

Lexington  
March 8. 1872

My dear Mrs Green,

Our friend Mrs  
Cronley tells me that she would like  
to be told something accurate with  
regards to the mysterious stranger who  
took shelter in the library at Ashland  
from the storm of the night of the  
of August 1860 or 1861.

I take pleasure in giving you the  
information you wish and relate  
the circumstances just as I remember  
them.

The storm began  
before dark - a violent rain storm  
accompanied with thunder and lightning  
and continued throughout the night -  
such a storm as often follows a  
run of intense heat. <sup>After tea</sup>  
I joined my daughter Lucy and some  
young people (schoolmates of hers)  
in the large octagon parlor or as  
it was generally called "the crimson  
room". I remained with them until