HÔTEL
GRANDE BRETAGNE ET D'ANGLETERRE
NAPLES

C. ROSSI PROP.

Naples, le May 7th 1906

My dear Miss Tarbell

You can imagine the Gs read with excitement the news in the Paris Herald, that you were going to leave McClure's,

Of course there may be nothing in it for I truly don't see how Mr McClure can get on without your companionship, your judgement and your sympathic understanding of his nature.

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But if its true then I'm sure its
causing you many troublous thoughts
and to making you unhappy too for
you'll hate severing your connections
with all those you've liked so well,
but I know you feel you are working
for right and not for personal
gain or personal considerations.
The worst of it all is that you
may not get a summer's rest or be

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able to come to Bad deck and talk a heap of things over with us - We should have been landing in New York today and I'm sort of sick at heart that we are not even though we are in Italy, and near to Rome, I'm praying hard we will get a little time there, the master is now writing up all we've seen of Vesuvius.

I'm rather proud of myself that I could stick out getting up to the crater, its a fearful task now getting up the 1200 ft - without any paths or any thing but soft hot ashes - fortunately I had one of my Breton Cottage skirts and knee boots - Coming down we simply slid in the ashes, up to our knees in them, and came down in twenty minutes what it took me an hour & 40 minutes to climb - writing the lava & ash buried villages

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2 -

Naples, le 190

has been wonderfully
interesting and we have
done Pompeii of course -
"Going around the
world" isn't to my mind
as interesting as I ex-
pected, the Red Sea
was cold as blazes
the Mediterranean was
never blue and we'd
no really interesting
soul on board to talk
to - except the Captain

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a dear man and a beautiful rare Russian woman, whom I should have bowed my soul to if only she could have spoken more English.

I must tell you of her, for I think her personality was more interesting than any I've ever known.

Do you know that altho' I am the most madly devoted American that ever drew the breath of American life,

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I'm losing faith in our characters - I often wonder if we are any good - except in a mighty small number - ? We are certainly not desireable as citizens away from home - we spend money like fools, we've no principles, we only care for our own comfort regardless of what discomfort we give others - we are selfish and immoral and all the ~~[illegible]~~ time stouching over the face of the globe thinking ourselves the best ever - We've no self restraint, no level headed judgement, we hate the truth and we swing with the crowd any old way they are swinging regardless of inconsistancy or of right and wrong. The opening of the Philippines has flooded the East with pretty immoral American women, some of them of our world and wifes of Army Officers - The Captain said he couldn't tell good American women from bad any more - We had on board a quite pretty well dressed young American

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3

Naples, le 190

woman who did not behave badly save that she only went off with a new man at all the stopping places and stayed at hotels with them. If any one told the truth of our army & navy men & women and of life on a transport they would indeed stir up a "Muck Heap" but a "Muck-rake" man — an insulting title? you'd think one ought to be more ashamed of Muck raking, than of the fact that there's so much muck to rake — I'm

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Amused to see Lyman Abbott now wants the exposuress of fraud to hold up, for his "Black Pirate" editorial was the strongest thing that's been written. I see little Peice of the State Dept. is in trouble, his no good, but I cant blame him as much as the people who put in high position, a man, of no mental or character strength and then make him a Minister. He acted like an idiot out in Japan, and one of the Nikko dealers told of giving Peirce false bills not knowing who Mr P. was. but McMade

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NAPLES

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4

Naples, le 190

is bad all the way through, he's even accused of inciting murder by people in Hongkong. The State Dept. can furnish material to dover McWade - they had it ~~before~~ before we left home and they wouldn't touch McWade until his backer, Matt Quay, died, then he was recalled. We have met 3 of the financial managers out here of the Beef Trust - two belong to Armour, one to Swift, they have their families and

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I'd bet two to one they are sent expenses paid to get them out of the way of giving testimony. the most ~~bred~~ creatures you ever knew and longing to get back to business. All of them down on Garfield for his betrayal of trust reposed in him when ~~that~~ he'd promised not to. I feel the President is getting too deep in every sort of mire to clean up any one ~~spot~~ path out don't you? Hey, but you will be bred with all this. We sail on the 18th the "Koenig Albert" and get in the 30th hope we shall find you.

What ever you do you'll have our sympathy and love anyhow. Yours

E. W. Heeman

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