

Divonne-les-Bains (Ain)
19

Wed
June 22

My dear Miss Tarbell

Your letters did us more good than anything up to date. I needed them. Yesterday was a glorious day & we went to Geneva. All the beauty & grandeur of the Alps saddened me so profoundly that it seemed hopless. Don't have a moments dread. I am now at the bottom. I can go no farther nor feel any sadder. Mrs McClure is well & happy. Just why I am caught & what holds me I do not know, but there is absolutely no danger. I am sorry to say that I have not yet begun to get well. I have lost steadily in weight & vigor & am now only a few pounds heavier than I was four years ago when I began, but in most ways I am stronger. Only my gout handicaps me, for I cannot eat as freely as I need. But I am about to take the desperate, but sure cure - three weeks in bed & milk. This the doctor says & I know is my only hope physically. If I can only get my health back all will be well, far better than ever. I clearly see the work of the coming years. We have the greatest & most splendid achievements in front of us than any living people have.

My face looks strong in ~~[illegible]~~ determination & force, but it is getting terribly lined. & I shall be gray when I return. Both Dr Magnin & Dr Roland say I must devote a year & a half

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to getting real full restoration as well
ensure continuous & energetic activity.
Dr Roland & Mrs McClure decided yesterday
to try to get Miss Rawlins & Pat and
to bed. She is in Paris. If she comes
I will complete surrender & for my
nerves will be a baby. I shall not remain
in Devonne for ever. We will go away to
some quiet, remote little place & try to
get healed in body & heart.

Even thus far much I have lost
a pound although I under the most
careful regime

I forget slowly. But when I
get strong & become active again, all
forget. I have a clearer mind as to the
magazine & plans than ever before.
I just feel our coming years. I
have ideas & plans so clear & sound
that I know or not ten years will
pass as far ahead I now as we
are now ahead of the first year

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Last time five years ~~and~~ utterly hopeless years made no change. So you see the hardness of my task.

I know that with me it is the ~~best~~ direction of my mind rather than the object. It is the pursuit rather than the thing I am after that is so hard to change. Not when I get well I can ~~get~~ change the direction of desires.

I have so much to do right for. I couldn't bear to lose you. Away back in my head I know that I would allow no deed to separate me from

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you from

You

not to speak of John & the others

as for my wife & children & home - not to speak of the magazine & the work - why don't you see the impossibility of the wrong course

all I need is health.

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