

(1) Sherwood

1928 Apr. 11

2235 WOODLAND AVENUE
DULUTH, MINN.

April 11th
1928

Dear Miss Tarbell.

Having read your interesting article on "Mary Todd Lincoln" in the March number of "The Ladies Home Journal" I am taking the liberty of writing to you in the hope that you may be able to give me some information that over a period of long years I have not been able to find out for my-self. I'm explaining will say that the "Loving Lizzie" Grimsley you speak of was my great Aunt by marriage

Having married my great Uncle
Harrison Grimes. He was killed
in the war. And after some time
she married Dr. Brown a Presby-
terian Minister of Springfield Ill.
And it was at Mrs Brown that
you know her. when in Springfield
seeking material for your book
on Lincoln which first came out
in W. Chivers Magazine.
All this may be going into too
much detail. But my "Aunt Liz-
zie" was to write of her six
months spent in the White House.
And did so. That winter she
was not well. And the following
summer came up here to spend

the summer with ³ me thinking ^{Sherrywood 1928 Apr. 11} our
 having air might benefit her.
 And her manuscript was finished
 in our home. She had seen Robert
 Lincoln in Chicago on her way up
 here. And had promised him that
 when her manuscript was finished
 she would send it to him to read.
 And if there was any thing in it
 that he objected to she would
 take it out. The day she had me
 mail it to Robert Lincoln she
 was taken to her bed. And was
 never up again. He lived for
 her only son. John Grimsley. who
 was with her when she passed on.
 My husband and my self went
 with cousin John down to Spring-

friend with the body of Robert Lincoln
 met me in Chicago. But of course
 nothing was said at that time
 about the manuscript. I looked
 all winter for it to appear in the
 magazine. Then wrote to Louisa
 John in regard to it. He said
 there was something in it about
 Gen. Sherman that Robert Lincoln
 did not like. For Sherman had
 always been very nice to him.
 So it had never been sent to the
 publishers. I asked him where the
 manuscript was. And he said he
 had let Mr. Christ Brown have it.
 Time went on. Then I brought up
 the subject again with Louisa
 John. Told him if he did not

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want is him-self or his daughter
(then a young lady-) that I wanted
is very much. He then said that
he had loaned it to some fudge
in Springfield with the result
that I have never been able to
find it. Please pardon my going
into this matter at such length.
But having read of late both "For-
ever Free" (and "Mary Todd Lincoln"
by Honore Killie Morow. it has
brought back old memories.
Anns-Lizzie was a second mother
to me. For when my own mother
died. I was not quite twenty.
Two years before I was married
so she left me in Anns-Lizzie
care. And I was married from
her home. My grand-mother and

mother were friends of the Lincolns
and I was born and raised in
Springfield. In one of Mrs. Morrow
books she speaks of a short account
by Elizabeth Todd Grimsley who
spent six months in the White
House was recently (1927) published
in a Journal of the Illinois State
Historical Society. And I am won-
dering if this could be the long
lost Manuscript? After all these
years am glad to see something
written in appreciation of Mary
Lincoln - whom I have always
said was a much misjudged
woman. Last evening read in
Ex. Call's May number "Mary wife

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of Lincoln." So we seem to be hav-
ing it all in a hunch do we
not? That summer in the long
ago that Aunt Lizzie was with
us. she received a letter or two
from an old school friend of Mrs
Lincoln in Kentucky in which she
said such nice things of Mrs
Lincoln. And Aunt Lizzie said
"I must send these letters to Robert
for he is always so pleased to hear
any nice things said of his mother."

Thanking you for any informa-
tion that you may send me.

Sincerely Yours.

Mrs. F. L. Sherwood.

See Miss Tarbell's answer Apr. 25, 1928