

564 Woodbine Ave.
Warren, Ohio

Nov. 30, 1927

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 East Nineteenth St.
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Your interesting letter of November 21, together with the copy of Chas. N. Cunningham's letter of February 19, 1925, to you, duly received. My delay in answering is occasioned by a delay, in turn, in my receiving certain bank records from Mr. Cunningham; I sent these records some time ago and I hoped to be able to send you a copy of them when I should next write to you, but to date they have not arrived.

Mr. Cunningham's letter is a very interesting one, and his tradition one well worth following back. Dr. Barton, as you know, says that it is doubtful if Bathsheba, wife of Abraham Lincoln, was the daughter of Leonard Herring, for Leonard could not have had a daughter of marriageable age by 1770, judging from Leonard's one recorded marriage. Barton admits, however,

the possibility of a previous marriage. I find frequent mention of a William Herring in my copy of Dr. Wayland's "History of Rockingham County" - one mention of Edward Herring - and one mention of a Sam. Montgomery and son, James.

Dr. Wayland's name from a summer's sojourn in Italy and I think I shall write and ask him about the Herrings and the Montgomeries. Judging from the graciousness of Dr. Wayland's many letters to me, I do not think he minds my questions. He is a really great historian, and his knowledge of the Shenandoah Valley and her people is, as you know, who have talked to him, unsurpassed.

Sincerely yours,

Myra Fark-Rudolph

Court record:

May 28, 1782

It was ordered that James Montgomery, son of Sam. Montgomery, deceased, be bound according to law, by the church wardens, "To Mr. Geo. Hicks To learn ye silver smith Trade untill he comes of ye age of 21 years he being 14 year 5th Evesing, and the sd. Hicks shall him read Waight and Cypher."