NEIGHBORS (IND) DRAWER 3 YOUTH-INDIANA

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Abraham Lincoln before 1860

Indiana Neighbors

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

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Rockport, Nov. 4th 1861

Col. Veatch:

Dear Sir, I write simply to let you see a line from home, not having any news to communicate. I was at your house a few days ago, all were well. The only thing of local interest here is the formation of a Regiment at this place. They are now building the tents, (log huts) on the farm of Sam. Snyder, a very pretty place, one Company, Capt Townsend, will be in today. Bill Jones is Commandant with the expectation of being Col. Doct Crooks is an applicant for Lieut. Col. So is Judge Key, I cannot say how they will come out. Doct. Hougland aspires to be Surgeon, and will get the Act. Surgeons place I think. George Thomas is now appointed Q.M. Jos. Richardson will, most probably, be Subtler. The scramble for the offices is earnest. I may say well nigh ridiculous

Jesse W. Laird has gone to New Ebany Pasco Cty, to marry Miss Rodgers, they get married to morrow. It is said, with what truth I do not know, that Lottie F. is to be married in a few days to a Mr. Kivitt. I do not know him, only that he is a brother of the Doct. Thom De Bruhn has sold his house to Doct. Kivitt & moves in a few days to his farm. So much for local news not worth much I confess, but I know from experience, how keenly one a way from home relishes even trifling news. Charly Lowe got home yesterday, he is improving.

Business here is flat, it is not much that you are losing in the way of practice. We are expecting bloody work in Kentucky this winter. The indications are that the enemy will make a vigorous struggle to winter his army there, and if so it will be a bloody campaign and we can hardly hope to be spared. They seem to be here doing nothing and worse than nothing at Washington & on the Potomac. It seems out by

piece meal, that the whatte at Edward's Ferry, was a disastrous failure the result of the grossest ignorance of the strength & position of the enemy, or the most reckless fool hardyness. Yet no body was to blame. If Genl. Freemon had committed such a terrible blunder, the whole country would have been vocal with curses, but as the fault is to be traced to the door of McClelland, Stone or some other pet, nothing is said about it.

We have heard here with deep regret, the sickness of yourself and Regiment, but last advices, however, give us to understand that you are improving, and the coming of white frosts, it is to be hoped, will quite restore your health. We have had a very healthy fall. Tell John (my Dutchman) that we are all well and that his money (p15.) came home safely and I will take care of it for him, and I am glad to hear that his health is good and that he is making a good soldier. I should

be glad to hear from you at any time & I will write again soon my respects to Wright, Walker, Will Jones & all the rest. Yours truly

L. I. De Bruler

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1830 Circus at Vincennes — Sears, Bill Swadow

" VINCENNES GRAND MENAGERIE

The proprietor of the grand menagerie returns his sincere thanks to the citizens of this town and its vicinity for ... patronage ... and wishes to inform them that he ~~will~~ shall continue to exhibit the same for about two months. Vincennes Jan 4, 1830

Ind Imprints p 417

To the Editor:

This summary of an address to be delivered on "Indiana and Lincoln" at the seventh annual pilgrimage of the Boonville Press Club to the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln is for use following the address on Sunday afternoon, July 13. Attached is a copy of the address that may be of interest to your editorial writer for possible editorial comment.

LINCOLN CITY, INDIANA, July 13.-- In an address at the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln here today, William Fortune, of Indianapolis, presented facts of the life of Abraham Lincoln in his boyhood days in Indiana as he learned them directly from many neighbors of the Lincoln family by personal interviews in 1881, and asserted that none of the more than five thousand volumes on Lincoln's life have adequately presented this period of his life in which his character was moulded.

The address was made as Indiana's tribute in the seventh annual pilgirmage of the Boonville Press Club to the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Mr. Fortune, a native of Boonville, is an honorary member of the Press Club, having been elected when his native town held a celebration in tribute to his leadership of movements in the public welfare last fall. He was invited to make the address because in 1881, accompanying General James C. Veatch, he interviewed the surviving neighbors of the Lincoln family in Indiana, procuring much of historical value in knowledge of the life of Lincoln from his eighth to his twenty-first years.

He described the Lincoln region of Indiana in 1881, telling particularly of how General Veatch and he had visited and eaten dinner in the cabin, replica of the second and permanent cabin built by Thomas Lincoln for his family, and occupying the same site. The replica was built after the original cabin had been removed in 1860 on Lincoln's nomination for the presidency, and cut into pieces to be sold as souvenirs.

Mr. Fortune also described the beginning of the movement to honor the memory of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. He recalled that P. E. Studebaker contributed $50 for purchase of the headstone for her grave, and citizens of Rockport led by General Veatch and Dr. Isaac Milner gave $50 in $1 contributions to build the iron fence about the grave.

Quoting Lincoln as saying of this region of Indiana that "There I grew up," Mr. Fortune said: "These words are most significant. It was here where we are assembled that Abraham Lincoln 'grew up' Over these hills he roamed and all of the land about here is hallowed by the impress of his bare feet as he wandered over it through the days of his boyhood when the man was in the making, and into his character there were impressed the strength and rugged qualities of this region when the pioneers were striving to bring civilization into the dense woods that so long had been the domain of wild life. He had learned to read and to cipher. There had been born into him the eager desire for knowledge, which he gathered from all about him. The hardships of struggling life in the woods intensified his efforts to understand and to learn. He learned something from books but far more from study of all about him in the great school of life among strong men relying upon themselves."

Lincoln, himself, once said that "I was born in Kentucky, raised in Indiana and reside in Illinois," Mr. Fortune pointed out, and Lincoln recognized the full significance of the word "raised" as it has been used since early days in this region. "It is a fair presumption that Lincoln carried from Indiana into Illinois the knowledge and the ability and the qualities that enabled him to go on with his great service, and these qualities were not derived from an environment of inferior people but of sterling men who were equal to the stern tests of pioneer life," he said.

"It is a fact worthy to be recorded here for perhaps the first time," he said, "as evidence of the qualities of the people continuing to live in the region where Lincoln 'grew up' that from about here, along the Ohio river, even though it was so near the borderland of secession that there was intense feeling between neighbors, there was organized the first regiment of cavalry that went forth from all of Indiana when he as President called for volunteers to defend the Union." Mr. Fortune's father was a member of Company A of this regiment.

"Here in this environment Lincoln learned the value of simplicity in life and speech; here he learned the meaning of humility and there came to him that boundless patience, that unfailing pity, that burned so brightly and steadily during the trying times of his last days," he said. "Here it was that he became acquainted with the value of logic, with the necessity for looking men in the eye and judging whether they were true or false. Here it was that the roots were planted and if there was growth from that time on, it was because Nancy Hanks Lincoln gave her child the true qualities of greatness, because those persons who were the ancestors of many of you set the example that Lincoln the man was to follow. Indiana made this contribution in her pioneer days to the greatness of a life and of a nation, and honors itself in perpetuating the memories of this mother and son."

WILLIAM FORTUNE, AS A BOY OF 18, BEGAN STUDY OF LINCOLN'S LIFE

Ind. News 2-10-23.

NEW YORK, February 10.—Of unusual interest to Indiana readers is a dinner given a few evenings ago at the Cosmopolitan Club, at which Miss Ida Tarbell was hostess, and William Fortune, of Indianapolis, guest of honor. Mr. Fortune and J. K. Lilly sailed Wednesday, January 31, on a trip around the world.

A few weeks ago Mr. Fortune was the host for Miss Tarbell on a week's tour of southern Indiana, at which time he also had as his guests Cale Young Rice, of Louisville, poet and dramatist, and his wife, Alice Hegan Rice, the creator of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbago Patch," "Mr. Opp" and other delectable characters. The Rices also were present at Miss Tarbell's dinner.

Miss Tarbell and Mr. Fortune have one great interest in common, an historian's interest in anything touching the career of Abraham Lincoln. Miss Tarbell has long been known to the reading public as an enthusiastic student of Lincoln, and her "Life of Lincoln" is one of the standard biographies of the President. It was her search of material for a new work on the same subject that brought her into contact with Mr. Fortune.

Early Interest in Lincoln.

Mr. Fortune began his researches into the life of Lincoln while a youth of eighteen. Lincoln is still the great pattern of a self-made man set up for American youth to copy. To William Fortune that pattern was more vivid than to most boys. The log cabin in which Lincoln lived in Indiana, where Lincoln City is now situated, stood ten miles from William Fortune's boyhood home in Boonville.

