At the time when the country was in the quiver of excitement to learn the destination of the Burnsides expidition which had just sailed from Newburn North Carolina I was sent to the White House one day with some papers which required Mr Lincoln's personal attention and signature While explaining the documents to the President a delegation from Philadelphia so as I shown in Who had come to urge the appointment of Mr Thomas to the position of Collector of the Port of that city. The delegation was composed of very dignified and evidently influential men ~~and~~ were listened Two with great attention and assured that the claims of their candidate would recieve due and carefull consideration

When the bupiness had been concluded one of the gentleman, in a very diplomatic manner, broached the subject of the Burnsides expedition and intimated a desire to learn its destination at the same time assuring Mr Lincoln that any information given them would be received in the ~~[illegible]~~ strictest confidence. There was just the suspicion of a twinkle in Mr Lincolns eye as he informed them in a grave and apparently hesitating manner, that rumors were in circulation that important military secrets were leaking out, much to the annoyance of the War Department and added that it was even hinted that this leakage had some times occurred in what was considered high quarters, still he felt assured that

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if each gentleman present would pledge himself individually not to communicate the information given, in view of their well known loyalty, he was disposed to tell them where Burnsides Expedition had gone. The gentlemen agreed eagerly to the terms and each for himself gave the pledge required. Mr Lincoln in a grave voice said "Gentlemen I am afraid I have made a hasty promise but as I have made it, I will not break it. Burnsides Expedition has gone to Sea"

"Sold, just as I expected," was the response of one of the party, but no other ~~Explanation~~ information was given

After the party had left the room Mr Lincoln laughed heartily and remarked "that joke relieves me as much as a days rest does ordinarily."

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The advent of the first republican administration caused much uneasiness among the old employees of government. Among those who were notified that their services were no longer needed, early in 1862, was an office mate of mine who had received his appointment from New York so many years before that he felt himself unfitted for any other than the routine business to which he had become accustomed. This gentleman had a son just Tad Lincoln's age and the two boys had become not only acquainted but warm friends.

A few days after the removal of this gentleman the son and mother visited the White House grounds to take a last look at familiar scenes before leaving the city for New York. While there Tad Lincoln joined them and was told that they were making a farewell visit to the grounds. Tad enquired why and was told when seizing his young friend by the hand he led him away and into his fathers presence where he made what must have been an Eloquent plea for it proved a Success full plea for the restoration of his companions father to his old position. Mr Lincoln sent the boys for the wife of the Ex- clerk and after questioning her kindly gave her a note to be delivered by her husband to the Secretary of the interior which resulted in his reappointment.

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