January 19, 1930

My dear Miss Hammond:

I am deeply touched by your letter just received and by the knowledge that so long ago you thought of me in Florence and brought back for me this exquisite brooch. I have always loved Pliny's Doves, but never had more than a postal card - a photographic reproduction. It gives me real joy to own this beautiful piece of work. I will take it at once to Tiffanys for the pin - no mounting - as you request. Of course that would take from its beauty.

I shall wear it often and I imagine that every time I wear it I shall be telling the story of you and Anne Rutledge and the Decator collection. We will make it a memorial to you and Anne!

I cannot believe that you are eighty-three, dear Miss Hamand. Your hand writing is steady and clear - your mind active. Do not grow old - live and go on with your fine work.

Be assured of my genuine interest in your collection and I ask nothing better to aid you if I can. Did you see the story of Ann Rutledge that I published last February in Collier's Weekly? If not, I should like to send you a copy.

With gratitude for your beautiful thought of me, believe me

Affectionately yours

Miss Jane E. Hamand
Schaller, Iowa

Digital Images, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.