

Ostendorf collection Detail O-38

IMPISH TAD peeks out from behind the corner post in this detail enlargement of the preceding picture. His face is slightly blurred because he did not hold his pose for the full camera exposure count, but his father and Willie both gripped the poles to maintain a rigid stance. The children in the foreground (one of whom is shown here) are unidentified.

Just a few months before this picture was taken, Major George Haven Putnam of New York met Lincoln and got an unfavorable impression of "the long, ungainly figure, upon which hung clothes that . . . were evidently the work of an unskillful tailor; the clumsy hands . . . the long, gaunt head capped by a shock of hair that seemed not to have been thoroughly brushed."