JOSEPH POLIN JOHN A. POLIN

POLIN & POLIN

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

SPRINGFIELD, KY.,

January 4th 1922

Miss Ida Tarbell

New York, N.Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

In reply to your letter of December 18th., am pleased to give you the result of my investigation as to the place where President Lincoln's grandfather was killed.

I am well aware of the fact that is has been frequently said that the elder Abraham Lincoln was killed in Jefferson County and I can readily understand how this impression was originated as Washington County was originally a part of Jefferson County. Jefferson County, which then included Washington County was created by Act of the Virginia Legislature in May 1780.

Nelson County, which then included Washington County was created in October 1784. These acts of the Virginia Legislature may be found in Littells Laws of Kentucky, Volume One, Page 626.

Washington County was created in June 1792. So that you see Washington County was a part of Nelson County up until June 1792.

In the records of Nelson County Kentucky there is to be seen the original appraisement of the estate of Abraham Lincoln which is in words and figures as follows: "Pursuant to an order of the Court appointing the subscribers appraisers of the estate of Abraham Lincoln deceased, being first sworn pro-

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ceeds as follows:"

"Article"	"Value"
"Flax wheel	6 shillings"
"12 pewter plates,1 lb.	7 shillings"
"2 pewter dishes	8 shillings"
"Food Adds	5 shillings"
"Candlesticks	2 Shillings"

"March 10,1789."

(Signed)

"Peter Schobert"
"Christopher Barlow"
"John Aheeney"

Appraisers"

I have not yet been able to determine where John Aheeney lived but know from records in the Clerks Office of this County that Peter Schobert and Christopher Barlow were residents of this County and lived in the same neighborhood with the Lincolns.

When I have an opportunity I will give you the Numbers of the record books and pages where the names of these appraisersnts are found in this County and I may possibly be able to identify the lands owned by them in this neighborhood. It would indeed seem strange that Abraham Lincoln's appraisements would be returned in Nelson County if he was in fact living in and killed in Jefferson County. And the further fact which goes to show

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that he must have lived in a house on the spot pointed out as being the place where he lived as the men from this part of the community were his appraisers. So much for the record evidence in this matter.

I believe that I will be able to find further records on this particular question and if so, I shall be glad to give you the benefit of any information I may inquire.

Aside from the above records is the testimony of witnesses in this County who have heard statements of older citizens and the well recognized traditions are that the elder Lincolns lived near the junction of the Valley Hill and Beechland turnpike with the Frankfort Road.

Some years ago I had one Mr. W.T.Hardesty give his deposition in regard to this particular matter and if you desire a copy of this deposition I will be glad to furnish it to you. It is copied in full in Dr.Barton's book "Fraternity of Abraham Lincoln", with which I presume you are familiar.

I shall be glad to give you any further information I can and you are free to use any portion of this letter as you may see fit. I am,

Very truly,

Joseph Polin

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