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The Lincoln Society

PEEKSKILL, N. Y.

ORGANIZED 1903

January 5-1937.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
130 E. 17th St.
New York

Dear Miss Tarbell:—

Having succeeded to the presidency of the Lincoln Society of Peekskill, I am authorized this year, for the first time in the Society's history, to ask a woman to be one of our two or three guest-speakers at the annual dinner in Hotel Forbush here on the evening of Lincoln's Birthday. You - naturally - are our first choice.

We pay no dues and offer no honorarium to speakers, but we do pay travelling and other expenses incidental to their coming and to their comfort while here for the day and over night.

Here is the reason I thus boldly ask if you will honor us by coming out to Peekskill that day to address a small dinner gathering to the number of about 120 men and women:

[All the above
"Honorary Members"
are former speakers
at these dinners.]

We want to hear you in auto-biographical vein, touching even briefly your study of Lincoln, but telling us, as fully as you can in a half or three-quarter hour talk, the economic implications which make your latest book, "The Nationalizing of Business, 1878-98," timely now. You would of course frame the subject of the address and its treatment to fit the occasion.

The "Highland Democrat" (Pekskill) comes out on Fridays. It would have a full week in which to prepare to print, without cost to you, from stenographic notes, your address in full after you have read and corrected proof (unless the address is under copyright). You could order marked ^{copies} distributed, at your own or your publisher's expense, as book publicity to editors, etc., to convey the latest data respecting your literary activities and book output. The present implications of this book need exploiting.

Authorities on Lincoln who also know present-day economic conditions are mighty scarce. I want to hear you because I admire you personally. I met you many years ago when I was editor of "Town & Country". I have also recently read Barbara Fisher's excellent article in "The Christian Science Monitor" for Dec. 23, 1936.

I am making this proposal in a purely academic fashion. I have no financial interest in the "Highland Democrat," which, by the way, is the oldest newspaper in Westchester County.

Believe me
Very sincerely yours,
Thomas W. Hottel