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January 24, 1923

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

120 East 19th Street,

New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Replying to your favor of the 11th inst., I would say that I think the best genealogical data relating to the ancestors of our former President, Abraham Lincoln, is to be found in "Lea and Hutchinson's Biography." I think there are some references in the same to the Hank or Hank's family.

I have not worked the subject up particularly but when I have accidently come across data, I have made some notes. I think that the Quaker family spelled the name as "Hank" and I am quite sure that there is mention of the family in nearly all of the Quaker Meeting records of Pennsylvania, especially in the records of the Philadelphia, Gwynedd and Exeter Meeting in Pennsylvania and the Hopewell Meeting at Winchester, Va.

Daniel R. Lupton of Winchester, Va. has, in his office safe, a book giving the births, marriages, and deaths of the members of the Hopewell Meeting. Many marriage certificates are there copied. I made notes relating to the certificates showing the marriage of Asa Lupton, son of William and Grace Lupton, to Hannah Hank, the daughter of John and Margaret Hank of Rockingham County, Va. on 5-17-1787. See page 107.
That has the effect of establishing both the Hank and the Lincoln families as settlers and neighbors in Rockingham County. I feel quite sure that that old book relating to Hopewell Meeting will yield other data relating to the Hank family. It is most likely that said old record book of the Hopewell Meeting con-

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tains more information relative to the Hank family. You will probably find them as witnesses to many of the marriage certificates. Very likely the Hank family, like the Lincoln family, emigrated from Rockingham County, Va. to Tennessee and Kentucky.

I think I noticed in one of the Lincoln biographies that one of his female ancestors in Virginia, Tennessee, or Kentucky was supposed to have been named Moore, but nothing was known of her family. There are a great many Moores in the Shenandoah Valley at the present time. They were formerly Quakers. One very intelligent member of the family is Reuben Moore Harrison, whose father has a very fine farm on the Valley Turnpike, south of New Market, Va. He is confined to his room, but his mentality is very good. He knows a lot about the family genealogy. He has a brother at Alexandria, Va. who has done a lot of work on the genealogy. If President Lincoln had an ancestor named Moore, she may have belonged to this Rockingham family and those two brothers may be able to assist you.

My experience with Daniel R. Lupton at Winchester, is that it is difficult to get him to take much interest in genealogical matters, although he readily grants the use of the old records to investigators.

Walker Bond of Winchester, Va., a graduate of Swarthmore College, is a live wire, who, I think, might look up the matter for you, especially if you paid him for his time.

In fact, the stenographers in Mr. Lupton's office ought to be willing to

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do it for small compensation. In order to do it right, it will not do to depend on the indices, but the list of witnesses on each one of the marriage certificates should be carefully gone over. I think that the present Clerk of Hopewell Meeting is Louis Pidgeon of Winchester, Va., R.F.D.

Mr. Oren Frederick Morton of Winchester, Va., who has his headquarters about the Hendley Library, is the author of several county histories of Virginia and West Virginia, and I think needs the work financially. His work has been pretty satisfactory to me. If you cannot get Mr. Estep to look over the Baptist records for you then I think your next best plan would be to employ Mr. Morton. I would be pleased to have you notify me relative to whoever you do employ, as I will probably at the same time employ him to look for data relating to the Scarborough, Pickering, Lupton, Haworth, Brock, Needham, and Sheltman families.

Mrs. Augusta B. Fothergill, a professional genealogiest, whose post-office box is 883, Richmond, Va., does a good bit of genealogical work in Winchester and the Shenandoah Valley. Her work seems to be pretty well done but it may possibly be as regards President Lincoln, she has an ultra-Southern bias. She told me in considerable confidence that she believed President Lincoln to be an illegitimate child, and that she had considerable data to proove it.

