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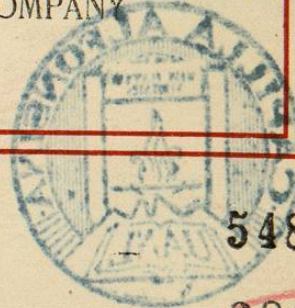
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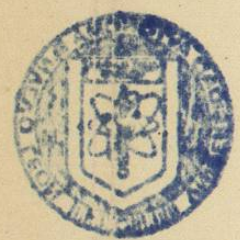
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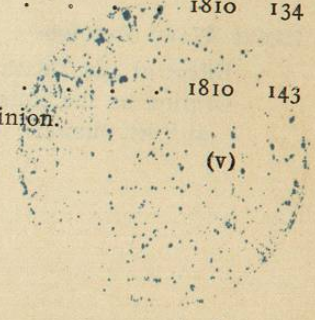
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ABRAHAM LINCOLN



ABRAHAM LINCOLN, sixteenth President of the United States, and intimately associated with the great struggle of the Civil War, was born in a humble cabin in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809, and assassinated by John Wilkes Booth at Washington, D. C., April 14, 1865, dying on the following day. In 1816, his parents, who were both Virginians, crossed the Ohio from Kentucky into Indiana, settling on a small farm, where young Lincoln did much rough out-door work and had but a year's schooling. Two years later he lost his mother, Nancy Hanks, by death, and his father marrying again, the future President owed to his stepmother not a little in the formation of his character. What education he had was meanwhile picked up as chance and his studious habits enabled him to acquire in an early life of assiduous labor as "rail-splitter" and flatboatman. The family now removed to a farm in Illinois near Decatur, and Lincoln in the neighborhood made his first political speech, and after occupying himself in various ways settled at New Salem, Ill., where he was successively clerk in a drugstore, village postmaster, and surveyor. In 1832, he took part in the Black Hawk War, and in 1834 was elected Whig member to the Illinois State legislature, studied law, and in 1837 was admitted to the Bar. He then removed to Springfield, Ill., soon to become capital of the State, and there he pursued the profession of law, and in 1846 was elected to Congress. In 1858, in his own State, as Republican candidate for the United States Senate, he held a series of remarkable discussions with the Democratic nominee, Stephen A. Douglas, during which Lincoln delivered himself of his views on slavery, taking strong ground as an opponent of the vile traffic, and directing prominent attention to himself as a possible candidate for the Presidency. His election to that high office followed in November, 1860, at the Republican convention in Chicago, and he was inaugurated President in the following March. Immediately the secession movement in the Southern States occurred and civil war was precipitated. In his Inaugural he voiced the sentiment of the entire North by declaring the Union perpetual and all acts of secession void, while announcing the determination of the Federal government to maintain the integrity of the nation and its decision to uphold its authority. This was followed by placing the Southern ports under blockade, and in September, 1862, appeared the proclamation emancipating all slaves in any State which should be in rebellion to the Federal authority on Jan. 1, 1863. In March, 1865, Lincoln entered upon his second term of office, which was so soon to have its sad and calamitous ending. The patriot and martyr sleeps in the cemetery at Springfield, Ill., where a noble monument has been erected to his memory. Comparisons have sometimes been made between Lincoln and Washington to show the service rendered by each at a crisis in the history of the nation and bring out the fact that both statesmen, in their respective eras, were equal to the emergency of the time. Each was in the highest sense a providential man raised up for his era, and filled with those eminent qualities that enabled him to do the great work of the hour. What Washington accomplished was, first, the successful maintenance, despite the weak-