1897-12-08

Letter: Charles D. Hazen to Ida M. Tarbell, December 8, 1897

Hazen, Charles D.

http://hdl.handle.net/10456/20664

This item is in the public domain.

All materials in the Allegheny College DSpace Repository are subject to college policies and Title 17 of the U.S. Code.
SMITH COLLEGE, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,  
NORTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS. 21 Prospect St. 
Oct 8, 1897.

Dear Miss Haskell,

It certainly was good that we should be thinking about introducing Senegalese and their wisdom among us. But we generally know what we are about, and so we don't need to be alarmed. I'm sure I'm aware of the number of French in the U.S. at about 350,000.

There are 814 pages and 29 chapters. The translation may well be finished in two or three volumes, but it certainly doesn't seem to me that the price for them should be $10. The book is
not marked by any literary merit but is a careful, compact, clear and scientific study. It would be mainly interesting to serious students and not to the casual reader, who would probably want something simpler. I am convinced that a translation would be very widely adopted in its colleges throughout the country. I should be very glad to use it here with classes of a hundred or more. But for an average student $15 or a ten-dollar book is $15 to an average student. I don't know how much about book making and I feel sure, however, that the book is primarily an educational
one and must afford to that class and would afford success-
fully.

I do not know what to say about translating it. I had thought of
doing it, if I did it at all, not for the spring, but for the fall lecture next
year. I thought that time would be necessary at it in a book about
which one must be infinitely careful. Forget it ready for the spring
would certainly buy me, wouldn't mean that I would have to
have the MSS in before the 15th of March! I would like to do the
thing but I do not think $200 is enough pay, though of course
I don't know what is usually paid for translations. There would
have to be an index made as there is now in the French. I
suppose the company would pay for having it done and
for having the Miss Lyte-written if they cared to have it Lyte-written for the winter. I myself do not use that and the machine. Now I hate like anything to seem to ask you to bagle for me, nor do I. I am writing amply, Drab & thin.
You will use as much of this as you are fit and can write
me. I do not decline to do it, in fact am rather favorably disposed, if satisfactory arrangements can be made, though it certainly seemed be a forced march and considerably gained. I suppose I could have my previous name on the back of the volumes as well as on the title page.

Very many thanks for the kind speech and for your interesting yourself in
the foundation.

Very sincerely, Charles E. Haas