

March 27-1924

Miss. Ida M. Tarbell

New York N.Y.

Kind Lady

I have your life of Abraham Lincoln in 4 vols. which I have read and have used as the basis and the authority for my talks on the life of A. Lincoln in our high school. I lecture to our high school once a month on various subjects Lincoln one of them I recently purchased and have just read your latest book (In the Footsteps of the Lincoln) this is very fine & I appreciate it and your regular history & biography other books on Lincoln. on page 158. you mention.

Major Warwick you mention on page 142. The story of Abraham Lincoln's frozen feet. I believe I can furnish a little light on that story of the frozen feet. The story was told to me 25 years ago. when I lived at Niantic. It is in Mason County about 5 miles from the Lincoln River side home $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Harristown, Ill. and 8 miles west of Decatur. I have been on the ground a number of times and 23 years ago the old dam on mile race was still in the Sangamon river about 100 yards south of the Lincoln cabin I presume it is all gone by this time. The story was related to me by my John Warwick of Niantic, Ill. who resides on an 80. acre farm left him by his father. who was a son of Major Warwick. I don't know if John Warwick is living now.

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M. McMAHON, M. D.
PALMYRA, ILLINOIS

Abraham Lincoln. was often at major Warnick's home. The major had two daughters and I think two sons. The Warnicks lived about 3 1/2 or 4 miles almost due south from the Lincoln Cabin. The town of Boody now stands on a part of the land or close to the land major Warnick owned in those days. A. Lincoln went there to borrow books and uniforms. Warnick says he had court to his Aunt Mary. at any rate Lincoln was on good terms with major Warnick. and his family who were people of some culture and was a large farmer for those days and Lincoln worked for him a few days at times if the story I relate is of any benefit to you all good and well if not it is at any rate a Lincoln story and as it comes through one of the family interested in Lincoln. It is as likely to be true as many other stories write me a letter duly signed by you and I will paste it in the book (In the Footsteps of the Lincolns) and turn it over to my Grand son now 11 years old and a fine student who if he likes I shall make an use of him. I was BORN near White Hall, Greene Co. Ill. 10-17-1858

I hope you will yet be able to write much more of Abraham Lincoln

Yours Truly

M. McMahon

Palmyra Ill

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The following story of Abraham Lincoln. was
told to Mr. M. McMahon in the summer of 1901.
by John. Warnick. of Niantic. Macon County Ill.
A Grand son of Major. Warnick.

The Story
On a pleasant Sunday evening in November. 1830
Abraham Lincoln. left the cabin home of his father.
on the bank of the Sangamon river. Two and one half
miles south of Harrisburg. Macon County Illinois
Crossed the river on the dam or mill race near the home
walked across the Sangamon river bottom (which was
a farm at that time) to the home of Major. Warnick
about four miles distant. When he left home he was
barefooted. as the day was fair and fine. he went to
procure some books to read. (and it is thought to court
one of the Warnick girls) after his arrival at the
Warnick home the wind changed and with it came
quite a fall of snow and as Lincoln. was barefooted
he had to stay all night as he could not walk home in
the snow barefooted. he had to stay at the Warnick home
until Tuesday afternoon. or until the snow melted
so he could return to his own home.

M. McMahon.

Palmyra Ill

P.S. so far as I know this Lincoln story
has never been in print