

10, PARK PLACE,
ST. JAMES'S,
LONDON, S. W. 1
HYDe Park 2704

28 April, 1971.

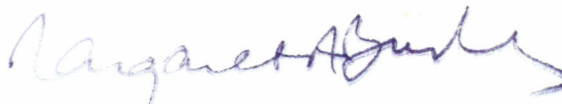
Mrs. Marguerite A. Hart,
Young People's Librarian,
Troy Public Library,
5044 Rochester Road,
Troy, Michigan 4804,
U. S. A.

Dear Mrs. Hart,

Your letter of 26 March addressed to Mr. Fairbanks was unfortunately sent to a house where he has not lived for more than twenty years. Consequently it took some time to arrive in London, which explains the delay in replying. He has just returned to London from the States, but is abroad on business at the moment. However, he has asked me to tell you that he is most grateful for your letter suggesting that he write something appropriate for your students, and will do his best to comply with your request as soon as he returns to London.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Margaret A. Burley (Miss)
Secretary to Mr. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

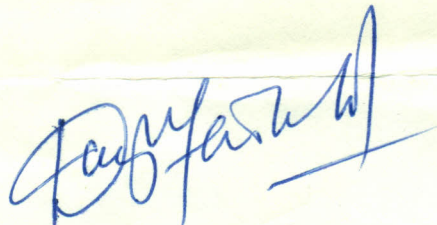
10, PARK PLACE,
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June 10, 1971.

Whatever we do or think has a reason behind it. Why our lives are as they are, what we can do with them, and what others have done before us, have reasons, too. And all of these reasons are recorded in books - some of them musty and old and dull, but many of them lively and exciting and fun. In fact, there is hardly anything that we can hope to do in this world without someone turning to some book in order to learn how to go about it.

We cannot make any sensible progress towards an increasingly better world or a happy life unless we know what has been tried before, what has succeeded, and what has failed - and why. Thus, if we learn best by experience, then the records of the experiences of others must add to our total wealth of knowledge. And practically all of these are to be found in books. To know this, then, is to know history - the story of humanity, of mankind, of us!

History books are the gold bullion of knowledge, and a library is the bank where all the knowledge of the world is stored.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Douglas Fairbanks Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Douglas Fairbanks Jr. KBE, DSC.