

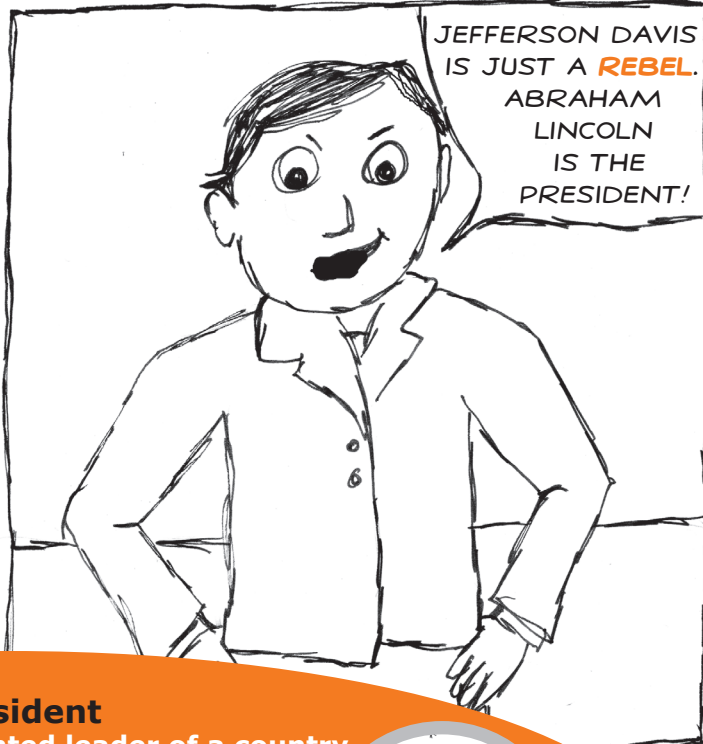
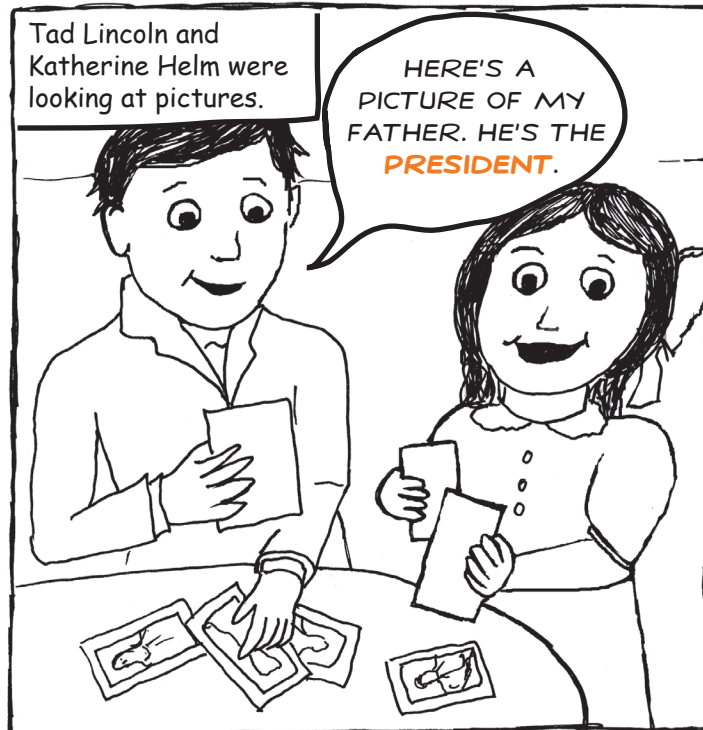
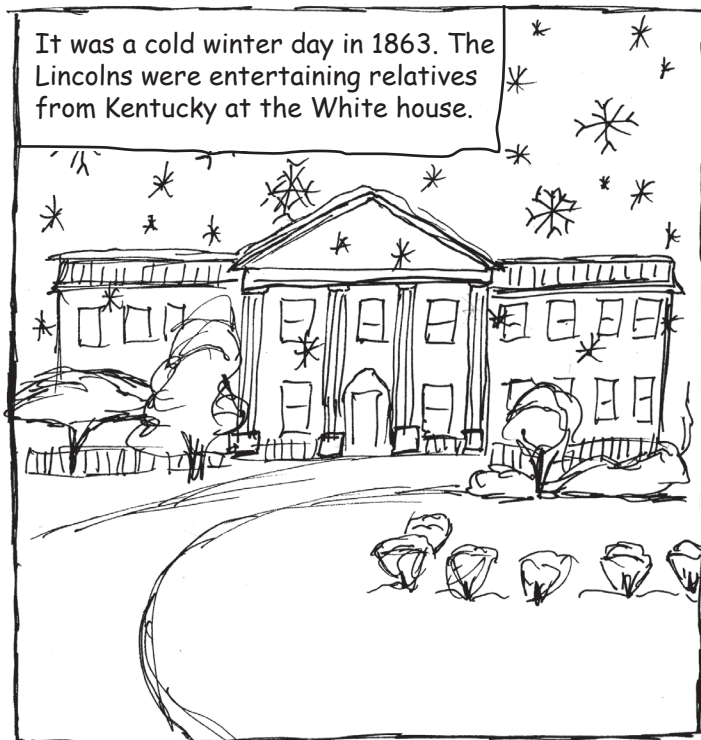
A Mary Todd Lincoln House Guide for Kids

