

H. J. ...

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Artists of
Abraham Lincoln
portraits

Thomas Hicks
Correspondence

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Springfield Illinois

June 13, 1860

I have carefully examined the portrait of Hon A. Lincoln painted by ~~Thomas Hicks Esq.~~ and do not hesitate to pronounce it a great success.

I have known Mr Lincoln intimately for many years, and was present, and in conversation with him much of the time whilst it was being painted, and cannot adequately express my admiration of the fidelity of the picture, and the perfect and satisfactory idea which it gives of the original, and his physical, mental, and moral characteristics.

I doubt whether art is

capable of transpiring to canvass a more exact, and life like representation of the "human face divine".

R. H. Manning

1775 N STREET
WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 9, 1918.


Dear Mr. Foster:

It is only in a vague way that I know of the picture of my father by Thomas Hicks. The letter of Mr. Browning which you quote is certainly a most interesting document, and if it accompanied the picture, it would add greatly to the importance of the painting. Mr. Browning was one of the most distinguished men in Illinois, and all he says about his intimacy of acquaintance with my father is well known to me to be correct. He was a man of high education and culture and better able than most men to give a valuable judgment of the work. As I have already indicated to you, I have not the slightest notion of the whereabouts of the Hicks' portrait.

Very truly yours,



Mr. Eugene G. Foster.



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ANTIQUES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION :: BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

683 ATLANTIC AVENUE

October 27
1 9 2 8

My dear Mr. Truesdell:

The other day there came into my hands a rather interesting portrait miniature of Abraham Lincoln, painted on an oval ivory plaque approximately three and one-half inches by two and one-half inches, signed T. Hicks, N. A. This portrait was found under circumstances which lead to the belief that it is a genuine picture by Hicks, whose Lincoln portrait exists, I believe, only in engraving.

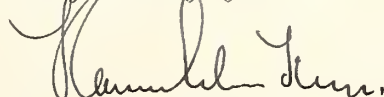
The miniature is pretty well done in a rather thick medium which might be either oil or water color mixed with some kind of gum.

Mr. R. P. Tolman of the Smithsonian Institution has suggested that I write you regarding this miniature, and since as a collector of Lincoln portraits, you might be interested in acquiring it, or could, perhaps, give me information concerning it.

In any case, I am taking the liberty of forwarding to you, under separate cover, a photograph of the miniature, about which I should be very happy to receive your opinion.

Believe me

Very truly yours



Homer Eaton Keyes
Editor

HEK:MSW

Mr. W. P. Truesdell, Editor
The Print Connoisseur
Champlain, New York

Wicks Parham

April 19, 1932

Mrs. F. H. Siegfried
7852 Girard St.
LaJolla, California

Dear Madam:

Thank you for calling our attention to the Lincoln picture which you have in your possession and if you will kindly advise us how much you expect to receive for it we will let you know whether or not we care to acquire it.

We are always in the market for Lincoln items and we will await your advice with reference to the picture in your possession.

Very sincerely yours,

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW:EB

1911

1911

1911

1911

1911

1911

1911

1911

Antiques
Jewelry
Silver
Pewter
Glass
Fabrics



1852 Grand St.
1020 PROSPECT STREET, LA JOLLA
PHONE, LA JOLLA 2414
Consulting Decorator
Special Designs Furnished
for All Interior Work

The Jack O' Lantern Studios

MRS. F. H. SIEGFRIED
Importer
GIFTS UNIQUE

La Jolla, California, April 8/32

Dr. Louis A. Warren,

Dear Sir,

I have in my possession

a lithograph of Lincoln as a young man.
The size inside the frame is $25\frac{1}{2} \times 19\frac{1}{2}$.

Printed by Hicks Lithograph by A. Grozelier
Boston.
Slanting there is a signature of Grozelier
1860

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year
1860 by W. Schaus in the clerk's office of
the district Court of the district of Mass.

Hon. Abraham Lincoln

Then there is also a signature of Lincoln.

Yours truly
A. Lincoln

Thought it might be of interest to you as
a collector.

Yours truly
F. H. Siegfried



Antiques
Jewelry
Silver
Pewter
Glass
Fabrics



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1200 GARDNER STREET, LA JOLLA
PHONE, LA JOLLA 2414
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for All Interior Work

The Jack O' Lantern Studios

MRS. F. H. SIEGFRIED

Importer

GIFTS UNIQUE

La Jolla, California,

April 25/37

Lincoln Historical
Research Foundation
Mr. Louis G. Warren, Director,

My dear Mr. Warren:—

In regard to the Lincoln Picture
which I have in my possession, and
its price. When I did not wish to
sell it at any price, the Republican
Club of New York City offered me
one hundred dollars for it. \$100.00—
It tempted me only to them,
likeness of Lincoln not owned by
them. I have not written to them
now I wish to sell the picture, as
I am only now offering it for sale.
Having seen your article in the
La Jolla paper—I made you the offer.

The pictures given to my father in
law by Henry Jackson when they
^{were} associated on the Louisville -
Covington Journal. My father in law
being the late Addison H. Siegfried.
At the time I am disposing of many
of my possessions - anticipating a
move - and some money to pay - need
extra money just now - Just as
it is, in its original frame - I will
accept \$35.00 plus C.O.D. Express Charge.
This is a little enough for this rare
print - but two factors enter into
the transaction. You represent a
Foundation and I am in need of
the money - I will sell the print - without
the original frame for \$25.00.
Very truly yours,
Mary L. Siegfried