William Fortune, when he was eleven years old, became the "devil" in the office of the Boonville Standard and began learning to be an editor. All his leisure time was spent in reading, and at fifteen he was the editorial staff of the Standard. To such a boy, living within a stone's throw, as it were, of the spot where Lincoln, against tremendous odds, had won his fight for an education, the example of the "Rail Splitter" appealed as it could not appeal to one who only read about Lincoln in books.

Many times had Lincoln—such was his thirst for knowledge—walked the ten miles from the log cabin to Boonville to attend court and to talk with people that had seen something of the outside world. William Fortune in his turn went from Boonville to the log cabin in order to talk with those that had known Lincoln. For one thing, he wished to know what books Lincoln had read, and there are still living men who, as boys, had frequently gone into the woods with Lincoln on Sundays and holidays, and lying under the trees had listened to him read some books which he had been fortunate enough to borrow from a neighbor. One of these boyhood companions of Lincoln was, when Mr. Fortune talked with him, a man of nearly ninety. He mentioned the title of a certain volume of which the biographers of Lincoln, apparently, have never heard. "We boys had great fun reading the stories in that book," the man chuckled. There has always been considerable speculation as to the origin of some of the stories for which Lincoln was famous, the belief being that if the source of these stories could be found, it might shed additional light on the character of Lincoln.

Book Found in London.

Lincoln's old comrade, perhaps, had provided a valuable clew, and long after that conversation Mr. Fortune began a search for the book. Years of effort, however, have failed to bring a copy of it to light, but only a few weeks ago Mr. Fortune received a copy of a book published in 1766, under another title, which experts have examined and regard probably as the one referred to by Lincoln. The book was found in London.

Mr. Fortune was then a young man of twenty-two, living in Spencer county. He was still working for the Standard, and his historical researches were pursued at night. For two years he ransacked the county records, dockets left by pioneer justices of the peace, files of old newspapers, and other sources of information that had not been disturbed half a century and more.

When the author was seventeen the history was published. It attracted wide attention throughout Indiana, large parts being reprinted in the newspapers of Evansville and Indianapolis. Some time after its appearance, William Fortune—he was Will Fortune then—received a letter from General James C. Veach, asking whether it would be agreeable to Mr. Fortune if General Veach were to come to Boonville for a conference. General Veach was one of the important men of southern Indiana. He had been a major-general in the civil war and was now an important government official at Evansville. He had been a close personal friend of Lincoln's. General Veach came to Boonville and asked for Will Fortune. A stripling of eighteen arose and answered, "I am Will Fortune." This was not at all the "grave and reverend seignor" General Veach had expected to meet. However, he thought an historian is an historian, no matter what his age.

Visit Lincoln City.

General Veach told Will Fortune that stored away in the memories of Lincoln's boyhood friends were facts unknown to history which would, with the death of these associates, be irretrievably lost. General Veach therefore proposed that he and Will Fortune should go carefully through the old Lincoln neighborhood and put in writing the stories of every one living that had known Lincoln. Will Fortune accordingly accompanied General Veach on a tour of research, more than glad to become the legatee of the old friends of Lincoln.

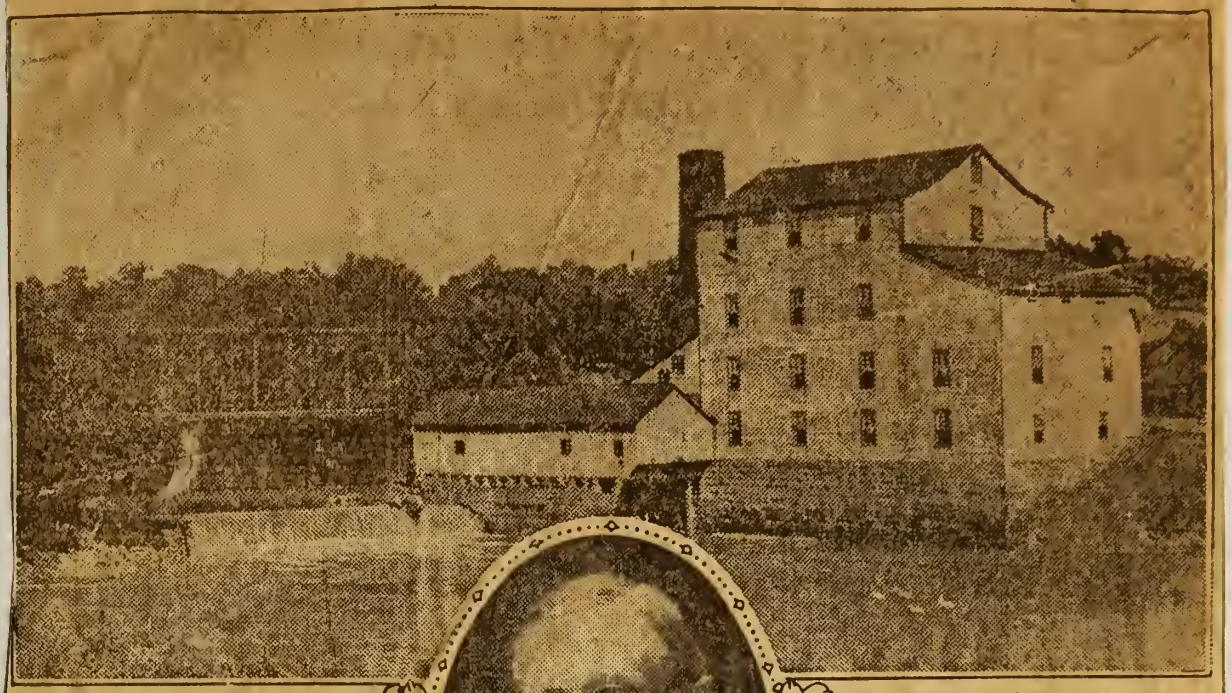
Some time ago Miss Tarbell became aware of the existence of these notes on Lincoln and wrote to Mr. Fortune urging him to publish them. Last October Miss Tarbell went to Indiana for a visit to Lincoln City and with Mr. Fortune as guide visited the surrounding country. The Rices were in the party. Starting at the old home of the Lincolns in Kentucky, the party crossed into Indiana and went over every foot of the ground with which Lincoln had been familiar.

The records of the old Pigeon Creek Baptist church contain a good deal of the history of the Lincoln—or, as it was then spelled, Linkhorn—family, and these Miss Tarbell was anxious to see. They were found wrapped in a piece of brown paper, in a grocery in Boonville. The grocer had continued as clerk of the church after removing to Boonville, and had taken the records with him. Miss Tarbell found many entries relating to Abraham Lincoln's father, Thomas Linkhorn, a trustee of the church. In those days country ministers received their salaries more often in food than in money, and Thomas Linkhorn, mindful that the stomach of man frequently craves something besides bread, on one occasion contributed four gallons of whisky to the support of his pastor.

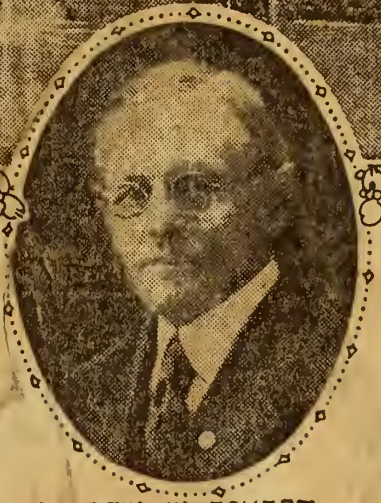
Many Stories Current.

In addition to authentic history, the members of the party found both in Indiana and Kentucky, many stories with which visitors in quest of "Lincoln material" are entertained, but which do not bear too close scrutiny. For example, an elderly woman in Kentucky, who still lived in the house in which she was born eighty-five years ago, was one of the two living direct descendants of Abraham Lincoln. The woman was not at home

WHEN ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS A BOY HE BROUGHT HIS GRAIN TO OLD ENLOW MILL ON THIS STREAM



ECKERT'S MILL, JASPER, IND



ANDREW W. ECKERT

[Special to The Indianapolis News]

JASPER, Ind., January 13.—One of the most picturesque and historic spots in Dubois county is Eckert's mill. The old mill dam and the bridge across the Patoka river near the mill add beauty to the scene. Eckert's mill is built on the site where stood years ago Enlow's water-mill. Abraham Lincoln, who as a boy, lived for a time in Spencer county, frequently brought corn to the Enlow mill to have it ground, and while waiting his turn fished in the waters of the Patoka river.

Thomas and Abraham.

Joseph Enlow in 1818 built a water grist mill on the Patoka river on this site, and to this old water mill farmers came for miles to have their grinding done, and among them were Thomas Lincoln and his son, Abraham.

