18 WEST SIXTY NINTH STREET.

March 3, 1907.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Replying to yours of March 1 I have to say that I never heard or suspected that Mr. Blaine contributed in any way to the passage of the tariff bill of 1883. In 1884 he had his own personal record in the matter of the "Mulligan letters" to absorb his time & attention. That was the real issue of the campaign of 1884. Moreover, even if B. had been inclined to sell himself to the tariff interests in 1884 there would

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have been no buyers. Those interests had already got all that they wanted in the bill of the previous year. In fact they would have been satisfied with killing the Commission bill, but the Republican leaders had so stirred up the country to expect a new tariff that they did not dare to adjourn without passing a bill of some kind. That was the raison d'être of the tariff of 1883. Blaine had nothing to do with it, as I recollect.

Yours very truly
Horace White

Miss Ida M. Tarbell.

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