MARK SULLIVAN

February 14, 1927

Miss Ida M. Tarbell
120 East 19th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

In that monumental and justly celebrated history of mine, I have just completed the rough draft of a portion of the history of the trusts--the early history of them up to the point where Roosevelt began his attack on them.

I am going to venture to ask you whether you would be willing to look over these proofs. They are not very long, and I think you will be interested. I can conceive that you may be too busy or that you would not be interested. In that event, please pay no attention to this letter, because I do not want to inflict a burden on you; but if you should be willing to look over the proofs, it would be a favor to me and a favor to the cause of accuracy in history.

If you think you would be interested to look over the proofs, or give me the benefit of your corrections and suggestions, let me know, and I will send you a set of the galleys. My hope is to get from you not merely such corrections as will occur to you about the facts, but also your judgment of the point of view and--more than anything else--your suggestions for the amplification or improvement of the material.

You will observe how much I have relied on your history of the Standard Oil Company. That episode of the South Improvement Company seems to me to be the classic case which illustrates the whole history of big business combination, and of railroad rebating in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Sullivan

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