The writer during the late unpleasantness was attached to Lieut Genl Longstreets Corps Army Northern Virginia as Asst Ordnance Officer of the Corps. Among his friends was Lieut Robt Todd of Kentucky a nephew of Mrs Abraham Lincoln. During the Advance of Genl R.E. Lee's Army into Maryland after the defeat of the forces of Genl John Pope at Manassas Va - "Second Bull Run". Lieut Todd who was attached to Mosbys Command & Cavalry, was in advance, and in company with several other young gentlemen of his age, made an outside visit or scout in and about Martinsburg Va, and while there ascertained that his Uncle President Abraham Lincoln had passed up that morning over the B & O Ry to the Hd Qrs of Maj Genl McClellan. He with the assistance of his friends burnt one of the Railway Bridges, which he even aimed to detain the train upon its return to Washington, which was all that he could do, as the force on the train was too strong for him to capture the President. After doing the mischief, he tore out a leaf from his Memorandum book, and wrote a note to his Aunt Mrs Lincoln, telling what he had done, and among other things expressed a regret that he could not have been at Manassas, and to have obtained an Army Overcoat from the many that had been burnt by order of Genl Pope, when he reluctantly before Genl Lee. After writing the note, he addressed the same to Mrs Abraham Lincoln White House Washington D.C. and placed the same to a telegraph pole on

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the side of the Railway, well knowing that it would reach its destination. Within a short time after our return South of the Potomac after the Battle of ~~Antetitum~~ Antetum or Sharpsburg. Lieut Todd laughly handed me a note to read which he had received by Flag of Truce. It was a letter from his Aunt Mrs Lincoln expressing great pleasure of hearing from him, giving news of the family in Kentucky that all were well, and all were also well in Washington and praying that he would not get killed himself. On the other side of the note sheet was a note from Mr Lincoln himself, in which he said that he had seen his note to his Aunt. Mr Lincoln addressed him as "Dear Robbie," in a humorous way he said that he truly regretted that he was so sadly in need of an Overcoat, and had he know of it, he would have endeavored to see that he would have one of the many overcoats which had been burnt up at Manassas. Mr Lincoln also sent his love to him, and told him not to burn any more bridges, as it was detrimental to the good of the service, and it had also prevented him from reaching Washington in time for his usual dinner and signed himself. Your Affectionate Uncle A Lincoln Lieut Todd is now dead I last saw him at the inauguration of President Harrison, and while talking of old times asked him what he had done with the above mentioned note, he said that after the war that had destroyed them all. It is to be regretted that they could not have been saved for some Historical Society

Wm Crocker Duxbury

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