May 5, 1932

Mrs. F. H. Siegfried
7852 Girard Street
LaJolla, California

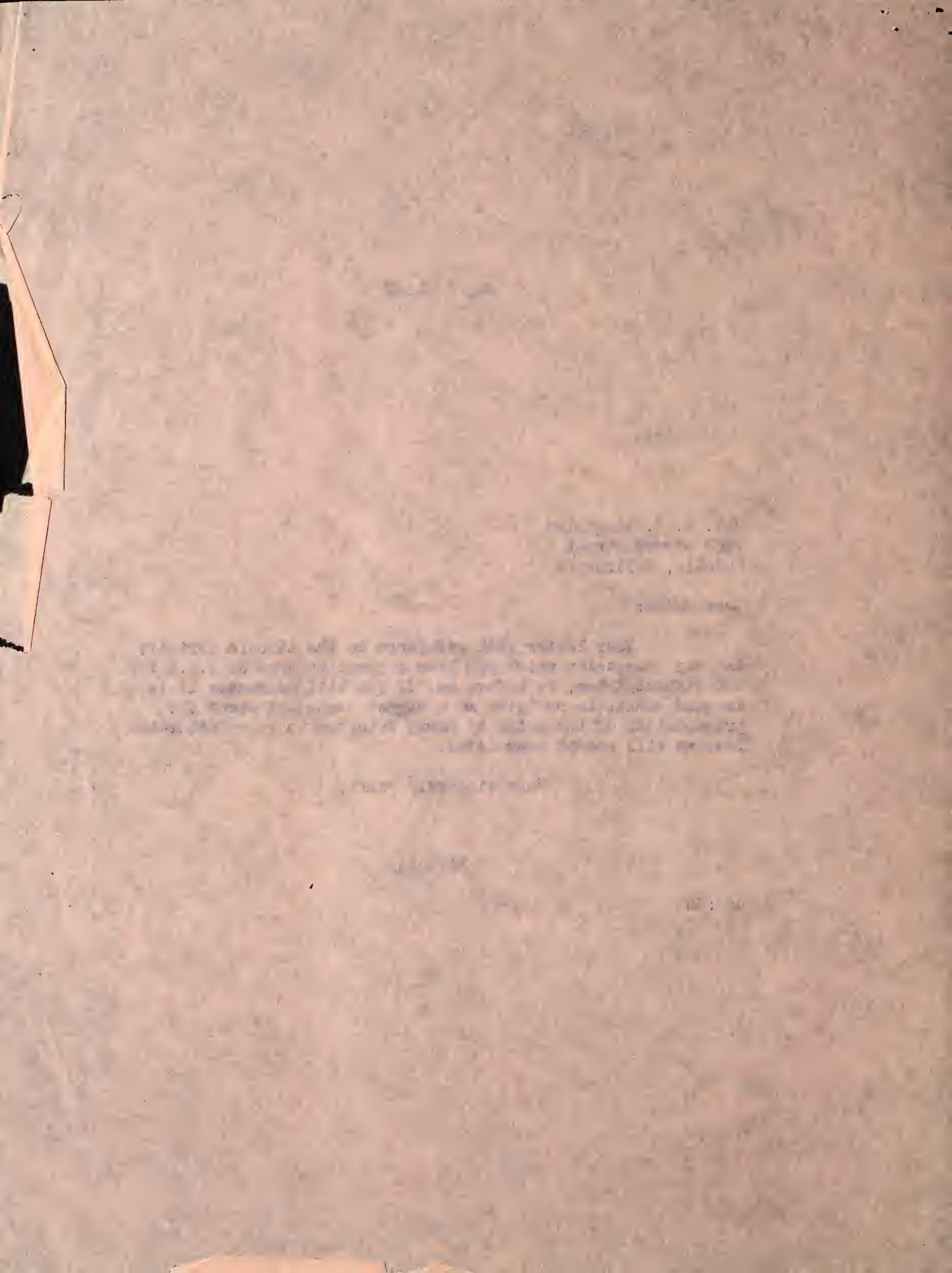
Dear Madam:

Your letter with reference to the Lincoln portrait in your possession which you have offered to send us C.O.D for \$25 without frame, is before me. If you will guarantee it is in good condition and give me a signed statement about the presentation of the print by Henry Waterson to your father-in-law, we will accept your offer.

Very sincerely yours,

Director

LAW:LH



Antiques
Jewelry
Silver
Pewter
Glass
Fabrics



1020 BROADWAY STREET, LA JOLLA
PHONE, LA JOLLA 2414

Consulting Decorator
Special Designs Furnished
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The Jack O' Lantern Studios

MRS. F. H. SIEGFRIED

Importer

GIFTS UNIQUE

La Jolla, California,

May 9/32

Mr. Louis Warren
Lincoln Research Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Mr. Warren;

This morning I am sending
my picture of Lincoln. It in
reality speaks for itself and I am
very certain worth intrinsically
much more than you are paying
for it. One banker in this town
told me it was worth for \$500 to \$1000.
But, he is unwell and I need
cash very badly, and can not
approach him.

My father-in-law - The late Addison H.
Siegfried - was ^{associated} with Henry Waterson
at the time of the presentation - (in the
Lansville Courier.) This information
I was given by my husband - ^{the wife} - Frederick
H. Siegfried - who was also a well known

Newspaper man. At one time Controller
with the Boston Herald - New York Herald
(Special writer) President of the Siegfried
Advertising Agency - Manager of the Engineer
in a Record for a period of 5 yrs - etc.

His Biography has been published. -
His father was closely connected with
Cyrus W. Curtis - and Mr. Roth -
an intimate friend of Eugene Field -
and by the way I possess an
autographed copy of one of Field's books
Also presented to Addison St. Siegfried
& inscribed - by Field -

My father was founder & first Secy
& Pres. of the National Advertisers Ass.

Mr. Addison St. Siegfried was Business Mgr.
for the Curtis publications at the time of his
untimely death.

All of this data will show you that the
integrity of these men - will stand even
if I have no other word to give you.
The Lincoln picture has been in my
possession since 1898. Never have I previously
offered it for sale.

I am very much pleased that it can
be placed in an historical surrounding
with much appreciation on my part

I am Very Sincerely Yours
Wm. Deland Siegfried

Antiques
Jewelry
Silver
Pewter
Glass
Fabrics



7852 Girard St
1020 PROSPECT STREET, LA JOLLA
PHONE, LA JOLLA 2414
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The Jack O' Lantern Studios

MRS. F. H. SIEGFRIED

Importer

GIFTS UNIQUE

Mr. Louis Warren:

