

JOSEPH KNIGHT COMPANY,

PUBLISHERS,

196 SUMMER STREET.

JOSEPH KNIGHT, PRES'T AND MGR.
LOUIS COUES PAGE, TREAS.
WALTER M. JACKSON, SEC'Y.

Boston, Mass., May 12th, 1896

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

New York City

Dear Madam;-

Your letter of May 11th enclosing the introduction is duly received. We agree with you entirely that it is far better to have an introduction such as you have given us, which is really an introduction to the addresses which follow, than to have the hacknsyed biographical sketch, and it was a slip on our part in our last letter in speaking of a biographical sketch when we meant an introductory sketch, or introduction as you have headed your work. We have read your introduction over and are entirely satisfied with it. It is just what we want to give character, and to also serve as an explanation to our compilation of addresses.

However, we have an idea that if a brief biographical sketch were also added to the book, it would be a certain advantage; that is the general reader would have a slight historical frame-work of dates and events, for reference when reading the addresses, as well as a valuable introduction. Will you kindly undertake this for us also, so that when you complete it, we will have the whole MS ready to send to our printer. The biographical sketch need not be more than four or five hundred words.

If you feel that you do not care to undertake it in addition to furnishing the introduction and re-arranging and adding to the compiled matter, we will of course get up the biographical sketch here in our office.

We would be delighted to get the whole matter from you in a week or ten days at the furtherest as you write, and as we will have to wait until that time for the completed book we thought it best to send you back

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the introduction to be typewritten as it is always an advantage to the printer to be able to set up from typewritten MS. rather than from pen and ink.

Frankly speaking we have no criticism at all to make on the introduction, unless possibly the general reader might only be prepared from the introduction to find Napoleon's military and political addresses entirely, instead of a few personal and private ones as will be the character of one or two that at your suggestion we will have added to the MS; such as the correspondence with his brother in regard to his Baltimore wife. However we do not ask you to re-write any word of the introduction unless you feel so disposed, although of course, when you have received this letter, you care in reading over your matter to alter it in one or two particulars which would improve it in any way, in which case we will be glad to have you do so.

Also, if after writing the brief biographical sketch you feel you wpuld rather cut down your introduction a little, that will be entirely satisfactory to us.

As we said above however, we leave the whole matter in your hands, and give you our thanks for the interested and skillful manner in which you have taken hold of this work.

We return the introduction with this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Knight Company

by C. C. Page Pres't

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