A HOUSE DIVIDED

Discover the stories of Abraham Lincoln's southern relatives—the Todds of Kentucky!



WHO WAS PRESIDENT?



President

The elected or appointed leader of a country

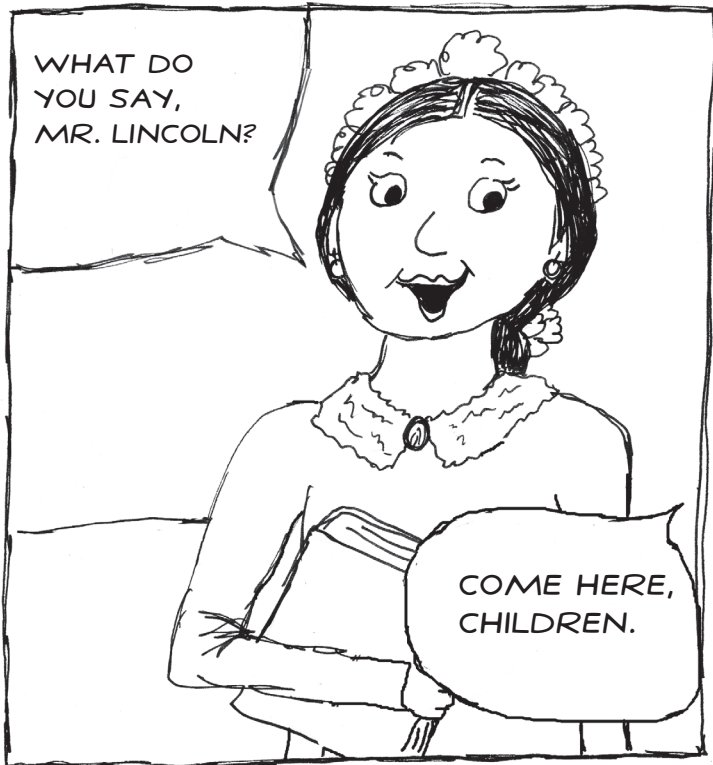
Rebel

Another name for supporters of the Confederacy

Confederate States of America

The eleven states that left the United States in 1861





What do you think?



Who was right about who was president, Tad or Katherine? Why?
What do you think of Abraham Lincoln's solution?



A NATION DIVIDED

The comic shows a problem faced by many Kentucky families during the **Civil War**. The war started in 1861, after states in the **South** tried to form their own country, the Confederate States of America. They chose Jefferson Davis to be the president of the **Confederacy**.

Abraham Lincoln was the president of the United States. He wanted to keep the U. S., or **Union**, together. He also wanted to end **slavery**. Most people living in Confederate states believed in slavery. They felt that each state should decide what to do about slavery.

Kentucky was a **border state** located between the **North** and the South. When the war began, some Kentuckians sided with the Union. Others sided with the Confederacy. Sometimes members of the same family took opposite sides.

