August 6, 1941.

Dear Mrs. Pulling:

I have had a good laugh over your perplexity about my birthplace. I was born and I have the documents to prove it although they are very personal and I cannot send them to you, on my Grandfather's farm on the edges of Hatch Hollow. My Brother, William Tarbell, was born on a farm near Wattsburg. I never know it as the Ladd Farm, but no doubt that's what it was. Since you have two schools in the matter I think your suggestion is excellent. I should be very proud if you carry out the idea and place the tablet in or around your new school building. If you carry out that idea I should be glad to send your school library, if you have one, a set of my published books. If you have no school library why not start one? I may be able to pick up a few things for you beside my own productions.

I am sorry I have made so much trouble. I'd like to have been born on the Ladd Farm since you say Wattsburg people want it so, but in the interest of truth which I regard as the sound basis of any democracy I'll have to stand by the Hatch Hollow documents and recollections.

Cordially yours,

Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.