ROGER Q. MILLS
CHARLES H. MILLS
CORSICANA, TEXAS

April 15th. 1907.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

New York City, New York.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

Your letter of the 10th. inst. asking me for personal reminiscences of my father in connection with the preparation and passage of the Mills bill through the House in 1888 is to hand. It seems natural to think that in as much as I was an assistant clerk to the Ways and Means Committee at that time and was closely engaged in the work of the Committee ~~at that time that~~ I ought to be able to assist you in this matter. Yet when it is remembered that this was nineteen years ago it may not seem so strange to think that I recall very little of what took place ~~at that time.~~

My father is in Washington now, and is staying at the Ontario with my sister Mrs. Richards, wife of Lt. Col. George Richards, Asst. Paymaster U. S. Marine Corps. I would suggest that if you could reach him with a stenographer there and catch him in one of his reminiscent or story-telling moods you might get many side lights on the history of his work for lower tariffs in this country.

I note that you have the Congressional Record at hand, and this gives you of course all that is officially of record, but it has occurred to me that there might be other things not in the Congressional Record which you might possibly use. For instance my father wrote one of the articles in the Gladstone-Blaine controversy which was published in the North American Review in 1890. Col. Mills' articles appeared in the Review in the issue for February 1890, and I am sure you will not think me inclined to boast when I say that many experts on this subject said that his article was the ablest of the series. He also wrote an article on the

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Wilson Bill which was published by the same magazine in its issue for Febm ruary 1894. You may be able to obtain these articles, if you so desire, from the publishers, but if not and you care to see them I will be glad to send them to you upon request.

I have many things connected with his public life about this ~~period~~ but have not ventured to send them as they were not in my opinion identified closely enough with the immediate period which you ask for in 1888.

I have Mr. Crisp's letter tendering Col. Mills, second place on the Ways and Means Committee after their fight for the Speakership in 1891, and also Col. Mills reply declining to serve on that Committee in a subordinate place. I have the letter of Gov. Mckinley of Ohio, congratulating Senator Mills upon his election to that body in 1892 wherein he tells him that he will "be continuously wrong on all public questions" but that he will be "honest and manly" and wishing him the largest possible success in his new field. In reply I have Senator Mills letter of reply in which he says that he has reached the highest place which he may hope to reach but that higher things are possible to others and that when we are to have another republican President he hopes it may be his friend the present republican Governor of Ohio. And of course you will recall that McKinley's election followed. These are not strictly in the line of your inquiry to me and I mention them only in case you should care to have copies.

In any way that I can serve you I will gladly do so.

Yours very truly,

Chas. H. Mills

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ROGER Q. MILLS
CHARLES H. MILLS
CORSICANA, TEXAS

Executive Chamber,
Columbus, Ohio.
24th. March, 1892.

My dear Mr. Mills:

Will you permit a Republican, who served with you for so many years in the House, to congratulate you upon your election to the Senate of the United States?

I can recall the promotion of no Democrat which has given me so much real pleasure as your choice by your Legislature for a place in that great legislative body.

I am sure you will be continuously wrong on all public questions, but you will be honest and manly. I wish you the largest possible success in this your new field.

With kind regards to Mrs. Mills, believe me,

Your friend,

William McKinley, Jr.

Hon. Roger Q. Mills,
Washington, D. C.

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COPY.

ROGER Q. MILLS
CHARLES H. MILLS
CORSICANA, TEXAS

Washington, D. C.,

April 2nd, '92.

My dear Governor:-

My sincere thanks to the Republican Governor of Ohio for his congratulations on my election to the Senate.

I have touched the highest round which is possible to me.

You may ascend to the top, and whenever it is to be crowned by a Republican I hope it may be you.

Very truly your friend,

Roger Q. Mills.

Hon. Wm. McKinley, Jr.,
Columbus, Ohio.

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