Through the associations at the old mill the Enlows and Thomas Lincoln became fast friends, and when the Lincolns moved from Spencer county to Illinois they came by way of the Enlow mill and crossed the Patoka river at the old ford, a short distance below the present bridge.

Andrew W. Eckert is the present owner of the mill and has been associated with it almost all his life. He takes a keen delight in pointing out to tourists or to lovers of history the exact place where the Lincolns crossed the Patoka when they left Indiana.

And It Was Called Jasper.

The Enlow family gave the site of the original town of Jasper to Dubois county as a county seat in September, 1830. The commissioners of the county were intending to name the new town Eleanor in honor of Mrs. Joseph Enlow, but when Mrs. Enlow was informed by the board of its intentions, she said, "No, let me select a name." She retired to her room, consulted her Bible and returned and suggested Jasper as her choice of names for the new town.

Morris Birkbeck's Estimate of the People of Princeton in 1817

By Lucius C. Embree.

A paper read at the meeting of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society, May 27, 1925, at Newburg.

It is a matter challenging the notice of the people of southwestern Indiana, and especially of those of them who are descended from the pioneers of the early years of the nineteenth century, that, on the part of the biographers of Abraham Lincoln, apparently very little effort has been made to ascertain the degree that the development of his nature and character was influenced by his environment, and associations, during the fourteen years that he spent as a boy and young man in Spencer County and the surrounding localities. The attitude seems to have been that Lincoln's contacts and associations during this period were negligible, and the impression conveyed by some of them is that the people of southwestern Indiana, at that day, were ignorant, uncouth and lawless.

In view of this attitude, and of the impression which it engenders in the minds of the readers of these productions, it behooves the good people of the locality in question, and those of them especially who are the descendants of the pioneers, to take up arms in defense of the character and qualities of those who have gone before them. Persistence in ignoring, and misrepresenting, the people with whom the boy Lincoln came in contact in his early years, while he was growing from childhood to man's estate in this region, and in conveying the impression that these people were ignorant, uncouth and lawless, not only becomes tiresome, but demonstrates that those who have assumed to portray the life of Lincoln, and to define the process by which he became the man he was, have been wanting in industry, and have neglected one of the most promising fields of inquiry.

This condition of affairs has arisen, in part, from the circumstance that some of the early biographers of Lincoln were residents of Illinois, and wrote from personal contact with the subject and from personal memory. There was some excuse for the shortcomings of these, especially of those of them whose books are, more properly speaking, in the nature of chronicles or reminiscences; but for those who have entered the field later, and have essayed to write from inquiry and investigation, the excuse is not apparent. They have not had the inspiration of personal acquaintance with the great emancipator, nor have they set forth their individual recollections, but have undertaken to reach an estimate of the man, and to set forth the process of his development, from historical sources. In their case, neglect of one of the most promising fields for investigation is difficult to condone. It may be susceptible of explanation upon the assumption that biographers, like sheep, follow the bell-wether. Their apparent assumption that nothing commendable in the nature or character of Abraham Lincoln became a part of him while he was growing up among the pioneers of southwestern Indiana, is little less than criminal.

The child, born a savage, becomes a creature of civilization by gradual process. He begins to gather impressions in his earliest infancy, and continues to receive them throughout his life. It is out of these impressions that his nature is formed. It may be that he inherits some mental and moral tendencies from his ancestors, but these at most are mere tendencies; his nature is built, almost entirely, from that which he derives from his surroundings and from his contact with those about him as he grows up and matures. It is for this reason that one who seeks to ascertain the nature and character of a matured man, and the processes by which these have been developed, must necessarily begin his inquiries at the beginning, and must pursue them to the end. This means that the fourteen years of the boyhood and adolescence of Abraham Lincoln, which he spent in southwestern Indiana, and among its pioneer people, can not be neglected by any one who seeks to learn, and to portray, the process of his building. There is probably no period of his eventful life which influenced more largely his nature in manhood.

The pioneers of southwestern Indiana were not ignorant; they were not uncouth; they were not lawless. That there were reprehensible people among them can not be denied, but very superficial investigation into that which took place in early days will convince the inquirer that these were the exceptions, not the rule, just as our modern bandits are the exceptions today. These reprehensible people were at war with society, as similar people are at war with society now, and they finally were overcome and dispersed by the law-abiding elements, who were in large majority; it was the sound and useful citizens that survived to lay the foundation of the social life of the great commonwealth of Indiana.

The late Sampson Brass, in conversation with our inimitable friend, Dick Swiveller, is reported by competent authority to have remarked, "It's a pleasant world we live in, sir, a very pleasant world. There are bad people in it, Mr. Richard, but if there were no bad people, there would be no good lawyers."

There have been bad people, everywhere, throughout all of the generations of humanity. Cain lived at a very early period. He was the son of Eve, and all of us recall, in sorrow and regret, the heedless error on her part which so sorely has affected the lives of all that have come after her. Did the transgressions of the mother have anything to do with making Cain a bad boy?

Bad men and bad women in southwestern Indiana, during the first three decades of the nineteenth century, contrived, as bad men and bad women do always, to excite attention and comment while they lived, and to linger in tradition after they were dead, but they were not of the essence of the population. One vicious man can excite more attention in an hour than a hundred quiet, law-abiding citizens do in a lifetime; a large part of history is made up of the contacts of bad men and bad women with the better elements of society. In truth, if there never had been any bad men and bad women, there would be now very little readable history.

The brave and earnest men and women, who sacrificed their comfort, and their lives, to build this commonwealth, and to plant the seeds which have grown into the culture of its

society as it is today, in point of useful and practical information, decency of demeanor, soundness of citizenship and disposition to right living, were much the same as the commonalty of the better people of today.

This is not mere surmise, it is truth, substantiated by history. The book is open and may be read of all men, even those engaged in the writing of biographies of Abraham Lincoln. If this were not so, a little exercise of common sense and reason would bring to any sound mind a realization of the manifest truth that the many highly respectable families, which have been a credit to southwestern Indiana for more than a hundred years, are not the offspring of cut-throats and vagabonds.

For the present purpose, and to illustrate these suggestions, no effort shall be made to go beyond the limits of Gibson County, since there is no doubt that that which may be said of Gibson County can be repeated, in truth, of any other county of southwestern Indiana.

What were the limits of the neighborhood in which Abraham Lincoln lived for fourteen years in Indiana? Neighborhood is a term of relative meaning, dependent upon local conditions. Was the neighborhood of the boy, Lincoln, confined to a small, compact community, such as we regard as a neighborhood today? Can we suppose for a moment that the people whom Lincoln knew, and with whom he came in contact, as a boy, lived within a stone's throw of his father's cabin, or within the confines of what is now a single township or county? Is it not more probable, indeed practically certain, that he with his family, and his nearer neighbors, went long distances to preachings, camp meetings, public gatherings, house raisings, log rollings and political assemblages, as the pioneers of his day are known to have done? Did he not meet and form the acquaintance of numbers of people, who had traveled like distances from diverse directions? A neighborhood in a sparsely populated region extends over miles, in contrast to a neighborhood where population is dense.

Princeton, in Gibson County, was platted and established in 1814, some two years before Lincoln came to Indiana. It was some forty miles from the locality in which he lived for

fourteen years. It is known that, in his boyhood, he traveled, on horseback, to Princeton, with a sheet of wool to be carded, remained at least one day and fell in love with a daughter of James Evans, by whom he is said to have been repulsed because of his ungainly and awkward appearance. It was on this occasion that he saw the sign of Robert Stockwell, in gilt letters, over the door of his store at the southwest corner of the public square, across the street from Brown's Tavern, which occupied the present site of the Kidd Hotel. The time of this visit probably was two or three years before the Lincoln family left Indiana in 1830.

In the summer of 1816, when the town was visited by David Thomas, an American pomologist, florist and writer, Princeton had a brick court house, a log jail, three brick houses, ten frame houses, eighty log houses, six stores of merchandise, three taverns, three lawyers, two doctors, a clerk's office, a recorder's office, a postoffice, two shoe shops, one tailor, two saddlers, one hatter, one tannery and one chairmaker.

In 1817, Morris Birkbeck, with his family, traveled overland from the coast of Virginia to Princeton, on his way to Illinois, where, in association with George Flower, he founded the English settlement at and around Albion, in Edwards County, Illinois. He stopped and took up his residence at Princeton, where he and his family, and the family of Mr. Flower, resided for some nine months or more. He became a citizen and a voter. At an election, held at Brown's Tavern, to determine whether the town should be incorporated, he was one of the majority who cast their votes in the affirmative. Another voter at this election was Dr. Joel Fraser Casey, whose granddaughter, at Princeton, and grandson, at Patoka, are residents of the county today. Dr. Casey sustained the reputation of a gentleman and an upright citizen during his life, a reputation which has survived him for more than fifty years.

