May 11, 1937

Dear Miss Williamson:

Here is the paragraph that I promised to send you for Mrs. Coburn's Memorial in the Club Bulletin. It is short and it is very informal. If it too slight throw it out. I shall understand. You see I did not know her very well as fond as I had become of her.

Sincerely yours

Miss Williamson
National Arts Club
New York City

Digital Image, 2009, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

I had known Mrs. Coburn for many years as an actress before I met her off stage. I had great respect and admiration for the quality of her work. Her sincerity, charm, naturalness, always delighted me. It was her coming to the Arts Club to live that first threw me into her company. I felt a little shy of her - she came from a world I did not know, of which I did not talk the language. But she was so simple and friendly and delightful a person that one was at once at home with her. My unfamiliarity with her world made no difference at all. She of course was away from the Club a great deal - so was I. Our meetings were not frequent, but I found real pleasure in them and treasured the little friendship that grew up between us. How much I treasured it I did not realize until she left us. Then I knew I had lost a friend.

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