Springfield, Ill., Oct.24,1899.

My Dear Miss Tarbell:

I found your letter enclosing proofs awaiting me upon my return from Chicago. The copies of the Lincoln letters which I furnished you were very carefully made, and you will be safe in following copy. I notice,however, that two or three errors have crept in. The Berdan letters are owned by Mrs. Mary Berdan Tiffany,daughter of James Berdan, instead of Mrs. James Berdan Tiffany. The letter to Palmer is owned by the Rev.Preston Wood, instead of the Rev.Preston King. I have marked corrections in proof.

The letters of Lincoln in the Adams controversy were copied literally from the Sangamo Journal, and the copy was carefully compared with the original. It contains whatever typographical errors appear in the printed original. You will therefore be at liberty to correct manifest errors. The same is true, as I now remember, of Lincoln's Reply to Linder, the copy of which was made three or four years ago. I find I am unable to lay my hands on the files of the Sangamo Journal for 1837—they are kept in such hopeless disorder—else I should compare the proof with the original in both cases. I think you will be safe in relying upon the copy, making corrections of evident mistakes; but if you prefer that I should compare directly with the ~~ori~~ files, I will make a further search for them.

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The letter to "Dear Row" I have no recollection of ever having seen before. I am quite confident that I did not furnish it. I surmise that you got it from Mr.Jesse Weik, for the reason that "Dear Row" was probably "Row" Herndon, one of Lincoln's associates at New Salem, and a cousin of W.H.Herndon. "Row" accidentally killed his wife some time in the thirties, and,as I now remember, immediately removed from New Salem. If it is your purpose to make any comment or explanation in connection with this letter, perhaps I had better get the facts.

I do not recall having furnished the letter addressed to Dubois. Perhaps Mr.Lincoln Dubois, son of Jesse K., will know who has the letter. I will keep the proof of it and see him.

Very sincerely yours,

J. McCan Davis.

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