

The Lincoln National Memorial Highway Association

For the State of Indiana



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Page Two. Miss Tarbell.

Because of the illness of one of the members of our committee, it has become my duty to prepare the brief supporting the route from Jasper to Petersburg through Ireland, Otwell and Algiers.

I have been told that somewhere in your articles or histories of Lincoln, you have referred to a letter which you have in your possession or which you have personally examined, which was written by some member of the Lincoln family, in which it is stated that the family traveled the route I have just outlined. Though I have read your articles extensively, I do not remember ever having read of such a letter, in fact I have always felt that you favored the Selvin route, called the "Polk Patch Trail." However if you have used, read or seen such a letter or an affidavit concerning this route, I am sure that you will be glad to tell me just where I can locate it. Knowing your great interest in Lincoln history and the exhaustive research work which you have done I have felt that you would be glad to help me if you could, so that a disputed question might be satisfactorily settled and a fitting memorial highway might be built, worthy of the man whose memory it would honor.

Under separate cover I am mailing you a little monograph of one of the most interesting historical spots in our county, which would lie right on the trail if it should come this way. I hope to have this garden "Delectable Hill" appropriately marked soon.

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Page Three, Miss Tarbell.

I have given much time and study to this "Buffalo Trace" route and I hope that the evidence which we shall submit to the commission will be very convincing for this most logical of all the Southern Indiana routes which could have been have been traveled by the Lincoln family in 1830. However I am too true a student of history and too eager to see authentic pioneer history established to what the memorial highway come this way if any other other section can produce more convincing records than we have. I do not wish the trail established solely upon traditions, which while having their place in history, are too often the figments of someone's over-vivid imagination.

With great appreciation of the fine work which you have given to the world and asking your consideration and assistance if possible, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Beulah Brazelton Gray.

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