December 6, 1935

Dear Mr. Mayes:

Thank you for sending Miss Walker down to discuss with me the plan for making my autobiography available for the Pictorial Review. As I understand it your proposition is that I sell you the material in the form in which I would naturally develop it and that Mr. Conant re-write it to suit the needs of the Pictorial Review.

I quite understand how you feel that this is the only practical procedure for you. I also feel convinced that Mr. Conant would do a good job - careful and sympathetic. But, you, I am sure, will understand why it is impossible for me to accept such an arrangement. I have always stood on my own feet in these matters and I can hardly bring myself to do otherwise at my age. Perhaps if I were younger I would be more flexible.

Therefore, be good enough to see that the first and second drafts of the first Chapter of the Recollections be returned to me.

And let me say, my dear Mr. Mayes, that it has been interesting to me to meet you and I have enjoyed knowing your able associates Miss Walker and Mr. Conant

With all good wishes for the success of the magazine, believe me

Very sincerely

Mr. Herbert Mayes
222 West 39th Street
New York City

Digital Image, 2009: The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library