old age

New York, Nov 8, 37

Miss Ida Tarbell; Read

Dear Miss Tarbell; -

Please, I ask pardon for trespassing on your valuable time, but I feel you are Kind and will excuse the liberty.

Yes, dear Miss Tarbell, some of the old do have problems, but, it has been said there is always a way out of every difficulty — and a solution for every problem — and - Somehow the real man or woman finds that way". I feel that you will be able in a great measure to solve the problem.

I pray God will give you the health and strength to write the book, entitled "What shall be done with the old". and that I shall be in a position to secure a copy of it;

I know the book will be very interesting. I have read all that has been published of you that has come under my observation for many years.

I think you are marvelous — To have a brain and intellect similar to yours is a wonderful gift — and - to think you are 80 years old. — and still active and more worth while than most young folks half your age.

May you live and have the health and strength to enjoy many more years of useful activities..

I don't know what there is about the old, the very old, but few people seem to love them — Some persons feel the old are cumbering the earth, and using space etc that the young should possess — and so on -

Its life, I presume and its modern ways.

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But, seems to me there is still ample room on the earth for God's creatures of all ages until He takes them Home.

I, myself, am three score and ten and am living in a Home for the aged — being entirely alone as regards blood relatives — having buried the last member of my family some years ago — My sojourn in the Home is of recent date, due to an attack of Sciatic Neuritis I was unable to carry on alone — but, my health has improved and I am by no means helpless — being able to execute small commissions on the outside when the weather is favorable — and also performing occasional services in the interests of the Home.

I feel there is nothing much to life but service, having learned rather late that success in life consists more in personal worth than in possessions — more in what you are than in what you own.

Yesterday, some one asked me what I had learned of most value in my life — I told her Kindness — that I had seen a simple Kindness bring a legacy, not every day, perhaps, but I'd wager more people cash in on Kindness than on Sweep stake tickets.

Altho only a stranger to you — I trust you will pardon this lengthy missive — and permit me to wish you in conclusion everything you would wish for yourself.

Sincerely
(Mrs) Frances Bennett,

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