Civil War
A conflict between the United States and the Confederate States from 1861 to 1865

Confederacy
Another name for the Confederate States of America

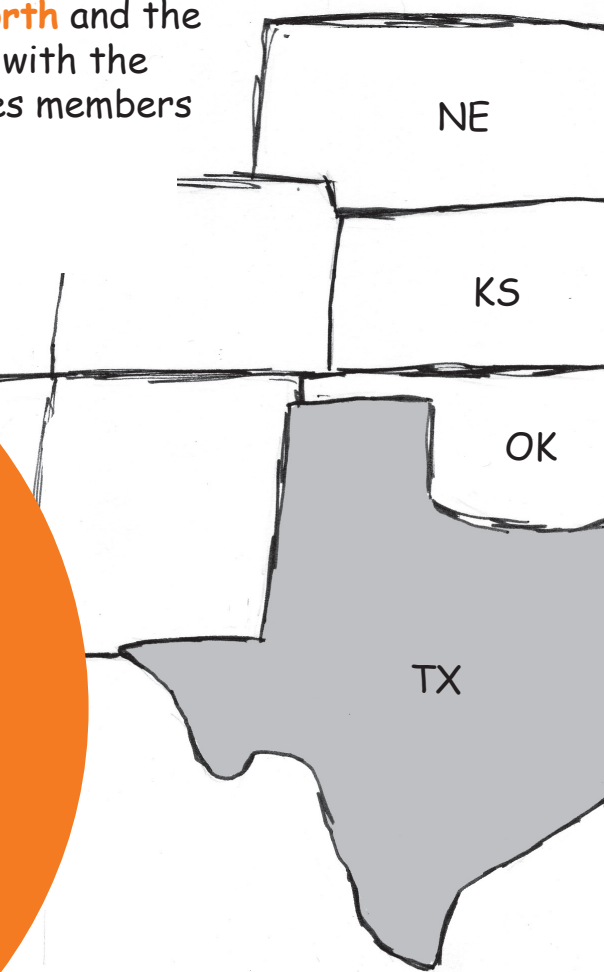
Union
Another name for the United States

Slavery
A system in which people can own other people, or slaves, who work for no pay and are not free

Border States
States located between the North and South that remained in the Union but had slavery

North
A region made up of states in the northern U. S. that sided with the Union and usually opposed slavery

