

HARPER & BROTHERS
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FRANKLIN SQUARE, NEW YORK, N.Y.
April 5, 1921.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

We have received the typewritten manuscript of a series of diaries, several small books covering the period of the Civil War and a few years preceding. They are the diaries of Orville Browning, member of the Senate from Illinois during Lincoln's Administration.

I am writing you both for Mr. Wells, who has Harper's Magazine interests very closely at heart, and also for the Book Department. All of us believe that there is a good deal of interesting material here -- just how much we do not feel quite competent to say. Some of it is probably new and perhaps important historically. Senator Browning saw the President several times a week during these years and there is a good deal of direct quotation here of the President's conversation with him.

Will you let me send this typewritten manuscript to you with a view to

your giving us your judgment about this diary, and ultimately to prepare the material for publication, naturally with full credit for your editing and arrangement?

Most cordially yours,

William H. Briggs

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East 19th Street,
New York City.

William H. Briggs...H

*MS rec'd by hand Apr. 8/21,
receipt given*