Mary Todd Lincoln's Downtown Lexington Quest

Begin in front of the Mary Todd Lincoln House (#10), facing the street. Follow the rhyming direction clues to get to each location on the map. Then read the information clues (in *italics*) and fill in the blanks to complete the rhymes.

Start the quest!

Walk left from the front door to Jefferson, then,
Cross Main, walk to Short, and cross over again.
Take Short to the right past two streets till you see
A dark metal sign to the right of a tree.

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1. ***Mary was b__ __ __ in a house on this spot,***
Her grandma's house stood at the back of the lot.

Continue on Short, past the church and Saunier,
By the opera house, go with care across Broadway.
Go nearly one block, then look left and stop
By a big white brick building with windows on top.

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2. ***Mary wrote letters to those she held dear,***
To mail them, she came to a p__ __ __ office here.
Postage was based on the distance and pages,
Perhaps because mail had to travel on stages.

Now walk to North Mill, cross there, and turn left,
Head down Mill past Church Street and a church with some heft.
Past the church, the brick house with a door on one side
Was an office of one who was known nationwide.

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3. ***Henry C__ __ __ , a Todd friend, practiced law in this place,***
And then ran three times in the president's race.

Keep heading down Mill and cross Second Street
Past the big gray stone building to a tree-filled retreat.
Then take the brick walk to the park's edge at Third
To gaze at a place where degrees are conferred.

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4. ***The building with columns reflects the Greek mania***
In fashion when it was built for T__ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __
The college was Robert Smith Todd's alma mater,
He passed on his fondness of books to his daughter.

Go right to cross Market and walk down that street,
Fine houses and gardens make this stroll a treat.
Walk on; at Mechanic, keep heading on straight
Till a corner house looms just beyond a black gate.

5. ***Its owner, Tom B__ __ __ __ __, hired Todd as a clerk,***
But Robert left law for more profitable work.
The Todd link to this house was in some ways dual,
One daughter and Mary were classmates in school.

Cross Second and stop at the first house you see,
Its red door is numbered one-hundred-ninety.

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6. ***Though the Samuel Brown sign might imply not to tarry,***
A plaque on the right of the house mentions Mary.
For John W__ __ __ __'s academy stood on this site,
It was here Mary learned to do math, read, and write.

Continue on Market, past a small parking lot,
The brick building just beyond that's the next spot.
A sign on the right of the building makes clear
What nearly two centuries ago opened here.

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7. ***McChord's c__ __ __ __ __ had services rather than masses,***
The Todd kids attended its Sunday school classes.

Continue on Market, cross Short Street, and stop
By a big gray stone building with a clock at the top.

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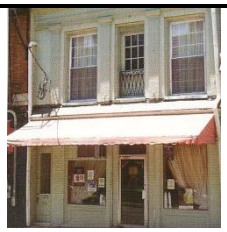
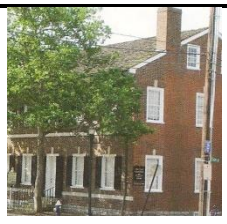
8. ***To the right is Cheapside, where Robert Todd's store***
Sold groceries, spices, fine liquors, and more.
This site was also the town's c__ __ __ __ house square,
Lexington's cruel slave market was there.

Pass Cheapside on Short to return to Mill Street,
Then look across it to your left a few feet.



9. ***A two-story building with windows on top***
Was a place where folks who loved sweets liked to s__ __ __.
Baked treats and dances at this site drew Mary
To Monsieur Giron's famed confectionary.

Take Mill past Giron's and turn right onto Main,
Go one block to Broadway and cross it again.
Continue up Main back to Jefferson, then
Cross the street and return to the place you began.



10. ***In 1832 the T__ __ __s moved to this place,***
The family was growing and needed more space!
It's now a museum about Mary's life,
From a Lexington girl to a president's wife.