

July 26, 1935

Dear Mr. Hammond:

I think I explained to you when I asked the privilege of holding the manuscript of the General Electric that I was preparing a volume for Macmillan's series on the History of American Life covering the industrial development between 1878 and 1898. The work has been seriously delayed but I at last seem to be rounding it up.

One of my tasks is to make a full bibliography, a section of which must be devoted to what the editors of the series call "physical survivals". This would mean in the case of my volume the present locations in museums or in interested towns - anywhere - of the beginnings and the development of the essential machines and devices as well as the remains of plants, that is factory buildings. Now, I suppose that Mr. Ford's Museum at Dearborn, Michigan includes Edison's work in my period. But how about the first machines of Thomson-Houston - of Brush - of Vanderpoete-Sprague? Could you tell me where I could find "physical survivals" of what they were doing in my period?

You do preserve at Schenectady, do you not, the original shop that Edison occupied when he went to Schenectady? Have you any other historical pieces about the place? Any information at all that you can give me on the whereabouts of the first successful machines of any kind - turbines for instance - will be welcome.

Very sincerely yours