Cleveland, Ohio, April 25rd, 1906.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

C/o McClure & Company,

New York City.

Dear Miss Tarbell:-

The Interstate Commerce Commission has employed me to gather testimony in the Oil matters for an early hearing in Ohio, Illinois and continuing our hearing in Texas, Kansas and the Territories. I have the ancient history of the Ohio situation and some of the modern well in hand. Your thorough investigation through Mr. Sidell might be able to suggest some names that have valuable information for us to lay before the Commission. The scope of their inquiry is much broader than that of the Interstate Commerce Commission. It is more in the nature of the Legislative Investigation in the Gillespie House resolution.

So then any information you may give me on the methods adopted or used either by the railroads or the Standard Oil Company, also the Pipe Lines, to destroy competition and to enthrone monopoly will be very desirable, and if you wish, will be kept confidential. I am not sure as to Mr. Sidell's initial, but shall send him a similar letter so that it will reach one or the other.

I leave for Chicago and St.Louis tonight, so please mail to me at Columbus, and mark personal.

Thanking you in advance for the favor, I am,

Yours very truly,

J. S. Monnett

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