Gilbert Cope, one of the curators of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, 13th & Locust Streets, Philadelphia, is himself a Quaker. He is one of the authors of the "History of Chester County, Pa." He has a copy of the second minute book of the Hopewell Monthly Meeting. The book preceding 1759 was destroyed. Both on

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account of his great knowledge of Pennsylvania History and of Quaker genealogy, I think that Mr. Cope, whose address is Media, Pa., R. D., would be the best one for you to employ for genealogical work, in and about the Quaker meetings of Pennsylvania.

In Pennsylvania, a branch meeting, when located far from the mother meeting, generally ultimately became an independent monthly meeting, but in Virginia all the meetings in the Valley, although located very distant, seemed to be only branch meetings of the Hopewell Monthly Meeting, located five miles north of Winchester.

The marriage certificate book in Mr. Lupton's office shows the celebration of marriages in the Smiths' Creek Monthly Meeting, which was probably near New Market, Va.

The old people in New Market had heard of the meeting but did not know just where it was located. I think it is likely that the Free Church, now occupied by the Christian Congregation, at Tenth Legion, south of New Market, was originally a Quaker Meeting House.

My ancestor, Robert Scarborough, according to a deed dated 1747, was located along the north branch of the Shenandoah River, probably between Mt. Jackson and Quicksburg, not far from New Market. The records of a law suit at Staunton show that he was paid witness fees for having come fifty miles away from Staunton, which point was in Frederick County. That would about be Mt. Jackson. In 1737 he wrote a letter to his brother, John, the possession of which I now have, stating that he was located where the meadows were good, within a mile of a Quaker Meeting House and

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within a mile of a mill. I ascertained from Captain Neff and other old residents that there was a Quaker Meeting burial ground on Captain Neff's farm, on an abandoned road, known as the Quaker Meeting House road, not far from the confluence of Holeman's Creek with the north branch of the Shenandoah River. The old meeting house had been torn down and been moved to another point on Holeman's Creek, about a mile west of Quicksburg, where it was first known as the Liberty School House and then as the Liberty Church and now as the Union Church.

The abandoned Quaker meeting houses seem to have developed into Union Churches and churches in which all denominations where allowed to worship. It is thus clear that there were many Quakers, prior to the Revolution, in what is now Shenandoah and Rockingham Counties.

The Quakers apparently never made any list of their members. Their records are very well kept but if a member was not active or did not transgress, the records very well might make no mention of him. That may have been the case of John Lincoln, who went from Berks County, Pa., and settled in the Shenandoah Valley. I think that some members of his family married under the auspices of the Exeter Meeting, about ten miles south of Reading, Pa., but I do not think there was any mention of him. However, Dr. Lincoln of Lacey Springs read to me, from a printed book, a letter which the said President Lincoln had written to his grandfather, inquiring whether John Lincoln had not been a Quaker.

Messrs. Ruebush of Dayton, Va. are enterprising country publishers, who have brought out a number of county histories, edited by Mr. Morton, and who are

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thinking of bringing out a "History of Shenandoah County," and who therefore might be willing to collaborate with you in gathering this data, and possibly in preparing it.

You may be interested to know that the records of the Exeter Monthly Meeting of Friends show the birth of Daniel Boone as a member of meeting in 1734. The Boone family was very numerous among the Quakers of Pennsylvania, especially in the Exeter Meeting where perhaps fifty persons of that name are mentioned in the records. I do not remember having noticed any marriages between the Boone family and the Lincoln family prior to their emigration to the south-west, but I did notice some such marriages after 1800. However, I think it was Dr. Wayland who told me that Daniel Boone's father and his family had sojourned for two years with their relatives, the Lincolns, on Linvill Creek in Rockingham County. Va. prior to the continuation of their journey to the Valley of the Yadkin River, in North Carolina. The Pennsylvania Quakers undoubtedly played a large part in the settlement of the entire valley of Virginia, including the Shenandoah, and also in the settlement of North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee, which they generally reached via the Shenandoah Valley. Possibly John Lincoln's wife was a Boone!

