38 Elm Street, Midland, Pennsylvania.
May 24th, 1941.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
R.D. #1.
Bethel, Connecticut.

Dear Miss Tarbell,

Last June, as a member of the Lincoln Memorial University Pilgrimage from Harrogate, Tenn. to New Salem, Ill., I covered the Lincoln Country for the second time. In the Fall I made up a report of the trips. I called it "Twice a Pilgrim through the Lincoln Country." The opening page also served as an introduction of myself to the many friends I made among the Lincolnites and women, who are students of Mr. Lincoln. -

It was received most kindly. Dr. F. Lauriston Bullard of Boston, Mass. was very kind in his remarks recently after having read it.

He is now leaving for Harrogate, where he will be given the Lincoln Award this year and is also to deliver the Baccalaureate address. -

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

I am just at the very beginning in the study of Mr. Lincoln. The first twenty-seven years of my life I lived in my native Sweden. In my search here for the very best in my adopted country I found it concentrated in the life and personality of Abraham Lincoln. It is my ambition to improve my knowledge in this field.

As I am a worker in the steel industry there is at present not much time for such a hobby, but I am always devoting my two weeks vacation to the study of the Lincoln history on the spot and also including as much as possible of all American history.

For this purpose my wife and I intend to go to New England this year, starting June 8th. We hope to cover not only the Colonial Lincoln pilgrimage but also hope to be able to see most of historical New England. I have the pleasure of being #92 on the roll of Lincoln Pilgrims, of which you are the Pilgrim of Honor.

In preparation for this trip we yesterday visited the Lincoln Room at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania. and enjoyed seeing your fine collection and the association with Miss Mary Hendershot. Upon inquiry I was informed that perhaps it might be possible that Miss Tarbell would be willing to see us for a moment when we pass through her neighborhood.

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that, of course, would be the most outstanding event in our entire trip. -

I have just read "In the Footsteps of the Ancients" and am greatly thrilled and pleased with the fact that the feelings and opinions which I expressed in my narrative two years ago are so very similar to those which you wrote me unknowingly, some nineteen years hence.

I would indeed be very honored if you would permit me to send you my simple little report. It contains 69 pages (typewritten), holds many snapshots which I took, also cards and clippings, related to the pilgrimage. -

Perhaps your secretary would be willing to inform me just what you think and desire in this case, as we certainly do not wish to intrude upon your privacy. Kindly let us know, if it is best to give up all thought of seeing you, if I should send the report or not or if it were possible that you were willing to grant us the pleasure of a call.

In hoping for your well-being and joy in the returning beauty of this lovely land,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

Hal Seaberg.

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