

July 30, 1923

Dear Major Going:

I am glad my broadcasted message reached you, and of course very much pleased that I took the chance of sending what I was afraid would be only a duplication of notes already in your files.

You ask where the letter came from. It was first published in an article by William H. Lambert called "A Lincoln Correspondence" in the Century Magazine for February 1909. In this article there appeared some twenty letters from Lincoln to Lyman Trumbull, never before published. All of these letters you will find republished in a volume of "Uncollected Letters of Abraham Lincoln," published by Houghton-Mifflin Co. 1917, brought together by Gilbert A. Tracy.

I am going to the Library today to look over Horace White's "Life of Lyman Trumbull," and if I find there any reference to Wilmot I shall be glad to let you know.

I shall use this present letter, in whole or in part, in one of the articles of the newspaper series I am now running, called "In the Footsteps of Abraham Lincoln." It will probably be some time before this article gets into book form for it will go into the second volume of the series on which I probably will do a good deal more work before publishing. The first volume, running up to the election to the presidency, comes out this fall.

It is pleasant to think of you and Mrs. Going on your mountain side - or is it top? I really think that is the place to write a book - theoretically, at least. So far as I am concerned, when I attempt to write a book where there is "hewing of wood and drawing of water" the latter occupation seems so much more important and interesting to me than the book that the book always suffers. I have to do it in town where everything seems as unimportant as everything does important in the country.

Affectionate greetings to "She."

Cordially yours,