He Knew Lincoln

"Did I know Lincoln?" ~~There was a note of disdain in the tone, as if~~ The ignorance of the person who ~~asked~~ could ask such a question was plainly attempted. It seemed to say The black gray eyes which for 75 years & more had looked their fill in the face of life simply found out one thing only were they honest? did they say what they meant and do what they promised? looked steadily into mine. The ~~stony gaze~~ cynicism seemed satisfied. Evidently ~~he~~ he thought me harmless if ignorant & the gaze softened, the lips ~~were~~ turned up just visibly & the wrinkles which crossed me forehead & cheeks like the pillars of a rain-washed hillside, smoothed out.

"Knew Abe Lincoln? Well I should say. See that chair there? Take it: sit down in it: Does it feel comfortable until it? Well sir, Abe Lincoln has sat in that chair time, time, and little by. I beg an I say I do declare an Judge Davis all of 'em all the big men in this town sat in that chair. See them marks? Well sir- Judge Logan did it. allfooled man to whittle always cuttin' away at something. I just got that chair new when he cut that- paid $2.00 for it. & I be blamed if I didn't. come in this & find him ~~to~~ slashin' right into that arm. I just pulled up a little & said "Here Judge stop it' you cut that" & He just looked at me

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and then flounced out. Mr Lincoln was sure a
you ought to heard him to-day. He was allways
sure. sarna I set by the stove by the sure & left
stories & talk. & argue. I'd rather heard
the debates there was had around this old store
than heard Webster & Clay & Calhoun & the
whole U.S. Senate. Then I said. sure no U.S. Senate
kid could beat it. just what I've heard right
here in this room with Lincoln sittin' in
that very chair now you are this minute.
He nodded sure. & he got his account now. See
here. Minnie. genuine. genuine. genteel hand
to buy genuine you can see. you'll find it in
constitutional. He be known here to be popular
Mr Lincoln did. Cutest man in politics. & smart a
as a whip. & run them down a dummat a
real old fashioned Jackson Democrat &
my word just and up sometimes hem his
drinks. he my a dangerous man. a damned
man to have agin you. He'd make you smile
when you know it. said so. & cute!
why he'd just slide in when you want expectin' it.
& do some unexpected thing that just tickle you
laugh & then he'd get you. I said would you
like because you liked him - just - because you liked
him & do what you would be my way &
I my agin the nicest - I do mean

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& We knew nobody ever scalped but Injuns & that's how he'd signy Mary, just slap his mouth in his hands & jump up & run around & act dum, tanglin' it kill. Indeed- man it yit new y ann glad- ere kind ~~of~~ ab- ~~stop~~ ~~stabuya~~ ome ya asabin "Dang me Billy ~~Billy~~ ~~Billy~~" & if I had I'd hit him out & ~~stop~~ how ~~bump~~ he'd bump. Open & open mum din told him something new & he'd kin a ~~pup~~ pupil how it went, he'd come in & say. "~~Bobbie~~ Billie how many times shiny you've telled me" & then I'd tell it all ovr. & He my away a lot- you know ridin the Circuit Shiny ~~Billy~~ ~~Bobbie~~ lot- y night ~~must~~ lamyar. They had great ~~doings~~ ~~times~~ up ~~wakes~~ but y'd a-ginst it for then you know ~~Pa~~ ~~Pa~~ ~~Pa~~

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quick. Ever hear Judge Welden tell that story about what Lincoln said one day up to Bloomington - when they were talkin' up a subscription to buy ~~him~~ a new pair of pants? Well - perhaps I mustn't tell it - to you, may be it aint nice. It makes me think to hear people objectin' to Mr Lincoln's stories. Maybe he did say more you needed expect to hear at a church supper but he never put no meanin' into 'em. He al-most'd a-vin fit ~~to~~ for a minister to put into a sermon.

