

PICTORIAL REVIEW, 222 West 39 Street, New York
Herbert R. Mayes, Editor

November 6, 1955

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 East Nineteenth Street
New York City

Dear Miss Tarbell:

We are happy to know that Mr. Putnam of Macmillan's is satisfied with the first chapters of your autobiography and that Miss Roseboro will edit the manuscript with her masterly pen.

Mr. Mayes likes what he has seen of your manuscript immensely. He has great faith in you. His chief suggestion was more anecdotes about important people. He gives you free rein to "jibe" at the people who deserve for one reason or another that light should be thrown upon their idiosyncrasies and upon their business, political, or personal relations. You can be as humorous as you choose. Your dry humor will be appreciated by your readers.

Mr. Mayes thinks that without doubt he will be entirely satisfied with your autobiography but he would like to see the manuscript completed before he commits himself to its serialization. Since you have been an editor yourself you will understand his need to withhold final decision.

I enjoyed my luncheon with you so much and hope that as the book progresses I can talk to you about it. I am sure that it will be of great interest to our intelligent readers and an inspiration to those who are faced with some of the obstacles that you have encountered in your courageous, useful and interesting life.

We think that the spirit of the pioneers is still alive in America in spite of the subjection of the individual to the machine, and that an autobiography such as yours will help many to find a proper use for their energy and initiative, with better understanding of their country and greater faith in themselves.

Always sincerely yours,

Helen Duer Walker

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Helen Duer Walker
Associate Editor