Letter: Edna Turpin to Ida M. Tarbell, July 1, 1939

Turpin, Edna

http://hdl.handle.net/10456/23341

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Mountain Lake Biological Station
of the University of Virginia

Dear Ida Tarbell:

I have written to Macmillan for three copies of your ALL IN THE DAY'S WORK, and asked Mr. Latham to hold them or send them to you to inscribe for me.

One, of course, is my personal copy. One copy is for William J. Flagg and the other is for Guy Ellett. They are two dear friends who will enjoy the book greatly because they both admire you so much. I do hope I am not too late to get copies of the first edition--for Edna Turpin and for Will Flagg. Guy doesn't care what edition it is. I would have written for the books long ago, but it seemed I might come to New York and it would have been easier to arrange about getting the books and taking them to you. Now it seems I shall not come North before late fall, if then.

I am settled for the summer in my mountain cabin. I have written you about it, I am sure--the one big room with stone chimney dividing the little front sitting room from the bed alcove at the back, with the tiny bathroom. This year the place has an added charm--cedar-lined walls, if you please! Such clean sweetness of odor and color! The AAA had so ruined my good
tenant— not to speak of me (my 1938 rent did not pay taxes)— that he came to me and asked me to let him get a little sawmill and cut timber, so he and his sons would not have to leave the place to seek work. I am letting him cut pine and oak, and he cuts the scattering cedar for me. There is not enough to be of merchantable value, so I am using the uneven boards here in the cabin. The better boards make my bookshelves, china presses, and clothes closets. Come down to Richmond this fall and admire them.

My sister and I are to be in Richmond this winter in a little house about which I shall have a great deal to tell you when I see you. Now I must not take any more of your time— just enough to say that I love you dearly and admire you trementously.

Your devoted

Edna Turpin