La Jolla, California,

May 20/32

Lucien Historical Research Foundation
Fort Wayne Indiana

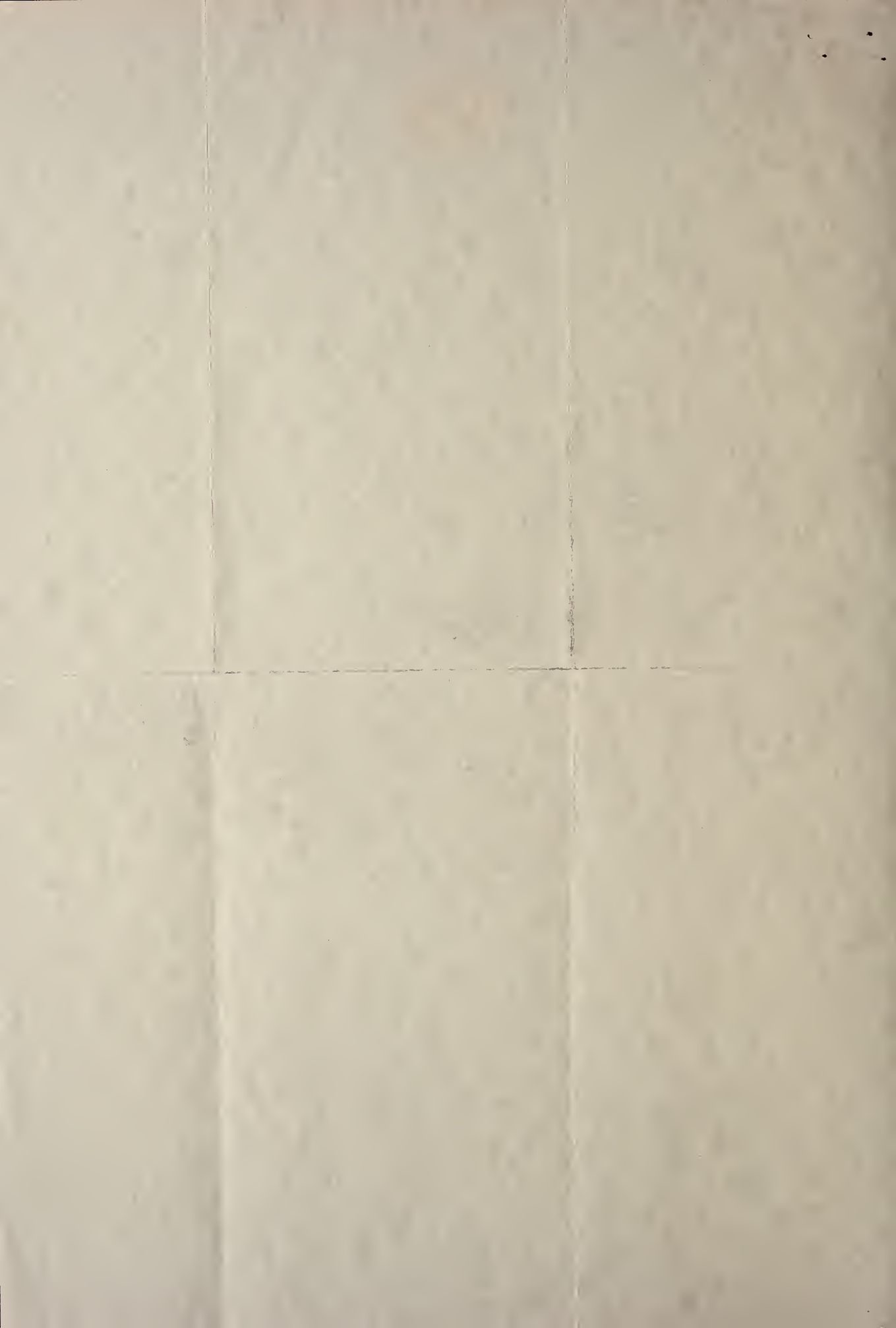
My dear Mr. Warren:

According to your instructions in
your letter of May 5th '32 - I sent the
Lucien picture to you by express collect.
\$2.50⁰⁰ for the picture + Express Charges.

This morning I am surprised
to find the enclosed Postal in the
mail. Ref. explain it to you.

Kindly give this matter your attention
and may I hear from you as soon
as convenient.

Very truly yours,
Mary F. Siegfried



Hecks ¹²⁶ ~~original~~

April 29, 1935

Mr. Everett F. McCoy
4170 Central Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana

My dear Mr. McCoy:

Your letter with reference to the early lithograph which you have has been called to my attention and enclosed you will please find a bulletin which gives such information as we have about it.

It is one of the more rare of the early lithographs of Lincoln, and while there are several available, they are looked upon as quite scarce.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB
Enc. 1

Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation



2
EVERETT F. McCOY
4170 CENTRAL AVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS

INDIANAPOLIS NATIONAL
MAIL DEPARTMENT
Referred to
REC'D APR 27 1935 W
Answered
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Lincoln Life Insurance Co.

J. Wayne Kus.

Gentlemen:-

In your research into the life of Lincoln, have you come across the "Grozier" lithograph of the painting by Hicks?

In our family is a copy which, in its present frame, hung on the walls of the Republican State Central Committee in the campaign of 1860.

It is a likeness that I do not recall having seen in reproduction. Perhaps you can tell me whether or not this copy is a rarity.

EVERETT F. McCOY
4170 CENTRAL AVENUE
INDIANAPOLIS

I shall greatly appreciate
your opinion.

Thanking you I am.

Yours very truly,
Eunice Keck



INVESTMENTS

INSURANCE

STATE NATIONAL SECURITIES
CORPORATION

136 EAST MARKET STREET
INDIANAPOLIS

May
First
1935

Mr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Warren:

I am deeply grateful for your letter containing the information covering the lithograph by Grozelier of the Hicks painting of Lincoln.

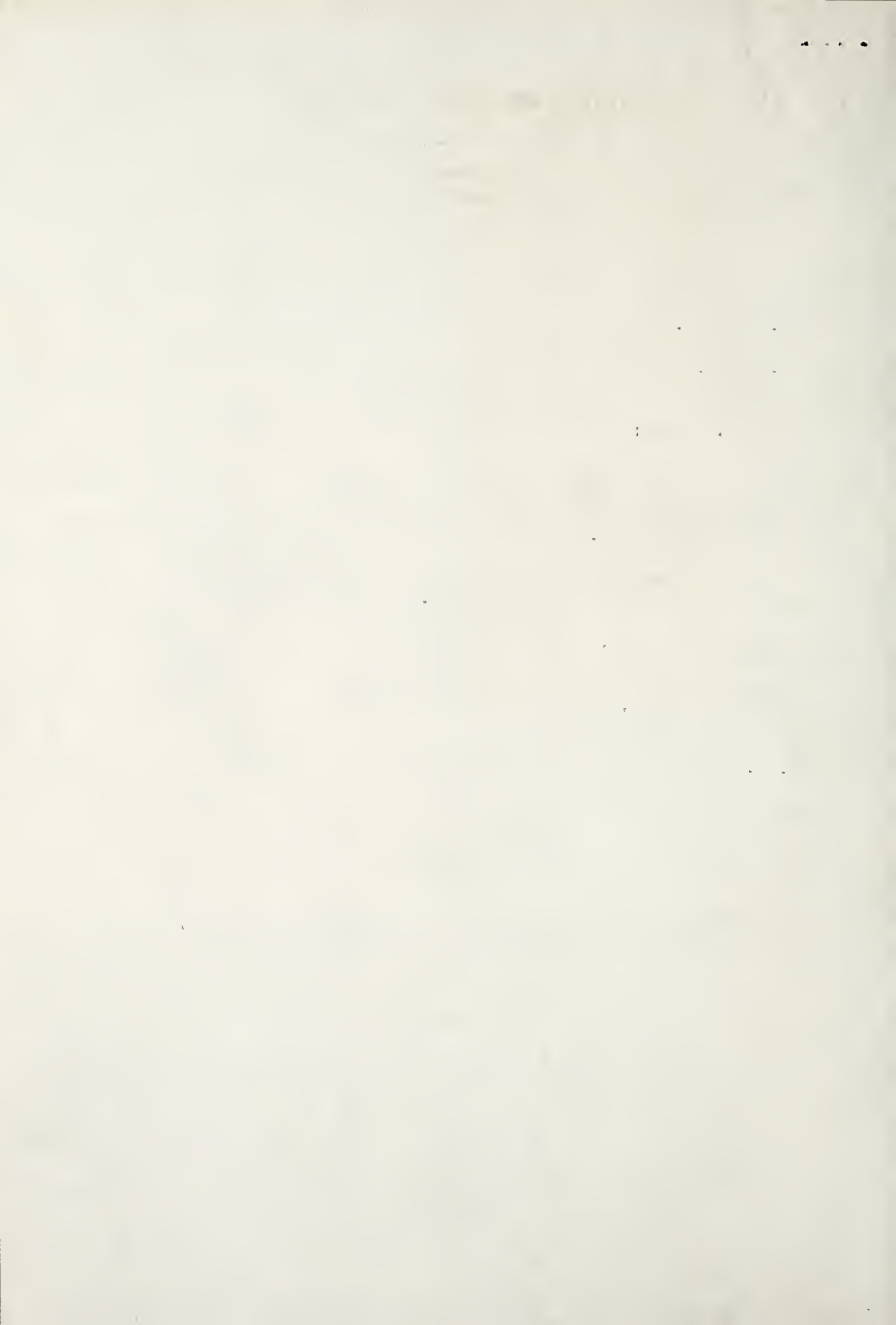
We have always prized the picture very highly and I am glad to learn it is considered rare.

