

The Chicago Tribune.

EDITORIAL ROOMS.

Ida M. Tarbell

Dear Madame

Under instructions from Mr. Medill I have been searching for twenty four hours for a published account of the Rock Island bridge case. There is no account ^{given} in The Tribune during the fall of 1859. There is a reference to the Bridge case taken from a St Louis paper which says that the final hearing in the

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Case will be held at Keokuk, the third Monday in September. This little notice has the official heading put on by the Tribune man "Important if True" which throws doubt on the whole thing as far as the reader is concerned. I have seen the Attorneys for the Rock Island Railroad. They say the case was decided in 1855 and they referred me to McClean's Reports Vol. 6; P 517.

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There I found the case and

the decision + Judge McClean heard the case
in chambers at Washington in the spring of 1855
and read his decision at Chicago in July 1855.
The lawyers were, for the U.S., "Dist atty. Hoynes"
for defendants Reverdy Johnson, "Mr. Sergeant"
"Mr. Judd". The case is called U.S. vs.

Railroad Bridge Co. There must have been another
case later because of two brief mentions of it
in the Tribune. If you will write me more

specifically and tell me all you

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I know of the case I may be able to
trace it. Have you an idea Lincoln was a
counsel in the case? I came across much
Lincoln matter in the files - Speeches in full at
political meetings and agricultural fairs. Possibly
some of the matter might be of service - I did
not feel justified in putting in more time on the
matter without writing you for more specific instructions.
Yrs sincerely
Edward B. Clark.