

564 Woodbine
Warren, O.
Dec. 16, 1924

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 E. 19th St.

New York City, N.Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I sent your letter of December 4th to Mr. Ewing and in returning it to me he sent me a letter which I thoroughly enjoyed so I made a copy for my own use and am sending the original to you. It contains much food for thought. I am of the opinion that Caleb Hank called his great-aunt simply "aunt", - we all do the same thing. John W. Hank visited me this summer and he told me repeatedly that "the Nancy Hanks, who married Tom Lincoln, and father [Caleb Hank] were cousins." When I asked what degree of consanguinity existed between them he was unable to say definitely but thought it more distant than first. I am afraid the "usual minor variations" are going to prove troublesome. I have in my possession a statement of Abram E. Hank's made in 1895, pertaining to the Lincoln-Hank relationship. It

is as follows: "My grandfather, William Hank, moved to Monroe Co., Va., now W. Va. Father [Calvin Hank] said that before he left Rockingham County his Aunt Nancy and Uncle (seems to me Joshua or Solomon) left Rockingham County and moved to Kentucky."

The brackets above are mine, but the parentheses are Alvin Hank's. I suggest that Aunt Nancy's husband was neither Joshua nor Solomon, but Joseph.

It was not this Nancy who married Lincoln, as Mr. Ewing states, - she was already the wife of "Joshua or Solomon" - I think Joseph - but her daughter that married Thomas Lincoln. If Rev. Barton is right then Nancy and Joseph's granddaughter was the wife of Thomas Lincoln.

I should like very much to know Rev. Barton's address. It seems very strange to me that he should have such "notions" if he has no documents to prove them. I am afraid he has - but, on the other hand, why keep them hidden?

I should like also to have you write to Mrs. Hitchcock. It seems to me our correspondence would be a very useful thing. I have written to Mrs. Hitchcock several times, but I am afraid

She feels about me and my notions
just as she does about Rev.
Barton. In a note she said:
"I absolutely know that the Hanks
and ~~Hank~~ families are separate
and distinct." You say you
have a large quantity of her
material on hand. Is it
in the original or merely
copies? If the latter, will
you let me see it? I do not
know, Miss Tarbell, if I have
overstepped the bounds in asking
this of you or not, but I have
so long wanted to see just
what she has and have met
with a blank wall at every
turn that I feel certain you
will forgive me if I have and
simply ignore my request. If, on
the other hand, you graciously
consent to let me see the material
I assure you I will take the
best of care of it and return
it to you within ten days of its
receipt.

I have a picture of Caleb
Hank and he is very like
the Joseph whose picture appeared
in the Cleveland Plain Dealer as
one of the illustrations in your
latest Lincoln ~~book~~ ^{story}. I hoped
to find it in the book, too, but
was disappointed; I had saved
the serial numbers, though, and
have the picture just the same.

you will recall that this Joseph was the brother of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. If I am right in placing Nancy's father, Joseph Hanks, as the youngest son of John of Whitmansville, Phila. Co., then the pictured Joseph (Nancy's brother) and Caleb Hanks were first cousins once removed - Joseph being of the third generation of Hankses in America, Caleb of the fourth. (One can easily see ^{from} all that I have written that I disregard Mrs. Hitchcock back of Joseph and simply ignore Rev. Bartons query.)

Have you ever had any one go through the burned papers in Staunton, Va.? I have come to that point in my search and do not want to pay a genealogist to go through them if it has already been done.

I am enclosing a search genealogical outline which may help you to straighten us out somewhat. Note the Berry women. Rebecca Hanks Rice in a letter to Mr. Ewing her nephew, in 1900, has this to say: "Grandma Hanks's [Susanna Berry Hanks] and Grandma Matthews [Jane Berry Hanks]

maiden names were the same
 and they both came from the
 same place in Scotland. The
 name was Berry. I think that
 Grandma Hank's people (that
 is the Berrys) moved to Rock-
 ingham County long before
 grandfather Matthew [William
 who m. Jane Berry] came to W. Va.
 Matthew is a Scotch name.... Our
 grandmother thought that they
 were kin but did not know
 how much. Grandma Hank
 had a brother [a Berry] who
 looked very much like Uncle
 William Matthews [son of Wm. and
 Jane Berry Hank]. "The brackets
 are mine - M. H. R." I imagine
 that instead of coming from
 Scotland they girls were simply
 of Scotch descent - probably of
 the Scotch-Irish colony, headed
 by John Sevier, which Dr. J. W.
 Wayland mentions in his History
 of Rockingham County. There are
 many Berrys mentioned in Dr. Way-
 land's book, but no Hankses. There
 are only four marriages recorded
 during the years 1786-7-8; and we
 must remember that William
 Hankes left Rockingham in 1791.
 Rockingham was not formed from
 Augusta until 1777.

I have been unable, so far, to borrow a copy of Wm. A. Yeakle's "Historical Papers on Whitmarsh"; but I have learned in this genealogical work ~~to never~~ may die - something always turns up when one least expects it.

I shall not expect you to answer this letter until some time in 1925.

With most cordial wishes for the Christmas season, I am,

Very sincerely yours,
Myra Hank Randolph.

1 Generation
in America

1. John Jr.
b. 1712.
m. Mary
Williams
2. Jane
b. 1714
m. John
Roberts
3. Elizabeth
b. 1716
m. John
Evans

John
Hanks
m.
Sarah
Evans

4. William
b. 1720.
(no records)
5. Samuel
b. 1723.
(no records)
6. Joseph
b. 1725
m. Nancy
Shipley
7. Sarah
b. 1728.
(no records)

1. John III
unn.
2. Caleb
m.
no children

3. Williams
m. 1786-7
Susan
Berry of
Rockingham Co.
4. Hannah
m. 1787
asa Supton
of Albemarle Co.
Va.
5. Margaret
m. 1778
Wm Cheering-
ton.

1. William
m. Elizabeth Hall
2. Joshua
3. Charles
4. Thomas
5. Joseph Jr.
m. Mary Young
6. Polly
m. Jesse Friend
7. Elizabeth
m. Eli Hall
8. Nancy
m. 1806
Thos. Sinden
b. 1784-
b. 1818.

1. David [my great-grandfather]
b. 1788.
m. 1. Elizabeth Varsons
2. Mary Schell
2. Caleb
b. 1789
m. 1. Nancy Smith
2. Betty Rayhill
3. Mary Ann Mathews
4. Herman Dixon
3. John
b. 179-
m. Rebecca Price
of W. Va.

4. William
b. 1796
m. Serena Peale
of Va.
5. Margaret
died in
infancy
6. Mary
m. Christopher Smith
of N. Carolina
7. John
b. 1801.
m. 1. Madina Bratton
2. Susan Berger
of S. Carolina.

n. v. B. Caleb Hanks (4th Gen.) third wife
Mary Ann Mathews, was the daughter
of Wm and Jane Berry Mathews.
mya Hank Rudolph.