Poland. O. 9/9th 1911

Miss Ida. M. Tarbell

Dear friend. Dana asked me yesterday to contradict a statement some man without knowledge of facts going to make in writing a history simply say to him for me to state facts & all is well, don't, with anything I may write to you to go into print for I have become so disgusted at the falsehoods told of the McKinley & Walker failure that I have thought to cut it out of memory In regard to Mayor McKinley Hanna said that I deceived him in the amount of our indebtedness he never said it. I heard it from a man present at a meeting of Directors & Mayor that Mr Mark Hanna suggested to the Mayor that he make the offer that I deceived him in order that they strike the sympathetic side of the people & raise the money on that line & he said no gentlemen Robert Walker is honest & can pull him through many a political storm. but Calvin was persuaded by Hanna's tactics to keep silent & his brother was dispatched at once to hunt me & beg for me to certain

to not give any attention to the report + his brother out of the money donated would buy in the home at Poland + send it to my wife I promised him I would not make known the facts of our business relations until the mayor was through with politics + Kept my word + you know what happened before he finished the treacherous paths of politics. I will not continue this further now as I hope to see you soon at our home + will give you further facts. I will simply say that Mark Hanna started this false hood + prevailed on the Mayor to not deny it. I will enclose a Slip cut from the Editorial Column of the Youngstown Vindicator which hits close in some way. It will give you some idea of the Sentiment around my home I dont believe you can find a business man in Mahoning + Trumbull Counties but know the facts. You can return this by Mail or bring it with you when you come to see us. Within a year Mr. W. G. Butler of Youngstown Said he was requested to ask me by some gentlemen in New York that Contributed to the McKinley fund if Mr Hannah had given me any part of it as they understood him to say he was going to pay part of it to me. I neither received a Cent + Can give no explanation why they desired the information. I will close by simply saying if I had never mixed with Mayor McKinley in politics I would be comfortably fixed to day + Mayor would never have reached the Top of the political Ladder.

Come + see us

Yours truly

R. L. Walker

P. S. The enclosed Slip as I learned afterwards was written by the Hon John H Clark Attorney as you may recollect as partner of C. D. Hine but now at the head of the List of noted Attorneys of Cleveland O.

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