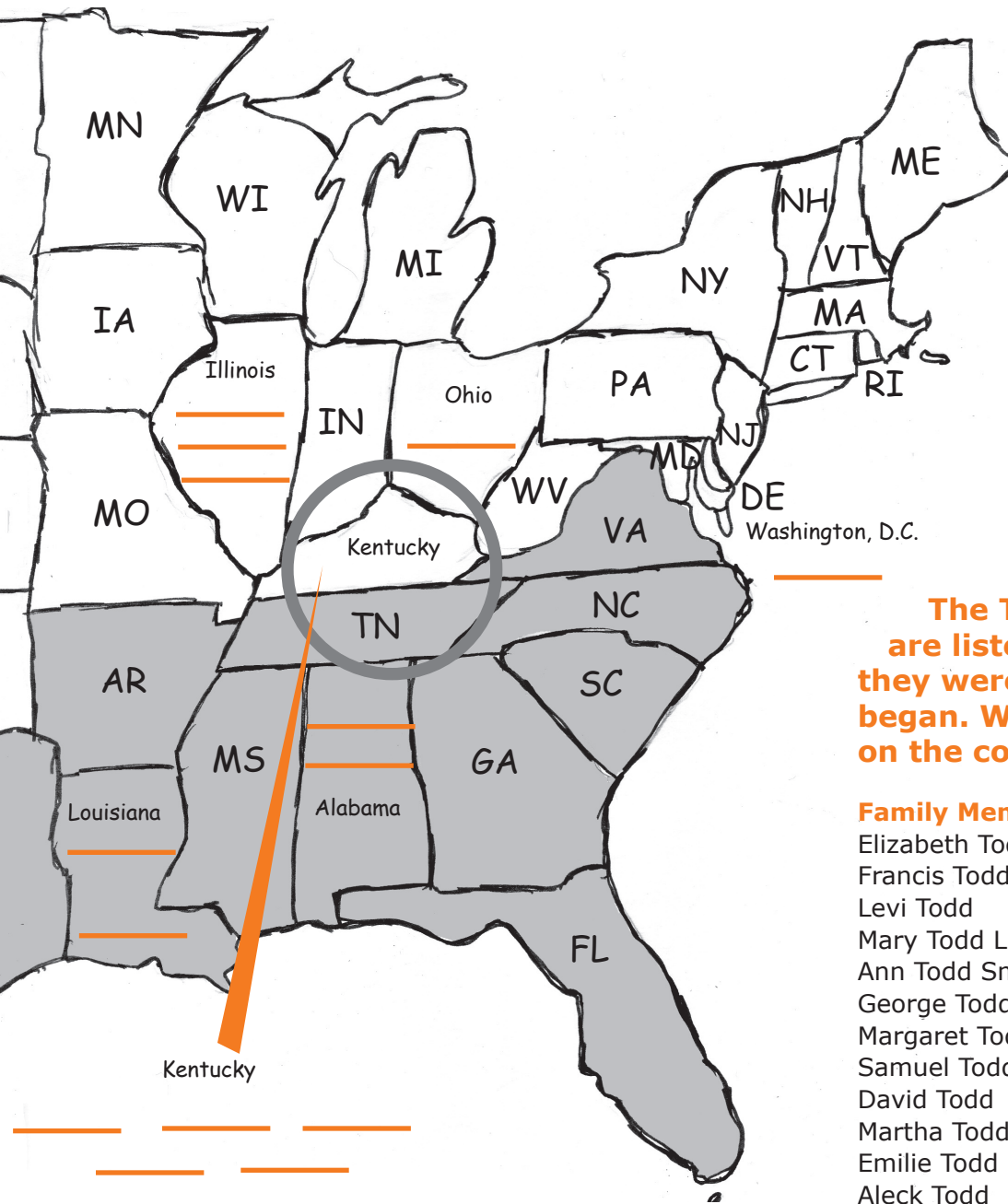
South
A region made up of states in the southern U. S. that sided with the Confederacy and had slavery



- Union States
- Confederate States

THE TODD FAMILY DIVIDED

President Lincoln used the phrase "a house divided" to describe the nation. But he could have been talking about the family of his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln. Mary was one of the fourteen children of Robert Todd of Lexington, Kentucky. When the Civil War began, the Todds were living all over the U.S. Some backed the Union and some sided with the Confederacy.



The Todd brothers and sisters are listed below with the states they were in when the Civil War began. Write each person's initials on the correct line on the map.

Family Member	State
Elizabeth Todd Edwards	Illinois
Francis Todd Wallace	Illinois
Levi Todd	Kentucky
Mary Todd Lincoln	Washington, D.C.
Ann Todd Smith	Illinois
George Todd	Kentucky
Margaret Todd Kellogg	Ohio
Samuel Todd	Louisiana
David Todd	Louisiana
Martha Todd White	Alabama
Emilie Todd Helm	Kentucky
Aleck Todd	Kentucky
Elodie Todd	Alabama
Kitty Todd	Kentucky

What do you think?

Based on where they lived, which side did each brother and sister support?



