

New York
June 19, 1928

My dear Miss Tarbell

I am writing to
you concerning some Lincoln
documents in our possession.

My mother is a niece of
William Henry Seward, Secretary
of State under Abraham Lincoln.
Her father, George Washington
Seward, was the Secretary's
brother.

Among the documents are
the following:

1. A note written April 3, 1862
by Lincoln to Seward.

2. A war dispatch from George B.
McClellan to Secretary of War E. M.
Stanton, announcing the fall of
Yorktown. Dated May 4, 1862 - 1 P.M.

3. Another dispatch to War Department
from George B. McClellan at
Williamsburg.

4. Paper which contained piece of the
apple tree under which General Grant
and General Lee held the first meeting
in regard to surrender of Lee's Army
at Appomattox C.H. Virginia;
April 9, 1865. The piece of wood
is missing, but original document
remains of presentation - at
"Richmond Virginia, April 26,
1865" this being the letter-head.
Presented to Secretary Seward by General
Gibban, 24th Corps. Dated and
marked "Headquarters Military Governor
of Virginia (Richmond)"

5. Excerpt and autograph of

letter written by Secretary Seward
to his brother, George W. Seward.

6 Two scrap books containing
newspaper accounts of the
New York Times of assassination
of Sigsbee, the attack on Seward,
and funeral services. Pictures.

7 Letter written from Petersburg,
Virginia, March 10, 1865 by
Charles F. Humphrey, who later
served as Quartermaster General
in Spanish American War.

If there are materials of interest here,
could you suggest how they might be
used? No publication of this group of
documents has ever been made. My
mother remembers faintly some of the
events, as she lived in Florida, New York,
Seward's home. I should appreciate
any suggestions you could offer.

Sincerely

Mary Seward Shields