April 27, 1926.

Mr. H. P. Burton,
McCall's Magazine,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Burton:

I came in Saturday night and yesterday began to look into the Colonization matter here. There is no question that there is material for an article. The Government in its Reclamation Bureau is trying for the first time something which approaches scientific colonization, and the Bureau is working under men who have done the only really good job with Public Health. One other equally good has been done in North Carolina by Hugh MacRae, of whom I think I spoke to you.

They are keen for your help, for there is a bill now before Congress which proposes what is called "Aided and Directed Settlement on Reclaimed Lands". This does not apply to Homesteaders, but it ought to. It ought to be taken up by the states, too, that have land to settle, and above all it might to be applied to the Veterans, who still after all this long time may have desire to get hold of a practical farming proposition.

I'll get the stuff together. My outline and illustrations selected, and then I think we had better talk it over. It's necessary for me to be in New York next Monday and Tuesday. I have been away so much longer than I supposed when I left that things are rather mussy there. Possibly we might lunch together Monday, at the Arts Club, if you wish.

I see I have got myself into a lot of trouble in Florida, by saying she is flat, and by confining her game to alligators and turtles, I meant that to be facitious, and I think in my copy I put an exclamation point. I never was a success at making a joke. I think I shall have to write another article and call it Discovering Florida. I

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I think probably you have got all the Florida the magazine can stand, but I think I shall do this, and you can use it or not. I'd like to play a little bit with my experience. It would give me a chance to refer to their Alps and point out that nobody is safe in taking the figures their statisticians issue. I had not learned when I wrote that every figure quoted should be divided by at least 2 or 3.

Let me know if Monday suits you.

Faithfully yours,

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