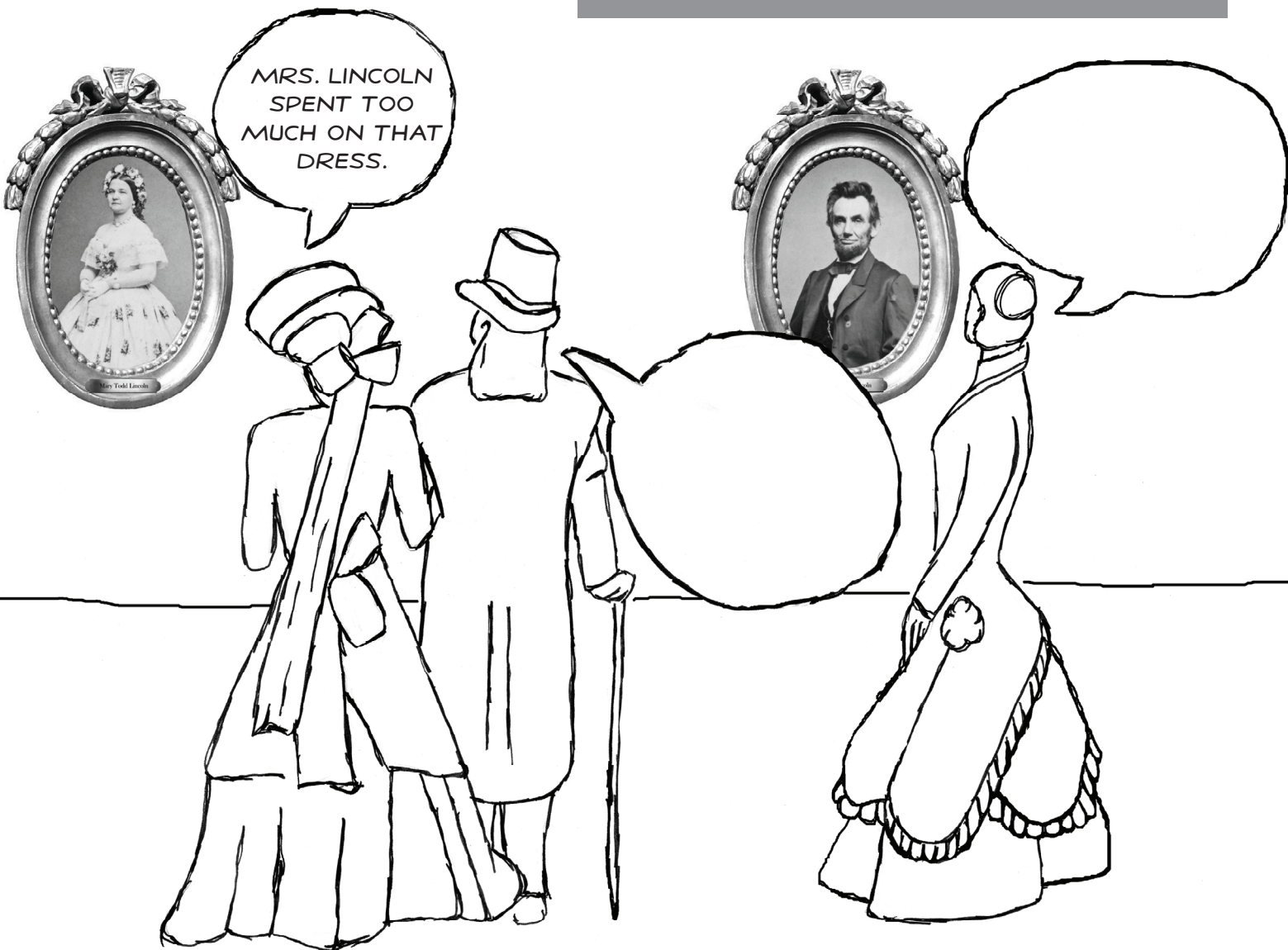
FIRST FAMILY OF THE UNION

When Abraham Lincoln became the president, he and his wife Mary had three sons. Robert was eighteen, Willie was ten, and Tad was seven. When the Civil War started, Lincoln became the leader of the Union. People expected a lot of the First Family.

After reading this page, decide what the other two people might be saying. Write their comments in the balloons.

What do you think?

Why are people so interested in the things famous people say and do? Is it possible to please all of the people all of the time?



Mary Todd Lincoln backed the Union, but she had many critics. Some complained about her spending habits. Others were suspicious of her because she had Confederate relatives.

President Lincoln made decisions with care, but people didn't always agree with him. Some Unionists (including many in Kentucky) fought his move to free the slaves in Confederate states.

BROTHERS IN BATTLE

Around three million men fought in the Civil War. The Union had more men and more supplies, but Confederate forces had good leaders and determination. There were five sons in the Todd family. Only Levi supported the Union. The other four joined the Confederate Army.

In April 1862, Sam died from a wound at the Battle of Shiloh. Aleck died a few months later in Louisiana when Confederate soldiers shot some of their own men by mistake.

Newspapers in the North and South reported Sam and Aleck's deaths. Many people felt sorry for Mary Lincoln. Others were angry that the First Lady's brothers were fighting against the Union.



George was a doctor. He worked in hospitals in the South and at the Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.