Thanking you again, I am

Very truly yours,


E. F. McCoy

b



Methodist Church

J. H. Krenmyre, Minister

411 MAIN STREET

Coon Rapids, Iowa

August 21, 1940

Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sirs:

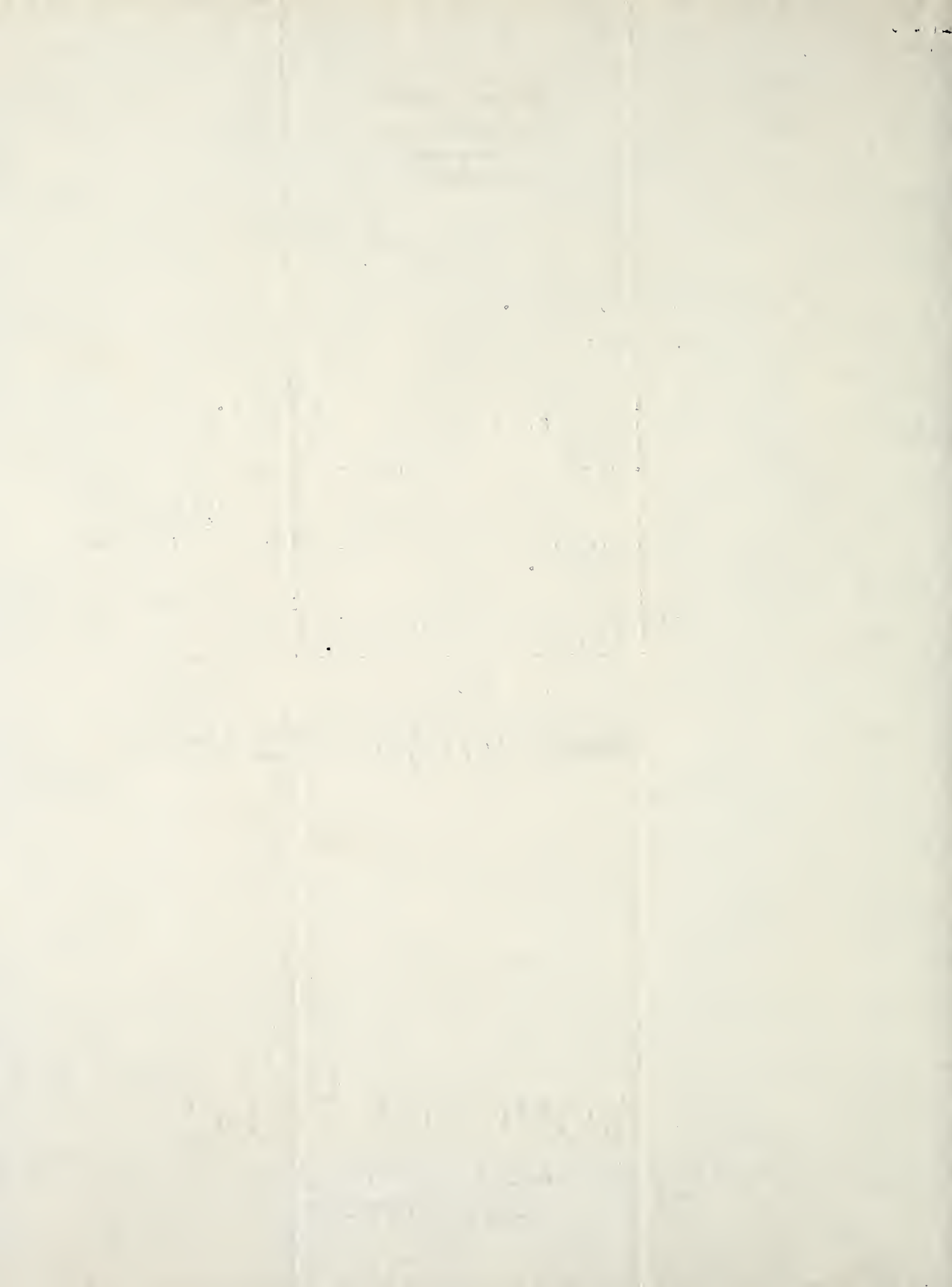
I recently came into possession of a Lincoln which seems to be done in pencil. It is about 16 by 23. It was found among some old pictures collected near the Organization of the G.A.R. Post at Corning, Iowa.

I would like to send this picture to you to get the judgment of some one who might be able to give me some idea of the real merits of the picture.

If you will do this service for me I'll send it by express, enclosing amount necessary for returning the picture to me.

Very truly,

J. H. Krenmyre



September 27, 1940

Mr. J. H. Krenmyre
Methodist Church
411 Main St.
Coon Rapids, Iowa

My dear Mr. Krenmyre:

From the very good description which you give of your Lincoln portrait, I rather feel you have found a Hicks lithograph.

