

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.
Washington, U.S.A.

Jan.10,1898

Dear Miss Tarbell:

I have been away an unusual time, or your letter of thetwentieth ultimo would have had an earlier acknowledgment.

I am much obliged for the copy of the curious inscription from the Shrewsbury Tablet. I presume it refers to an attempted exploit in sliding down a cord from the spire to the ground - an experiment which has been tried more than once with disastrous results. I am glad to add the inscription to my small collection.

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

I hope I shall know when you are in Washington.

With very respectful regards,

I am,

Yours,

S P Langley

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

28 W. 17th Street,

New York City.

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library

In June 19th 1907 (?) Sarah and I were at Shrewsbury looking over the timbered houses finding St. Mary's particularly interesting from its Norman architecture But the thing I remember of St. Marys not its architectura but the front of the church a memorial tablet with the following inscription

: let this small monument record
The name of Cadman, and to future
time proclaim
How by an attempt to fly from this
high spire
Across the Sabine stream he did acquire
His fatal end. T'was not for want
of skill, no, no. A faulty cord being
drawn too tight
Hurried his soul on high to take
her flight
Which hid the body here beneath
good night.

Feb. 2 - 1739
Age 28

See note book
London 1897

Digital Images, 2010, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.