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evenings
Nuthin to do but sit to sit around the tavern stove
tellin' stories. That

~~in the evening. That~~ was unique when I was there,
~~There were~~ a Judge was all but brilliant him old Judge
Davis ~~Lincoln Lead & reader~~ was a friend of Abe
Col - & he was ~~would~~ settle down the ~~Old~~ pot-
ound. He heard an awful lot of times how
I ~~would~~ would ~~pour~~ command & keep order
~~In Emaline~~ Why did Lannie ~~& Lemley~~ Emaline Lemley ~~go and find~~
~~Emaline~~ & When I came Judge would just settle
back ~~and~~ ~~got~~ him started to yarning & there
they'd sit half the night.
When he got home he'd

and studi a learned sizzel- Mirin you kin say of a cuss if sinner ever heard ~~the same~~ pepper like wud still up their ~~mus~~ mouse al- in Lincoln's yarn. ~~Hit's like a bad story~~.

He tried ti keep stumps purly well skined up in the circuit: That time I was a speakin' of. he made Judge Davis read mudd fur ~~all~~ ~~better~~ the it happened right- in Court and everybody pit ti pizzin' fit- ti kill. The Judge. Lincoln was something Lincoln had said and he

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Spatter
began to barrel.

"Come wot pinny to stand this
any longer. Mr Lintoven spare always
disturbin unsettlin this court with your tomfoolery.
Ain pen to fine you. The clerk
will fine Mr L. 5/ & the defendant
costed" The boys said (L) nem could
a mad to pass sat- [illegible]
Lookin' down nille Mr Bland mr his mouth
tying wot to temper. About a minute
pins Later the judge blew his nose in
and & shoulder till he [illegible]
trial- tony spirit on called up
the Clerk & whispered to him
Mutt my trial (L) said I. Mr Bland told
him I'll be blamed if the
judge didn't jiggle right out-
side in court & tell me my
on him team & he knew it. I sat as
he jist- his face changed he said
dumpfer like- "The clerk may remit
Mr (L's) fine."

Ja be in a mighty quick long letter
out the house Mr Bland let my about fifteen
min. I'll tell you he put mine
opponents out of his misery that he did
not- if I can write. and the yarn
had run you couldn't endure

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em ~~to~~ jist - settled it - they just made you do it & you couldn't get around it & be damned if I didn't low it to ~~him~~ for I. as Provident counsel - let it. & it my all ~~a~~ document dated ~~in~~ the story of his illness ~~the~~ ~~sickness~~ of Isabelle - Remember it - ~~& told it off to~~ & kept him till it in a speech and ~~of~~ - "if I saw him in the country in the yard he say - I'd kill it but if I found it in bed with my children I'd be mighty hopeful how I knocked it - for I'd make it bite the children if I found it in bed with somebody else children I'd let them take her of it ~~but~~ if I found somebody pulling a whore [illegible] of yours under with ~~a~~ bed ~~with~~ anybody's children I'd stop him from doin it if I had a fight him Perhaps he didn't say just him ~~in~~ & when ~~in~~ ~~public~~ ~~language~~ real - may because I know I would & I'm mighty glad he ~~is~~ anybody & I'll was glad it - my all to God - when you come down to it - they my hoping to put a [illegible] and caught ~~him~~ that - father my grave

Catherine just

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Before I heard trial - story
to sleep in - I'd heard Lincoln say a hundred
times killin right - time in Ill - that's
where you are. Boys must get to sleep
early & it is grit to spend all my
time scrubbing bed - somehow I didn't
see [illegible] before. Then I knew had got it
right - I'd get to vote for Lincoln pretty large
things for me to get back in Little Boy.
[illegible] my grandpa
be my one great man so we thought
him in the U.S. Senate - I knew all
the big boys all were for Lincoln
[illegible] Then I sent [illegible] a
present - Wait no comparison between
him & Lincoln in looks & talk
anything. Of course we all knew Douglas
had much honest like Lincoln but blamed
if I didn't think in those days
men to [illegible] - all - tied honest -
kind of sinners [illegible] He sounded small
it - no such [illegible] when Lincoln said that -
small 20. He first felt plumb bad about
him. I remember once him in Lincoln
to Decatur — then I & M I was
hiring a case [illegible] — against
him & I had - didn't like to
appear against him in a case
but I & Mr Herndon Law I had

said this an' that - tryin' to mix up the jury. It was sorrowin' bad outside and Mr Lincoln had wet his feet and he was tryin' to dry at the stove. He had pulled off one shoe and was sittin' there lookin' up his great big pedal - his forehead all puckered up listenin' to that - ornery lawyer's lies. All at once - he jumped up and stopped right out with the middle of that worst woon

"If I may say" he says "that ain't fair. I didn't say no such thing I believe I didn't I - I will appeal to leave the jury all pardoned up" and then he went on & told what he did say & just - shoved up the yellow copy of his

I am sure

Lincoln there ^ never

I never saw anything so tremendous as the effect on his fellow jurymen. Financially from the start they were with him - in fact they were with him right from the start & every word Lincoln said they believed him with their whole souls. He never said a lie.