I have a number of distant relatives, named Haworth, who are now members of the Springfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, located at High Point, North Carolina, whose ancestor, Absalom Haworth, accompanied his uncle, Robert Scarborough, my ancestor, to the Shenandoah Valley in 1737, but I do not know whether they now have any knowledge of the settlements of their ancestor in the Shenandoah Valley. I think that David Blair of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the present Commissioner of

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Internal Revenue, is the descendant of said Haworths. Martha E. Blair of High Point, North Carolina is the Clerk of the said Springfield Monthly Meeting. I think that the ancestors of the present members of that Springfield Monthly Meeting made the trip from the Shenandoah Valley to North Carolina along with the same same emigration which carried the Boone and Lincoln families to the south and southwest, and it may be that those Quakers around High Point and Greensboro, North Carolina may still have among them, traditions and records relating to said emigration, which may be valuable to you.

If you undertake the Quaker and Baptist investigations which I have outlined, I should be pleased to know what results you obtain. It is my opinion that the results will not be entirely barren.

In looking over the notes that I took while in the Shenandoah Valley, I noticed that the will of Ann Needham, the widow of John Needham, and probably her second husband, was dated March 19, 1777, probated May 20, 1777 and recorded in Will Book #5 of Augusta County, Va., on page 499. She made bequests to her daughter, Catherine Warren, to Sinah Needham, to Sarbrough(probably Scarbrough) Sheltman, to her granddaughter, Ann Sheltman, to her son, John Scarbrough.. The said will was witnessed by John Alderson, Timothy Warren and John Lincoln.

While he is on probation from an asylum for the insane, still I feel that Charles E. Kemper of Staunton, Va. has a better historical knowledge of the Shenandoah Valley than almost anyone else, not excluding Dr. John W. Wayland, whom I very greatly admire. Mr. Kemper told me that John and Ann Needham owned land ad-

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joining the land of Reuben and Zebelin Harrison, on both sides of Smiths' Creek, in what is now Rockingham County, Va., that John Lincoln resided about a mile away from the present Linvill station, and that John Alderson was the son of the First Baptist preacher who had charge of both the church at Smiths' Creek(now New Market) and Linvill Creek, Va. The Harrisons were known to be Baptists. It therefore would seem to me that both the Lincoln and the Scarboroughs had probably gotten in touch with the Baptists. I believe that if you could search the records of the said Baptist Churches, now in the possession of a farmer named Amos Estep, who resides on Tunis Creek in the cove in the mountains beyond Brock's Gap, and whose post-office address is Coutt's Store, Rockingham County, Va., you will be able to find something relating to the Lincolns.

Clarence Urner of New Market, Va. is the assistant treasurer of the State of Virginia and spends most of his time at Richmond. He led me to believe that he either had some of the records of the said Baptist Churches in his possession or that he could have them inspected for me, and he undertook to do it, but I have never heard from him, although I would very much like to know what they say about the Scarborough, Sheltman, Pickering, Haworth, Lupton, and Brock families.

Mr. Charles E. Kemper in conjunction with a co-author has published in the Magazine of History of Virginia, the records of the Spikehead Lutheran Church, located near the south-western end of the Massanutten Mountain. It is my recollection that Mr. Kemper told me, and I also saw in the publication, that some of the Lincolns had been married in that church, which was apparently so German that its records were kept in German.

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If Gilbert Cope of Media, Pa., Charles E. Kemper of Staunton, Va., Walker Bond of Winchester, Va., Amos Estep of Coutts Store, Va., Oren Morton of ~~Staunton~~ Winchester, Va., and Mrs. Augusta Fothergill of Richmond, Va., are able to furnish you with valuable information, I would be pleased to some day know what facts they have found for you.

The John Scarbrough mentioned in Ann Needham's will, witnessed by John Lincoln was most probably a first lieutenant in the Ninth Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line in the Revolutionary War, commanded by Col. Mathews of Staunton, Va. The entire regiment was captured by the British at the Battle of Germantown on the field of which I now reside.

Hoping my letter may be of use to you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HWS/MEH

Henry W. Scarborough

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