

Valuable Lincoln Relics Owned by Brooklynite



Gloves & pocket handkerchief
used by our late God-sent
and sore mourned for President
Lincoln, and presented to
Benjamin Richardson by his
widow & placed in his
charge in San Francisco, California

Mrs. Lincoln
Captain Ben Richardson
614 8th Avenue
New York
New York

Ben Lincoln
Capt. Benjamin Richardson
8th Avenue New York
No 692 - City
N.Y.

EAGLE
PHOTOS

Gloves and handkerchiefs worn by President Abraham Lincoln when assassinated (1) and by his widow given to Capt. Benjamin Richardson (5), grandfather of Mrs. E. T. Gouverneur of 1080 Bushwick ave. Nos. 2 and 3 are letters written Captain Richardson by Mrs. Lincoln. No. 4 is original photo of Emancipator in a cigarbox frame given Lincoln by its maker, a wounded Federal soldier.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

GLOVES LINCOLN WORE WHEN SHOT ARE OWNED HERE

They Are Among the Relics of
Emancipator Cherished by
Mrs. Ella T. Gouverneur.

On a wall in the basement dining room of a Brooklyn residence, framed like the museum exhibit it was intended to be, hang the white kid gloves which Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States, wore the night he was killed by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theater, Washington, D. C., April 14, 1865. Between the two gloves, in the same frame, is the linen handkerchief he carried that night.

On the opposite wall of this dining room hangs an original photograph of the Great Emancipator, said to be one of the best latter-day likenesses. Its frame, made of numerous pieces of cigar-box wood in an intricate pattern, was the work of a wounded Federal soldier, done in a convalescent hospital and given President Lincoln by the craftsman.

Were Gifts From Martyr's Widow.

These relics are the property of Mrs. Ella Terisa (Birdsall) Gouverneur and hang in her home at 1080 Bushwick ave. They were gifts of the President's widow to Capt. Benjamin Richardson, grandfather of Mrs. Gouverneur and a friend of the Emancipator and his family. They were given Capt. Richardson for a museum of relics of famous Americans which he had contemplated founding in California but never did.

Other interesting relics possessed by Mrs. Gouverneur are two letters from Mrs. Lincoln to Capt. Richardson, a monogrammed plate given Capt. Richardson by President J. S. Grant, and several small nuggets panned by the captain in the California gold fields in 1850.

Richardson Captained Argonauts.

Capt. Richardson, sometimes called Colonel by Mrs. Lincoln, acquired his title by leading one of the first overland treks of gold seekers from New York to California in 1849. It was while stopping over in Chicago on his return East several years later that he became acquainted with the Lincoln family. Among his subsequent accumulation of relics for his projected museum was a coach that had belonged to George Washington, first President of the Nation. This he gave to the Government after driving it in the New York City parade of Oct. 28, 1886, celebrating the unveiling of Barthold's Statue of Liberty, the bronze goddess of New York Harbor. The coach is now in Washington's home, Mount Vernon.

Mrs. Lincoln's Letters.

Mrs. Lincoln's letters to Capt. Richardson, printed herewith, contain many references to "Taddie"—her son, Thomas, born April 4, 1853, who died in Chicago July 15, 1871. Their first child, Robert Todd Lincoln, born Aug. 1, 1843, and now living in Washington, served with distinction as an Ambassador to Great Britain and as an Assistant Secretary of War. During the Civil War he was a captain on the staff of Gen. U. S. Grant.

The other two Lincoln children were William Wallace and Edward Baker. William Wallace Lincoln was born Dec. 31, 1850, and died in the White House Feb. 20, 1862. Edward Baker, born March 10, 1846, died in infancy.

Mrs. Lincoln's letters follow:

"Clifton House, Chicago,
June 16, 1868.

"Capt. Benj. Richardson:

"My Dear Sir—Prof. and Mrs. Sawyer have just paid me a call, and handed me your letter, which I was very gratified to receive. I hasten to reply to it, fearing you may think I have been negligent regarding my promises. And yet I am sure you will be tantalized to know that some of the specialties promised have been in my room and only awaiting this being sent to Mr. Sawyer. Tomorrow, my little Taddie will carry them down to the University and it may be the rest I will bring on to you myself. After this explanation of the delay you will feel relieved. My health still continues very delicate and each week I am hoping my affairs can be arranged, so that I can get off to Europe. Alas! Alas! Unhappily some of us have fallen upon evil times and all that is left is to endure patiently and resignedly the sad decrees of fate. It is very hard for me to combat with fate—after having for so many years the most devoted and indulgent husband. It appears that my immediate departure must depend upon the disposal of a small piece of property, out of which my expenses must be defrayed abroad, as well as dear little Taddie's. I should be now abroad if these circumstances did not exist. The summer is passing away so rapidly, and each day finds me sadder in mind and weaker in body. Taddie and myself frequently speak of you and remember you so pleasantly. We have promised Prof. Sawyer to visit the University very soon, and what a great pleasure it would be to have you with us. If the dark clouds disappear and I can soon arrange my troubled business, I shall soon have the pleasure of seeing you, en route to Europe. Hoping you will excuse my frank and long letter, I remain with great respect, very truly yours,

"(Signed) MARY LINCOLN."

Greetings From England.

"Leamington, England,
Nov. 7, 1870.

"Col. Benj. Richardson:

"My Dear Sir—Strange to say, your letter of July last has only been recently received by me. It is very pleasant in this land of strangers to receive tidings and kind remembrances from friends in our beloved land who can never be forgotten

either by my young son or myself. Taddie in Germany became quite proficient in the language, but in the meantime his own mother tongue was so much neglected that it has become necessary to place him with an English tutor, with whom, I am happy to say, he is studying very hard.

"Taddie speaks of you very frequently, and it is very pleasant to me to remember that you took so great an interest in him. Be assured he will never pass through New York without calling on you to pay his respects. He is growing very much like his dear father and possesses his amiability of character and nobleness of nature. He will return home before long. He loves his country very dearly, and we can but hope that when he grows up he will become one of its best citizens. Go where we will, we see no such nation as ours and the noblest and kindest-hearted people on the face of the earth.

"If you should favor me again with a letter, please address to the care of Philip Nicoll, Schmidt, bankers, Frankfurt-a-Main, Germany.

"With regards from my son, I remain, truly yours.

"(Signed) MARY LINCOLN."

Existence of the letters was first made public on March 4 last, when the Rev. Dr. John Lewis Clark, pastor of the Bushwick Avenue Congregational Church, broadcast their text from The Brooklyn Eagle studio of station W A H G. Mrs. Gouverneur is a member of Dr. Clark's congregation.