"Mr Smith" he says to big man "Mr Thompson - never did. Just as I said 'In all things Lincoln was one big man. You must

regular

I felt kind of sorry for L when they began to talk about him for President. It didn't seem it seemed almost as if somebody was making fun of him He was so just homely & good He didn't look like a President. I never had seen one but my had seen all of them from George Washington down and they looked ridiculous as if they were different kind of timber from us. Lincoln was all alone they thought. Now he L. he was one of us. He knew he was needed & loved & all that but he wasn't handsome & wasn't graceful. He was a out of everyday man - you wasn't afraid of him - he was comfortable like & made you feel at ease. He just

like you can tell - no trouble to talk to him. He was. Someone you just settled down comfortable like & visiting the minute he came in. We I remember Imagine G. W. a Prince appearing at his door in his chariot with outriders - he - he or some learned man of mine. It seems all right somehow

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I should see no degree in that
Gun but I dunno but Mrs
Guy deems ~~neglect~~ respect ad

home of us armed him with muskets in
his own clothes at first. That is none of
our men, the marks are different. They
allow believed in Gun ~~[illegible]~~ have
used to say "you must my word & we will
be measured by the rule we use" to be measured
[illegible]

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I remember I learned something Valentine
Lincoln yet elected to President - learned
a lot - not that it made any difference
in him - Dunmeet Thing I used to
spin around in this room - not a wide-
domed affair and the true U.S.
a multitude him and big-eyed men in
the country coming to talk to
him & Captain Dempsey around
to talk to him & tell him what
pictures in de & they were
Not did did make any impression
him - only he did not like being bothered
would - He was very He had a
room in the White House -
that room in that corner time & remember
up that - I did seem to be full of
people wanting him. He was a sort of
I think him was
full of people all the time - delegations
& committees & politicians & newspaper
men - I he saw them all & listened
somehow only time & once I saw Horace
Greeley he came in here to buy grapes
Mrs. sent him Bunch of Red - H. G.
says grapes of me. Rest of the
Red men around. He saw us
all and somehow they used & sometimes

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I used to skip me and mulch him ~~Tony if anne all swelled up some of em~~ skipid. often ever a mile - to see a boy man - not a mile - Ned feal Thacke Lemuel & Tabb an Kay & natural as if ever me - & he didnt do not struttin' fellers. some of the ~~them~~ fellers who came to see Lidia looked as if they were pizen to be friendly but Mr L. didnt put on any airs & he he sir & he didnt ~~feel~~ any of his old pranken ~~fellers~~ ~~wicked~~ to- death to see 'em. every time & they all came - ~~every~~ Ramed of every old man & woman in Langanore county didnt turn up here to see Lidia. they'd all known Lidia when he was keepin' store down to New Salem & sompin a chain - surveyed lots of their land for 'em. he read & them lied determined all on deal county biz. so many feal came in droves to bid Lidia feal age. I was over there one day when fed aunt Sally Lowdy came in the door. aunt Sally lived down near New Salem and I expect- shed mended he Lemuels pants- many a time & more than I'd

women down there just looked on
envy and wish her luck as if
he was their own boy. Well aunt
Sally stood looking him a scared
sheepish way as many strangers & not
known precisely what to do
when the Lawyer spied her. He went
up as a mile he said "excuse
me gentlemen." & he just brushed
over the old woman & threw
hands with both of them & say
"Why aunt Sally, this is really
kind of you to come & see me
how are Jake & Jackie my
two boys." I came right from here &
he kept her over as if she was
the highest lady in Alabama & say
"Gentlemen this is a good old
friend of mine. She has made the
best sweet potato pies you ever tasted &
she looked after me many a time
aunt Sally was just as pleased as
a boy. She was so tickled. and but
and she say "Abe I had to come up
& say good bye. They say down on
my place this is / hell you
if you [illegible] nothing but I don't
believe it. & just like one your

they'd known him as a boy

all these old folks in Lancaster called him Abe - but don't you believe anybody ever did up here. no sir. he said Mr Lincoln he never [illegible] my like me & we'll be mad no matter to be dear friends with. "Abe" say Aunt Lady

