1899-10-03

Letter with attachment: Alice Eve McCardell to Ida M. Tarbell, October 3, 1899
Ida Tarbell

I send you some rough sheets I have written to prepare anything, am out of practice too rarely writing more than a letter. I have a pleasant little boy perfectly helpless. Cannot ask talk of feed. I wonder you can imagine my time is taken up. was what you think.
is any account
I hast a great many
War brochures done
taken after the others very
pityful I was also
arrested directly after
my fortune was and
after much trouble and
big 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 Carbole Prison
and also Old Capitol Prison on each visiting
day in many days to see
my friends and my lover.
Now my Husband, who was captured while in command of a picket from the East by the War Hawks in the Red Capitole when Lincoln was killed a mob threatened to break down the prison in their anger at the President's assassination fearing they could not protect their arms was confined in the prison. They were told to protect them selves if the prison was attacked. The mob was led out and they emptied better if it end dispersed.
yours is the second offer I've had to give
War incidents they first
came from a lady writer
in Jersey Shore Pensac
I was then living in
Ala. I refused for the
reason I'd have to write
so crudely I feared
nothing could be done
with my articles My
Son prints I could find
more time if I'd try and it
trived pay me to try but
my little child cannot
be left to servants
and my health is very poor. I enclose with you my experience among the Southern Negro, you could make an excellent article. The rough material I think I threw in there is none. I have always been about them. I have always enjoyed talking to them. I hope you may be able to do something with some of yours.

Alice Eve McCandell

Cumberland
It was in May 63 as well as I can remember and after the battle of Chancellorsville a
squad of Yankee's struggled into Fredericksburg getting aluskey
they were easily captured by some long 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 there some
months among the sixty was
my father G W Eve an
old man over sixty years
always a quiet man & man
for peace and bitter opposed
to secession & having
many relatives in Maryland
and Penna had gone up to Washington just before the yesteray was taken Prisoner a maried sister living in Penna with Judge Hale and myself (The Judge was a member of Congress from Penna) went to see Mr. Lincoln in bein 9 my yesteray. Mr. Hale suggested my sister being an oldeld woman talk to the President but she said "We got Alice (I being Alice) I was very young had seen many great men they had no terror in me I had refuge from Fredericksburg and I think had little generatin in any one at that time if I had not F. S. had him put me at ease at once In a more pleasant
Bricks my man I had never met
nor never known. He listened
to my story and smiled
and said, "Have you ever read the
Parable of the Good Shepherd?"
Said Sir, I answered. Well he said
from what you say I think your
father is good wheat that got
mixed with tares. You said
but the men with their hands as
hostages had nothing to do with
fighting these struggles as the
Richmond lines. They are as
innocent as my father. More
men who look never returned to land
in England. He'll be done. I must
inquire a little more in the case
if I were to release your father.
Let Judge Hale come Monday.
bring me the papers and if
I possibly can I will release him then looking round at
Judge Hale he said "I never could argue with women and
if she talks to me much longer I see 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 we'll go bye
I'm sorry you cannot offering him my hand he took my hand
saying I'm sorry for 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 Goodbye again
he said and I left him standing
wishing there just with him in the dark
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 Wasing. 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 except with ray corning inviting capture
When a little child I saw Smith "Billy" was caressing my hand I objecting he said. The day will come you are a young lady you won't object to some one caressing it. He was right I am to say. It was Washington 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 misses, you can tell your children some day you saw a great man, a Prince of England. Nurse and I lived to see a greater man than him and that was Abraham Lincoln. And I told my children I saw and I lived. My childrenotten and I a Southern man say the greatest man ever.