

# ALABAMA JOURNAL

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

January 2, 1932

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

Under separate cover I am sending you copy of a booklet captioned "The Lines and Nature of Lincoln's Greatness," by Robert Woodward Barnwell, Sr. which was so obviously written with the view of stultifying the man whom I hold the greatest American that I feel there should be some competent answer. Note that the author, in his preface, admits that the book was written for circulation only in the south, with the object "to keep the south from being drawn into the whirlpool of Lincoln-worship." And while he professes to be guided solely by fact, has so woven his own prejudices into the fabric of his book that there is little truth left in the finished product.

It is a sad commentary on the south, which has truly advanced far in the last two decades, that the old sectional rancor still lingers among a large fraction of the "old families." It is sadder even to find that an intelligent man with a fair talent for composition can devote himself to such an effort, <sup>as this</sup> Lincoln's greatness is not to be lessened by this book, but the effort itself deserves rebuke. Won't you administer that rebuke?

I am sure you will take my boldness in the fraternal spirit of a fellow writer and reporter.

With best wishes for your continued activity, I am,

Very sincerely,

*John E. Hope*  
Managing Editor.