Private

Dr. J. G. Holland
My Dear Sir:

The Biography of my deeply lamented husband, which you have so kindly sent me, has been received and read, with great interest. After a careful perusal of the work, I find the statements, in most instances, so very correct, that I feel quite unqualified, as to the extent of your minute information. From the description of my husband's early struggles, which he has so frequently described to me, to the foolish and uncalled for remonstrance with Gen. Sherman, all are truthfully portrayed.
It is exceedingly painful to me, now, suffering under such an overwhelming bereavement, to recall, that happy time my beloved husband had to entrust himself to one, for his great need. Before my marriage, that I doubt they felt, many times and often, but great tenderness & amiability of character. There were existed, a more loving & devoted husband, such a father, that seldom been bestowed on children. Committed and entrusted to the earth, with so great grief & sorrow, for the sake of my poor afflicted boy. I have to think, to live on, and comfort them, as well, as I can. You are aware, that with all the President's deep feelings, he was not a demonstrative, felt man, when he expressed most deeply, he expressed the least. There were those very good persons, who are inclined to magnify conversations & incidents, connected with their slight acquaintance, with this great & good man, for instance, the proposed conversation...
This last event occurred about six months before our marriage, when Mr. Lincoln thought he had some right to assume to be my champion even on frivolous occasions. The poor Gent, in one little gay exile, was often times the subject of mirth and song. And we were then surrounded by several of those who have since been appreciated by the world. The Gent was very impulsive on the occasion referred to, had placed himself before us, in so ridiculous a light, that the least of the ludicrous had been excited within me. I presume I gave vent to it in some very silly lines. After the reconciliation between the contending parties, Mr. L. and myself, mutually agreed never to refer to it except in an occasional light manner, between us, it was not mentioned. I am surprised, at so distant a day, you should have heard of the incident.
between the President & the Hospital Nurse, it was not his nature, to con-
mit his grief & religious feelings to fully to words - that with so
little change. Even between our-
elves, when our deep & touching
sorrow, was one of the same kind
expression arise for - This is
the lengthier account, of the lady, who
died widely & respected, in claiming
a Hospital, for her State. My
husband, here had the time to
discuss these matters, to lengthen
to any person or to learn - for many
of them, came daily in review befo
her. And again, I cannot understand
how strangely his temper, could be so
to complete a variance from what
it always was, in the home circle.
There, he was always so gentle, kind, &
Before closing this long letter, which
I fear will weary you, see you get
through it - allow me again to
affirm you of the great satisfaction
the relief of 'The Memoirs' have.
Chicago Dec 4th 1865

Private

Dr F. Y. Holland

My dear Sir:

The Biography of my deeply lamented husband, which you have so kindly sent me, has been received and read, with very great interest. After a careful perusal of the work, I find the statements, in most instances, so very correct, that I feel quite surprised as to the extent of your minute information. From the description of my husband's early struggles, which he has so frequently described to me, to the foolish and uncalled for mea culpa, with Geo. Shields, all are truthfully portrayed.
It is exceedingly painful to me now, suffering under such an overwhelming circumstance, to recall, that happy time
my beloved husband, had so entirely
loved himself to one, for two years
before my marriage, that I doubt
half-past, many times 1 sof asked
his great tenderness & amiability of
character. There never existed a more
loving & devoted husband & such a
father, had seldom been bestowed on
children. Crushed & kind to the
earth, with one great, great sorrow
for the sake of my poor afflicted
boy, I have to strive, to live on, and
comfort them, as well as I can. You
are aware, that with all the President,
Keep feeling, he was not, a demonstra-
tion felt
Man, when he expressed most deeply,
he expressed the least. There are some
very good persons who are inclined to
Magnify Conversation & incidents,
connected with that light acquire-
ment, with this great & good Man.
For instance, the perfected Conversation,
This last event occurred about six months before our marriage, when Mr. Lincoln, thinking he had some right to attend to be my champion even on frivolous occasions. The poor girl, in our little Gay circle, was oftentimes the subject of ridicule even song. And we were then surrounded by several of those who have since been appreciated by the world. The girl was very unappreciative on the occasion referred to, had placed him self before us, in so ridiculous a light, that the sense of the ludicrous had been excited, within me, so I presume. I gave vent to it, in some very silly lines. After the reconciliation between the contending parties, Mr. L is myself mutually agreed not to refer to it except in an occasional light manner, between us, it was never mentioned. I am surprised at so distant a day, you should have me heard of the circumstance.
between the President & the Hospital.
Rude, it was not his nature, to con- 
mit his grief and religious feelings
so fully to words that with an
entire stranger. Even between our-
selves, when one deep, a touching
Sorrow, were one the same, his
expressions were few. Also the
lengthy account of the lady who
very coldly persisted, in claiming
a Hospital, for the State. My
husband, never had the time to
discuss this matter, or lengthy
the any person or pretend too many
of them, came daily in review before
him. And again, I cannot understand
how strangely his temper, could be at
so complete a variance from what
it always was in the home ends.
Now he was always so gentle, kind.
Before closing this long letter, which
I fear will weary you, sir you get
through it. allow me again to
adduce you, of the great satisfaction
the renewal of such memoirs have
Private.

