Naples, Oct. 23, 1926.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

It does seem inconsiderate to burden you with another request, in view of the many that you receive and that you so generously try to fulfill. But it occured to me when you were speaking of Dr. John Finley that your speaking to him would be a direct approach to a thing that I have very much wanted,---any sort of a salaried correspondentship in this general part of the world, in any part of Italy, Greece, Egypt, North Africa, Syria or Turkey,--in other words, in any archaeological country, where I could study for another year. I do so want to remain abroad, as I am getting so much out of the experience, but I have become just a little "panicky" over finances, owing to the recent loss of a little property income on which I have long depended to see me through. I have my feature stories of course, but each one represents a lot of work and study and requires time, and I want it to remain so, for they cannot be contributions otherwise, but the archaeological field is limited journalistically, and the art magazines for which I write regularly, or may, now that the book is finished, pay poorly.

I could do correspondence work satisfactorily, and still have time for study and for the special articles. I should be satisfied with ever so little, and would be quite willing to "shift bases" on cabled requirement. I have done correspondence work, and every type of journalism during my years on the San Francisco papers, and have even done some in Mexico for the "Times". But my good friend, Mr. Van Anda, is no longer taking active interest in the "Times" editorial management, and I know his successor only quite casually. But Dr. Finley could refer to Mr. Vana Anda, if necessary, and besides, it is possible that he knows my work through the various archaeological series for the "Times", among them two on Mexico, one on Carthage and the last one on Italy.

If this matter could be brought up in the course of your normal intercourse, and you found it in your heart to do it, I should indeed be very grateful, for it would give me the opportunity of working and studying without the awful worry of daily needs. I am making this request to you quite confidentially.

It was so good to know you, and I assure you that I have found you a very inspiring experience.

My permanent European address is care Thos Cook & Sons, Naples.

Always, with every good wish, and "bon voyage",

Alma M. L. Reed

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