

February 14, 1939

Dear Allan Nevins:

They tell me that you are writing a life of John D. Rockefeller. I wonder if your attention has been called to the enclosed. It appeared in the advertising pages of J H A Bone's "Petroleum and Petroleum Wells" published in 1865 by J. B. Lippincott & Company.

If you have not already tapped the source you might find interesting, if rather faded reminiscences of the time that Rockefeller and certain associates gave to oil production before he decided apparently that his ~~first~~ chance was in refining. In '64 and '65 according to tradition he was a continual visitor in Franklin, Pa. If you care to follow this up I think I have an energetic and lively friend in Franklin interested in the period who would I am sure be of use to you. I am not promising, however, that you would get anything more than dim recollections.

The photostat, however, is genuine, if not very important.

Very sincerely yours

Mr. Allan Nevins
Columbia University
New York City