

*Some Boilers  
& Engines.  
South Chester  
Woot Iron Casing.*

*W. G. Long,  
Oil, Gas Well, Mine  
& Mill Supplies.*

*Larkin Pickers,  
Wire Cables  
& Sand Lines.*

*Long Distance Phone.*

*St. Albans, W. Va. A*

Miss Ida M Tarbell  
New York.

My Dear Miss Tarbell:-

I understand that there are three hundred thousand men engaged in the Oil industry. That is to say in the various branches of the business, in the export, manufacture and production. What percent of these read the "AMERICAN" I would hesitate to say; but I feel that a conservative estimate would be that at least 45% of these men read your Magazine, as in my travels thro the Oil regeon, I find this magazine in 80% of the homes of Oil workers.

Outside of your articles on the Standard Oil Co, there has never been one word of the romances, or the pathos of the Oil Country in the Magazine. True they have their own papers that explicit in a measure some of the "doings" therein.

I believe that these patrons would appreciate something from one of their kind, from some one who has eat from the dinner pail, some one who has enjoyed their successes, sorrowed with them in their grief, and dined in the hemlock "Cafe". To this end I have in poor way tried to show some appreciation to fine manhood that exist in the Oil fields, have written some tales in verse and prose, some have been published, some have not. But to make a long story short, knowing you when you were on the Chautaquan, knowing you to be an Oil regeon product, and I will say to you, that we of the Oil country are proud of ~~it~~ I send you one of the verses that I have selected for publication in your Magazine; Not because it is scholarly product, or that I think it any better than a number that I have, but because it has been up before some fair critics and the have pronounced it to be worthy of publication. I hand it to you because in your hands it will have fairer treatment on account of your early environments. I apologise and thank you in advance for a careful consideration.

Sincerely thine.

*W. G. Long*