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GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

June 15, 1909.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
341 Fifth Av.,
New York City.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

On my return to the city after an absence of a week and a half in Pennsylvania I find your note of June 7. I regret that I did not see my friend as expected, to whom I could refer the matter about your using the story that the "Curse of Pennsylvania is pig iron". On this last trip to Pennsylvania I visited in Allentown, Reading, Lancaster and Pittsburg.

It would afford me a great deal of pleasure to discuss this whole subject with you at some time. Might it not be possible for you to come to Grand Rapids sometime next winter in connection with a western trip whereby you could give a lecture at the Library and in this way the Library would take care of your expenses and a little something more? On this occasion Mrs. Ranck and I would be delighted to have you as out guest, and then we could talk over these Pennsylvania things which are on our hearts and minds so much, at length.

I am sending herewith, ^a copy of our last annual report on pages 56-62 in which you will see that we devote some time to lecture work. As I remember you have one or two lectures on subjects that would be of interest to an audience of the kind we

gather at the Library. I have an impression of reading an account of such a one in one of the Baltimore papers last winter.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing herewith some paragraphs from the correspondence with Mr. F. R. Diffenderffer several years ago, who is one of the editorial editors of the New Era published at Lancaster, Pa. I had hopes that I might be able to find a copy of his letter to me which would give you more clearly the attitude of mind to which you refer.

Very truly yours,

Samuel H. Raneck

L.N.J.