TELEPHONE, FRANKLIN 990

1717 EYE STREET N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 22nd, 1921.

Miss Ida Tarbell,
c/o Charles Scribner & Sons,
597 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

I had hoped to have the pleasure of meeting you several times when you were in Washington, in wartime, but something always interfered and I never had a chance to tell you how much I have enjoyed your books, especially "Madam Roland."

I am writing you now to ask if you would consider writing the "Story" of the life of my Grandfather, Mr. William W. Cochran, of this City! I say "story", because I am thinking of Lewes' "Story" of the life of Goethe, which is so much more readable than "Life" in nine volumes! My Grandfather, having seen every President and having shaken hands with everyone, except President Washington, had a very interesting life, beginning in Georgetown before Washington was laid out and there are many instances in his career which form part of the history of our country. His life was once attempted by a gentleman here in Washington, but it was not satisfactory and was laid to one side by my brother and I have letters and notes from my Grandfather which would make it comparatively easy to compile such a life as you would be interested in writing and we would wish to put before the public.

The late Henry Adams once told me that if he would have to write his father's life over again he would have made a one-volume book, selling at under $1.50 and interesting to the people, rather than interesting to his friends.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.



I shall be here in Washington until certainly the first of April and if you should be here I would be very glad to see you, but would esteem it a particular favor if you write me whether you care to consider such work.

My brother William C. Eustis and myself had a talk yesterday about the matter and we will be very glad --- apart from what we might mutually agree would compensate you for the time used in doing such work as I propose --- to turn over the copyright and any royalties to you as well.

I feel sure that you could make the story of the life of my Grandfather not only interesting but pupular. I have great hopes you would consider the proposition. I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Rose Eustis

E/P

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