Nov. 28, 1929.

Dearest dear Miss Tarbell,

I'm off now in a couple of days. (Sat.) and before I go I want to tell you how much I appreciated your taking any time out of your busy life to go to see me in the hospital. It was just like you. I have never known anything like your sweet unselfishness and your ever ready sympathy

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I called up the other
day and your sister said
you would not be home
before Sailed. I flatter
myself that you really
meant what you said when
you asked me to drop you
a line and tell you how
I am. I have apparently
completely recovered from
the colon bacillus infection
but they cystoscoped me
and X-rayed me, etc.
and found one Kidney
had dropped as far as

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it can. I have to wear a horrible "Riding belt"; all bones and harness and straps and things that depress you when you have been accustomed to free movement. But the worst was they told me it bore every evidence of being a recent thing and was probably the result of the infection. I think if I had had medical attention the first days and had stayed flat on my back it might have been prevented. However, what's the use of grousing?

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

I shall try to rest on the steamer, for I am awfully tired now. I hope the little "American Banker" doesn't toss too much.

I only I weren't a stick-in-the-mud person! I hate pulling up by the roots. I think I was meant to be a vegetable.

A whole heartful of love,

Mary Tiers

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