General Meade, inclosing an order to advance and give battle to the enemy, and saying: "If you fail, publish this order and I will take the responsibility; if you succeed, you may destroy the order". I have not been able to find any such letter in any of the printed works on Lincoln. It has such a distinctive Lincoln flavor that I am inclined to give credence to it. But I thought you would undoubtedly know whether it is authentic or not. Will you please direct me to the proper source, if such there be, to find this letter? I shall greatly appreciate your courtesy in this matter, and pray you to believe me

Very respectfully,

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
381 4th. Ave.,
New York City, N.Y.