Dr. J. G. Holland.

My Dear Sir:

The biography of my deeply lamented husband, which you have so kindly sent me, has been received and read with very great interest. After a careful perusal of the work, I find the statements, in most instances, so very correct, that I feel quite surprised, as to the extent of your minute information. From the description of my husband, early struggles, which he has so frequently described to me, to the foolish and uncalled for encounter with Gen. Shields, all are faithfully portrayed.
It is exceedingly painful to me, now, suffering under such an unceasing weariment, to recall, that happy time, when my beloved husband, had so entirely devoted himself to one, for two years, before my marriage, that I doubted whether, many times a day, his great tenderness & amiability of character. There never existed, a more loving & devoted husband. Such a father, had seldom been bestowed on children. Crushed and bowed to the earth, with one great, great sorrow, for the sake of my poor afflicted boys, I have to strive, to live on, and comfort them, as well as I can. You are aware, that with all the President's deep feeling, he was not, a demonstrative man, when he expressed most deeply, the expressed, the least. They are some very good people, who are inclined to magnify consultations & incidents, connected with their slight acquaintance, with this great good man. In instances this imperfect consultation,
This last event occurred about six months before our marriage, when Mr. Lincoln, thinking he had done right, to assume to be my champion
even on frivolous occasions. The poor Gent, in one little gay circle, was
often times, the subject of much censure. But, we were then surrounded,
by several of those, who have since, been appreciated, by the world. The
Gent was very impulsive, on the occasion referred to, had placed him-
self before us, in so ludicrous a light, that the love of the ludicrous
had been excited, within me. I presume, I gave credit to it, in some
very silly band. After the reconcile-
tion, between the contending parties,
Mr. L. and myself, mutually agreed, never
to refer to it, except in an occasional
light manner, between us, it was never
mentioned. I am surprised, at to
without a day, you should have the
heard of the circumstances.
between the President & the Hospital
 reside, it was not his nature, to com-
 mit his griefs and religious feelings
 so fully to words & that with an
 entire stranger. Even between our-
 selves, when we deeply touch
 sorrow, once over, the same, his
 expression come few. This the
 lengthy account of the lady, who
 my widely suspected, in claiming
 a Hospital, for her State. My
 husband, never had the time to
 discharge these matters, to lengthly
 to any person or person to many
 of them, came daily, in secret for
 him. And again, I cannot under
 how strangely, his temper, could be at
 to complete a variance, from what
 it always was, in the home circle.
 Thus, he was always, so gentle,
 Before closing this long letter, which
 I fear will weary you, see you get
 through it, allow me again to
 address you, of the great satisfaction
 to recent, to you, memories have
between the President & the Hospital.

[knit image]

It was not his nature to commit his grief and solicited feeling so fully to words that with an entire stranger. Once, between one.

[knit image]

-those, when one deep touching sorrow, once one of the same kind expressed once before. His the

[knit image]

lengthy account of the lady, who was widely respected, so claiming or Hospital, for the State. My

[knit image]

husband never had the time to

[knit image]

old doubts, tate emotions, so lengthily
to any feeling or sentiment. To many
of them, came daily, in course of
him. And again, I cannot understand
how strangely his temper, could be at
so complete a variance, from what
it always was, in the home circle.
Sure, he was always so gentle kind.

Before closing this long letter, which
I fear will weary you, as you get
through it, allow me again to
adduce you of this great satisfaction
and benefit, if the Memoir have
This last event occurred about six months before our marriage, when Mr. Lincoln thought he had some right to allude to his champion even on frivolous occasions. The poor girl, in her little gay smile, was often the subject of much commotion. And so were those who have since been appreciated by the world. The girl was very communicative, on the occasion referred to, had placed him self above all, in so indecorous a light, that the sense of the ludicrous had been excited, within me, I presume. I gave vent to it, in some very silly lines. After the reconciliation, between the contending parties, Mr. L. himself mutually agreed never to refer to it except in an occasional light manner. Between us, it was never mentioned. I am surprised, at so distant a day, you should have heard of the circumstance.

