



"Its name endorses its character"

THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

FORT WAYNE INDIANA

May 16, 1928

LOUIS A. WARREN, DIRECTOR
LINCOLN HISTORICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 East 19 St.
New York City

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Your letter appears in the mail which has accumulated on my desk since I was last in the office.

I fear that I did not make myself clear by the statement you make about making the fact known. My point of view was that it would not be expedient for me to release the fact after so long an interval and with my new relations here at Fort Wayne taken into consideration.

You may be assured I heartily concur with you in the decision to make the loss known if the manuscript is still absent from the records. I left word with the clerk on my last visit there to notify me at once in case the document should be found and as I have heard nothing from him I conclude that the record is still missing.

To protect myself from any suspicion connected with the disappearance of the document I signed a statement to the effect that when I opened the envelope which was handed me by the clerk the Lucy Hanks certificate was not among the papers with the other Sparrow and Hanks documents which were enclosed therein.

I am sure the method of proceeding would call for a letter to the County Clerk asking him if the certificate would be available, and his reply would suggest what step you should take after that.

You will find both Mr. Mensaugh and his daughter who is his deputy very kind to give any assistance whatever in the quest and they gave me every assistance possible in trying to find the missing paper. I do not feel that they have been careless in the matter.

I sincerely trust that you may be successful in having the document restored to its rightful place if it is still missing from the files.

Sincerely

Louis A. Warren