Mr. Birkbeck was an Englishman, and a man of capacity and education. He kept a diary in which he set down the incidents of his journey, and of his life at Princeton. His *Notes on a Journey in America From the Coast of Virginia*

to the Territory of Illinois were published in a number of editions in Philadelphia, London and Dublin in the years 1817 and 1818.[1]

In this little book, writing on the 24th day of July, 1817, Mr. Birkbeck has this to say of Princeton and its people:

"Regretting, as I must, my perpetual separation from many with whom I was in habits of agreeable intercourse in old England, I am much at my ease on the score of society. We shall possess this one thing needful, which it was supposed the wilderness could not supply, in the families of our own establishment, and a circle of citizen neighbors, such as this little town affords already. There prevails so much good sense and useful knowledge, joined to a genuine warmth of friendly feeling, a disposition to promote the happiness of each other, that the man who is lonely among them is not formed for society. Such are the citizens of these new states, and my unaffected and well considered wish is to spend among them the remainder of my days."

There are many interesting passages in Birkbeck's *Notes,* which cast light, not merely upon the progress of the new country, but upon the nature of its inhabitants as well. Here is his description of the founding of a town:

On any spot where a few settlers cluster together, attracted by an ancient neighborhood, or by the goodness of the soil, or the vicinity to a mill or by whatever cause, some enterprising proprietor finds in his section what he deems a good site for a town; he has it surveyed and laid out in lots, which he sells, or offers for sale, by auction.

The new town then assumes the name of its founder:—a store-keeper builds a little framed store, and sends for a few cases of goods; and then a tavern starts up, which becomes the residence of a doctor and a lawyer, and the boarding-house of the store-keeper, as well as the resort of the weary traveler: soon follow a blacksmith and other handicraftsmen in useful succession; a schoolmaster, who is also the minister of religion, becomes an important accession to the rising community. Thus the town proceeds, if it proceeds at all, with accumulating force, until it becomes the metropolis of the neighborhood. Hundreds of these speculations may have failed, but hundreds prosper; and thus trade begins and thrives as population grows around those lucky spots; imports and exports maintaining their just proportion. One year ago the neighborhood of this very town of Princetown was clad in buckskin, now the men appear at church in good blue cloth, and the women in fine calicoes and straw bonnets.

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[1] Portions relating to Indiana are reprinted in Harlow Lindley, ed; *Indiana As Seen By Early Travelers,* Indiana Historical Commission, 1916, pp. 171-190.

On July 19, 1817, Mr. Birkbeck wrote again:

"We are at Princetown, in a log tavern, where neatness is as well observed as at many taverns in the City of Bath or any city. The town will soon be three years old; the people belong to old America in dress and manners, and would not disgrace old England in the general decorum of their deportment."

Four days later, Mr. Birkbeck wrote again at Princeton as follows:

The simple maxim, that a man has a right to do anything but injure his neighbor, is very broadly adopted into the practical as well as political code of this country.

A good citizen is the common designation of respect; when a man speaks of his neighbor as a virtuous man—"He is a very good citizen."

Drunkenness is rare, and quarreling rare in proportion. Personal resistance to personal aggression, or designed affront, holds a high place in the class of duties with the citizens of Indiana.

One agreeable fact, characteristic of these young associations, presses more and more upon my attention:—there is a great amount of social feeling, much real society in new countries, compared with the number of inhabitants. Their importance to each other on many interesting occasions creates kind sentiments. They have fellow feeling in hope and fear, in difficulty and success, and they make tenfold more of each other than the crowded inhabitants of populous countries.

Mr. Birkbeck penned his final reference to Princeton on the 7th day of August, 1817. At this time he said:

We are now domiciliated in Princeton. Though at the farthest limits of Indiana, but two years old, and containing about fifty houses, this little town affords respectable society: it is the county town, and can boast as many well informed genteel people, in proportion to the number of inhabitants as any county town I am acquainted with. I think there are half as many individuals who are entitled to that distinction as there are houses, and not one decidedly vicious character nor one that is not able and willing to maintain himself.

The testimony of Mr. Birkbeck, it seems, should be accepted as a satisfactory bill of moral and intellectual health to Princeton in the days of Abraham Lincoln, and there is no reason to suppose that other communities of that day, similarly situated, were not made up of similar people, coming from the same stock, with similar culture and like antecedents and instincts. If Mr. Birkbeck required corroboration, it is to be found in the lives and qualities of the early

immigrants to Gibson County, who set up their homes, opened their farms, reared their families and contributed their share to the establishment of the good order and society of the community. Let us pass some of these in review.

In November, 1800, David Robb and his young wife, Nancy, reached the present site of Hazelton. They spent their first night in the stick and mud, floorless cabin of Daniel Hazelton, at the mouth of what is known as Robb Creek. The Hazelton family remained prominent and respected in Gibson County from that time until this. In 1804, Governor William Henry Harrison issued to Gervase Hazelton a license to maintain a ferry across White River, at the present site of the town of Hazelton, and the family continued to operate the ferry for at least eighty years.

David Robb established his home on lands south of Hazelton which are owned today by his descendants, by direct inheritance from him. He reared a large family, prospered beyond the measure of most men of his day, served several terms in the legislature and was an active member of the Constitutional Convention of 1816. Those descending from him have occupied high social position in the county from his day until the present time.

Gibson County was segregated from Knox County and organized in 1813. Originally it included a section now a part of Posey County, including New Harmony. When Abraham Lincoln came to Indiana the Rappites were at New Harmony, and in 1824 the Owens began their experiment at that place and attracted to the community the intellectual men identified with New Harmony history. There were other pioneers in that locality, but in respect to them data are not at hand.

The Hargrove family came to Gibson County in 1803, and during the territorial period, and in the early years of Indiana's statehood, were identified with the military and civil service. The family continued to enjoy social and political prominence for many years. In the same year, the Stewarts, the Milburns and the Heinmans came, and they remain today, as they were at first, respected and honored citizens.

The Archer family, long prominent and highly respected in southwestern Indiana, settled in Gibson County in 1804,

and Jesse Kimball, from whom many of the name have descended, residents of Gibson County, all of good name and repute, took up his residence in what is now Posey County in 1804.

Accessions to Gibson County, in 1805, were the McClures, the Montgomerys, the Evans's, the Neeleys and the Johnsons, all of whom were respectable people when they came, and they and their descendants have continued to be such for more than a century since that time.

In 1807, the Brazeltons, the Marvels, the Mounts's and the Harringtons took up their abode in the county, were prominent socially when they came, and they still abound and have the respect of their neighbors and acquaintances. William Harrington was the first judge in the county, and the first terms of court were held at his house.

James Smith came in 1808, was very prominent, much trusted, and highly respected for many years, and his family have continued to hold the confidence and respect of those who knew them. The quite numerous Wilkinsons and Stricklands had their origin in Gibson County in 1808 and they have been good citizens from generation to generation.

The Armstrongs came in 1809 and they have been trustworthy and respected citizens to this day; the same is true of one branch of the Evans family, and the Skelton family, who date back to 1810.

Joshua Embree, with his wife and five children, came from Lincoln County, Kentucky, in 1811. He died a citizen of Gibson County, in 1813. His will was the first will to be admitted to probate in Gibson County. His son, Elisha, self-educated and self-supporting from childhood, married Eleanor, eldest daughter of David Robb, located in Princeton, practiced law successfully, reared a family, served his state in the legislature, and for ten years as circuit judge, and represented his district in the popular branch of congress. Here he became an associate and friend of Abraham Lincoln, of Horace Greeley, of Elihu B. Washburn and of divers other men of national prominence. He had the distinction of declining nomination by the Whig party for governor of Indiana. When he died, he was followed to his grave by the

children of Princeton, who marched in procession and strewed flowers upon his grave. His son commanded a regiment in the great battles of Stone River and Chicamauga, and his descendants still remain respected citizens of the county.

In 1813, the Emerson and Kirkman families entered the county, where they have remained to this day, respected and honored with the confidence of their fellow citizens. Upon the organization of Gibson County and the establishment of its county seat, William Prince moved with his family from Vincennes to Princeton, where he served with honor as circuit judge. At his death in 1824, he was representative of his district in congress. His daughter, Elizabeth, became the wife of Samuel Hall, and their descendants are among the best people of the county today, as they have been for a century. Samuel Hall was a circuit judge, and one time lieutenant governor of Indiana.

