April 16, 1925

Mr A. M. Schlesinger,
The State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Ia.

My dear Mr. Schlesinger:

Thank you for your cordial welcome to the group that is preparing the "History of Civilization in the United States," though I regret to say that I do not belong in the group yet. That is, that I have not finally consented to write Volume IX of the series. I told Mr. Thorndike that it was going to be a little time before I could decide. I have a difficult piece of work which is going to take me into 1924. I feel doubtful whether on top of that I should be able to do your book by February of 1925. I can make up my mind within a few weeks, and unless that would be satisfactory, you will have to drop me out. I should be very sorry. I should like a place in the undertaking, and should like to do the work; but at the moment I dare not promise definitely. Just when must you have a final answer?

Sincerely yours,

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