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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

February 23/1911

Dear Miss Tarbell,

I am not sure that I ever had the pleasure of meeting you personally but I remember your work so well that it seems that I must be right in addressing you as if we were well acquainted. Moreover, we live, while in the country, not very far from your summer home, our own being at Greenfield Hill, the large white house on the corner by the celebrated well which is supposed to have been used by the British when they bivouaced there on their expedition against General Putnam, then amongst the Connecticut hills.

My present purpose in writing you is to request you very kindly to consider favorably the possibility of your placing your book on the tariff with us for publication. I have seen, if I recollect rightly, a number of articles on the general subject of the tariff written by you and which have appeared from time to time and it seems to me that the collection of these into a book would, if published within the next few months, be of great use in the controversy over the revision of the tariff which is bound to come before very long.

There is a great misunderstanding of this tariff question throughout the country and a book on the subject, written in

your usual interesting and thorough fashion, could not fail to materially clear the minds of the public as to the proper method of dealing with this matter. The publication of the book too would have a considerable influence upon the next election.

We have exceptional facilities, I think, for putting out a work of this character, and if you would care to see me in relation to the matter at sometime convenient to yourself, I shall be very happy to have an opportunity of talking it over with you.

Yours very truly,

George R. Smith

Miss Ida M. Tarbell.