The Brownlee family came in 1815, and were followed in 1816 by the Jeraulds and the Cockrums. These three families for more than a hundred years have been prominent in the social, political and business life of southwestern Indiana.

In 1818, another branch of the Jerauld family and the Benson family became residents of the county; they were high-class citizens from the beginning and have continued ever since to be of the first rank. Sylvester Benson, born in the county about a century ago, lived more than eighty years, enjoying the highest estimation, and a son of his sister has served with distinction for twelve years as judge of one of the highest courts of the state.

This is a rude catalog of more than thirty families who became identified with the county before 1819 and who have occupied positions of confidence and respect and have been of the highest social influence from that time until this. The greater part of them have been numerous from generation to generation, and there has not been a time for more than a hundred years that they have not had the deserved respect and confidence of the community. The pioneers of Gibson County were, for the most part, deeply religious. In their day there was still faith in God, and their lives were those of men and women of pious observances and simple faith.

The families here cataloged did not spring from vagabonds, and it is safe to assume that a similar showing can be made by every county in southwestern Indiana.

It was with people of this sort, engaged in honest and toilsome effort on behalf of their families and their communities, and conducting themselves as honorable citizens, that Lincoln in his youth came in contact; it was people such as these that impressed their nature upon the growing boy and young man; it was neighbors such as these, who by their association and example implanted in him the solid qualities that influenced his life to the end.

The list is by no means complete. It stops at the end of 1818, and does not include all of the people of the same sort who became a part of the population of the county of Gibson before that time. It is sufficiently full, however, to indicate to anyone, who cares to know the truth, that the population of Gibson County was not constituted of ruffians and questionable characters. It supplies corroboration of the testimony of Morris Birkbeck, and no doubt indicates the quality of the pioneer families of the other counties of southwestern Indiana.

Families such as these survived, and, in doing so, were the beginnings of the commonwealth; they planted in it the seeds of its culture and social preeminence. Is there any reason to suppose that their nature did not become a part of the young man Lincoln, who parted from them in 1830. If it did not, Lincoln was the only boy of all time who lived in a community for fourteen years without being influenced by it.

Sketch of Early Presbyterian Church in Indiana

By the Reverend J. H. Barnard, Madison[1]

Going back to the beginning of the last century, we find the vast region of country lying north and west of the Ohio River, now become the well cultivated and well ordered state, an almost unbroken wilderness. In the depth of this wilderness dwelt several powerful tribes of Indians. Exclusive of the savage tribes and nations occupying it, was a white population of 4,875, of which a small portion in Clark's grant at the Falls of the Ohio was of English descent; the other mostly of French extraction and residing at or near Kaskaskia, Vincennes, and Detroit. Along with men of other religious faiths there were Presbyterians among the first Anglo-Saxon settlers in the country about Vincennes. In 1783 Patrick Simpson came from Glasgow, Scotland, to Vincennes. About 1796 Daniel McClure, with several stalwart sons, settled near Vincennes; and in the year 1800 several other Presbyterian families came and took up their residence in the community. It is altogether probable that Samuel Thornton Scott, who afterward became the first resident Presbyterian minister in Indiana, in the year 1802, taught a school in Vincennes and, having the ministry in view, held religious services in the country on the Sabbath. Some of the earliest settlers have left written testimony to this effect and that after this Scott returned to Kentucky and studied for the ministry. At the spring meeting of the Transylvania Presbytery in 1803, the Reverend Alexander Cameron and the Reverend James Vance were appointed to preach in the settlements in the Illinois grant and at the Port Vincennes. This

[1] This sketch, written at the instance of the Presbytery of New Albany, is based almost entirely on notes and records made by the Reverend A. Y. Moore, an early Presbyterian minister in Indiana.

[It supplements, at many points, our existing books upon the subject, the excellent *Contributions to the Early History of the Presbyterian Church in Indiana,* by Hanford A. Edson, 1898, and *A Brief History of the Presbyterian Church in the State of Indiana* prepared by a committee of the Salem Presbytery and published in 1828 over the name of John M. Dickey, now very rare.—Editor.]

Daughter of Lincoln's Friend Is Living Near Lincoln City

mould. Remember, John an' Abe were such good pals, workin' an' hurtin' an' goin' together to the little Baptist Pigeon church, that when the Lincoln family moved into Illinois, John accompanied 'em on the first day's journeyin' an' camped with 'em the first night. He use to talk to me a heap about that partin'.

"Lou's Grandfather Gentry was the fellow who owned the store in Gentryville where young Abe clerked, always comin' back to his home here o' nights. The Enlows, too, were associated with the Lincolns way back in Kentucky days. It was a distant relative o' mine who helped care for Nancy Hanks when she was an orphan. His name was Abraham Enlow, so afterward Nancy named the boy for him.

Followed Buffalos

"The buffalos were plentiful down there in Kentucky an' the folks, seein' how those animals migrated north, calculated there must be better farm land in that direction. The Enlows followed the buffalo trail up into Indiana for that reason an' I suspect that was why the Lincolns did too. Anyway, my grandfather settled at [illegible] near Jasper an' noticin' the water power, built a mill, one of the mills where Lincoln is said to have traded. Another mill I know of was the William Woods mill near Dale. It was only two or three miles from here so it's likely that is where young Abe rode with his grain bags as it was the nearest horse mill in these parts.

"My wife had a brother who went to see Lincoln an' shook hands with him. Yes, sir, what d' you think o' that? But, as for me, I only got to see him at a distance. I was in the army, you know, an' when we paraded in Washington city, Lincoln came out on the north porch an' reviewed us. I tell you, it was this way about Lincoln. He got his knowledge, his good raisin' and his traits of character from living in a community of people who were all moral an' straight an' honest. My father had a store here at which Tom Lincoln traded an' Tom had the same honesty in him that his boy had.

"Abe got his education at home for there wasn't even a school here when father came; so he hired a teacher an' rented a house, the pupils payin' his salary together. The three-walled home of Lincoln was still standin' when I came here from Dubois county an' I've been in it several times. When the railroad was built through here, however, the company sold the house to a Chicago concern an' it was torn down. I located the spot when Spencer county was puttin' up that memorial, diggin' down until I unearthed some bricks of the old chimney. The memorial stone stands exactly where the chimney stood.

Indebted to Mother

"They hadn't completely stamped out that milk sick weed that caused Nancy Hanks Lincoln's death by her drinking the milk from a poisoned cow, when I came here from Dubois county. Some of my cattle ate the weed an' just stiffened up like they all did until they died, but soon as we got the timber cleared a little more, we stamped it out. An' it was his mother's raisin' that made Lincoln the upright friendly man he was."

Davis Enlow is a white-haired man of 83, and his wife is 77. Thursday as the aged couple look away from their doorway, southward where the Grigsbys lived, and then eastward where the little town nestles among the hills they will view only tranquil scenes.

Perhaps there will be a flag flying from the porch of some thoughtful townsman, but there will be little to denote that the residents realize how scarcely more than a century ago a tall ungainly lad sprawled before the fire of his home there or set the echoes of his ax strokes ringing as in mind and body he prepared himself for the future in which he was lifted to the greatest office America can bestow.

The approach of Abraham Lincoln's 117th anniversary turn Noah Spurlock, caretaker of the state park, beside the monument o inscription reads: "Mother of Abraham Lincoln. Died Oct. 5, 1818

Lower left: The memorial stone marking the site of young A ancestral history is woven in with the Lincoln family.

By HAROLD V. STREETER

LINCOLN CITY, Feb. 6.—Abraham Lincoln is not to be without honor on his 117th anniversary Thursday save in his home town.

Lincoln City, whose scattering of frame abodes and square-front general stores had a beginning in the historic three-walled cabin of Thomas Lincoln, father of the Emancipator, will hold no ceremony for the boy whose ax hewed a figurative path to the White House.

Even the children's exercises which custom has ordained in the little red brick schoolhouse, but a stone's throw from the memorial slab that marks the site of the three-walled cabin, have been delayed by the principal on account of illness among the pupils. They may be held on Washington's birthday—or they may not.

To Decorate Grave

Noah Spurlock, caretaker of the state park, will climb the knoll to place some flowers on the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and then will trudge back down again to his home where he lives while performing the duties he has shouldered these 18 years or more. The scores of squirrels which Spurlock has won to himself by nesting the hickories and oaks with squirrel huts, will frisk about the mound enclosing dust for which the great Lincoln once said, "all that I am or hope to be I owe to my angel mother." Perhaps a solitary figure or two will mount the slope to pause a while or wander among the graves of the Morris folks, the Sumners, and the Hicks; that will be all.

