

ALLEN FRANCIS EDGAR

911 FOREST AVENUE

WEST BRIGHTON

STATEN ISLAND, N. Y. May 12 1927.

Mrs. Ida Tarbell.

You can have some copies made of this photograph of Mary Todd if you desire. I trust you will be kind enough to send me three copies of it. If you publish it mention my name. I cannot say when it ^{was} made. You can see it bears a face of sorrow. Perhaps after the death of Lincoln, my grandmother Marnetta Francis told interesting stories about A. Lincoln and said it was her father Allen Francis who put him on his feet when he came to Springfield Illinois. Compare the style of Lincoln's Prince Albert coat the photograph of ~~the~~ when Lincoln is ~~the~~ sitting in the Lincoln memorial, and the Prince Albert coat Allen Francis is wearing standing by the flag at Victoria. Note the number of stars in the flag. My grandmother said her father ~~of~~ several times gave Lincoln an outfit of clothes and several of these coats. When he first came to Springfield he used to walk the parlor of the Francis ^{home} and said he

wished he never saw the light of
day. I have two books of Mrs Francis
my grandmother's mother. These two Lincoln
called his two little friends which he
found great delight in reading. One
of these books bears the style of speech
he adopted which remained with
him thru out his life. He has used
some of the phrases and exact words in
his speeches. I often heard my grandmother
remark of Lincoln. He was nothing
But a poor ^{boy} roaming Springfield Ill. and
to think he became president of the
United States. In all the great Americans
that have lived Lincoln stands alone.
I will close hoping to hear from
you soon.

Remain,

Sincerely yours,

Allen F. Edgar.

P.S The photograph was in the album of
Allen Francis appointed Consul at Victoria
By Lincoln. The whole page was torn out
of the album as you can see. My grandmother
used to say there is Abe + Mary. She
also said Mary Todd made Lincoln's
life miserable. She met her equal when she
met Mrs Simeon Francis who didn't hesitate
to tell her about her manners ~~and~~ and dress.
Mrs Simeon Francis was the one who really made
the match of Lincoln + Mary Todd.