

Tarbell - Sept. 29, 1927
to Townsend

Mr. William H. Townsend
605 First National Bank Bldg.
Lexington, Ky.

My dear Mr. Townsend:

I have been away from New York or I should have answered earlier your letter of September 16.

Thank you for your willingness to see me when I come to Lexington. I expect now to leave here next Wednesday, October 5, arriving in Lexington on the 6th. I will get into communication with you as soon as I reach my hotel.

I am interested in what you tell me about the articles to be published about Mary Todd, in which your own material and letters will appear. Evidently they will be out before the articles that I am preparing and long before the little book which I have in mind. In any case I should not be able to use letters very freely in my present undertaking, but what I do want is to get certain information. It may be that you would be willing to let me see your material, not taking anything from it except now and then a sentence which sheds light on points which are now obscure to me.

Of course I would in no case quote anything for which I did not receive your permission, nor would I do anything to impair the value of the work of which you spoke. If the articles in question are already in the publisher's hands, I possibly could make some arrangement with them and with the author to see the material. But of all of that we can talk when I reach Lexington.

Looking forward with pleasure to seeing you next week, believe me, my dear Mr. Townsend,

Very sincerely yours

Digital Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.