

Tped by C. Tupper

Ada P. McCormick

(Letter from Ida Tarbell to her family, 22-11-'93. 17 Malhanche, Paris.)

859T

My Dear ^{Father!} ~~Family.~~

I received yours and Will's letters this morning with the checks for \$25.00. I am very very grateful to you and I hope I can return it very soon. Do not send me any more. McClure sent me some last week and I can keep even now I think. I have borrowed a little for emergencies, and I'll get on surely now. I am handicapped somewhat in my work by my book but I feel sure that if I can pull through and get it done I shall be able to make enough out of it - and the credit it will give me with the publishers, to get to making something again. It is not myself which worries me. I feel as if I ought to be doing something to help you with the debts which worry you. If I could have staid in Meadville I could have helped you a good deal, but honor is more than money and I know you would be the last one to wish me there. You say to "keep a stiff upper lip." I do try to and do most of the time - I wouldn't be your daughter if I didn't do that - but I was completely "broken up" to have to ask for money from you folks.

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I hope the rise in oil will be permanent and the blue times will cease. Do not worry about the debts. I believe I can do something some day and perhaps before very long.

Will says mother has gone to the farm to "sell a cow" that she may send me something - Dont send any more I can get out nicely now and don't be melancholy on account of my uncertain condition. It isn't exactly cheerful, but it might be a good deal worse. I have nearly finished what I came here to do, and I believe in the near future I'll see the financial advantages of my "wrestle" - not that I expect to get rich or anything of the sort, but I expect to be able to do something a good deal better and more creditable than if I had stayed

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Ada P. McCormick
Tucson, Arizona

(letter from Ida Tarbell
to her family, 22-11-'93.
17 Malhanche, Paris.)

in M. ^[Mcquill] I see here the advantages of writing, if it is only once a year
for a magazine like Scribner's and things must go. I have stirred Mc-
Clure up and he wrote me two letters asyng he would never do it again,
etc., that I could depend upon him for the money for everything accepted
etc. unfortunely not everything is accepted, though most of it is, to
be sure. I have made a new connection which if it turns out well will
give me a good newspaper to turn in a lot of things unfit fob the maga-
zine. It is the Boston Transcript - one of the best literary news-
papers published. They took two letters from me in October and I'm
going to send them two a month at least. If that succeeds I think I'll
have a pretty good thing there.

Try to keep up your courage - all of you and do not get blue. One
might as well be a philospher as a grumbler and everybody is happier for
it.

I am writing in the restaurant and so must hurry. Thank you a hun-
dred times for the money and forgive me for worrying you all so. I feel
like a genuine "black sheep" - "prodigal son" and all that.

Love to everybody. Your loving daughter

Ida M. Tarbell

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