David ran a prison early in the war and later fought in the Battle of Vicksburg in Mississippi.



Sam joined the army in Louisiana and fought in only one major battle.



Aleck was an aide to his sister's husband, Benjamin Hardin Helm, who led a Kentucky unit.



About one of every five Civil War soldiers died from a wound or disease. Color this circle to show how many Todd brothers died while fighting in the war.

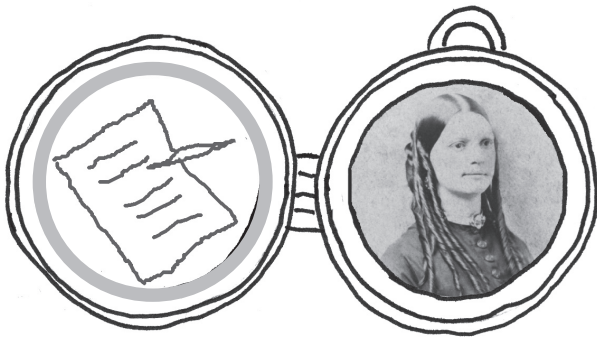
SISTERS SERVING THEIR CAUSES

Women supported the war in many ways. They worked in hospitals and sent letters and supplies to the troops. Some ran farms and businesses while the men were away.

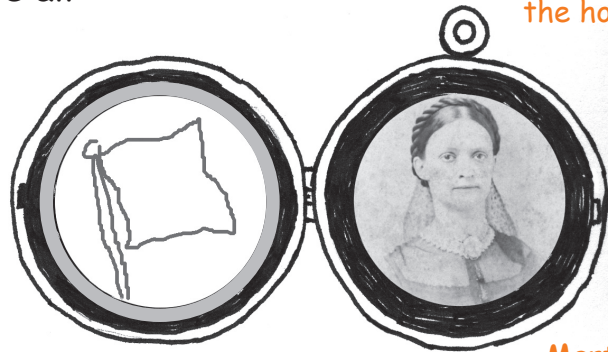
There were nine Todd sisters. Elizabeth, Frances, Mary, Ann, and Margaret supported the Union. Martha, Emilie, Elodie, and Kitty backed the Confederacy. But they were all involved in wartime activities.



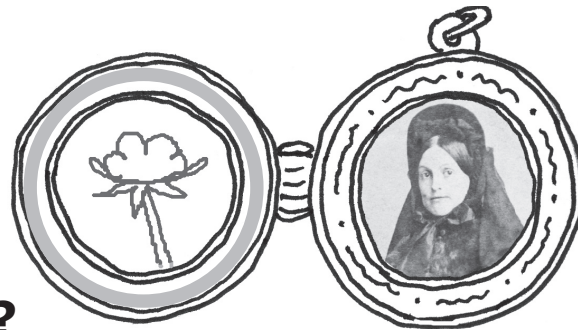
Mary Todd Lincoln took food to soldiers in the hospital.



Elodie Todd wrote long letters to her sweetheart while he was serving in the army.



Martha Todd White sewed a flag and helped raise money for a local army unit.



Emilie Todd Helm tried to sell cotton to make money for her family after her husband died.

Resistant Rebel?

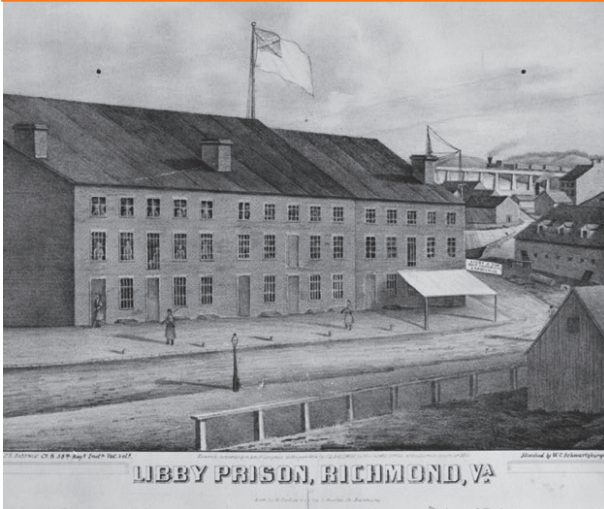
Emilie Helm was in the South when her husband died in battle. She ran into trouble when she tried to return to Kentucky. During the war people traveling from the South to the North had to stop on the border and take an oath that they were loyal to the Union.

