

120 EAST NINETEENTH STREET

October 25, 1927

Mr. Allan Nevins
310 Fall Creek Drive
Ithaca, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Nevins:

When I see the date on your letter I am startled, lest you may think me hopelessly rude. I have, however, been off in Kentucky on a Lincoln exploration tour and only just come back to my desk and my accumulated mail.

You ask whether I have finished with the volumes you loaned me so long ago. If you can let me have them three or four weeks longer I shall be finished with them and they will go to you in a body.

I have been having a dreadful time with that book, - dreadful because I have not been able to get down to work on it. Having to earn your living by journalism is a terrible handicap to doing any kind of serious work. I never have been so badly behind as with this volume. However, I hope to give it to them in the spring.

I have your book in proofs and began to read it just before I went off on this business trip, and found it admirable.

You ask if I ever have time to lecture. I do very little. I find that it is too hard for me. But if you want me to come up and speak to your history students on Lincoln some time, I would be glad to do it. And I would not want a fee for that service, though if you would feel better about it you could pay my expenses. I probably would get a great deal more out of it than the students would, for I could have a look at the University which I have not seen for a good many years.

Sincerely yours

Ida M. Tarbell
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