Farther to the south where Lincoln's sister is buried in the cemetery of the Pigeon church, there will be less than that. It's too much of a walk. Yet on the site of that church once stood another, a log structure to which came Abraham and Thomas and Nancy, the Grigsbys, the Gentrys, the Romines and the rest, to find their souls.

To the north of Lincoln City on still another knoll there are at least two farm folks who will meet the day with reverence, for they are growing old together. They are Mr. and Mrs. Davis Enlow, and

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s America again to the scenes of his childhood at Lincoln City. Upper: f the Emancipator's mother, which crowns the slope. The smaller . Age 35 years."

be's log cabin home. Lower right: Mr. and Mrs. Davis Enlow, whose

their ancestral relations bind them closely to the scenes of young Abe's childhood. Indeed, they have but to look out the window to see a stretch of land on which the boy Lincoln worked with hoe, with prow point, and with wooden mould.

Home Is Plain

There is nothing to tell of this for the traveler who, after accumulating the clay of a mile's walk across corn fields and adown muddy lanes, finally comes into sight of the low white farm house and the summer kitchen nearby. The shaggy haired dog arouses the family—and Uncle Davis is at the door to welcome you to a seat by his fire.

"My wife," he begins, referring to the little woman bustling about the kitchen, "is the daughter of John Gentry who was Abe's best chum when the two were boys. Many's the time that young Lincoln and John have worked over that 40-acre piece you see out there. Most of the work then was hoein', but when they needed to plow they used a prow point an' wooden

GOVERNOR THOMAS POSEY

The voluminous literature upon George Washington which the approaching second centennial of his birth is already producing includes some interesting sidelights upon the second territorial governor of Indiana, Thomas Posey. As is well known, Thomas Posey spent the early part of his life upon a plantation adjacent to Washington's. His father, John Posey, was continually in debt and borrowed heavily from Washington, who ultimately had to take the plantation in payment. Thomas Posey became a colonel in the War of the American Revolution, lieutenant-governor of Kentucky, and governor of Indiana Territory. He is buried at Shawneetown, Illinois. One of the underground legends of American history asserts that he was an illegitimate son of George Washington. No evidence has come to light to confirm this story. On the other hand it has been effectually disposed of by John C. Fitzpatrick, whose edition of the *Diaries of George Washington*, in four volumes (1925), is as nearly a perfect piece of work as has been published in the last three years. Mr. Fitzpatrick, in an article on "The George Washington Scandals" in *Scribner's Magazine*, April, 1927, carefully demolishes the alleged proof and suggestion connected with the Posey story. George Wilson gives interesting information about the Posey family in a letter to the *William and Mary Quarterly*, Volume VI, p.

At the same meeting, in addition to the annual memberships with $2 dues, sustaining memberships were created with dues at $10; life memberships for contributions of $100 or more. It is hoped that a considerable number will take these new memberships and thus increase the resources and usefulness of the Society. IHD HIST BULLETIN 2-2-28

14

Dr. A. J. Kleiser, President

Mrs. T. E. Huston, Librarian

LINCOLN NATIONAL
JUL 31 1931

Waveland-Brown Township Library

Waveland, Indiana

July 29th. 1931.

Louis A. Warren:

Dear Sir,

The enclosed clipping bears out the Lincoln tradition that our family had of "Where the Lincoln family came into Indiana?".

The photographs I sent were not to be returned if you can make any use of them. I have the negatives of them.

Sincerely,

Mrs. T. E. Huston

LONG-FORGOTTEN RECORD SHOWS LINCOLN'S OHIO RIVER CROSSING

CANNELTON, Ind., June 1 (A.P.)—Lincoln biographers and historians who have been baffled by the problem of just where Thomas Lincoln and his family crossed the Ohio river from Kentucky into Indiana, find its long deferred solution in a document just found by Oscar C. Minor, circuit judge in the Perry circuit Courthouse here, bound as an insert in a deed book.

Under date of August 20, 1866, Jacob Weatherholt, Jr., then age seventy-one, writes: "My father, Jacob Weatherholt, Sr., ferried Thomas Lincoln and his family, his wife Nancy, daughter Sarah and son Abraham, age eight, on their way from the hills of Kentucky to Indiana. They had a yoke of oxen, a cow, a cart and some camping outfit. They went by canoe and raft of logs from what is Clover Creek, Ky., and camped overnight on land I now own, and next day made their way down the Indiana banks of the Ohio by Indian trails and paths, camping the second night at Rock Island, where General Lafayette was wrecked in 1825."

This document, entered at the time by William P. Drumb, recorder, has a duplicate in the possession of Jacob Weatherholt, Jr.'s, grandson, Clarence C. Leaf, who owns part of the land described and operates a ferry between his home at Tobinsport and the Kentucky town of Cloverport, just where his great-grandfather ferried the Lincolns across.

July 31, 1931

Mr. T. E. Huston
Waveland, Indiana

My dear Mrs. Huston:

Since July 19 I have been holding the enclosed letter for you in hopes I might get some good photographs of the print which you sent me. Our photographer has made two or three attempts but has failed each time so I am still holding the photograph. Your letter today makes me happy in feeling that I can keep them in that I am especially anxious to have the one of the early bridge.

Thank you very much for your kindness and if I have occasion to use them I shall be sure and give you credit for having contributed them.

Most sincerely yours,

_____, Director

LAW:VY LINCOLN HISTORICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Descendants of Abe Lincoln's Neighbors Make Study of His Life in Spencer County

Above are 38 Dale school pupils whose ancestors were schoolmates and neighbors of Abraham Lincoln in Spencer county with a replica of the Lincoln log cabin.

Bottom row—left to right—Allen Brooner, Earl Michel, Ernest Woods, Victor Wertman, Kenneth Rice, Grant Michel, Billy Winkler, Charles Medcalf;

Middle row—Junior Woods, Catherine Richardson, Malee Medcalf, D. W. Medcalf, Lloyd Woods, Uls Woods, Billy Rice, Ralph Woods, Ralph Griepenstroh, Kenneth Michel, June Medcalf;

Top row—Kathryn Medcalf, Jenette Medcalf, Joe Rice, Louette Rice, Florence Winkler, Emma Jayne Jennings, Nelson Klingensmith, Eldo Griepenstroh, Ida Dale Avery, Betty Jo Heichelbech, Kathryn Mae Gentry, Nadine Medcalf, Madeline Richardson, Joan Richardson, Betty Flo Whitten, Bill Hevron, Ella Mae Jennings, Wanda Medcalf and Lorain Jones.

Several other pupils related to neighbors of the Lincolns are not in the picture because of absence.

Photo Courtesy of Orra V. Brown, Dale

By MONTE M. KATTERJOHN

DALE, Feb. 8.—Following the "Lincoln Boyhood Trail" over the same elm and hickory timbered ridges that young Abraham Lincoln trudged to and from his log cabin home to the outside world in Southern Indiana leads past a one-story brick school building in nearby Lincoln City. Forty-one Carter township pupils are attending classes there, taught by teachers Wilford Jarboe and Sadie Medcalf.

Grades first to eighth are taught within a stone's throw of the bronze memorial logs and original Lincoln cabin hearth stones that definitely mark the site of the Lincoln family home in Indiana, 1816 to 1830. The school is located in Nancy Hanks Lincoln park.

Within the pioneer security of his hearthstone school of 122 years ago the boy Abraham used the back of a wooden shovel for a slate, and studied at the knees of his "angel mother," Nancy Hanks Lincoln. After 1819 he was encouraged by his stepmother, Sarah Bush Lincoln, to read and write, and to spell and remember. "Abe was always a learner," she said.

The 441 students and pupils of Dale's public and parochial schools, and also the 41 pupils at Lincoln City, are to be taken on study tours of the "trail of historic stones" in Nancy Hanks park during the current year. The stones almost provide a fore-court for the smaller school building at Lincoln City. Gathered by the Indiana Lincoln Union, the 12 relics from milestone sites of Lincoln achievement relate the story of his life.

Explaining their historical significance to school children is part of a program originated by E. H. Loehr, principal of the Dale public schools, and endorsed by Otis I. Brooner, Carter township trustee. It is being carried out by many teachers of the Spencer county Lincoln farm area, and is a step in the study at first hand of Abraham Lincoln's youth and life by local children and high school students, many of whom are descendants of the families who were neighbors of the Lincolns when they lived in Indiana.

