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THE WESTMINSTER PARSONAGE,
JACKSONVILLE, ILL. Jan 1 - 1896

Edella?

Mr. Abner.

Among other characteristic anecdotes of Lincoln, of which one can lay hands on, I feel like sending you 3 which may be of use.

1. In early days when Lincoln was a lawyer & came here on circuit business he was at a social entertainment with Dr. Henry Jones. who was a 6 feet- tall & a very dignified physician. Discussion arose about the height of the two men. "Let us see stand back to back, Dr." said Lincoln. Dr. Jones stood up his full height - at the last, Lincoln doubled himself up - then elongating himself to the full height of his stature said "Yes we three is more antocrat

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home [illegible] is [illegible] Dr." —

2. Mr. R. W. Miller of Springfield who lived [illegible] from Lincoln lived me. "One day [illegible] as I was coming home from dinner (noon) Abe came along from the P.O. to direction on his way to his own dinner. Two of his little boys had run out to meet him. He held one of them in his arm, while the other tugged away at his coat tail. They were both talking — "What is the matter Mr. Lincoln" I'd Mr. Miller. "The same thing that is the matter with all the world. I have 3 walnuts and each of the boys wants two." replied Lincoln." —

3. The third was told me by Mr.

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[redacted]. Mr. Mr. Lincoln had just been elected Pres[t]. There were two brothers Vaughn — one very good merchant in Mexico [illegible] the other in N. York. York had been Whigs + one had voted for Lincoln. Joe was very proud of her & helped elect Lincoln. Meeting in Springfield they went out for a walk + Joe was enthusiastic about the new Pres[t] walking in the direction of Lincoln's home and meeting him on the street. They Joe asked 'where does Mr Lincoln live' — "Over there" was the reply — It was a block away. They walked up to the house — "Let's go [illegible]" said Joe — "What's the use" replied the brother. They went on. Then was the house and lot.

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2 story frame house, two windows on each side of the front door. The lot was not fenced in the sidewalk and the walk up to the door was surrounded by a paling fence.

"Let us go in" said Joe beginning to ascend the steps. "Go in, why what do you mean? We don't know Mr. Lincoln & what he would say if we came for us. It is foolish". But Joe prevailed & up they went. There was the iron clapper on the door & Joe knocked.

A colored girl came to the door "Is Mr. Lincoln in?" said Joe. "Yes, but Mrs. Lincoln is." "Will Mrs. Lincoln see us?" queried the irrepressible Joe. "Yes, Gentlemen

walk in" So they were ushered in to the bleak hall of the parlor. dark & chill. There was a chart over the familiar woolen picture of a grave. a weeping willow & a woman mourning, and also a picture of Henry Clay (?).

They sat down. The girl disappeared, brought in some shavings & sticks of wood & started a fire. After waiting for some what half an hour down came Mrs. Lincoln dressed in her very best. She was in her kindest & most communicative mood. She told them all about Douglas'

proposal & then she had forseen Lincoln's future at-

tainments. Joe was a dear friend man from the East, she felt special attention, invited them to wait for tea & see Mr. Lincoln. etc.' Evening shadows after an hours sitting, they started up for the Court House, led by the inseparable Joe. His stock, however, in the Lincoln family had gone down a little

At the Court house, they found Mr. Lincoln - "tall gaunt, long black coat & no shawl". "I am glad to see you gentlemen," & "take seats" said Lincoln. — which they did — they talked on the

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campaign - then a tall man, - Judge Logan - came across the room & said "Abe I can't find those papers anywhere, I am ~~sure~~ sure must have them" "Well" replied Lincoln "I suppose I must, & I think I can put my hand right on them. I will see on my way to supper."

Then "Here is a picture of your picture", Mr. Lincoln", said Joe resuming - his visit & Lincoln having gone way down - Was this the treatment for which he had voted? - it brought Joe had thought the

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photo- on his way to Springfield on his enthusiasm. —

"they say it is a very good one of me". replied Lincoln as he took it, ~~it~~ "and I guess they're right — I guess you would like to have my writing on it, wouldn't you?" That was just what Joe did want and he assented. Rising from his seat Lincoln stalked across the room, ~~like a~~ as you might suppose a hero would. sat down & wrote his name & gave the photo back to Joe. —

Then was the world light-

The Westminster Parsonage,
Jacksonville, Ill.

procession in his whole home that night. — and Lincoln asked his visitors to stop & see it. By this time Joe was completely disenchanted by the falseness of his delusion about Lincoln. The interview ~~started~~ closed & Joe went out completely crestfallen —, * kind the photograph. & had no more to say about the great western Man for whom he had voted. —

— This incident "Joe" owen knew — a most reputable

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and active gentleman, then at Orange New Jersey told me. — His description of Seward he put on paper as he gave it — I should wish my Son be more vivacious, readable as well as singularly characteristic.

— I think none of them 3 incidents have been told.

Rev. Dr. D. J. McMillan now of Princeton. Minnie Mc Broadway 20 Ch. U. York, formerly of this region, has some stories of Lincoln, which if true, are very good.

Yours truly

David D. Thaff.

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