707 N. Wahsatch Ave.
Colorado Springs.
Colo
Feb. 23rd 1931

My dear Miss Tarbell.

I have been much interested in your "Napoleon" published some years ago, to be sure, but it had just come to my notice.

It is quite the thing, of course, to make one's hero a hero, but I think you have done it sometimes by blaming some one else in order to shield Napoleon himself.

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For one instance, in the matter of Sir Hudson Lowe, I think he had a very unpleasant task to keep N. from carrying out the plots made by his companions for his escape.

I have given especial and careful study to "Napoleon in Exile", and so have formed a different opinion from yours about affairs at St. Helena.

However, accounts differ, but a caged eagle may not safely be made into a pet. He retains both beak and claws.

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I had never known much about Josephene, but had joined in the universal sympathy for her.

Your suggestion that her immoralities were at the bottom of the divorce is special pleading. Why say nothing about his numerous immoralities – his illegitimate children? Have we a double standard?

N. wanted a legitimate heir and J. was too old. Well, that was all there need be as reason for a divorce. Well, he got his little King of Rome and much good

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it did him. The boy was born in 1811 and N. went to St. Helena in 1815 and the little four year old went with his mother to Vienna — poor dear. N. did wrong that right might come, but it didn't come.

I saw once an article, maybe it was a poem, entitled "Napoleon in Hades". I remember he found himself facing the ghosts of the slain — slain for the "Gloire de France" and himself. You should have had it to close your book. Yours very truly, Fonetta Flansburg

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