3211-Marathon Street,
Los Angeles, California
February 22, 1927.

Miss. Ida M. Tarbell,

My Dear Miss. Tarbell;-

Years ago you were kind enough to answer an inquiry of mine concerning the historical validity of certain statements made in the Southern press and quoted in THE CRISIS, I think, as to Abraham Lincoln's birth and parentage. I am venturing therefore to submit to you now a quotation from a labor paper, "THE UNION LEADER" of Chicago, under date of Feb. 12, 1927, and to inquire whether, as to your knowledge it is verifiable. The quotation is as follows; (a boxed article, on first page.)

LINCOLN'S FAIRNESS.

In 1864 the printers struck on the Democrat and Republican of St. Louis. That was in war times. General Rosecrans was in command at St. Louis. He detailed a number of soldiers who were printers to take the strikers' places. The union printers sent in a report of the condition of affairs to President Lincoln. The answer returned was as follows;

"Order those soldiers back to duty in the ranks. The servants of the federal government shall not interfere with the legitimate demands of labor as long as I am President. --Abraham Lincoln.

I have no other interest in this inquiry except to get at the facts, and state things as they are. Thanking you in advance for your courtesy I am

Appreciatively yours,

Robert Whitaker

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