



Chicago, May, 2,

My Dear Mrs. White:

It has been quite a time, since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you & in fact, I believe you are owing me a letter. This, however will not deter me from writing you to day, as serious considerations prompt me to do so. I am reminded to sit up,

Under the circumstances,
 I feel, may even
 the reward
 and you,

whilst I write you a few lines
as for the past three weeks, I
have been seriously sick. ~~Wm~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

greatly ac-

-celerated by the last three
years of mental suffering. Since
the birth of my youngest son,
for about twelve years I have
been more or less a sufferer.
My physician, Dr Clarke, &
Mother of Mrs Ashwin out

(Grace Greenwood) told me
on yesterday, that he must
prescribe an entire change of
air & scene as for me - He
thought going abroad - would
alone benefit me - I advised
me, as soon as I could for
the change, to go to Scotland
for the summer. Our old
Minister, a very good and
intellectual man, resides
there & has been always
writing that I should
visit Scotland - and had

promised to accompany me
to some places of interest
in that country. I have
also a ^{first} Cousin in Edinburgh
Mrs Judge Dickinson, of Cin-
-cinnati - who is at present
residing there - If I go, I
shall be accompanied by
my ^{son} youngest, a very pro-
-mising, lovely boy of 15 -
in the Autumn, I shall
place him, in some desir-
-able school - In the winter,



If my health continues so
destitute - I shall pass it
in the South of Europe.
I am thus minute, in my
Details - as I am anxious
that we should understand
each other. Your Daughter,
Mrs. Mack, wrote me, that
she proposed going to Europe,
early in the Autumn, hoping
that you had intended acc-

compranging her. I write this
almost unintelligible note.
How dearly I would love to
have you go over at the time
I do, I fear from what my
physician tells me, I cannot
delay it longer than the 1st
of July. Will you not consider
the subject and join me at
that time? We both, have many
pleasant friends in E. - and
a summer town in S. - & early
in the Autumn in Switzerland,
would be delightful. I am only

anticipating, a visit to Europe
which my dear husband,
intended we should take at
the end of his term, with
myself. Ill health and
much sorrow, forces me on
to go. I earnestly hope
you will favorably con-
sider what I have writ-
ten & give me an unre-
solute reply. This propo-
sition from me, does not
argue a debt of \$70.000!!

as the colored historian
asserts. It was Judge Davis
(the administrator) partic-
ular pride that only \$11-
(eleven dollars) was owing
on my husband's estate -
and that for a country
newspaper, which he knew
nothing about. If such a
debt or any debts - existed -
what good fairy, would have
canceled them? It is my com-
fort to know, that I do not
owe, a dollar in the world,



- but what little I have,
I intend enjoying - and
can make myself more
comfortable in Europe,
than I can for the same
amount of means in
Chicago, which if possible
surpasses N.Y. - in high
prices - My health now
demands the change & I
do hope, my dear Mrs H -

We may cross the Ocean
together & this commu-
-nication, I am sure you
will regard as entirely con-
-fidential. Through what
fearful trials I have
been recently passing!
My trust has been in our
Heavenly Father & he has
sustained me. Hoping
to hear from you, I remain
Always truly yours
Mary Lincoln.

My dear Mrs White:

It has been quite a time, since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you & in fact, I believe you are owing me a letter. This, however will not deter me from writing you to day, as serious considerations prompts me to do so. I am permitted to sit up,

whilst I write you a few lines as for the past three weeks, I have been seriously sick. (Three lines here scratched out in black ink seem to read as follows:

My disease is of a womanly nature, which you will understand which has been)

greatly accelerated by the last three years of mental suffering. Since the birth of my youngest son, for about twelve years. I have been more or less a sufferer. My physician, Dr. Clarke, a brother of Mrs. Lippincott

(Grace Greenwood) told me on yesterday, that he must prescribe an entire change of air, scene & for me. He thought going abroad - would alone benefit me - & advised me, as soon as I could bear the change, to go to Scotland for the summer. Our old Minister, a very good and intellectual man, resides there & has been always writing that I should visit Scotland - and has

promised to accompany me to some places of interest in that country. I have also a first Cousin in Edinburgh Mrs. Judge Dickinson, of Cincinnati - who is at present residing there. If I go, I shall be accompanied by my youngest son - a very pro-

-mising, lovely boy of 15 - in the autumn, I shall place him, in some desirable school. In the winter,

Page one

if my health continues so delicate, I shall pass it in the South of Europe. I am thus minute, in my details - as I am anxious that we should understand each other. Your daughter, Mrs. Mack, wrote me, that she proposed going to Europe, early in the Autumn, hoping that you had intended accom-

Page five

Page two

-ompanying her - I write this almost unintelligible note.