The stone-lined path commences under an historic elm near the Lincoln City school and extends southward from the cabin memorial to the grave of Lincoln's mother, a half-mile distant. In graphic sequence they are arranged "to teach the story of struggle, achievement and the strength of America," Professor Loehr says.

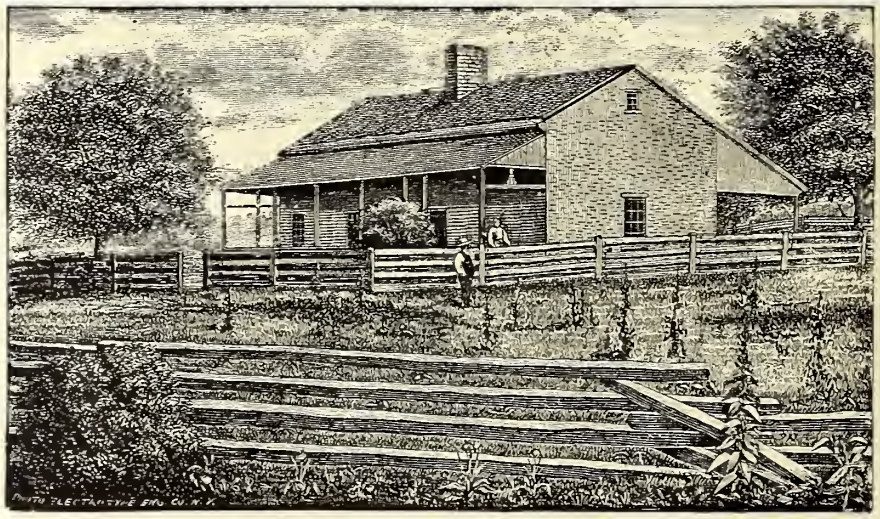
The Lincoln Youth Library association of Carter township, headed by Orra V. Brown, seeks to have the western path that leads from the mother's grave back to the cabin marked wih 12 additional stones, all from distinctive Spencer county sites associated with Lincoln's Indiana boyhood.

"Home is the place of interest to young people for their understanding that the great friend of man was once a Spencer county boy," says Professor Loehr. He proposes a Dale school Lincoln club whose members are interested in the subject; a definite niche in the Dale school library for books and documents pertaining only to Lincoln's Indiana years; the devotion of one day each year to a study tour by all school children to historic sites of Lincoln history in Spencer county; and in Carter township "on the very ground and in the very township where the railsplitter-president lived and roamed," he urges a permanent library "to house the books, maps, relics and priceless items relating to the Lincoln period in Indiana."

Teachers of the Dale schools have encouraged the gathering of Lincoln lore, pictures, maps, old records and the writing out of unpublished accounts of family memories, by their students. The great-great-grandparents of almost 50 of them were schoolmates and neighbors of the Lincolns in Indiana. Recently Mr. Brown got them together for a picture for the permanent records of the Lincoln Youth Library association. Thirty-eight boys and girls assembled before a miniature replica of the Lincoln log cabin built by classmate, Billy Sprinkle, a high school student whose enthusiasm for Lincoln study is as ardent as Lincoln's hunger for knowledge.

HON.
JAMES
GENTRY, SR.
TO ES. HODGES,
ROCKPORT, IND

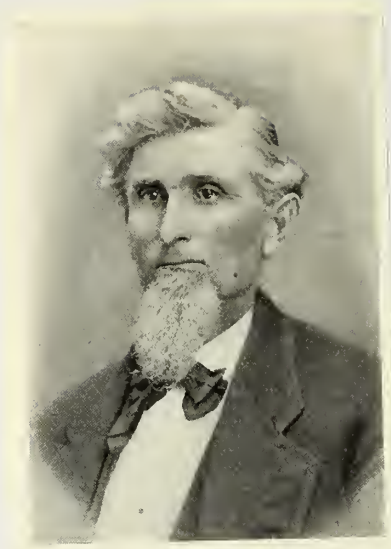
JOSIAH CRAWFORD
("Old Blue-Nose")
With whom Abe and his sister lived as hired man and maid-of-all-work.



THE CRAWFORD FARM-HOUSE
Abe did not like Josiah Crawford, ("Old Blue Nose,") but he "was reconciled to his situation in this family by the presence of his sister."

SAMUEL CRAWFORD.

Only living son of Josiah Crawford, who lent Lincoln the Weems's "Life of Washington." To our representative in Indiana, who secured this picture of Mr. Crawford, he said, when asked if he remembered the Lincolns: "Oh, yes; I remember them, although I was not Abraham's age. He was twelve years older than I. One day I ran in, calling out, 'Mother! mother! Aaron Grigsby is sparking Sally Lincoln; I saw him kiss her!' Mother scolded me, and told me I must stop watching Sally, or I wouldn't get to the wedding. [It will be remembered that Sally Lincoln was 'help' in the Crawford family, and that she afterwards married Aaron Grigsby.] Neighbors thought lots more of each other then than now, and it seems like everybody liked the Lincolns. We were well acquainted, for Mr. Thomas Lincoln was a good carpenter, and made the cupboard, mantels, doors, and sashes in our old home that was burned down."

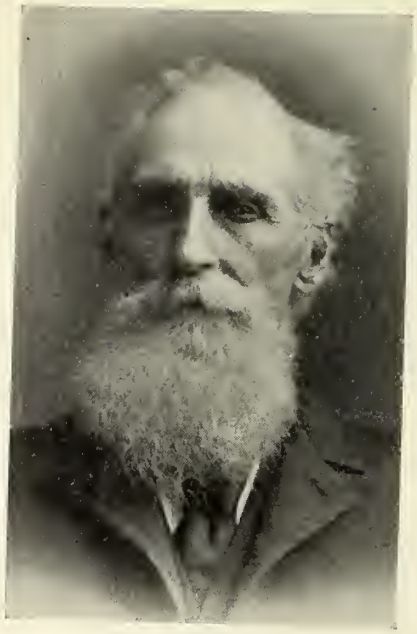


GREEN B. TAYLOR.

Son of Mr. James Taylor, for whom Lincoln ran the ferry-boat at the mouth of Anderson Creek. Mr. Taylor, now in his eighty-second year, lives in South Dakota. He remembers Mr. Lincoln perfectly, and wrote our Indiana correspondent that it was true that his father hired Abraham Lincoln for one year, at six dollars a month, and that he was "well pleased with the boy."

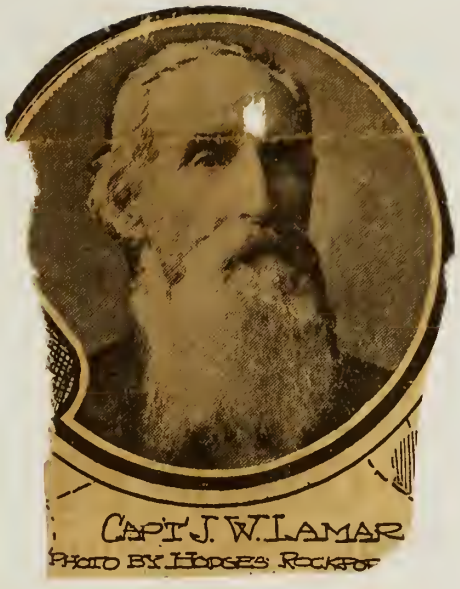
REV. ALLEN BROONER.

A neighbor of Thomas Lincoln, still living near Gentryville. Mr. Brooner's wife was a friend of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. The two women died within a few days of each other, and were buried side by side. When the tombstone was placed at Mrs. Lincoln's grave, no one could state positively which was Mrs. Brooner's and which Mrs. Lincoln's grave. Mr. Allen Brooner gave his opinion, and the stone was placed; but the iron fence incloses both graves, which lie in a half-acre tract of land owned by the United States government. Mr. Allen Brooner, after his wife's death, became a minister of the United Brethren Church, and moved to Illinois. He received his mail at New Salem when Abraham Lincoln was the postmaster at that place. Mr. Brooner confirms Dr. Holland's story that "Abe" once walked three miles after his day's work, to make right a six-and-a-quarter-cents mistake he had made in a trade with a woman. Like all of the old settlers of Gentryville, he remembers the departure of the Lincolns for Illinois. "When the Lincolns were getting ready to leave," says Mr. Brooner, "Abraham and his step-brother, John Johnston, came over to our house to swap a horse for a yoke of oxen. 'Abe' was always a quiet fellow. John did all the talking, and seemed to be the smartest of the two. If any one had been asked that day which would make the greatest success in life, I think the answer would have been John Johnston."



JOHN W. LAMAR.

