January 24, 1940

Dear Mr. Graves:

I have your letter suggesting that perhaps it was I to whom the McClure Syndicate people proposed to turn over your material on Mr. Lincoln. You are wrong about that. Mr. S. S. McClure has nothing to do with the McClure Syndicate. I do not know myself now who directs it - I have no connection whatever with them. So I could not have been in the mind of the editor when he made you his offer.

Of course I am pleased that you are willing I should do it, but it is quite impossible for me to undertake anything more than I have on hand. I am finding it for the moment, and I am hoping it is only for the moment, that I am not quite as energetic about work as I once was.

I am honored that you should have kept one of my letters in your treasure box. It is a very interesting thing to have and I am sure your friends will fill it for you.

I am enclosing your letter and clipping.

With all good wishes

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Walter Graves
Masonic Home
Wichita, Kansas

Digital Images, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.