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[redacted] 1875 January-March [redacted]

husband without incurring any personal debt, & paid regularly the taxes, and interest on the other debts, by which the estate is still encumbered — My present difficulty is this. The person who holds a mortgage of $7500 refuses to renew, and I find it is too much for the resources of the farm, and the constant strain on my own mind to continue at the high rate of interest he charges — By applying to loan agents in Balt.re I can raise the money only at the high rate of 10 pr cent interest, and 2 p commission making it 12 p pr cent which is ruinous — My truly kind friend Mr. McCabe, has proposed a plan which he hopes may be carried out: He has most generously offered to be one of seven friends, to loan me a thousand dollars each, at 6 pr cent interest, and have the mortgage assigned to them. It will be a perfectly safe investment as from my past experience I know I can pay the interest regularly, and the mortgage is upon the whole of Tulip Hill estate which contains 448 acres, and at the lowest estimate is worth more than double, I may say three times, the value of the mortgage — I at first shrunk from a feeling of delicacy in asking this favor, but as I fear if this arrangement fails I will be forced to sell Tulip Hill in the spring. I feel nervous to make another effort & put aside my own feelings. I feel encouraged too, as the only friend to whom I have spoken on the subject promptly replied, he would board me free of company — There are three or four kind friends in Maryland, who would at once assist me if in their power, but the agricultural interests is so depressed, that none of them have the means to aid me — Dear Mr. McCabe says in his letter "you ought to have some male friend to take this labor off your hands" — but where Oh Where are I, or whom I have a right to call on? My position is peculiarly desolate, and as my dear husband often said he looked around in vain for any one to help me should he be taken away — I can therefore turn only to my personal friends. But I can testify to the faith fulness of our covenant God who says "Let the Widow who is desolate trust in me" — and truly I am that Widow left desolate! He has raised up kind friends to assist and counsel me at every turn in my sad life, and tho' often cast down I have never been confounded.