

*W. S. Bryan,*

*Room 66 Say Building,  
204 7/8 Third Street.*

*St. Louis, Mo., April 15th, 1901.*

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Madam:-

By request of Major John S. Mellon of this city, who is an old friend of mine, I have put the enclosed communication in typewriter form for him, and send it herewith in reply to your favor of the 1st inst. The Major is now quite aged, and writes with much difficulty. He is also very poor, and I trust you may be able to make such use of his matter as will be of some benefit to him. He has many rare incidents of his army experiences that he could put into very interesting form; so that if you desire anything more from his pen he will cheerfully supply it. He held a prominent position in the Confederate army during the entire struggle, and while he was never an educated man, he possesses a large degree of intelligence and good common sense.

He desires me to express to you his thanks for your courtesy in this matter, and he sincerely trusts that the enclosed communication will be of service to you.

Very truly,

W. S. Bryan.