Letter: Ida M. Tarbell to J. Ramsey Speer, February 9, 1926
Feb. 9, 1926

Mr. J. Ramsey Spear  
Mackintosh-Hemphill Co.  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Mr. Spear:

It was kind and thoughtful of you to write me the letter that you did about my Life of Judge Gary. It is the opinion of the men inside the trade that have been associated with the Steel Corporation as competitors or customers, and who are familiar with the development of the industry, whose opinion I particularly value.

I am conscious always, in handling a subject of this kind, of the fact that I am an outsider, and that I am always in danger of falling into technical error, that my impressions may seem amateurish and unfounded. I take a letter like this as the finest kind of a compliment I could have.

Thank you, too, for your thoughtfulness in sending me your chronology of the industry. It has not yet arrived, but when it does I shall be most glad to examine it and find a place for it among my iron and steel documents.

Sincerely yours