

Typed by C. Tupper

Ada P. McCormick
Tucson, Arizona
April 30, 1946

(Letter from Ida Warbell
to her family - July 13, '93.)

In the margin at the head of the letter IMT has written: "I want you to observe the present color of my hair. If you dont think I suffer from being away - look at that." Also "encouragement for Roland book from B."

My dear Family:-

86T It is over two weeks since I have written you. The last letter was from the midst of our riot. That's over and forgotten now. Everything finishes so quick in Paris. The greatest sensation since has been the French 4th of July and just now it is the declaration of war with Siam. I went to the 4th. I dont think I shall go to the war. There are two Americans in the house whom I give my spare moments to. They are timid little creatures - though charming - and I take solid satisfaction in piloting them into the scariest spots I can find. Its mean but they always go and it livens up life a little for me to see them grin and bear it.

I do not have much time to run around. I am busy, busy, busy. The work is going very well. I have begun the book and try to spend a half of each day on it. I am at Mss and they do tire my eyes so and hot days!! Oh, my, I told you what the editor of Scribner's said to me when here about the book. Yesterday I received "put down in writin'" their opinion. Mr. Burlingame (editor) says: "I have recently had a consultation about the Roland book and I am able to speak very encouragingly of the house's taking it; - more positively than before, and as definitely, I suppose, as it is ever possible to speak of a manuscript that has not been seen. They consider the idea an excellent one; and having had, since we first spoke of it, the opportunity to see that your article is so good, they think in every way favorably of the undertaking." It is to be about 75000 to 90,000 words in length. I can not ask more

Paris
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encouragement than that especially from a house so aristocratic as the Scribner's. I am determined to have a translation appearing here soon after with the same illustrations. Wouldn't that be fine! If I can only put it all through by Spring and earn my bread and butter. It is getting easier and in another year, I believe I shall be earning as much as in my old place and with a freedom incomparable to my old servitude. I have a scheme which I am going to try and put through. Give some parlor or school lectures on the Revolutionary women this winter before Americans here. It may be wild but I believe I can do it. My Scribner article out in Nov. will help me and my French friends will support me I am sure and if I can take along one or two of them it will be a card - Americans are always dying to meet French people who are literary. I'll invite "my great grand daughter" the day I talk on Mme. Roland! What a lark! I made a new connection the other day which is going to be of value to me. I have told you about Mme. Beutzon. Well, her son who is a queer, but very brilliant fellow took me to a suburb town to call on a lady and there presented me to Victor du Bled, who is one of the writers for the Revue des Deux Mondes. Last Friday at the Library he came around and asked me to join an opera party that evening. Told me I must go decolletée. I was a little overwhelmed, but I accepted as if full dress was my normal condition for evenings and spent the rest of the day wondering what I could do. I fixed up a dress by cutting the sleeves out of my light silk, taking off the collar and turning in the neck and putting on a mass of tulle stuff. With long gloves and an aigrette in my hair I went through finely and had the pleasure of sitting in the front of one of the swellest boxes at the Grand Opera - opposite that of the President of the Republic - beside two ladies who were breast

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plates of diamonds, etc. Nothing like seeing everything that goes. I am free now for the most part from visits and consequently work more. Everybody is out of town. My friend, Mme. Marillier, went to the sea shore last week. Her son and his wife are gone to the mountains. Nobody will return before October - Miss Boice is in England. I had a letter from her the other day begging me to go over and stay with her. The Emerys of whom I used to write you 1st year sail from Boulogne on Aug. 2. He is to teach in the Penn. State College next year. I see Mr. Southard, my Standard man, once in a while, not often. He told me last week that Lilian Varian was dead. Is it true? I have been wondering two or three times lately if Mr. Bloss is dead. I have an idea that you wrote me to that effect. Have you see McClure's new magazine? I think my Pasteur article will be out in the Aug. No. I wish in sending my letters you would take pains to put on 1 cent and 4 cent stamps - also 2 & 3 or better 1 cent and 3's. I want to save all the complete sets I can and shall try to sell them next year. There's money in it. Do help me. I get lots of 5's & 2's. I want 1's, 3's & 4's and of course all the higher ones you can pick up.

Wednesday. I have been sick for 2 or 3 days and doing almost nothing. I over did on my trip and then the hot weather and I have been working very hard, altogether I think I needed to be sick in order to rest up a little. I'll be out tomorrow.

Thursday. I went out today and had to come in again, but I'm all right or would be if I only had a letter from home. Why dont you write me oftener? I have not had a line in nearly three weeks. I hope Will will find time to write me about the fair. I hear nothing at all or

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almost nothing. The popular idea here is that the financial success
is much behind that of the Paris Expo. of 1889. Is it so? Write me
often at any rate and don't forget to put on 1 7 3 & 4 cent stamps. If
I make a strike I'll divide the proceeds.

Love to everybody. Don't imagine I'm going to be sick. I'm all
right only tired out.

Lovingly

Ida M. Tarbell

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