

Typed by C. Tupper

Ada P. McCormick  
Tucson, Arizona

(letter from Ida Tarbell  
to her family. British Museum  
London, April 21, 1894.)

My Dear Family:-

156T

I have been neglecting you in a shocking way the last 2 or 3 weeks. I feel as if I ought to write so often when I am in the midst of new things, but to tell the truth I have been rather too hurried to do anything but work - even look at the beautiful things around me. My work has been "horrid" and nothing else, and I am so tired that I don't want to do anything but lie down somewhere and go to sleep - anything, I mean, but go home. I am a great baby and believe I should simply die "pine away" - if I couldn't go home this summer.

157T

But I'm going. The McClure's are going to "see me through" and I have promised in return to go to New York the first of October as one of their staff. I have as a salary \$40.00 a week, about \$2100 a year and do the editing of their Youth's Department and write articles as I am needed. It will be a \$3000 position or more soon and Mr. McClure says I'll be rich in 15 years. As they are all nearly bankrupt now I do not count much on that. At any rate it is a good place and if I don't find it to my liking I need not stay. But don't say anything about it. Something may happen, you know to prevent my going. They are so erratic that I never know what they will do next, though I really think they want me. All the staff in New York seems set on it - oddly enough.

April 24. My Dear Folks:- It does seem as if I should get nothing nothing to you from here, and now I'm sitting down in the midst of my packing to finish a letter. The paper and dust and debris of

158T 7 weeks here are piled high as my head nearly and I'm all covered

Paris  
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with zeoot. One is always here. I go to Paris tonight and I am so glad to get off. I've had a good time, but I've felt lost all the time. Things have been so uncertain and I've had such a hard time with my work. I know I was never meant for journalistic work, but here I am. It is settled. I am to go to New York next Fall - that is I shall if McClure lives up to his promise and sends me money to go home with. I won't if he don't and I wont stay over here any longer. But I think it's going alright. They've promised good things. I've really had a very nice time in London and seen lots. The city is so interesting and just now gay. The season begins in

59T May and everybody comes back then to pass two months just as Americans go to New York or Washington for the winter. I've done most of my sight-seeing at night for I've had a very pleasant young English girl to go with me. We've been to see Irving in Faust - waited two hours and a half to get seats. We saw Ada Rehan in Twelfth Night and went to the Egyptain Hall to see t e slight-of-hand performances one night. 5 of us went out to the West End to see what they call Constantinople the other night. It is a real village in Turkishhstyle with streets and stores. There is a river where you row or are rowed by boatmen in red fezes, and after your promenade you have a big spectacular performance in an amphitheatre where the pit is filled with water, and

160T where the stage is said to be the largest in the world. It is all Ballet of course. But very curious. Will tell you more when I go home. I think you may expect me without fail in June. I shall have five or six weeks work in Paris, say five and get to N. Y. about the

Paris  
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