Enclosed you will please find a little story of the Hicks lithograph and if you are not able to identify it from the description, possibly the newspaper clippings which are enclosed might help you to identify the Hicks study.

Of course, if you prefer to send on the lithograph for whatever it may be, we will be pleased to see although if it is identical to the one which is described, I do not believe it will be necessary.

Very truly yours,

LAW:BS
Enc.

Director

1918

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1918

RARE BOOKS
FIRST EDITIONS
RARE PRINTS

London
Paris



MAILED
NATIONAL
MAIL DEPARTMENT
REC'D NOV 14 1940
Answered
LIFE INSURANCE CO.

MANUSCRIPTS
AUTOGRAPHS
PAINTINGS

Cable Address
Pikwick, Philadelphia

CHARLES SESSLER

ESTABLISHED 1882

1310 WALNUT STREET

PHILADELPHIA

November 13, 1940.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S Birthday.

The Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sirs:

We noted in the Collector's Guide an article on your interest in Lincoln and therefore we call to your attention the famous historic portrait in oils which was painted from life at Springfield, Illinois in 1860 by THOMAS HICKS.

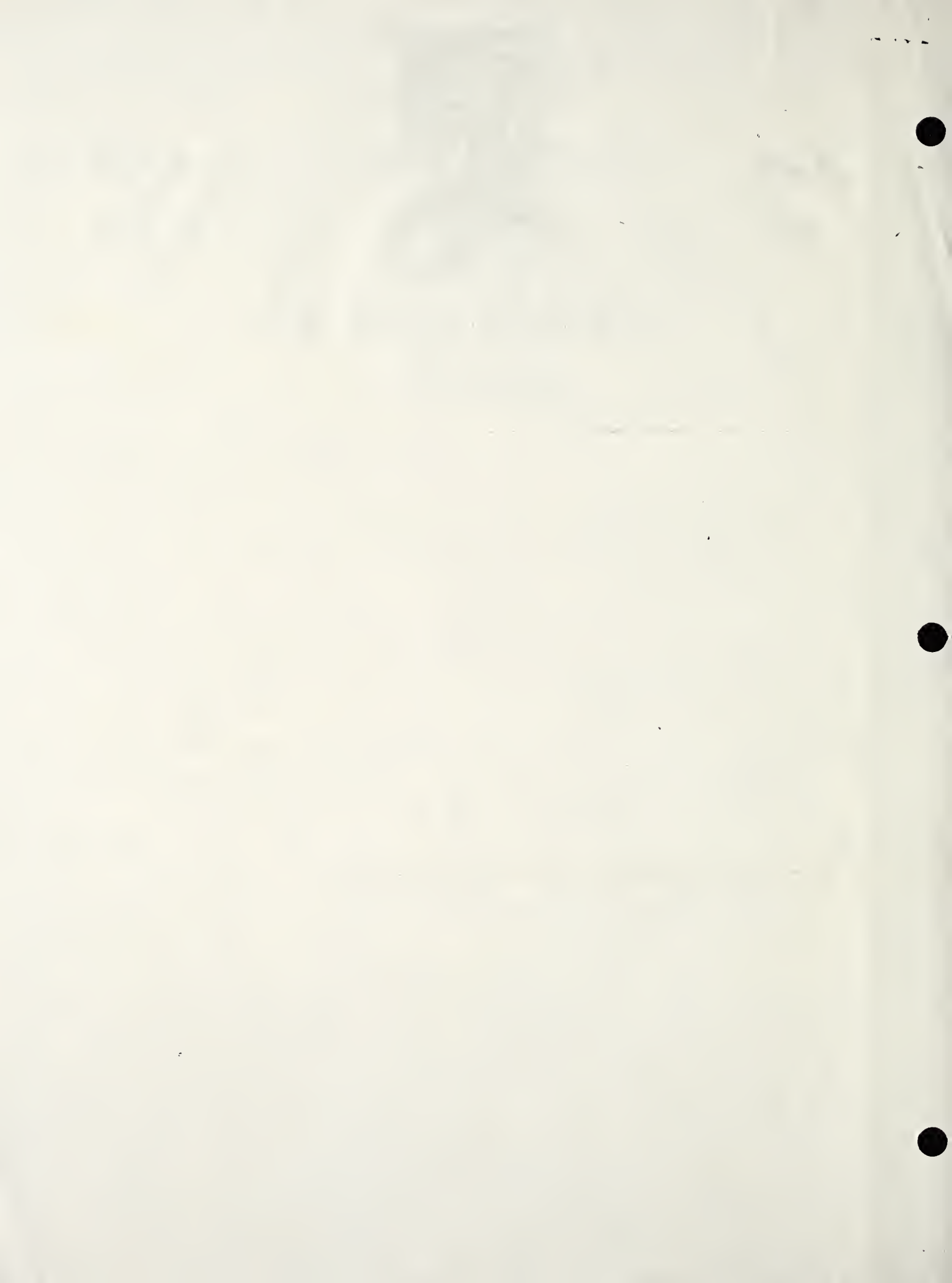
This painting will be sold at auction on Saturday, November 23rd. We attend the auctions and would be very happy to take care of a bid for this wonderful portrait for you if you would care to consider it for your collection.

It would be a great pleasure to send you full information with brochure and valuation. To that end may we ask for a prompt reply?

Yours sincerely,

Charles Sessler
Z.

Z.T



RARE BOOKS
FIRST EDITIONS
RARE PRINTS

London
Paris



MANUSCRIPTS
AUTOGRAPHS
PAINTINGS

Cable Address
Pikwick, Philadelphia

CHARLES SESSLER

ESTABLISHED 1882

1310 WALNUT STREET

PHILADELPHIA

November 19, 1940.

Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.
Attn. Mr. Louis A. Warren, Director.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed you will find a brochure describing the wonderful historic painting of ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

This is of such great importance that we understand there has been some talk of securing a patron who might present it to the national collection of portraits of Great Americans. However, this has not been done so far as we have been able to learn and the painting will be open for competitive bidding on Saturday of this week.

We therefore ask that you consider it and let us know by telephone or by wire if you would care to have us bid for you. It is one of the greatest things in Lincoln ever sold.

Because it is so great it is hard to estimate a possible value. We have discussed this with the agents and there seems to be an opinion that the painting will not sell for less than \$5000.00 and of course it is difficult to estimate how much more it will bring. It could go up to \$15,000.00 but that is in the field of conjecture.

