May 6, 1939.

THIRTY-ONE PARKWAY
MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

Dear Miss Jarrell

I was late in getting at "All in a day's work" and now now I haven't finished it, but I can't wait to write you about it. How fully and richly you have lived, extracting from every experience the essential truths about life and about people! You have believed in people and refused to speak ill of them. You have battled timidity, - going ahead whether or not you were afraid. And you refused to seek security as an end and sometimes even as a by-product.

I wish I had had more courage of that kind, for I feel an accusing realization that — more than I have realized or intended — I have sought security. Not wealth nor power, but security. You see your story has made me take inventory as a real biography should.

The chapter on Allegheny College would make a price-less bit of publicity for the college. Perhaps we might have permission from MacMillans to use it. When I came to college Professor Tingley's name was still spoken with awe and Professor Haskins was librarian, seemingly stern and forbidding. You explain him so satisfactorily.

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your Methodist back-ground and inhibitions do tallied with mine. I can smile with you now, but it was no smiling matter then — the going against traditions of people I so thoroughly believed in as did my father and mother.

And your story should be worth so much to those youngsters at College searching for their true niche in life; that few of us can see in advance where we will "fetch up at", as the sea captains say. But hard work, following our best impulses (though perhaps the hardest) do bring most of us to our point of greatest usefulness.

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I smiled too at your ~~[illegible]~~ your hesitancy to interview some of the commonly-regarded great personages, only to discover that many of them weren't so much after all.

I have hesitated to write you in this first enthusiasm lest I sound fulsome, — a reversion to the "auction" of my Methodist blood, but the first enthusiasm doesn't calm down a bit and I can think of six people for whom I am going to prescribe your text book on how life may be lived.

Gratefully and with warmest regards from Mrs. Mills and myself to you, Cordially James R. Mills

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