

Melford, Pa.

May 31, 1912.

To the Editor of the American Magazine,
Dear sir:

Noting in your current issue
the announcement of an article
by Ida Tarbell in the July
number on Mrs. Louisa Coffey's
life work, I wish to formally
protest. The author of the
"Business of Being a Woman," is
not capable of making a really
sympathetic and illuminating
study of the life of Carola
Louise Coffey.

Those of us who have been reading
this latest work of Mrs. Tarbell's
have often wished that she might
take down her Dante, and earnestly

considers the opening lines of the
Divine Comedy. How many
 of us pray daily that misadventure
 may not bring us likewise into
 a "selva oscura" of doubt, disillu-
 sionment and reactionary thought.

But at least Miss Tarbell
 should recognize her limitations, and
 leave to others the ~~and~~ analysis of
 the lives of those who have fought
 the good fight, who have finished
 the course, who have kept the faith.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Dutcher.

[Home address,
 39 Pierrepont St., Brooklyn.]