1931 Apr. 14

April 14, 1931

My dear Mr. Reed:

I have just come back from the southwest and find on my desk your letter of April 6th enclosing a copy of a letter written in February 1865 by Abraham Lincoln to your father, Reverend Alexander Reed. I am most glad to have this fac-simile and shall give it proper place in the collection of fac-similes of Lincoln letters and documents that I am making. It is very good of you to think of me.

In so far as Masters hatefully attacked Lincoln - and he seems to do a good deal of that for the pleasure of attacking - I think we need not worry. A rather wise man said the other day that it was like beating your head against a stone wall to try to pull down Abraham Lincoln - and that is the truth. My opinion is that he can stand the worst that we can say of him. Personally I like to treat him as a man and the more you know of men and their ways the better he stands up.

With renewed thanks for your letter, believe me

Faithfully yours

Mr. Robert R. Reed
145 S. Wade Avenue
Washington, Pa.

Ida Tarbell LS apr. 6, 1931

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