How dearly I would love to have you go over at the time I do, I fear from what my physician tells me, I cannot delay it longer than the 1st of July. Will you not consider the subject and join me at that time? We both, have many pleasant friends in E - and a summer tour in S - & early in the Autumn in Switzerland, would be delightful. I am only

Page six

anticipating, a visit to Europe which my dear husband, intended we should take at the end of his term, with myself - ill health and much sorrow, forces me now to go & I earnestly hope you will favorably consider what I have written & give me an immediate reply. This proposition from me, does not argue a debt of \$70,000 !!

Page seven

as the colored historian asserts. It was Judge Davis (the administrator's) particular pride that only \$11- (eleven dollars) was owing on my husband's estate - and that for a country newspaper, which he knew

Page eight continued

nothing about. If such a debt or any debts - existed - what good fairy, would have canceled them? It is my comfort to know, that I do not owe, a dollar in the world,

-but what little I have, I intend enjoying - and can make myself more comfortable in Europe, than I can for the same amount of means in Chicago, which if possible surpasses, N. Y. - in high prices. My health now demands the change & I do hope, my dear Mrs. W-

we may cross the Ocean together &&. This communication, I am sure you will regard as entirely confidential. Through what fearful trials I have been recently passing ! My trust has been in our Heavenly Father & he has sustained me. Hoping to hear from you, I remain Always truly yours

Mary Lincoln

Written across top of first page
Under the circumstances,
pray excuse the scrawl
I send you

Chicago, May 2d. [1868]

My dear Mrs. White:

It has been quite a time since I have had the pleasure of hearing from you & in fact I believe you are owing me a letter. This, however, will not deter me from writing you today, as serious considerations prompt me to do so. I am permitted to sit up, whilst I write you a few lines, as for the past three weeks, I have been seriously sick, greatly accelerated by the last three years of mental suffering. Since the birth of my youngest son, for about twelve years, I have been more or less a sufferer. My physician, Dr. Clarke, a brother of Mrs. Lippincut (Grace Greenwood) told me on yesterday, that he must prescribe an entire change of air, scene, &c. for me. He thought going abroad would alone benefit me & advised me, as soon as I could bear the change, to go to Scotland for the summer. Our old Minister, a very good and intellectual man, resides there & has been always writing that I should visit Scotland and has promised to accompany me to some places of interest in that country. I have also a first cousin in Edinburgh, Mrs. Judge Dickinson, of Cincinnati, who is at present residing there. If I go, I shall be accompanied by my youngest son, a very promising lovely boy of 15. In the autumn I shall place him in some desirable school. In the winter, if my health

continues so delicate, I shall pass it in the South of Europe. I am thus minute, in my details, as I am anxious that we should understand each other. Your daughter, Mrs. Mack, wrote me that she proposed going to Europe, early in the autumn, hoping that you had intended accompanying her. I write this almost unintelligible note. How dearly I would love to have you go over at the time I do. I fear from what my physician tells me, I cannot delay it longer than the 1st of July. Will you not consider the subject and join me at that time? We both have many pleasant friends in E. and a summer tour in S. & early in the autumn in Switzerland, would be delightful. I am only anticipating a visit to Europe, which my dear husband intended we should take at the end of his term, with myself. Ill health and much sorrow, forces me now to go & I earnestly hope you will favorably consider what I have written & give me an immediate reply. This proposition from me, does not argue a debt of \$70,000. as the colored historian asserts. It was Judge Davis (the administrator's) particular pride that only \$11. (eleven dollars) was owing on my husband's estate, and that for a country newspaper, which he knew nothing about. If such a debt or any debts existed, what good fairy would have canceled them? It is my comfort to know that I do not owe a dollar in

the world, but what little I have, I intend enjoying, and can make myself more comfortable in Europe, than I can for the same amount of means in Chicago, which if possible surpasses New York, in high prices. My health now demands the change & I do hope, my dear Mrs. Mrs. W., we may cross the ocean together &c. This communication, I am sure you will regard as entirely confidential. Through what fearful trials I have been recently passing! My trust has been in our Heavenly Father & he has sustained me. Hoping to hear from you, I remain

Always truly yours,

MARY LINCOLN.