

18 WEST SIXTY NINTH STREET.

March 3, 1907.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Replying to yours of March 1 I have to say that I never heard or suspected that Mr. Blaine contributed in any way to the passage of the tariff bill of 1883. In 1884 he had his own personal record in the matter of the "Mulligan letters" to absorb his time & attention. That was the real issue of the campaign of 1884. Moreover, even if B. had been inclined to sell himself to the tariff interests in 1884 there would

have been no buyers. Those  
interests had already got  
all that they wanted in  
the bill of the previous  
year. In fact they would  
have been satisfied with  
<sup>much</sup> killing the Commission  
bill, but the Republican  
leaders had so stirred  
up the country to expect  
a new tariff that they  
did not dare to adjourn  
without passing a bill  
of some kind. That ~~is~~ was  
the raison d'être of the  
tariff of 1883. Blaine had  
nothing to do with it, as I  
recollect.

Yours very truly  
Horace White

Miss Ida M. Tarbell.