June 18, 1921

Mr. William H. Briggs,
Messrs. Harper & Brothers,
Franklin Square, New York.

Dear Mr Briggs:

I have your note of June 15. I have not been at all concerned about the Lincoln-Browning matter, knowing how much time such arrangements as this usually take.

I probably am "carrying coals to Newcastle" but had you suggested to Mr Peck that he insist to Mrs. Miller that the publication that you propose would undoubtedly add to the value of her manuscript in the eyes of the Illinois Legislature? Diaries that are not sufficiently important historically to attract the attention of historians and publishers usually have no great money value. The publication, far from injuring her chances, would add to them, in my judgment. It would certainly attract some attention to the diaries which they would not get in any other way. It would send students to them who otherwise would not go. She would be very foolish not to accept your offer because it would only make the manuscript more valuable as a manuscript.

But probably all this you have said to Mr. Peck.

Very sincerely yours,

Digital Images, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.