



258 Angyle Road Brooklyn N.Y.
 Nov 2nd /23

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
 120 E 19th St. N.Y.C.

Dear Miss Tarbell -

I have been out of
 the city since May 5th - returning last
 Tuesday.

The more I have thought, the more I
 feel that my Hospital reminiscences
 can be made of value to some publisher
 as well as to myself. So - now I am
 going over them - after 6 months absence
 & ^{will} try to make the article shorter &
 better. When I have done this, may
I send it to you again - for perusal
suggestions and criticism?

If I had the pen of the ready writer
 I feel sure that I (and better you)
 could make an excellent historical
 novel, ~~and~~ out of the historic
 surroundings where I spent July
 and August. I slept in the room
 of the house - formerly the Horsehead
 Inn, 24 miles from Washington
 where John Wilkes Booth slept one night

on his way to Mrs Surratts house
(now standing) to plot to kill
Lincoln, and a few miles to
the South is Dr Mudds house
occupied ^{now} by his descendants,
Dr M you remember tended to
Booths broken leg after the murder,
Then there are reliable men
still living at H. H. - who remember
some interesting incidents
connected with Booths visit to Dr M
Surely here is an opportunity
for you,

After leaving H. H. I visited my
son at Maplewood N. J. One evening
at a church Mr Wilson lectured
on "What became of Booth after the
assassination". I could not attend
the lecture, my son did. Mr W
claimed that Booth went to Central
America & afterwards ran a bar
room in California where he
shot himself in 1903 - and that
his body was embalmed &
exhibited in various cities - admission

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The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

fee 25 cts, and that it was
exhibited in New York for 3 months
+ is now on exhibition at Memphis,
I cannot believe this, though
Mr W. seems certain as to his
so-called facts, Why should
a man go about the country
telling all this, and why
should the Government or
local police allow such an
exhibition - and of such a
murderer?

Sincerely Yours
Jerome Walker 2nd

Dr Trudels daughter I was told
has written a book about her Fathers
connection with the Booth matter.

A mile from H H is a church built
in 1690, In the Revolutionary War the British
are said to have watered their horses
in the font of the church.

In my nephew's house (the old
H H 2m) Mrs Southworth wrote
two novels. What a wealth
of material for a historical
novel in and around Hrs Head
Maryland!