

Spokane Wn

July. 25/1937

Miss Ida Tarbell  
Bethel Conn.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Some years ago when Mr Emil Ludwig  
serials about Abraham Lincoln appeared in  
the Cosmopolitan Magazine, We got in touch  
with Mr Ludwig concerning a certain old  
Bureau, He advised us to write to your  
Bureau, There are dozens of Bureaus like  
it, but we have a feeling this one  
was made by Lincoln's Father.

The bits of information concerning it  
have been so scattered that the  
significance of it was slow to dawn  
upon us. In fact it was only when  
we read Mr Ludwig's article stating  
that Mr Lincoln's Father made furniture,  
and that furniture was sold as soon  
as made, and how the tide of immigration  
swept from Kentucky to Indiana.

and from Indiana to Decatur Ill  
That the bits of information fell into  
line like a picture puzzle.  
a very short time before our Dear Father  
passed from us. He said, when asked  
where it had come from. He had  
paid a milk cow and some hay  
for the Bureau: the Bureau had been  
brought from Decatur Ill, by a  
Mr Ludeke, He had bought it from  
some Indianan, I am not Historic  
or hystorical (nor do I believe in  
spiritualism.) While in New York a  
few years ago a group of us went to  
a Spiritualist just for the fun of it.  
Now there was not any thing in my  
mind regarding an heirloom.  
The Spiritualist immediately picked  
me out, and said there was an  
heirloom which had been,

(This was their way of stating it.)

In the home of ~~notables~~.

I stoutly denied there was such an heirloom; in fact I forgot about the matter for years, later a Mrs Wilson who claimed to be poss of a commode saw the bereaw in the basement, immediately saw the worth of it.

But again we forgot about it.

Just before Mr Ludwig's article came out in the magazine due to a strange strange feeling I looked up the life of Nancy Hanks.

When they read Mr Ludwig's article to me

I said I knew it. That Bereaw was made by the husband of Nancy Hanks.

The pullers are a split Pomegranate with leaves. The top of the bereaw is a blue walnut beautiful in lustre, Miss Tarbell, If this is all nonsense forgive as should there be any chance of its being a rare old bereaw. We would be so glad for any advise you would give us.

Sincerely

Maria Kohlstaedt

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Spokane

Wash.