January 10, 1940

United States War Department
Statistical Section
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Can you give me the average age of the men in the Union Army between '61 to '65? I think I have seen the figure in some of your reports but I cannot lay my hands upon it.

Also, have you in your reports ~~scientific~~ cases of youths under eighteen who enlisted and were accepted, misrepresenting their age of course. I shall be grateful for any information, or direction where to find the information, that you can give me on these points.

Perhaps I should say that I have worked on the life of Lincoln and the Civil War and it is in connection with his interest in the boy soldier that I want this information.

Very truly yours

Ida M. Tarbell

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