However, this information is enough to give you a picture of the importance of this painting and we hope to hear from you one way or the other by return.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Sessler
Mabel Zaku

Z.T



Treewater Ore,

Jan 22 - 1943

Mr. L. E. Warren,

Fort Wayne

Indiana

Dear Sir:

You're inquiring about the oil painting of Abraham Lincoln of which I wrote you ten years ago, was rec'd in Sep. - 42. On account of illness - my correspondence has been very much neglected. I'd have the painting but have been unable to find out anything more than you've got - I don't know now to go about it - The only thing I can think of now is that the H.A.R. records in Tissecanoe City, Ohio, might reveal what we wish to know.

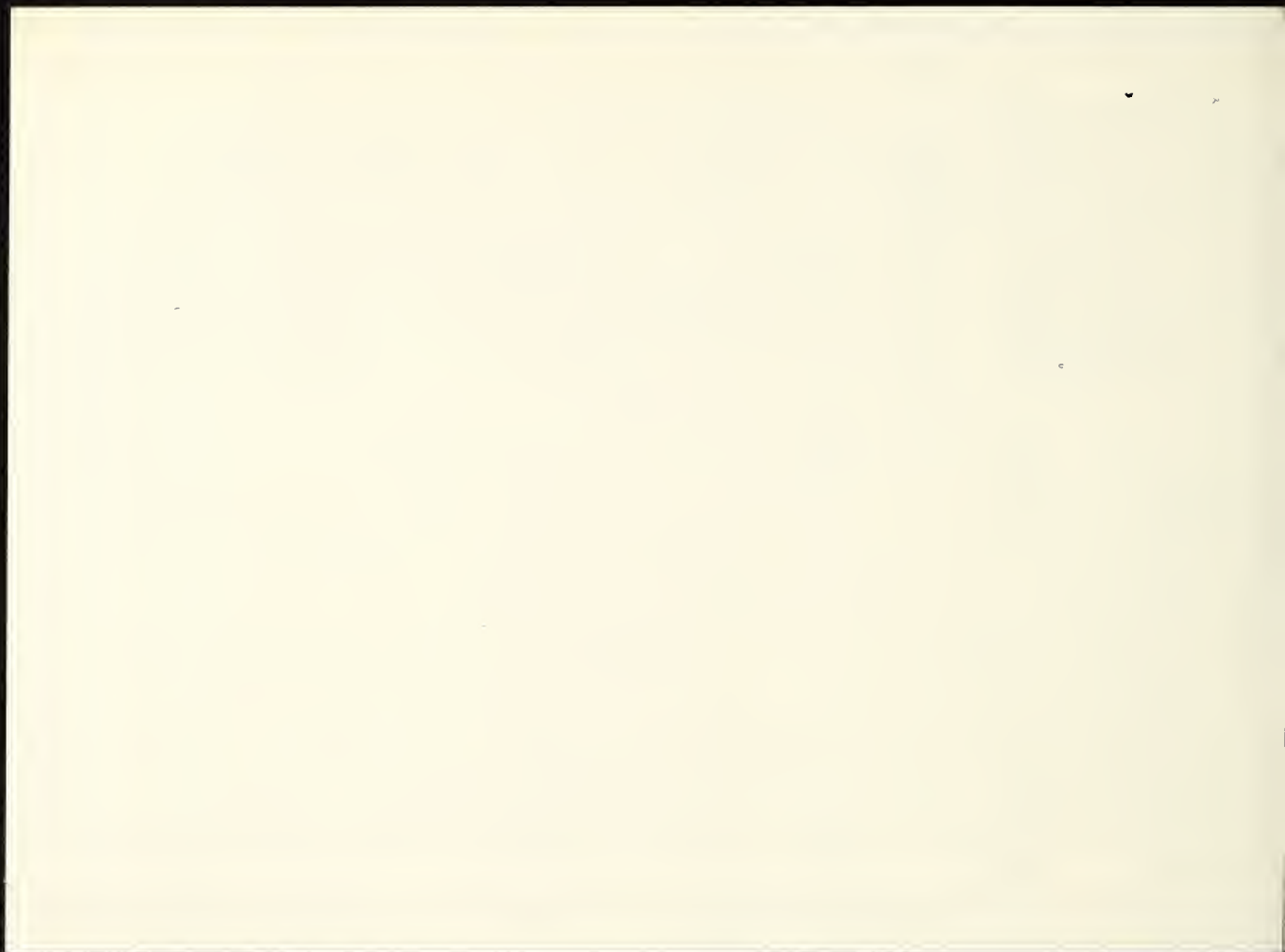
There's where the painting was presented to my father. He belonged to the 71st O.V.I. and went from there into the service (the Civil War)

I have thought of writing these but feared I would not get a reply because - my step mother (as to my father's death) wanted to give one

painting to the G. A. R. here - which I
re used to do -
You might think of some way to
do this - I am enclosing a copy of a
clipping from a ¹⁹³⁶ news paper about an
oil painting made in 1860 of Lincoln
before he acquired side whiskers & beard.
Don't think I mentioned before that this
painting is a ^{front} view of Lincoln -
I was informed by one collector
who was very much interested in the
painting that if it proved to be a portrait
made from a sitting by Lincoln, it
would bring several thousand dol-
lars. A copy or a painting from some
likeness of him it would be worth
but \$100⁰⁰ or so, depending upon how
appealing was its decorative value -
Of course I would not consider
the latter offer or anything near that
amount ^{and} so on - not having found out
anything you wish to know concerning
it before you could make an offer -
we are as much in the dark as we were
ten years ago. If you can suggest any
thing would be glad to hear from you
again.
Yours Very truly
Mrs A. Avery Sr.



Lincoln Relics to be displayed***A bit of wall paper, stained brown, will go on exhibition at a midtown hotel in New York City, Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1936*****Prominent among other pieces of Lincolniana to go on display will be a hitherto unpublished portrait of the emancipator, executed in oil in 1860 by Thomas Hicks soon after Lincoln was nominated as the Republican Presidential candidate. It pictures Lincoln before he acquired side whiskers and beard.



LINCOLN  NATIONAL
LIFE FOUNDATION

LOUIS A. WARREN
DIRECTOR

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

January 28, 1943

RESEARCH BUREAU

INTERPRETS THE LIFE OF LINCOLN
AS REVEALED IN AUTHORIZED PUBLIC REC-
ORDS AND ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

LIBRARY BUREAU

GATHERS AND CATALOGUES ALL
CLASSES OF LINCOLN LITERATURE FOR
ITS REFERENCE LIBRARY.

PUBLICATION BUREAU

ISSUES A WEEKLY BULLETIN LIN-
COLN LORE, A MONTHLY MAGAZINE THE
LINCOLN KINSMAN, AND OCCASIONAL
MONOGRAPHS.

