

12 Bread.
VILLA IGIEA GRAND HOTEL
PALERME.

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November 20th, 1903

Dear Miss Tarbell:

Your letter of October 22nd eventually finds me here in Sicily. Thank you very much for the trouble of writing it. I am satisfied ^{if} that you think "Bread" is worth reading. I am not sure you have any real occasion for disagreeing with me about the theme of the book because I think quite as you do regarding woman's place in the world of business. There are some women -- like Jeanette -- whom it affects in the way it did her. After all she was a very selfish person, and selfish women to whom creature comforts matter might feel that financial independence was far more important than child bearing. I have a feeling that I am being taken much more seriously than I meant. However if the book sets some women thinking and helps any of them I am more than satisfied.

We are here for the winter, cozily established on an island in the Mediterranean! It seems hardly possible. We've been motoring leisurely down from Paris, through France and Italy, and now our idling is over. Kathleen begins a new serial for The Delineator and I am tackling a new novel which I fear is going to take me three years to write! We come home in April when I sincerely hope we may see you as we did last spring. I shall always remember that hour of tea-time with you.

Many thanks for your interest and all the kind things you find to say about "Bread". Kathleen would join me in sending love did she know I was writing you.

Affectionately,

Charles S. Norris