**Verse 1**
It was a time of great distress
The country was broken in civil unrest.
New Salem’s rail splitter defended the common man,
But when he went to Washington the cries of war began.

**Chorus 1**
The city streets are muddy,
The air’s hot and muggy,
It rains night and day,
Can’t chase the flies away.
Dysentery, malaria
Are D.C.’s calling card.
I call this home, but it won’t be home for long.

**Verse 2**
Washington did not welcome them.
Once in the door, the public hustled in;
They begged for jobs, while Lincoln begged for peace,
No union to preserve, secession would not cease.

**Chorus 2**
She expected a palace
But Mary Todd found instead
Threadbare chairs and broken plates
The house in dreadful state
The belle of Lexington
Imported elegance
It was a mess but it won’t be one for long

**Verse 3**
Each side called up their military minds
The generals assembled to strategize
When the battle started Lincoln gave his commands
But the men didn’t listen to his smart and careful plans.

**Chorus 3**
Willie and Tad were Lincoln’s sons,
They raced goats through the house.
The staff shook their heads,
Mrs. Lincoln shouted, “Out!”
The boys said they were lookin’ for fun,
“Oh dad, come out and play.
We wanna play, but won’t play very long.”

**Verse 4**
The strife continued in battle and at home
Lincoln ended slavery midst the starving mourns.
The war was long and brutal, many troops gave up their lives
Lincoln came to Gettysburg those men to eulogize