Cumberland Md. 3rd [illegible]

Ida Tarbell

Madam

I send you some rough sketches & have no time to prepare anything else but I practice to rarely undertake more than a letter I have a family & children one an invalid & a little boy perfectly helpless cannot walk talk or feed himself you can imagine my time is taken up. use what you think

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is any account
I lose a great many
War anecdotes some
~~laughable~~ laughable others very
pitiful I was also
arrested directly after
my father was and
after much trouble and
big influence was given
official permission from
Sec War Stanton to remain
in the City of Washington
or go North at my option
I was at old Carroll Pris
on and also old Capitol
Prison on each visiting
day for many days to see
my father and my lover

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Now my Husband, who was
captured while in Command
of a picket force the last
by the war, was in the
Red Capitol when Lincoln
was killed a Mob threaten-
ed to break down the
Prison in their anger
at the Presidents assanation
fearing they could not
protect them arms was
provided the Prisoners
they were told to protect
them selves if the Prison
was attacked The Mob was
fired Shot and they thought
better of it and dispersed

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Yours is the second offer I've had to give war incidents they first came from a Lady Writer in Jersey Shore Penna I was then living in Ala. I rejected for the reason I'd have to write so crudely, I feared nothing could be done with my articles My Son Roy thinks I could find more time if I'd try and it would pay me to try but my little child cannot be left to servants

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and my health is very
poor. If I could write
you my experience among
the Southern negro, and
could make an excellent
artcle out the rough material I
think for there is more
real humor about them
I've always been about them
enjoyed talking to
them. Hoping you may
be able to do something
with some I am yours

Alice Eve McCardell
Cumberland
Md

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It was in May 63 as well as I can remember and after the Battle of Chancellorsville a squad of Yankee's straggled into Fredericksburg getting whiskey they were easily captured by some boy grown 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 bitterly opposed to Secession I having many relatives in Maryland

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and Penna had gone up to
Washington just before my
father was taken Prisoner
a married sister living in
Penna with Judge Hale and
my self (the Judge was a membe
of Congress from Penna) went
to see Mr Lincoln in behalf
of my father Mr Hale suggested
my sister being an elderly woman
talk to the President but she said
oh no let Alice (I being Alice)
I was very young had seen
many great men they had no
terrors for me I had refugeed
from Fredericksburg and I think
had little veneration for any one
at that time & I shall not Lin
coln would have put me at my
ease at once for a more pleasant

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Kindly man I had never met
or never since. He listened
to my story then smiling
said "Have you ever read the
Parable of the Tares and Wheat"
Yes Sir I answered. Well he said
from what you say I think your
Father is good wheat that got
mixed with Tares. Yes I said
but the men with him held as
Hostages had nothing to do with
taking those struggles into the
Richmond lines, they are as
innocent as my Father Nurse
who took never returned to Fred
ericksburg Well he said I must
inquire a little more into the case
& will try to release your Father
Let Judge Hale come Monday
bring all the Papers and if

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I possibly can I will release
him then looking up 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 then might
be some reason I dont know
now that it could not be right
for me to do so." I was so disappointed
but I said well good bye
I'm sorry you cannot - offering
him my hand he took my hand
saying 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
then caressing it walked out
into the hallway Good bye again
he said, and I left him standing
there just inside the door

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and I never saw him any
more until he lie dead
in the Capitol There was
some little delay in my
fathers getting home after
he was brought to Washington
It was found the Prisoners
brought to exchange against
the original stragglers 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
White Key and inviting
capture

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When a little child Gov Smith
"Extra Billy" was caressing
my hand & objecting he
said the day will come you
are a young lady you won't
object to ~~him~~ someone, caress-
ing it he was right I am
to say it was not Lincoln
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 coun
try a beardless bashful
looking boy he was to

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She said

See missy you can tell
you children some day
you saw a great man
a Prince of England
nurse and lived to see
a greater man than him
and that was Abraham
Lincoln. and to
tell my children I saw and
talked with the best the
kindest and a Southern
woman day the greatest
of all the great men
I ever
I read

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