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# Letter: Martha Van Rensselear to Ida M. Tarbell, March 4, 1910

Van Rensselaer, Martha

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NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
ITHACA, N. Y.

L. H. BAILEY, Director  
H. J. WEBBER, Acting Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

FLORA ROBE  
MARTHA VAN RENSSELAER

ITHACA, N. Y. March 4th, 1910.

Miss Ida Tarbell,  
American Magazine,  
New York City.

*ac 3/9/10*

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

Doubtless you have before this time received a letter from Mrs. Martin, adviser of women at Cornell University. A friend of ours at Binghamton wrote my sister, Mrs. Van Rensselaer, saying that you would be in Binghamton for a few days with Mrs. Hyde and it immediately occurred to me that Mrs. Martin would want you to come to Ithaca to speak to the girls of the University. There is a strong effort here on the part of Mrs. Martin and others to raise the standard of co-education and she is trying this year to place before the girls strong examples of what college women have done in the world. I hope that it is possible for you to come here at the time of your visit and I want to say that it will give us pleasure not only to have you in our home, for Mrs. Van Rensselaer will expect that as well as I, but I hope you can take time to get acquainted with the New York State College of Agriculture with the interest for women which is being developed in the college in Agriculture and in Home Economics. Our Department is young, in fact, not out of its long clothes but it is making a lusty cry for more room and more attention. We believe that training of this sort belongs in a State institution and that free instruction should be offered to women in Home Making.

Possibly we can give you a story to write up.

Yours very cordially,

*Martha Van Rensselaer*

MVanREBHW