

307 S. Main St.,
Wichita, Kansas, 1/26/31.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

I have been waiting for a letter from my daughter before writing, so that I might reply to your inquiry. That lady usually tells Dad very little about herself. She mentions the weather with all the freedom and particularity which might be suitable if we had no weather in Kansas, and I were deeply interested in such phenomena. One day it was raining. It had rained the day before, and the day before that, and she predicted direfully that it would rain on the morrow. She is well, but on account of the frequent rains does not get enough opportunities for outdoor work. I think that she would have come home before this but for the business depression which, she suggests, hits artists a little earlier and oftener and harder than anyone else. Well, if she does not come this year, and I doubt if she does, and if my ship comes in with sufficient argosies, (isn't that the correct word?), I am just going over to see what she looks like after so long. At least that is what I think that I'll do.

You will be interested, perhaps, in knowing how "The Real Issue" was received. I delivered it to the large men's Bible class of the College Hill M. E. church a week ago yesterday. I was curious to note the reaction. I know that there are prohibitionists who seem to be exclusively prohibitionist, or to a degree that banishes temperance from their minds.

The address was very well received, but one gentleman said: "You ought to hit the wets harder". Now I thought that I hit the wets, the real wets, pretty hard. And, incidentally, I hit someone else, who is not a real wet, pretty hard. But on the whole, the talk was very well received, and I am to be asked to give it in the church as soon as the Easter program is out of the way. In the evening I went out to Fairmount. There I was among old friends. I got a most cordial reception for the address, from men whose opinion I value highly. One of them, by the way, is Rev. Dr. Bosworth, national chaplain of the G. A. R., 88 years old, straight as an Indian, wearing no glasses, and seeing apparently as well as ever he did. His frame is sound, and his mind is clear. I was much pleased.

I hope soon to have the report of the Wickersham commission. My congressman, Mr. Ayers, writes me that he has directed that a copy be sent me. Then I shall have some thing to read that will probably furnish me with material for some more illuminating lectures.

How is the new Lincoln book coming on? I hope that it is about ready for the printer. I thought of another war story the other day that I must send you. But just now I can't recall it. It will make another visit, however, and I'll nab it.

With kindest regards,
Walter Graves.