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his aunt to let 'em git ahead of you that way I thought I'd come & buy you a present and see be pleased if that. "I knit 'em myself" old lady didn't pull out a great big pair of yarn socks & hand 'em to the Linnen Well

Well sir it was the funniest thing to see the Lincoln pucker up & lick over ~~just a little~~ twinkle and twinkle the both them socks & hold 'em up by the toes one in each hand & they were. The lady got my latitude & longitude right off didn't she gentlemen he say & then he said 'em dum & let both Aunt Sally's hand and he say Ender like ~~Frank you~~ "Aunt Sally I'll take 'em to Washington & wear them & think of you when I do it." & declare he said it so just trying & keep from almost blubberin' and swear they didn't ~~cost a dollar~~ and the other hand ~~of the other~~ one mother's & I bet he did wear 'em in Washington. I bet just see him pullin' off his shoes & shove them socks

slit

on another subject

When ~~I~~ she wanted to write a letter about Sally & her flapjacks.

"My stars much ado about nothing! He'll have an awful lot of pork in the mud and then they don't get what they want - they're after your relicks" somebody in Lincoln were at work - I often use mail was pretty lively reading sometimes he got pictures of palms and ~~pictures~~ and other things in & lots of steam-ships & trains & dust. Uncle Ned-owned him much being mine without seeing old Buckskin grin. He came any "& ~~only~~ will & carried letters get-ting down stairs to look the door before the horse was stole". & heard him say not in there talking to some more. "but - & reckon & kin find the tracks when & do get there." At my kin cabinet-without him must & allus empty. He didn't know the men he'd get it later

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Judge

well enuff. Didn't know enough
he could count in em. He &
Gillespie & one of them there jury
in here one day Mathew & he
say "Judge & failed - & could
take all you boys down to Washing-
ton with me. Democrats & all, &
make a cabinet - out of you, & I'd
know where every man stood fit - &
we could fit right down to work.
now sir put it to learn my men hope
& him too much". Do you mean
Mr Lincoln you'd take a Democrat
like Logan? say the judge sort of
shocked. "Yes sir & mind, & I
know Logan. He's a good - me now
& that all - all right: but if in case
trouble you don't count on Logan
to do the right - thing by the Country
& take the kind of men & must I
them as will do the right - thing
by the country. Paint a picture
of Lincoln & Judge. He's a guardian
of the country.

Was the Court that he seemed on
pretty cheerful. Color of them
fellows sucked up sleeps that - came
out here to talk to him said

He would do more to show out all he felt

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said woman as over "he dont realize the gravity of the situation - that's what's the matter with him. he don't realize the gravity of the situation." I think I told the L. not realizing. They might have heard him talk & not the night he went away. He'll remember what he said - no one may ever have heard it - & his face may just have looked standing there on the end of his car & no one have heard but I seemed to [illegible] & I'll tell you see any man & his wife & children that - night as I be in church. I'd believed (a.g.) all day life but I never understood him & all things till that night. I knew they & they might say he was [illegible] & an [illegible]

[illegible] in the depot - [illegible] but suddenly he seemed to be all changed. You never seen a man so in all the world & I tell you he had one in his heart - that minute. Now, he knew he was leavin

[illegible] left that car

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me for good. Nuthin' else could explain the way he looked & what he said. He knew he never was comin back alive. It was raisin hard feet when he came limpin slowly in here head. His great big eyes lookin at us so lovin & sad mournful every man of us took off his hat just as if he'd been in church. ~~And when he began to talk you could hear the women sobbin & me & pint got- ~~ and all over~~. You never heard him make a speech of course? ~~He~~ You missed a col- curious voice you called hearin. Kind of shrill & but sweet ring. Why his head - & head - & head - it sounded ladder stairs thing & you heard - you know & called ~~to~~ hear it. It was this very night - when the wind howls around the house. Makes it makes the nerves to hear me talk about him sittin night - & can't keep it dear - have to let out