Emilie refused! She was loyal to the Confederacy, and her husband had just died fighting for it. Emilie was lucky that her brother-in-law was the president. Lincoln told the soldiers at the border to send her to the White House. It was during this visit that Katherine Helm argued with Tad Lincoln about who the president was.

What do you think?

? Was Emilie right or wrong to refuse to take the oath? ?
Why or why not?

TODDS IN TROUBLE



Cruel Commander?

In 1861 David Todd ran a prison for Union soldiers. Some prisoners said David did some terrible things. Reports said he stabbed a prisoner and ordered the guards to shoot anyone who put their heads or arms out windows.

The army removed David from command, but newspapers still covered his bad deeds. One paper called him a "sneaking, savage, cowardly scoundrel." Imagine how the Lincolns felt!

Rebel Spy?

In 1863 Martha Todd White traveled to Washington. When she returned to the South, there were different stories about what she took back with her.

Story 1: Some newspapers said Martha was sneaking **supplies** and **medicine** for the **South**. One paper claimed she brought home \$30,000 disguised as gold **buttons** on a **uniform**. Another paper called Martha a "**rebel spy**."

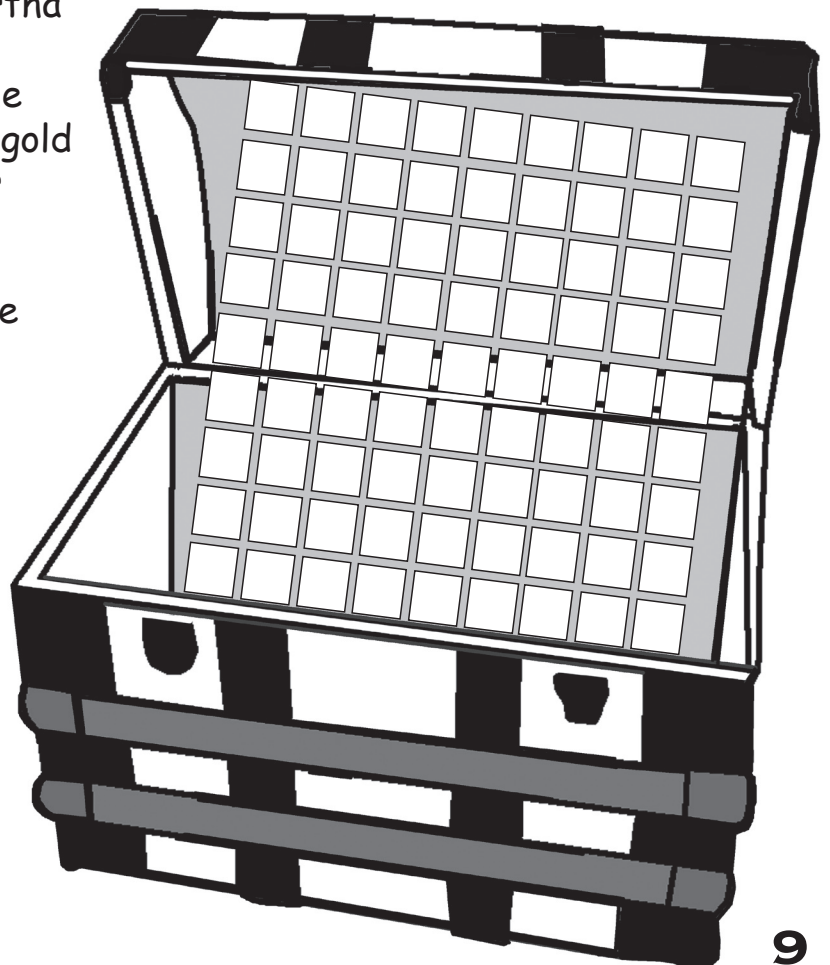
Story 2: The **Union** officer in charge of searching Martha's **trunks** said they contained wedding **gifts** for a **friend**. A Confederate officer said the trunks held **clothing** and **kegs** of **liquor**.

