

“The story is narrated by Adele Douglas (an engaging Mary Linda Rapelye)...A devoted adviser to her husband, Rapelye's charming and intelligent Adele listens intently onstage to the debates. Reflecting the evolution in attitude of the American public, she eventually realizes value in Lincoln's views on slavery.”

- Associated Press – Jennifer Farrar

“Mary Linda Rapelye is quietly moving as the devoted Adele.”

- **THE NEW YORK POST** -- Frank Scheck

“Compelling Theatre. Fine Performances.”

- **The New York Times** - Neil Genzlinger

“Mary Linda Rapelye is straightforward and strong as his (Douglas's) anxious wife.”

- **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL** -- Terry Teachout

“Mary Linda Rapelye portrayed the role of Adele Douglas to a tee.”

- **Daily Hampshire Gazette** -- Phoebe Mitchell

“Douglas' wife serves as a self-effacing narrator, and Mary Linda Rapelye brings out her subtle shrewdness,”

- **BACKSTAGE** – Gwen Orel

“Rapelye's considerable warmth and charm in the role (in both costume and deportment, she resembles a period lithograph”

- **THEATRE MANIA**—Sandy MacDonald

“Mary Linda Rapelye is appealing as Adele...scenes where Adele is alone with Lincoln, ..they're charmers, the highlights of the play, with enigmatic Honest Abe humanized a bit for us.”

- **nytheatre.com** ---Martin Denton

“Douglas's wife, Adele (Mary Linda Rapelye), narrates the play with warm, maternal-like commentary that makes the brawl seem authentic.... One of the more exceptional scenes includes Adele and Lincoln in a lighthearted conversation, free of politics, while on a train headed to the next debate site.”

- **SHOW BUSINESS WEEKLY** - Tanisia Morris

“The playwright has inserted the character of Adele Douglas (Mary Linda Rapelye) to accompany her husband, the senator, on his various trips to meet Lincoln for the debates. ...There is a witty scene wherein Douglas persuades his initially reluctant wife to go with him. Dramatically, Mrs. Douglas’s presence serves a good purpose. The couple’s conversations highlight Douglas’s philosophy regarding slavery and his attitude toward his opponent—at first somewhat scornful, then gradually building to a healthy respect for the countrified attorney.Mary Linda Rapelye’s Adele Douglas lends warmth and intelligence, as well as a welcome feminine presence to this otherwise stern presentation. Her few scenes with Lincoln also supply humor as her husband’s opponent plies her with his jokes.”

-The Epoch Times -- Diana Barth

*“The topics addressed in *The Rivalry* have never been more timely or more brilliantly brought to life.”*

-THE BEST OF off BROADWAY

“and the character of Adele Douglas, wife of Stephen Douglas, provides added personal perspective and is warmly portrayed by Mary Linda Rapelye”

-WOLF ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE –William Wolf

“Mary Linda Rapelye is strong as Adele Douglas, the second wife of the senator(Douglas)”

-ENCORE MAGAZINE--- Helen Cooper

“Adele, Douglas’s adoring wife, (Mary Linda Rapelye) serves the play as a narrative thread and as a comforting presence to the increasingly agitated Douglas.”

- CURTAIN UP -- Simon Saltzman

“tender domestic scenes featuring Adele, Douglas's wife, with both candidates individually.... Mary Linda Rapelye provides a clear window through which the audience can experience this historic series of events

GO TO OFF BROADWAY.com ---Lou’s Blog

“Mrs. Douglas (Rapelye) is our helpful tour guide to these events.”

-TIMEOUT – David Cote