Mr. Lamar was one of the "small boys" of Spencer County when Lincoln left Indiana, but old enough to have seen much of him and to have known his characteristics and his reputation in the county. He is still living near his old home, and gave our representative in Indiana interesting reminiscences which are incorporated into the present article.


CAPT J. W. LAMAR
PHOTO BY HODGES, ROCKPOR

INDIANA - NEW HOPE, SPENCER COUNTY

At the New Hope marker: "1821-1825, general store of Basye stood near this site. Taylor Basye carried $300 worth of stock — calico, sugar, coffee, ammunition, saddles, leather harness, etc. Exchanged wares for furs, skins, feathers. Produce shipped at stated seasons to market."

"Abraham Lincoln traveled this way, 1821-1830, visiting and trading at Taylor Basye's store. On corner west of this site first church and Lamar cemetery about half-mile off road. First school was nearby. Jonathan Prosser taught school here and near the Lincoln home."

WORKING FOR THE CRAWFORDS

JOSIAH CRAWFORD was a well-to-do farmer in the neighborhood. He was not well liked by the neighbors, whose children called him "Old Blue-Nose" for an obvious reason. Abraham had an experience with him in connection with Weems's "Life of Washington." The boy had borrowed it and, after reading it as long as he could see, tucked it into a chink in the wall between two logs over his bed, to be at it again as soon as it was light enough in the morning. But a driving rainstorm came up in the night, wet the mud-mortar plastered in between the logs and muddy water ran over the book, almost ruining it. Abe was in sad straits. What could he say to "Old Blue-Nose," who was considered a hard master. He went to Mr. Crawford (who must not be confused with Andrew Crawford, the schoolmaster) and frankly confessed that the book was badly damaged, but he would do anything he could to make good the loss:

"All right, Abe, seein' as it's you, I'll let you pay for it," said Mr. Crawford. "That book's wuth seventy-five cents, if it's wuth a penny, and you can pull fodder for me three days at twenty-five cents a day for it."

Abraham was staggered by this cool proposition, but he had offered to do what he could. The book might have been worth that when new, but it was an old book when he borrowed it, and one day's work was all it was really worth. But the boy had pledged his word; "Old Blue-Nose" had caught at it and driven a hard bargain. So the lad pulled fodder three whole days and owned the damaged book himself. He said little about this experience, but on one occasion, he took his revenge by writing doggerel rhymes about the offending Mr. Crawford's nose.

A little later, Abraham's sister went to live with the Crawfords as maid-of-all-work, and Mr. Crawford had use for her strong brother's services as hired man. Much as the lad disliked the man, there were several attractions for him in the Crawford household. Sarah (or Nancy) was proud of her big brother and Abe was very fond of his sister. Mrs. Crawford was as agreeable as her husband was disagreeable to him, and, besides, the Crawfords owned quite a number of books which Abe was yearning to read, but which, after the mishap to Weems's "Washington," he did not feel like asking to borrow. So young Lincoln did, as we all must sometimes, the very thing he would n. have wished to do.

Mrs. El. .beth Crawford, Josiah's wife, has related some of the best stories we know of Abraham Lincoln's boyhood. She says:

Abe was a sensitive lad, never coming where he was not wanted. He liked to hang about the house and talk with the "women folks." He was handy about the house, getting up early, starting the fire, putting on the kettle, and getting the breakfast going, before the rest were up. He would rock the baby or help his sister or his mistress in any way he could. Mrs. Crawford tells that "Abe was tender-hearted and kind, like his sister," and that he always lifted his poor old hat in saluting ladies. He was full of fun and always joking. The greatest joke of all was that he meant, one day, to be President.

"A pretty President you'd make, with all your nonsense, Abe Lincoln," said Mrs. Crawford.

"I'll get ready and the time will come," laughed the big boy, as he strode away as fast as his long legs would carry him.

The Home of the Crawfords

Lincoln and the Owens.

Lafayette Journal-Courier — In the year 1859 Abraham Lincoln wrote to J. W. Fell that he had found nothing in the Indiana in which he spent the formative years of his life to excite ambition for an education, and that all he learned in Hoosierdom was "to read and write and cipher by the rule of three." Of course, that was the Lincoln modesty and his sense of humor speaking—or writing. If Lincoln learned nothing else in those formative years in Indiana, he did learn how to learn —how to study, how to concentrate.

One of the apparent tragedies of those years when Lincoln subconsciously absorbed pioneer fundamentals in the wilds of southern Indiana, was the fact that within 45 miles of the Lincoln home was New Harmony, a center of knowledge, science, teaching, intellect and culture. In those years the Owens were bringing brains to the wilderness by the boat load.

We may well believe that if Lincoln had known of the New Harmony educational activities going forward in a neighboring county, he must have hit the woodland trail, on foot, if need be, to partake of the intellectual feast, and to get learning from the fine array of teachers then functioning on the lower Wabash.

THE POWELL FAMILY.

Sturdy Pioneers That Settled in the Township Nearly One Hundred and Twenty Years Ago.

HARRIET POWELL.

The history of Hammond township, Spencer county, Indiana, would not be complete without a brief record concerning the Powell family—emigrants from Georgia.

Ezekiel Powell, Sr., his brothers, William, Littleton and James, and two sisters, whose names are unknown, with their parents left their native state about 1803 to seek a home in Kentucky, traveling overland in the primitive fashion of those days, stopping here and there for a while as "squatters." Some where on the journey the father died and later the mother was married to Uriah Lamar, a widower. This marriaeg took place either in Tennessee or Kentucky. After various short stays in the latter state, the Powell sons, the mother and step-father arrived near the mouth of Blackford creek. Not satisfied to settle there because of the difficulty in securing a good title to the land, they moved across the Ohio river and settled in a "squatter's" cabin along Big Sandy creek to the northeast of the present site of Grandview. The exact date is unknown but between 1808 and 1810.

Some time after their coming, Ezekiel Powell, white out hunting on a hot summer day, found a spring of water. This discovery led Mr. Lamar to decide to buy that particular tract of land on which he already had a cabin. So on March 25, 1812, he received his land warrant in the Land Office at Vincennes. This land lies in section 27, township 6 south, range 5 west. However, he had an opponent, Kelton Murray, who also went to the Land Office on the same errand; but Mr. Lamar arrived first and secured the coveted land grant and returned to build a permanent home.

Ezekiel Powell, Sr., was married three times; his first wife being Hannah Hornback, to whom he was married early in 1812. Of this marriage there were six children—Stephen, the oldest being born January 10, 1813. Mrs. Hornback, Hannah's mother, died near the Lincoln home and was buried on the same hilltop that is the final resting place of Nancy Hanks Lincoln. The first wife died in the latter part of 1826 and early in 1827 he married Mary Becket, a native of Kentucky. To them were born four children—John, William, Young and Melissa. In July, 1840, he was again left a widower, and in 1841 he married Esther Williams-Limber, a native of London, England. Of this union there were eight children; the two youngest still living. He served in the war of 1812, from February 25, 1813, to April 17, 1813, under Capt. John Wilburn. He was an expert marksman with his flint-lock rifle, which he usually carried while going from one community to another. He knew the Lincoln family very well but did not consider Abe much of a hunter.

He was the fifty-sixth member of the Bethlehem Regular or Primitive Baptist Church, which was organized soon after the Powells and Lamars came to Indiana. On September 29, 1825, a building committee, made up of Benjamin Lamar, Isaiah Thorpe and Jonathan Johnson, was appointed to look after the building of a meeting house. The house was to be thirty feet wide, thirty-five feet long, of hewed logs, with shingle roof. This house was built on the hill west of the present site of Newtonville, near the old cemetery, which was a part of the church property. The building was of poplar logs and only four logs high, yet the door was ample enough for the tallest man to enter. A portion of this old structure is still standing on another site, though in a dilapidated condition.

Littleton Powell was married to Mary Richardson, a pioneer's daughter. She was left a widow, with one son, in 1825. The grave of her husband is on land entered by Uriah Lamar in 1812.

William Powell and Sophia Black were granted a marriage license in 1820; the first to be issued in Spencer county after it was set off from Perry and Warrick counties. They lived in what is now Clay township, not far from the Lincoln home.

James Powell settled northwest of Grandview. His first wife was Eliza Carnathan and his second wife was Peggy Beard. A number of children were his offspring and were identified with the early life of that part of Hammond township.

Since the Powell brothers were members of Uriah Lamar's family and near neighbors of Benjamin and Samuel Lamar and attended the same gatherings, religious and otherwise, it is readily seen that they knew the Lincoln family well.

These men were truly pioneers and did their part in building up a strong, up-right civilization in their respective communities in Spencer county.