WALDON.

Holmesburg,(Philadelphia,Pa.) Feb. 9, 1899.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

"The Edward"

816 Fifteenth street, Washington,D.C.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

In looking through a series of private letters, I find in some of them references to my sketch of Mr. Lincoln, which you will find in "Acts and Actors of the Civil War," and which I think may prove of interest to you.

General John Gibbon, then in command of the Department of the Columbia, wrote me from Vancouver Barracks, Washington Territory, under date of July 3, 1889, from which I make the following quotation:---

> "I received and read with great interest the two pamphlets you sent me, and thank you for sending them. Mr. Lincoln's character becomes all the grander the more <u>facts</u> we learn of him. It is worse than useless to embellish his history with fictions."

Carswell McClellan, in writing from St. Paul, Minn., April 2, 1889, says:--

> "Allow me ~~me~~ as a citizen to express my appreciation of your defence of the <u>manliness</u> of the character of our great President."

Theodore A. Lord of New York, under date of January 31, 1889, says:

> "The anecdotes of Lincoln so well exhibit his naturalness--the human side of the man, so to speak-- that I for one wish for more of them." Few men would be as interesting as Lincoln, if they were represented exactly as they speak and act. He is never belittled by being represented <u>as he was.</u>" Every true anecdote of him shows his

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"intellectual power, his keen, quick wit, or else his kindliness of heart,---usually both combined. The homely geniality of Lincoln, with his swearing "By jings," stands in favorable contrast with the cold-blooded, pedantry, almost cant, of Seward's rebuke."

Simon Cameron, Mr. Lincoln's first Secretary of War, in his ninetieth year, wrote me from Donegal, Pennsylvania, January 22, 1889, from which I extract the following:----

"You have done only justice t| Mr. Lincoln, and you have read his character to perfection before describing it, and I hope you will, at your leisure, give the public a book of your recollections of him."

General John Cochrane of New York, under date of January 23, 1889, wrote:-----

" Lincoln puts on human lineaments in your lines. The admiration of him of those who knew Abraham Lincoln is sunk in love of him. I knew him familiarly and well, and when informed of his assassination was affected to tears as at the death of a father. His great humanity was his ennobling characteristic. I thank you kindly for your courtesy."

JUdge W. D. Beard of Tennessee, in a long letter, dated Memphis, Tennessee, September 15, 1890, among other things, had this to say:--

"I greatly enjoyed your mongraph of Mr. Lincoln. You make him a good and great man, intent on saving the Nation, loyal to his trust, unflagging in the discharge of duty, yet with tenderness and sympathy. In this respect I think this silhouette of yours is in striking contrast with the elaborate work of Nicolay and Hay. They have laid on their colors too thick, and they make him a hero so vast in every respect, so much above everybody else, that the value of the lesson of his life is lost. For who could hope to be like a demi-god ?"

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George W. Biddle, the leader of the Philadelphia Bar and one of the most eminent lawyers of his time, wrote as follows under date of Januar 25, 1889:---

"Your sketch of Mr. Lincoln is just in its conception, and though slight, vigorously rendered and gives us certainly a true glimpse of the man as he was."

Should I meet with other paragraphs through the mass of my accumulated correspondence, I will be only too happy to send them to you.

Sincerely yours,



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