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Typed by C. Tupper

Ada P. McCormick
Tucson, Arizona

(Letter from Ida Tarbell
to her family. 6 A. M.
December 31, 1893.)

and there is everything - horses, velocipeds, carts, locomatives, fire engines, etc. etc. I bought a potato bug tonight, big as a turtle which will run like a genumne Pennsylvania beast - paid 2 cents for him. New Year's Day here is a great family fêté and almost everybody is on a lark, most of the restaurants are closed and everybody has a
213T holiday. Above all it is a fête for the beggars. Anybody can beg in fact today. I dont know but I would have done well to have taken advantage of the permission and tried my luck. I believe i'd made more than by working.

I received the report of Will's speech. It rather took my breath away by its solemnity. I'm so used to jokes from Will that I have to twitch (?) myself to believe he can be serious, but the speech has a ring of elequence and I can believe he was as Ade says "the belle of the occasion," Was the doctor there to hear him? I would like to know. But I must stop. Hug the children for me. I hope you had a big time Xmas. Do write me all you did & said & <u>had</u>. I had a letter from my Baltimore friends which almost made me blue. They were al together for the holidays - the five with whom I went to Jersey. The Emerys are at State College and Mr. Hazen living with the Vincents. I can fancy they had a big time. But good bye - and write often.

Lovingly

Ida M. Tarbell

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