

Chicago, Ill, July 5th, 1915.

Dear Leo:-

Your very welcome letter of the 29th only reached me yesterday, due to a short trip away from Chicago. To say that I was delighted to hear from you is not overstatting it. Your question about not having heard from me since your arrival on the farm is a natural one, but I did not know whether you would be allowed to have mail and hence wrote to Miss Lucille, without however having a reply so-far. Now that I know you can receive letters - censored! - I shall not fail to write to you as often as you care to hear from me and keep you advised as to the little irritations that go to make up our life here.

As to A D Lasker I will communicate with him early Tuesday morning, as to-day is a holiday and no one in the city who can get away. I am sure, however, that only lack of material has kept A D from writing to you. Chances are he felt somewhat like I did, too fatigued with the fight and too relieved with the last turn of it and needing a mental respite. I will talk to him tomorrow and see that he satisfies your desire for a letter.

Now, Leo, I certainly agree with you on Slaton and am duly thankful for the nerve and decency he displayed, but if the interview he gave in New York, to the effect that he would have liberated you, had your petitions asked for that, is true, then I can't help but feel sore over the fact that the petition only asked for commutation to life imprisonment. Maybe he is playing to the galleries, realizing that it costs nothing to state what he is said to have stated, but I have contended openly in the Massmeeting and on other occasions that to ask for commutation of the sentence is an acknowledgment of guilt, weak and the idea of those sentimentalists who were present at the meeting, not because they were convinced of your absolute innocence, but because of their sentimental leanings against death-penalty in general. I made myself heard alright and predicted just such a possibility, although the same public sentiment could have been mustered for your complete liberation as was for your commutation.

I am very glad, of-course, that matters did turn out the way they did; I am thankful for small favors where favors are in place, but in your case it was Justice not favor I wanted. You with your wonderful patience will blame me for being a kicker, but I'll keep on kicking, buddy, till you are free - and I imagine that the harder I - and a million others - kick the sooner will you walk among us, a free man.

I have as yet no definite idea what your friends here have in mind as to the next steps to be taken in your case, but you may rely on some efficient course that in due time will end, once for all, the damnable wrong that has been done to you.

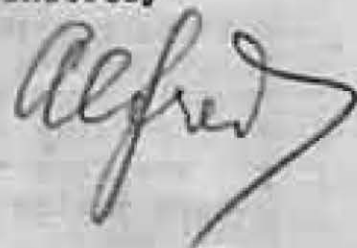
I am very pleased to hear that Warden Smith and his men are considerate to you and that you don't chafe under the discipline at the farm. But all of that can not make amends for the fact that you are taken out of the midst of those who have learned - so easily - to love you and whose life you would help making more worth while. And with that in mind something will have to be done to restore you to us. Do you perhaps know of any definite plan? By the way, a friend of mine, Mr. Regie of Foughkeepsie, N.Y., asserts that, having lived in the South almost thirty years, he would undertake to make Conley tell the truth and so bring about your liberation; I suppose he would use the snake-bag and the dead man's knuckle we have all read about in fiction. I rather think that some of these fine deys one of the "right guys" who helped to frame the story Conley told, will be dying and confess the part he had in the conspiracy. Hallelui - es waere schon eine Stunde darsch!

In your next letter I hope you will tell me what I can contribute to your comfort. Let it be whatever you need and you'll have it. Don't be childish enough to refuse me the pleasure of doing something I would love to do. Don't let false modesty make you say you need nothing. Any brother of mine has a right to ask plainly. Will you?

I did not mention to you that two months ago my good father died in Pilsen; he reached the 83rd year of life and from reports I have had from home was very much interested in your fate; I had written the folks a good deal about you and it was only due to the war, that your case did not get the prominence in Europe that the Dreyfuss case had. They all were very much interested in hearing the final outcome, which by this time might be known to them.

My good wife and baby join in sending you best love and we hope that we shall soon hear from you. Write whenever you have nothing better to do. Your correspondence will not be so heavy now, as it was in the last few months, so you will have a few moments to spare, for

ever yours sincerely





Mr. Leo M. Frank,
Care of Georgia State Prison,

Willedgeville, Ga.