Notes: Interview, Van Hornesville (continued)
December 10

Tarbell, Ida M.
Van Hornesville:

Something of the dignity of the reality of it should be gotten into the story. It is noteworthy that Y. seems to be doing there is not developing an estate but a community. There is no tinge so far as I can see of what seems to me so fundamentally vulgar in most of our big private estates and that is, their semi-advertising - half commercial character. Of course they are almost invariably imitated, not a development. They have no family background and therefore cannot be a growth. They are ludicrously varied in their physical character - no feel of the native soil in them, much like the haphazard collection of Hollywood homes - theatrical settings for working out some kind of business, social program. Nothing of the sort in the V.H. undertaking. Here it is taken as a distinct native thing, not to be disturbed in its natural development only to be stimulated. Young I know from what he said to me is troubled. Y. is troubled lest he do too much compare something of the native independence - the native bent, how to get an adjustment where he will stimulate - come in at weak points - direct and not weaken - get them to form themselves depending over much on him. What he wants to develop the ability to walk alone. I am not sure that he is going to get his best results through the foreigners who come in who have not been weakened by the American notions, that somehow you can do it without labor.

At all events one can see impressions that Y. feels
himself as belonging here and that whatever has come to him in the
way of wealth should contribute to the saving of this corner of the
world by stimulating its natural life, not by over-lordship.