

MISS IDA M. TARBELL

R. F. D. 1

RETHEL, CONNECTICUT

March 6, 1941

My dear Mr. Cathcart:

Thank you for your letter of March 1st. It gives me the information I am after, sets Thomas Y. Mears down as a friend of Ellsler's and not an associate in the theater.

My reason for thinking that he might have been was that in the summer of 1865 he joined John Wilkes Booth, Ellsler, and a man by the name of Jo. B. Simonds, an oil broker in Franklin, Pennsylvania, in a company called the Dramatic Oil Company. The land which they started to develop was a tract of three acres across the River from Franklin which had been bought in April, 1865 by Thomas Y. Mears and his wife. I was trying to make out that all the partners were connected with the Theater in some form. Evidently I am wrong about Mears. I am not sure yet about Simonds.

Thanking you again for your trouble, believe me

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. W. H. Cathcart, Vice President
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