He stood there a minute - lookin at us & then he began to talk. Just like ain't a man in this town tied head him tied over paper & ~~tied~~ talked out loud or read & spoke out - & don't believe there's ~~one~~ any that-

ever ~~it~~ said it- we can't loud
be ~~and~~ answered'- ~~for~~ it ~~seemed~~ break
~~from~~ heart. I answered again. ~~It~~ We
just bathed it in the deepest time out of
his heart - ~~he knew he~~ Sometimes we felt-
all of a sudden like we end him a
kinder send us - ~~he~~ had not taken any
death in all that- talk about him
dying' killed out when he said ~~to~~
~~puttie~~ the. he was going away not knowing
when a whether ever he would return
just- pd- cried all over & began to
see that- minute- ~~&~~ & everybody
did. The women all fell to sobbing
& a kind of pain went up & when
he asked us to pray for him
dont believe that- ~~he answered~~ time
my a man in that- cried whether
he ever went to church in his life
that- dont want to drop right down
on his knees over & ask the Lord
to take her of (A. L) & bring him back
to us would be delayed

"Ever see him again" ~~as~~ answered
him in Washington ~~last~~ ~~Summer~~
of '64. Things in shape pretty dear
that- ~~when~~ when. Didn't expect to be
murdered when thought. Said it would

Greeley was abusin' him in the Tribune
for wot-makin' peace & you know
there is my advice to the Northern Mad-
allen believed must Lincoln sich but Greeley
& their Coalition" for em. The rest of
mankind comin' on at all. seemed
as if they were united do anything
~~but why~~ Grant Sherman & the Potter-
my like a dog to a rabbit but I did
them a deffany good Service when
Sherman when my tryin' to take at-
lanta { Rosin was pitchin' them thro my
Right on top of all the
the country my pint-pelted
out-will the evolution of politics &
will (axes) dyin' it shuld human
nature to be patient my eyes and
they pit-spit-d. on Lincoln
& knew he my dear Uncle must be saved
& if they & Del-Cuss alone had come
out all right (& then right on top of
all the problem' and doubtin' but if
I made another draft course he
was right-but I tell you nobody
but a brave man proved it
done such a thing. at mal-
murder but he did & it came
And me in not here. Here you

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time went · many curses in their cavalry where there rail · mourning for. it didn't seem as if he cared stand much any more blood cettin'. Some of the boys round the state went down to see him about it to probet · And they came back lookin' pretty sheepish like whipped as if they'd got licked He medill up to Clickey told me about it · that · He said "He just · wed me Lincoln he coredent · stand another draft. He my stumps sendin men down to Pettysburg I'd be killed in hendred, He cislenk all he'd all lathed myselm out & fix out 2 stew & after while he come back and stood looked at me & sez yer Billie 2 never knew 'il stew-like

He didn't say nuthin just stood there

that · minute · that · A. L. cored got · mad clean stumps, & was actually while Lincoln in the face he was so mad, & he sez "Boys" "you ought to be ashamed of yourselves for acting like a lot of

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him helpful like this was a year
or so ~~later~~ ago. they come
a raise time & next, you
dare come down to a pair
blubberin' about what's necessary
do. & won't clean it" and he was so
scared he never said a word. he
just took on like ~~a~~ mad. well
ain't like a lot of selfish boys
talk about (a. L.) their ~~duties~~ easy!
when it don't matter maybe he is
easy but when it does you can't
skin him any more "you can
a mountain".

"Well & kept hearin' about the
trouble in my barn with everybody
and & just made up my mind
I'd go down & see Lige and mark
yanks and tell him how we was
all countin' on him gettin' home.
Thought maybe it would cheer him
up & know we all understood
why he didn't want him for president.
Anyway so & just picked up & went
right ~~to~~ in. he was real good about
why then. she said "& should
appreciate if you would do him good &
when you don't you ask him to

questions about the war ~~and~~ or about politics you pol- talk come to call a little while some of these foreign stories of yours."