INFORMATION BUREAU

COMPILES, INDEXES, AND MAKES A-
VAILABLE, INFORMATION BEARING ON THE
SUBJECT OF LINCOLNIANA.

EXHIBIT BUREAU

COLLECTS AND DISPLAYS IN ITS MU-
SEUM; MANUSCRIPTS, PORTRAITS, CURIOS,
AND SOUVENIRS, ASSOCIATED WITH LIN-
COLN.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

PROVIDES SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS
OF CIVIC CLUBS, SCHOOL GROUPS, CHURCH
ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.

EDUCATIONAL BUREAU

PROMOTES ESSAY CONTESTS, AR-
RANGES PROGRAMS, AND STIMULATES AN
INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF LINCOLN'S
LIFE.

MEMORIAL BUREAU

MARKS SITES OF HISTORICAL SIG-
NIFICANCE, AND EMPHASIZES ANNIVER-
SARY OCCASIONS ASSOCIATED WITH LIN-
COLN.

Mrs. A. Avey, Sr.
R. F. D. #1
Freewater, Ore.

Dear Mr. Avey:

Dr. Warren is out of the city at present on
his annual speaking itinerary. He will not be in the office
until the middle of March and I will be very happy to
call this letter to his attention, at that time.

Very truly yours,

Martha Putnam

Martha Putnam, Sec'y.

MP

(over)

Arks

Freewater, Ore.,

Feb. 3. 1943.

Dear Miss Putnam:

On receiving this letter have
wandered in the direction of
might not take him near the town
in Ohio - mentioned in my letter which
is the only place that he may get some
information about the ^{oil} painting of
D. Lincoln that I have in my posses-
ion.

and remember that I have my
father's name in my recent letter
to whom the painting was given
in 1860 at Tisbecano City Ohio -

James M. Kaufman

of the 71st O.V.I.

Very truly -

F. M. A. Avery, Sr.

Versailles, Ky -
Jan 28th 1943

Lincoln Publishers -
Box 1110, Fort Wayne Ind -

Dear Sirs:

I have decided to sell, a very
fine original drawing of
Lincoln, in his youth
(smooth shaven) it is signed
in writing ink -

Yours Truly

Lincoln

The handwriting is identical with
that in last issue of Hobbyist

The printing beneath, is hand
printed (Hon. Abraham Lincoln)

This picture was recently bought from
one who received it, as a present

from the wife of a widely known
millionaire sportsman

Picture without frame, 26 x 18 ^{length - width} _{inches}

If interested please write to,

Mrs. J. J. Sellers

137 - Frankfort Ave.

Versailles

Ky

Antiques -

Hic 153
Pauling

March 16, 1943

Mrs. J. J. Sellers
137 Frankfort Avenue
Versailles, Kentucky

My dear Madam:

Back at my desk after a seven weeks absence, I find your letter of January 28 in which you are offering an original drawing of Abraham Lincoln.

I am wondering if what you have is not the Hicks Lithograph which is just the size you mention, contains a zinc or rather lithograph signature, and also the Honorable Abraham Lincoln printed. We happen to have one of these prints in our collection.

We would be pleased to hear from you further if you do have an actual original drawing but if you have it is very doubtful that it would be signed by Abraham Lincoln and I feel almost certain of a picture such as I enclose but it is cut off so that the signature and printing does not show.

Very truly yours,

LAW:CRS
L.A.Warren
Enc.

Director

Page 1 of 1

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447 N. Orange Ave.,
Pasadena, Cal.,
Mar 5-

Lincoln Nat. Life Ins. Co.,
Lafayette Indiana

I have been told that you
featured a large collection
of Lincoln, I have

an engraving of Lincoln
20 x 28, of which the
top view enclosed is a
copy - at the bottom of oval
on picture is the signature

Yours Truly A. Lincoln, which
may be an autograph, there
hidden by mat is the printed line

Honorable Abraham Lincoln - the
bottom of picture has had an inch

2
Cut off, in order, I assumed
More correctly center in Lincoln
in the picture - and I believe
that such would continue the
legend "Hon. Abraham Lincoln"
by - Congressman from Illinois.
I have no idea as to the value
of this picture and since your
Collection most likely does feature it,
I am writing to know if you
can help me in the matter of
value - I have never seen a
duplicate and do not think
they are very plentiful
Very thankful for any
help or suggestions.

A. E. M^c Mellon.

Env. enclosed for reply.

Kindly return Kodak picture



Hicks

March 10, 1943

Mr. C.C. McMillan
947 North Orange Grove
Pasadena, Calif.

Dear Sir:

The Hicks photograph which you have acquired is quite familiar to us here and enclosed you will please find a little bulletin which describes it.

The signature of Abraham Lincoln which appears under the picture is not in his original hand but was printed at the same time the lithograph was made.

We regret very much we are not allowed to appraise articles here but I can say that your lithograph is one of the better portraits of Mr. Lincoln.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB
Enc.

Director

1942

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, FBI
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The first of these, which is the subject of this letter, is a report of a person who has been identified as a "leftist" and who is alleged to have been active in the "leftist" movement in the United States.

The second of these is a report of a person who has been identified as a "leftist" and who is alleged to have been active in the "leftist" movement in the United States.

The third of these is a report of a person who has been identified as a "leftist" and who is alleged to have been active in the "leftist" movement in the United States.

Very truly yours,

W. J. C.

Enclosure

9
Aberdeen S. Dak.

Sept 21-1944

Lincoln Ins. Co.
Fort Wayne Ind.

Gentlemen:

I've heard that

The Lincoln Insurance Co. maintain a
Museum of ^{of Aberdeen.} Lincoln relics there in Ft. W.
Mr. Hart, (now deceased) used to have quite
a window display every Feb. & when I saw
it & I went to him to tell him of a picture
of Lincoln taken when he was a young man -
as Mr. H. had none like it in his collection
he expected to borrow it for his display the next
yr. but he died suddenly a few days before
Feb 14. This picture is a lithograph made in
1858. So life sized is said to be an auto-
graphed copy. My father, a civil war veteran
bought it in Pittsburg Pa. I believe it looks
like a hand made crayon - is a wonderful
picture. He had a photo ~~made~~ copied of it
& if you would be interested in this -
I'll mail the photo to you if you so desire.
I'm willing to sell the original if I can
get what it's worth.

Respy

Mrs. Carrie De Riemer

416- 6th Ave S.E.

Aberdeen
South Dakota



Hicks
September 27, 1944.

Mrs. Carrie DeRiemer
416 Sixth Ave., S.E.
Aberdeen, S. Dakota

My dear Madam:

If you care to send the photographic copy of the print of Abraham Lincoln that you have, and place a price upon the original, we will advise you whether or not we care to acquire it.

