March 13, 1909.

Messrs. Doubleday, Page & Co.,
155 East 16th Street.

Dear Sirs:

Mr. Yard informs me that your Mr. Danier seems to think it out of the way for Miss Tarbell’s counsel to suggest that he should be present at the discussion of any proposed arrangements between yourselves and Hoffatt, Yard & Co., as to Miss Tarbell’s books. I can only think that Mr. Danier fails to appreciate the very kindly spirit in which the suggestion was made.

The matter of the selection of a publisher for her books is very emphatically Miss Tarbell’s affair. You are, I believe, aware that three of Miss Tarbell’s contracts with the McLures contain a clause specifically prohibiting any change of publisher without her consent. And I have before me a copy of Miss Tarbell’s letter to you declining to consent to transfers to you by McLure.

As the matter stands, Doubleday, Page & Co., in spite of Miss Tarbell’s notification that she could not consent to the transfers of her books from the McLures to them, have apparently deliberately gone on and acted as though they were Miss Tarbell’s chosen publishers. Of the probable serious consequences of such an infringement on her rights, should Miss Tarbell seek to hold you to the letter of the law, your own counsel will doubtless be able to advise you.

It was my hope, in suggesting that I take part in such a conference, that I might be able to assist in untangling the snarl into which matters had been brought by the former attempt of the McLures and yourselves to deal with Miss Tarbell’s books as though...
they were merely a matter of property between yourselves and the Mc
Clures, with which she had nothing to do.

From what I learned yesterday you seem to have taken the
responsibility of disregarding Miss Tarbell's notice to you that
she could not consent to the transfer of her books to you. This
of course you have done and are doing at your own risk, and unless
the matter can be adjusted in an amicable way you must take the
consequences of such interference by you.

It remains now with you to decide whether you will assist
in getting the matter straightened out in some friendly way that
will be satisfactory to Miss Tarbell, who is extremely desirous of
having every one treated fairly, or leave it to me, acting without
reference to your wishes or interests, to secure the redress to
which she is entitled for what has been done.

I have no desire, nor has Miss Tarbell, to have any mis-
understanding stand in the way of securing a complete friendly set-
tlement of this matter, that shall include yourselves, the McClures,
Woffatt, Yard & Co. and Miss Tarbell. If, however, Mr. Lanier's at-
titude is not the result of misunderstanding, but expresses the real
views of the house, I shall be pleased to be advised if you have
counsel who will enter appearance for you in the proceedings, which
such an attitude on your part must necessarily entail. I trust
such steps will be entirely unnecessary and that we can amicably so-
operate in the matter.

I am,

Yours very respectfully,

[Signature]

[Initials]