Well I had a brother in Washington clerk in a department - awful sel- up cause he had an office & when I go- down there I'd call him I'd come to visit. Mr Lincoln he'd say "Williams ~~Brown~~ be you a pol? folks don't visit the President - if the United States interest an invitation and he's busy to see anybody ~~that~~ - and but the very biggest - people in the administration. Why he don't even see me: he say Well it - made me happy to hear him talk. "Isaac" I say I don't wonder Mr Lincoln don't see you. But it's different with me. Him and me is friends."

"I tell" he says. "you pol- to have candy any time." Candy I say - What for? What kind?! "Why he say Brittle candy - like you make or. 'Mel' ~~that did make me mad.~~ I say if you get to this come to a pretty pass when an old friend like me can't see Mr Lincoln

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without- standin' here
without a piece of pasteboard. I'd
be ashamed to do such a thing
Isaac Burns. Do you suppose
he's forgettin' me. Needn't to see
my name printed out to know
how I am. You can't make me
believe any such thing." and I walked
right out of the room and shut right
I looked it up to the Soldiers' Home
where Mr Lincoln, my sister's then
right among the soldiers in their
tents.

There was lots of people setting
around in the little room waiting
for him

But there until supply time
I learned a lot in my feelin's is effect
funny when the door opened &
out came little Nicolay
He came from down this way you
know and went up and set
How'd you do John, where's Mr L.'
Well pshaw didn't seem over glad to
see me.

"Have you an appointment with
Lincoln" he says

"No sir" I says I said and it wasn't
necessary maybe it was all right and
fillin' for them as wants post office
or such appointments but I reckon
Mr L's old friends don't need em
to get in daily and with
Lincoln.

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Billy Brown's here and see what he say's
Well. he kind'a of flunked up
2 set-like'ya wanted but he
knowed me 2 so he went of
~~rapid dubrow like. In 2. a day~~
~~by this afternoon" and left~~
~~but~~ 2n about two minutes the
door popped open 2 out came Mr
Lincoln. His face all lit up and he came right to me
He saw me first - Runy Buckeye
and put his hand out to me
Billy' - he says - I now I'm glad to see
you & came right in I sure pin'
it day 2 supper with Mary 2
me." I & I did. I knew it -
Mr Lincoln being president-elect
change cars - I rod a mile - well
he had a right smart col - y
popes a see but seem as he was
strange ~~in the co m pist - called~~
down by the Mr Lincoln sit in the back
door 2 set down and talked 2
talked. He asked me about
pretty nigh ever body in Springfield.
2 pit-tet twice 2 he'd then
about the babies 2 the weddins
2 the funerals and ~~pol~~ the
brudish 2 2 guess there wasn't a
par 2 heard in the 3 years 2

half he'd been away that 2 did not
speak for him. Later on you will
2 behind him again. I had did
my heart good for 2 ended see
what they'd been done to him.
Always my a thin man but Lady
he my children ever were 2 hands
drawn & gray. enough it made you
cry. After we had supper and Mrs
bathed some more 2 about 10 o'clock
2 started down town. wanted me a-
long we went out 2 see if myself
Billy that you would. 2 then
wanted him set up 2 you called
girl out 2 ask him remember
if Mrs her tired. so 2 said.
"Run in L. said; pin back a-
principal b- mother. ma did'
like to her me away 2 my boy
aint no great shakes keeps store
Billy" Hiram he say "what did you
come down here for"? so 2 come a-
see you in L." said that. enough
I to see me for Bill you
asked me for away they Billy-What
is it? out girl I want
he said sighing for to be known
2 did it. "Do you remember

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just wanted to see you - feel kind a if sometime been so long since I'd seen you I'd my appetite just sense of shame I guess I decided subroad some. I'll tell you you ought to seen his face as he looked at me. Billy he says, you're the most unusual man I've seen in 3 years and half studied. Want to an office or slow-like Billy Bruin" then? So you mean to tell me you came all the way from Springfield Illinois just to upon a mail tell me. that you don't want an office or anything, not a pardon or anybody that - you ain't got no complaint in your pocket or any advice of any kind you desire."

