Putnam, Conn.,
June 18, 1916.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
On the Wing.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Your esteemed favor of the 13th inst. from Akron, Ohio, is at hand. —

I think it is I, instead of you, who should apologize for intruding my letters upon your attention, when you are so strenuously engaged; but my high estimate of your appreciation of Mr. Lincoln's character and career and the value and importance you place upon my collection of the unpublished letters, has led me to seek your advice in the matter of publication. I think

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myself that Doubleday, Page and Co. would spare no pains to make a very presentable volume; but whoever takes the letters to publish will have to assume all pecuniary responsibility and obligation allowing my rights to dictate certain terms as regards to style, size of type etc. etc. and you will not need to contribute the proceeds of the article you may write. I expect to pay you for writing the Introduction and shall want to do it. I think you are the one to write the magazine article — are the best qualified and equipped, have a higher appreciation of the letters, their value and importance to Mr Lincoln published writings and I shall be glad if you will do it.

In that case, I would suppose that it would be rather necessary for you to examine the letters again, in order to take copies of some or make extracts. This point can be settled when we meet in August.

On the 12th of this month I visited Boston to meet Mr Ferris Greenslet, the literary adviser of the publishing house of Messrs. Houghton Mifflin Co. He is a keen, black-eyed little fellow, about forty I should judge, with strong literary instincts and catches the salient points instinctively. He read some three or four dozen Lincoln letters, and thought them valuable and important; but did not impress me as though he had much heart in them. He thought

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the House would be glad to publish the letters — first, in a limited edition for Lincoln collectors and His. Societies; then follow it by a popular edition for the reading public. He thought, I ought to annotate all the letters — asked if they were not in the authorized Edition? etc. etc. but we did not come to any definite arrangement as he wanted to see the introduction. He plied me with many questions about the letters, who was to write the Introduction etc.

I feel an entire liberty to talk business with any publisher; meanwhile I think I will go through all the letters and make such notes as deemed necessary. With my best wishes and high esteem, Yours cordially

Gilbert H. Tracy.

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