Cumberland, Belt 3rd

Ida Tarbell

I send you some rough sheets & less time to prepare anything amount of practice too rarely writing more than a letter. I have a grandchild, one of Crimson & little boy perfectly helpless cannot walk talk feed. How you can imagine my time is taken up. Was what you think
is any account
I have a great many
War brainstorms done
laughable others very
pitiful I was also
arrested directly after
my father was cut
did influence was given
official permission from
the war Stanton to remain
in the city of Washington
or go North at my option
I was at old carroll prison
and also old capitol prison on each visiting
day for many days to see
my father and my love
Now my Husband, who was captured while in command of a picket force near the East  
by the War Hawks in the old Capitol when Lincoln was killed a mob threatened  
to break down the prison in their anger at the President's assassination  
feeling they could not protect their arms was provided the prisoners  
they were forced to protect them worse if the prison was attacked The mob was  
led by and they might better be if I had dispossessed
Your is the second offer I've had to give the incidents they told came from a lady who lived in Jersey near Penna.

I was then living in Alba. I refused for the reason I'd been to write so concisely. I feared nothing could be done with my articles. My son prints, I could find no time if I'd try and it burned me to try but my little child cannot be left to servants.
and my health is very poor. I could write you my experience among the Southern Negroes, you could make an excellent article from the rough material. I think there is more real humor about their lives always been about them, I've enjoyed talking to them. Hoping you may be able to do something with some of my yours.

Alice Eve McCardell
Cumberland
It was in May 63 as well as I can remember and after the Battle of Chancellorsville a party of Yankee strikers into Fredericksburg getting alucky they were easily captured by some big green boys and a couple of men and taken into the Southern lines for this sixty citizens were taken sent to Fort Delaware as hostages and held them some months among the sixty had my father G. W. Eve an old man over sixty years always a quiet man & man for peace and bitter opposed to secession I losing many relatives in Maryland.
and Penna had gone up to Washington just before my father was taken prisoner a married sister living in Penna with Judge Hale and myself (The Judge was a member of Congress from Penna) went to see Mr. Lincoln in behalf of my father. Mr. Hale suggested my sister being an old ailed woman talk to the President but she said she did not want Alice (being Alice) I was very young had been many great men they had no terrors in me I had refuge from Fredericksburg and I think had little sensation in any one at that time. And Mr. Lincolns words here put me at my ease at once In a more pleasant
Pray, how have I had no news of you — no news here. I listen to my play and smile. I send you ever read the Parable of the "Wheat and Tares"? So Sir, I answered. Well, he said, from what you say, I think you found it good news. But that is not what you need as hostages, nor anything I do with looking these struggles into the Richmond lines. They are as innocent as my father. More than who look never returned to their embarking. Well, he said, I must inquire a little more in the case. I must try to release you. Father, let Judge Hale come Monday.
I possibly can't ever release him then looking real at
Judge Hole he said. "I never could argue with women and
if she talks to me much longer I'll let him go and there might
be some reason I don't know now that it can't be right
for me to do so." I was so disappointed but I said very good by
I'm sorry you cannot offering him my hand he took my hand
paying I'm sorry too looking down at my hand so very small it
looked in his big one he put his other hand over it and
thus caressing it walked out into the hallway good bye again
he said, and I left him standing
with those tears in the door.
and I never saw him any more until he lie dead in the Capitol. There was some little delay in my father getting home after he was brought to Washington. It was found the prisoners brought to exchange were not the original strugglers and the Southerners were held until they were brought as they were to be treated as deserters as they had no business from their command hunting Willis Key and inviting capture.
When a little child I was caressing my hand & objecting to Smith. He said I should have come your way. Young lady you must object to some one, caress if I was right. I am to say it was walking dr. the best man, the greatest man of all great men of the war.

I remember being held up in the arms of my nurse to see the Prince of Wales when he visited this country, a beardless, bashful looking boy he was.
she said, "See missy, you can tell your children some day you saw a great man, a Prince of England. Nurse and I loved to see a greater man than him and that was Abraham Lincoln. And I told my children I saw and I told my children I saw and I saw the best the North and I saw the South. A man as the greatest of all the great men."