Which story do you believe? After you decide, see how many highlighted words from that story you can fit in the boxes in the trunk.

Then fill in the empty boxes with other letters to create a word search puzzle. Challenge a friend to find the words!

What do you think?

Why did reports of David's cruelty make people angry? How should enemy prisoners be treated?



ACTIONS AND REACTIONS

Having Confederate relatives affected the Lincolns in many ways. Newspapers printed all kinds of stories about Todd family members. People in the North and the South criticized the First Lady. The Lincolns had to be very careful about what they said and did.

MRS. LINCOLN.

Mrs. Lincoln is a native of Kentucky. Her maiden name was Todd. She has a large number of brothers and sisters, who, like so many other families, have been divided in their allegiance by the war. Two of her brothers entered the rebel army, and one was lately killed at a battle in the Southwest. One of these two was for some time employed at Richmond as jailer of the Union prisoners. His brutality and cruelty were such, however, that Jefferson Davis finally removed him from the post, and sent him to join his regiment. Another brother is in the employ of the United States Government in one of the Northwestern Territories. Mrs. Lincoln's sisters are understood to sympathize rather with the rebels than with the Government. It is probably this division of sentiment which has given rise to the gossip and scandal respecting the views of the lady who presides over the White House.

Try to answer the questions below.
You might be surprised which are correct!

- 1.** What did Mary Lincoln do when her brothers died while serving in the Confederate Army?
 - She attended their funerals to show her grief.
 - She mourned in private.
- 2.** What did people say about the Lincolns when Emilie Todd Helm visited them?
 - They criticized the president for entertaining a rebel in the White House.
 - They praised the Lincolns for being good hosts.
- 3.** How did Mary Lincoln react to reports that her brother David was a cruel prison commander?
 - She said that David should be punished.
 - She begged Union prisoners to forgive David.
- 4.** How did Abraham Lincoln deal with stories that Martha Todd White hid money for the Confederacy in her trunk?
 - He ignored the stories and hoped the public would forget them.
 - He told a staff member to find out what really happened.
- 5.** What was Mary Lincoln's relationship with her Confederate relatives after the Civil War?
 - She had a warm reunion with them in Kentucky.
 - She did not speak with them again.

ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Try a Civil War activity!

- Try hands-on activities in books like *Great Civil War Projects You Can Build Yourself* by Maxine Anderson and *The Civil War for Kids* by Janice Herbert.
- Write a letter to an elected official asking for action on a cause that matters to you.
- Support an American soldier by sending a card or care package.

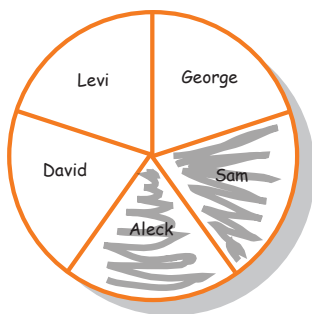
Learn more!

- Visit the Mary Todd Lincoln House in person or online to learn more about the Lincolns and the Todds (www.mtthouse.org).
- Look through pictures, letters, and other sources in *The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary* by Candace Fleming.
- Learn about the battlefields where the Todd brothers served at the Civil War website of the National Park Service (<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/index.htm>)
- Imagine the choices faced by Kentuckians at the beginning of the war by reading *Joseph's Choice 1861*, a fiction book by Bonnie Pryor.



Answers

Page 7:



Answers

Page 10:

- 1—She mourned in private.
- 2—They criticized the president for entertaining a rebel in the White House.
- 3—She said that David should be punished.
- 4—He told a staff member to find out what really happened.
- 5—She did not speak with them again.

This booklet is a publication of the Mary Todd Lincoln House in Lexington, Kentucky.
Visit the house to learn more about the Lincolns and the Todds.

Location

578 West Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507

Hours

Mid-March—November 30
Monday—Saturday (closed on Sundays)
10 a.m.—4 p.m., last tour 3 p.m.

Cost

Admission charged. Please call or check our website for current rates.
School tours, including homeschoolers, are available for K-12 by appointment year-round.
Discounts available for school tours.

Contact

Phone: (859) 233-9999
Web: www.mtlhouse.org



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MARY TODD LINCOLN

HOUSE

