[Dec. 13, 1910]

I.

To Miss Ida M. Tarbell
From Prince Albert.

I

Until your wonderful oration
To the entire trading nation
Concerning Senate strength and will
In the historic Tariff Bill

II

Was read and read again by me
I stubbornly refused to see,
In an effective logic light
Why ladies should obtain the right

III

For entrance to politic sphere
For active government career;
Till then I added to the dome
That woman's duty is at home!

IV

I even with much fire said
To suffragettes sequesting aid:
That female-doctor-gospel dress
From me should have but poor caress!

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V

But since, it seemed a justice task –
I mingled, – hint a workman – mask –
With men to whom the world looked on
As factors righteous – pro and con !

VI

To whom finale of politics
Decision on economics,
Every step to welfare life
Was left – to bloom, to blossom rife –

VII

I have had truly serious cause
To reconsider, halt, to pause,
Conclude a learned unselfish maid
Had better stead such men be paid !

VIII

I will not now describe the plight
Through special penetration light
Mine eyes beheld, mine Ears received
Suffice, determination weaved

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IX

Its way along this evil gulf,
Its party spirit to dissolve;
And with it came profound regrets
As to my words to suffragettes! —

X

Now when, emerging from the screen
My information seeking plan,
Miss Ida Tarbell's Magazine
So justly named "American"

XI

Came to my quarters, to my room
And her so clever vivisection
Of harvest from the Cotton loom
Of Battle for its real protection

XII

Was, as I said, perused twice
I did, withal the erstwhile gender
Pronounce you worthy of a price
Nay more — 'twas not through feelings tender —

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XIII

Deemed it proper, righteous-wise
That politics could best be scoured,
Exposed - be subject to surprise,
To have such heart as thine empowered.

XIV

Be honored - rumored is such notion -
With an appointment, with promotion,
To lead the suffragette - arouse
And enter the Great Senate House! —

XV

Since correspondence, mail immense
Containing deeper, sweeter sense,
No doubt than this poor salutation
- An obscure beings' admiration -

XVI

Miss Tarbell has to entertain
I would, should I have given pain
Through darkness upon Etiquette
Have pardon meet, or rather met

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V.

XVII

With this – this I believe is free
This Christmas greeting, wish to thee:
"That the so clever authoress
Live long and strong to further bless

XVIII.

All solid, safe, all weaker Nations
With her so marvellous orations!
I am, I mean I would remain
Since I may never write again.

Very Sincerely

Your hble & obdt. Servant

Prince Albert.

Upton, Pa.
Franklin County
December the 13th, 1910.

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