

MC CLURE'S MAGAZINE.

44-60 EAST TWENTY-THIRD STREET,

NEW YORK.

Jan. 24, 1906.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Your letter from Chicago came the same time Mr. Baker's did; Mr. Boyden has called my attention to it. As I wrote Baker to-day, it is more difficult for me to read letters that are addressed to other people that deal with affairs that I have particular charge of. I think that when different members of the staff are writing to the office on editorial matters, when I am in charge the letter should be addressed to me. I don't care, of course, how much other correspondence there is, but matters which I am devoting my mind to I don't seem to get oriented right. I have noticed this tendency ever since I took charge last June, and it has annoyed me a good deal and hurt me some. I know it seems like imposing upon you to ask you to write two separate letters and to address two separate envelopes when you are tired and in a hurry. Just as you notice in talking upon a given subject you will emphasize different points differently, so in writing one is unconsciously influenced by the person one writes to. If a letter is written to me by a member of the staff, unconsciously the writer writes it more directly to my mind, and I enjoy reading it much better.

Your letter and Baker's explain matters rather fully. I think some of going out there myself.

I hope for some time, at least, you will let all these matters pass away from your mind and will simply enjoy the great and glorious West. Eastern Kansas is one of the loveliest countries in the world, and Oklahoma, too, what I have seen of it. You will be looking in vain for the famous State plains which appeared in the geographies when we were kids. You will enjoy the largeness and freedom from anxiety and pettiness clear across the continent.

Very sincerely yours,



Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
c/o W. A. White, Esq.,
Emporia, Kas.