Stanford University, Cal.,
May 27, 1911.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

I am certainly greatly indebted to you for your kindness in bringing my letter to the notice of Mr. Pritchett. Since hearing from you I have had a letter from him, in which he states just about what he told you though not so fully, and without any indication that he has the slightest thought that I might be useful in the Carnegie enterprise. He does, however, say that he has given my letter to Professor Clark, and perhaps he did so with some suggestion relative to me. Still that is his affair, and I have no reason to suppose that I should prove particularly useful to them. Mr. Pritchett suggests that I visit him this summer, an invitation I shall be glad to accept.

Your suggestion of Bishop Williams as commencement speaker was a happy one. He pleased everyone thoroughly, and I have received no end of compliments on my good choice. These compliments belong to you: they are herewith given to their proper owner, together with my cordial thanks. The speakers of the past few years were failures in the opinion of those who heard them, so much so that the trustees even suggested dropping the commencement address. Bishop Williams spoke so well, that the trustees asked for his manuscript intending to have the address printed, and to present each graduate with a copy.
I heard a rumor the other day that you were to visit us again next year. This is good news, indeed; we shall all be glad to see you. You are, I take it, coming in the interest of your work on the articles about peace. The President and I have decided to give the course three hours per week next year, and I have arranged my program so that I can give practically all my time to it. I hope that in that way I can get down to bed rock on a number of matters that I have so far simply skimmed.

A subject which interests me considerably is an investigation of the effect of the great improvement in communication and transportation upon nations and peoples. In a way these effects are a part of common knowledge, and perhaps accurate study would bring no particular return of value. Still I do think that there is something in the subject that ought to be impressed upon the thinking public, and I should be disposed to study the matter rather with a view to writing one or several popular articles on the subject, than to printing some erudite work on the subject. How does the subject impress you, as a person in touch with the world’s news sense?

Peace courses are springing up elsewhere; we have had several requests for our syllabus from colleges which think of introducing the course. There will soon be no end of peace advocates, for things are moving strongly in that direction.

Thanking you again for your interest in me, and the project I advocate, I remain,

Most cordially yours,

[Signature]