It is exceedingly painful to me, new suffering makes such an overwhelming impression, to recall, that happy time. My beloved husband, had so entirely devoted himself to one, for two years before my marriage, that I doubtless embraced, many times I oft, when his great tenderness & amiability of character. There never existed a more loving, devoted husband, such a Father, has seldom been bestowed on children. Enraged and bowed to the earth, with one great, great sorrow, for the sake of my poor afflicted boy, I have to strive to live on, and comfort them, as well as I can. You are aware, that with all the patient, kind feeling, he was not a demonstrative man, when he expressed most deeply he expected the least. There are some very good persons, who are inclined to magnify conversations & incidents, connected with this slight request, & state, with this great & good man, in instance, this unprinted conversation.
Mary Todd Lincoln to J.G. Holland

Heavy mourning paper

Chicago Dec. 4th 1865

Private
Dr J.G. Holland

My dear sir,

The Biography of my deeply lamented husband, which you have so kindly sent me, has been received, and read with very great interest. After a careful perusal of the work, I find the statements, in most instances, so very correct, that I feel quite surprised, as to the extent of your minute information. From the description of my husband's early struggles, which he has, so frequently, described to me; to the foolish and uncalled for rencontre, with Gen. Shields, all are truthfully portrayed. The last event occurred about six months before our marriage; when Mr. Lincoln thought he had some right to assume to be my champion, even on frivolous occasions. The poor Genl., in our gay little circle, was oftentimes the subject of mirth and even song. And we were then surrounded by several of those, who have since been appreciated by the world. The Genl. was very impulsive; on the occasion referred to, had placed himself before us, in so ridiculous a light, that the love of the ludicrous had been excited within me & I presume I gave vent to it, in some very silly lines. After the reconciliation between the contending parties, Mr. L. & myself mutually agreed never to refer to it & except in an occasional light manner it was never mentioned. I am surprised, at so distant a day, you should ever have heard of the circumstance.

It is exceedingly painful to me, now, suffering under such an overwhelming bereavement, to recall that happy time my beloved husband had so entirely devoted himself to me, for two years before my marriage, that I doubtless trespassed, many times and oft, upon his great tenderness & amiability of character. There never existed a more loving & devoted husband & such a Father has seldom been bestowed on children. Crushed and bowed to the earth with our great, great sorrow, for the sake of my poor, afflicted boy, I have to strive to live on, and comfort them as well as I can. You are aware that all the President's deep feeling, he was not a demonstrative man, even when he felt most deeply, he expressed the least. There are some very good persons who are inclined to magnify conversations and incidents, connected with their slight acquaintance with this great and good man. For instance, the purported conversations between the President & the Hospital nurse, it was not his nature to commit his griefs so fully to words & that with an entire stranger. Even between ourselves, when our deep & touching sorrows were one & the same, his expressions were few. Also the lengthy account of the lady who very wisely persisted in claiming a hospital for her State, my husband never had the time to discuss these matters, so lengthily committed to any person or persons—too many of them came daily in review before him. And again, I cannot understand how strangely his temper could be at so complete a variance from what it always was in the home circle. There, he was always so gentle & kind.

Before closing this long letter, which I fear will weary you, ere you get through with it, allow me again to assure you of the great satisfaction the perusal of your Memoirs have given me.

I remain very truly & gratefully

Mary Lincoln.
MRS. LINCOLN ON THE CHARACTER OF HER LATE HUSBAND


A LONG AND EXCEEDING INTERESTING LETTER written by Mrs. Lincoln less than a year after the death of her husband, on heavy mourning stationery, containing a remarkable characterization of Lincoln as a husband and father, and referring at some length to the circumstances leading up to the Lincoln-Shields affair. It reads in part:

"The biography of my deeply lamented husband, which you have so kindly sent me, has been received and read with very great interest. After a careful perusal of the work, I find the statements, in most instances, so very correct, that I feel quite surprised, as to the extent of your minute information. From the description of my husband's early struggles, which he has so frequently described to me; to the foolish and uncalled for rencontre with Gen. Shields, all are truthfully portrayed. This last event occurred about six months before our marriage when Mr. Lincoln thought he had some right to assume to be my champion, even on frivolous occasions. The poor Genl. in our little gay circle was oftentimes the subject of mirth & even song. And we were then surrounded by several of those who have since been appreciated by the
world. The Genl. was very impulsive & on the occasion referred to, had placed himself before us, in so ridiculous a light, that the love of the ludicrous had been excited within me, & I presume I gave vent to it in some very silly lines. After the reconciliation between the contending parties, Mr. L. & myself mutually agreed never to refer to it, & except in an occasional light manner between us it was never mentioned.

"It is exceedingly painful to me now, suffering under such an overwhelming bereavement, to recall that happy time. My beloved husband, had so entirely devoted himself to me for two years before my marriage that I doubtless trespassed many times & oft upon his great tenderness & amiability of character. There never existed a more loving & devoted husband & such a Father has seldom been bestowed on children. Crushed and bowed to the earth with our great, great sorrow, for the sake of my poor afflicted boys I have to strive to live on and comfort them as well as I can. You are aware that with all the President’s deep feeling he was not a demonstrative man; when he felt most deeply, he expressed the least." Etc., etc.
Two incidents to which Mrs. Lincoln referred in her letter to J. G. Holland—the hospital nurse I think was Mrs. Pomeroy who wrote a little book not now with me. Holland tells her story on pages 436-437.

The lady who wanted a hospital in her own state and whose story occupies ten pages beginning 443.

Mrs. Lincoln did not like ladies reporting extended and personal conversations with her husband.