"Yes sir" I says that about it. and I'll be returned if I wouldn't go to see you the Governor, if I needed the Chief way.

Billy he says, I see if you don't the well sir. that fellow I run you so acquainted in my life. He just nabbed my hand I studied nearly off I then began just pumped arm to face I to say

"Billy, you never know what I would do for you ~~for me~~. You know sich Billy just-please come visit I it seems as if there was nem would be on a ~~for~~ many a night Sunday just see the sya a dying in the fields at night & ~~sometimes~~ & hire them mothers cryin for em at-home. and I can't help ~~it~~ Billy. I can't send them over Sir jest-to save the ruin Billy Sir jest-to."

"course m can" I Lincoln "I en cheerful da I cried - "course m can Don't you cry. It's most over. Grace pray & be reflected & you & old Grant's pray & private Lee may signify quick now! ~~and then~~ just keep a stiff upper lip, m Lincoln & don't forget-them yanks & God bless you."

Then m reach hands again & I walked down town & next day I came home.

"Yes that's the last time I seen him-Last time alive"

"Well my after Reed-Stones began to work better. Work began to move right-smart and seem as if did ~~people began to talk about him again for President~~. there warn't no use talkin about

anybody else for President. I see Neal-
plaine empty and pick-ax I would
him be dog rebelled a him Grant
finished up the war in a hurry
I like you it was a great day sid-
here when we found Lee had
surrended. My girl-like feeling
corrected it before the war over.
Sometimes the way things I could
think of my own people in Lincoln
would be. I me and ma reckoned
he cum right-out and make us
a visit-and pt-visited and we
began right-off to make plans
about the reception Mid pix Lin-
hars band-parade-speeches
fire-works-everything Seemed to coincide with a celebration in my mind.
comin down to spend the
time one morning and all the way
down I my playmis' how I did
dread the winders and cuss
I be a play in Neal-old chair, when
I saw Hiram Jones comin' towards
me. He looked so old I all bent-over
I didn't know what had happened
"Hiram" I say "be you sick, what's
the matter"

Billy. he says, I he couldn't hardly.

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say U: "Billy they've killed McLinden"
I'll. ~~cried~~ I just turned cold all over & there I stared up "Miriam Jones". I say "Jane Lynn Jane days. How dare you tell me that. It ain't so."
"Don't Billy" he says "don't go on so, it's ~~all~~ so. Hell's been there Rich Billy. Her dead I'm saying I' I ~~hafta~~ I said "crazy ~~Miss~~" and Miriam just I he fell to sobbin' out loud right there in the street and I knew it was true.
I came on down ~~but~~ & opened the door ~~people must have~~ ~~was grieving~~ and ~~[illegible]~~ Pain-Ex and Liniment paregoric and castor ~~oil~~ no matter who dies bed-I didn't put up the shades. I pil-sat here and thought and thought and paced and groaned ~~and wailed~~ It seemed that day as if ~~this old~~ the country my ~~work~~ ~~an end~~ plum minded and I didn't her much. All I cared think of my Lizzie. He said prin' to come back. He wouldn't rock bed-time in mid-chair again. He my dead I'm waitin' down and days the whole time. ~~Nobody~~

Somehow

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and waitin'. Seemed as if that funeral never ended. I credit 'em to smile if him bein' dragged around the cemetery & lawn'll all that fuss made over him. He always hated fussin' so. Still & spite I'd bein mad if they hadn't done it. Seemed awful turkey. I kind of felt like he belonged to us now that they right to bring him back & let us have him now they'd killed him.

Of course they put there at last & I had all of his trappin's found officers in small-sized pretty good. All sorts of big wigs. Senators and Congressmen and officers in full uniform and grand lumpum and music and flags and crape. They certainly didn't spare no paint givin' him a funeral. Only We didn't want 'em. We wanted to bury him ourselves. But they wouldn't let us. I went in one night and peeked in the front winder. Where they'd laid him out in parlor to see. I looked now I hadn't done it. He was I reckon I. Until tell you about that I ain't him pin to put stuff out of my mind & tried a million times I'd seen him lyin' there dead and stayed that

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