

JOSEPH BENJAMIN OAKLEAF
MOLINE, ILLINOIS

October 7th, 1925.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
#120 - East 19th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

I have yours of the 5th and was very glad to hear from you. I have received some wonderful congratulatory letters concerning the Bibliography. There is one mistake in a name that hurts me, but I am sending out stickers to correct that. I did not see it until the book was finished.

Yes, I have Mr. Starr's circular letter. He has never been counted a collector, for the reason that he has only tried to get hold of items that could be had for the asking and some for a very small sum. A few years ago, he was in high school and I got in touch with him through correspondence and I sent him a few duplicates to help him along, but he took advantage of my generosity and got to be quite a correspondent and would write letters of four and five pages and ask more questions than I could answer in a month, for they required a great deal of research, and so he got to be a good deal of a pest. I do not think that he has over a dozen items that should be included in the Bibliography and are not there. He counts magazine excerpts as Lincoln items. If he had explained to his prospective subscribers what the book would be and the kind of binding, etc., they would not be afraid to risk the money, but do not believe that they will pay the price he asks for a mere catalogue, so I do not think that Mr. Starr will make much head-way.

When you have time and have examined the Bibliography, I shall be pleased to have your honest opinion concerning it. Of course you cannot help but note the immensity of the work needed for the compilation, and I feel satisfied that there will be no mistakes found in that part of the book which is the Bibliography proper.

Yours very cordially,

JOSEPH BENJAMIN OAKLEAF.

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