

Pittsboro, Conn., Nov 25, 1914

My dear Miss Tarbell:

Here is a copy of a
brief note of Mr. Lincoln to Secretary Welles
without date, but, not without interest.

I cannot find it in any Edition
of his published works. It relates to
two disobedient, peevish boys who ran
away from home and enlisted in the
U. S. Navy, and their parents appealed
to Mr. Lincoln for their release:

"Secretary Welles, —

"The United States don't

"need the services of boys who dis-

"obey their parents. Let Frank Snyder

"and Ratcliffe be discharged.

A. Lincoln."

With sincere regard,

Very truly yours,

Gilbert A. Tracy.