Dover, Delaware
August 2nd 1915.

THE MOUNT VERNON LADIES' ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNION

OFFICE OF THE REGENT

Dear Madam:-

In the name of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association I write in reference to the qualifications of Miss Ann Pamela Cunningham for a place in the Hall of Fame.

She did more to promote patriotism than any other American woman. The United States Government & the State of Virginia refused to buy Mount Vernon. Miss Cunningham appealed to her country-women to take up the work of raising the necessary purchase money ($200.000.) that the Home and Tomb of Washington might be rescued from ruin. The response to her appeals, patriotic enthusiasm swept over the country, & in 1858 Mount Vernon became the property of the Association which holds it in trust for the nation. The influence of her life-work will never die out, as all realize who visit Mount Vernon & see it restored to its original state of quiet, dignified simplicity. There alone may one learn something of what the home life of Washington must have been.

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library

The pledges given by Miss Cunningham to the National Eighty-four years ago have all been kept. The work of restoration was begun under her leadership. Since her death, in 1875, the restorations have been completed. The high standards established by Miss Cunningham, which have characterized the management, will always be maintained, & Mount Vernon will be kept forever sacred to the memory of Washington.

Judge George Gray graciously consents to my enclosing to you a copy of his important letter to me.

Very truly yours-

(Mrs) Harriet Clayton Comegys.

Regent

Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union.

Dr Ida M. Tarbell.
New York City-
N. Y.

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library