Inasmuch as we have nearly six thousand pictures of Lincoln, it will be necessary to see the picture of the print before determining whether or not we have it.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB

Director

Department of...

For the Secretary
of the Board of
Education

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst. in relation to the proposed changes in the curriculum of the high schools of the city of New York. It is gratifying to learn that you are so interested in the improvement of our educational system.

The Board of Education has already taken steps to address these matters, and it is our hope that the proposed changes will result in a more comprehensive and effective education for all our students.

Very respectfully,
John D. ...

Secretary

Board of Education


LINCOLN NATIONAL
LIFE FOUNDATION

LOUIS A. WARREN
DIRECTOR

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

September 27, 1944

RESEARCH BUREAU

INTERPRETS THE LIFE OF LINCOLN AS REVEALED IN AUTHORIZED PUBLIC RECORDS AND ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

LIBRARY BUREAU

GATHERS AND CATALOGUES ALL CLASSES OF LINCOLN LITERATURE FOR ITS REFERENCE LIBRARY.

PUBLICATION BUREAU

ISSUES A WEEKLY BULLETIN LINCOLN LORE, A MONTHLY MAGAZINE THE LINCOLN KINSMAN, AND OCCASIONAL MONOGRAPHS.

INFORMATION BUREAU

COMPILES, INDEXES, AND MAKES AVAILABLE, INFORMATION BEARING ON THE SUBJECT OF LINCOLNIANA.

EXHIBIT BUREAU

COLLECTS AND DISPLAYS IN ITS MUSEUM: MANUSCRIPTS, PORTRAITS, CURIOS, AND SOUVENIRS, ASSOCIATED WITH LINCOLN.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

PROMOTES SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS OF CIVIC CLUBS, SCHOOL GROUPS, CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, ETC.

EDUCATIONAL BUREAU

PROMOTES ESSAY CONTESTS, ARRANGES PROGRAMS, AND STIMULATES AN INTEREST IN THE STUDY OF LINCOLN'S LIFE.

MEMORIAL BUREAU

MARKS SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, AND EMPHASIZES ANNIVERSARY OCCASIONS ASSOCIATED WITH LINCOLN.

Mrs. Carrie DeRiemer
416 Sixth Ave., S.E.
Aberdeen, S. Dakota

My dear Madam:

If you care to send the photographic copy of the print of Abraham Lincoln that you have, and place a price upon the original, we will advise you whether or not we care to acquire it.

Inasmuch as we have nearly six thousand pictures of Lincoln, it will be necessary to see the picture of the print before determining whether or not we have it.

Very truly yours,

Louis A. Warren
Director

LAW:EB

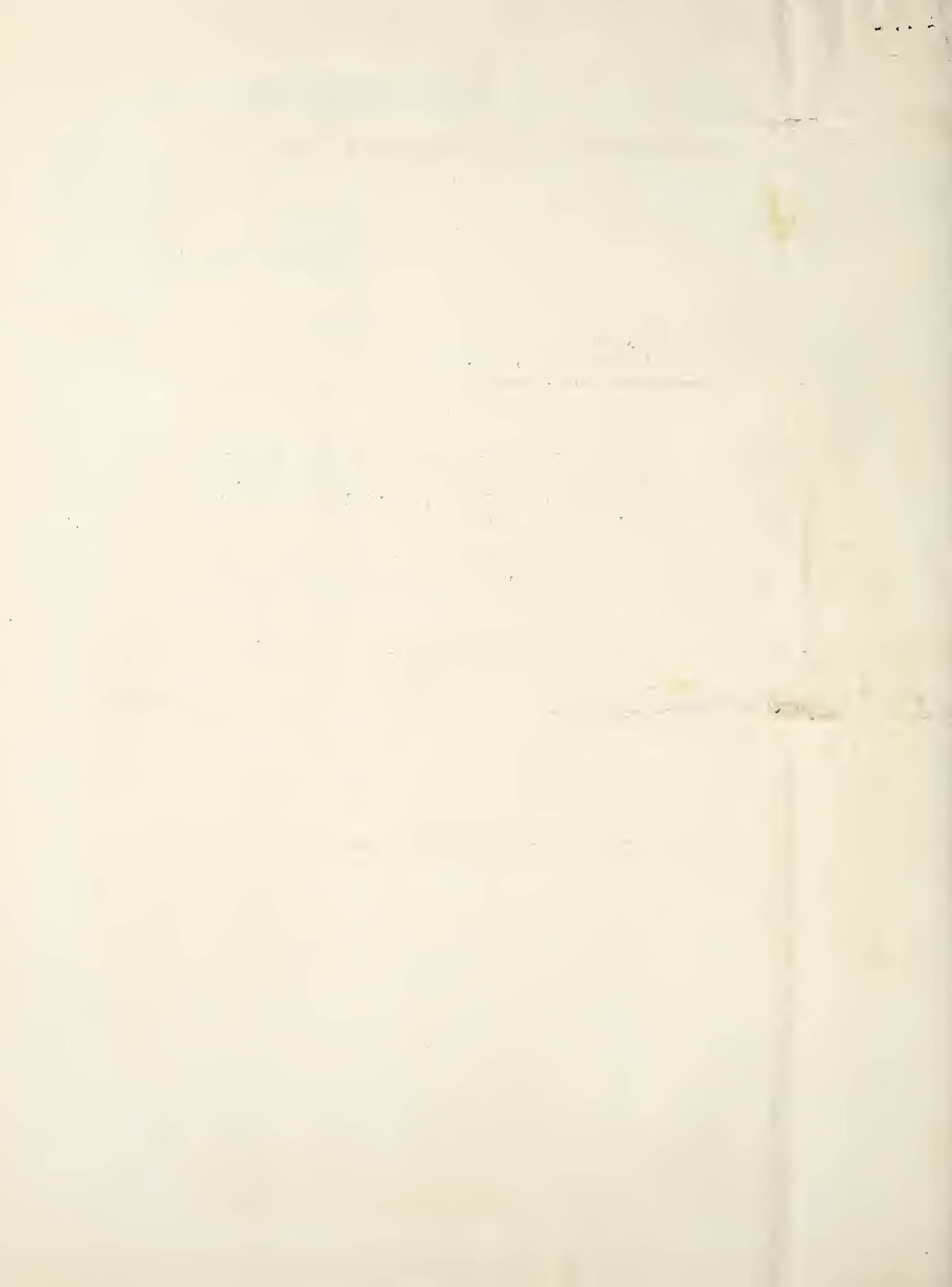
*Heads Print
price*

*Aberdeen S. Dak
Oct 2, 44*

Dear Mr Warren:

I am enclosing the photographic copy of the picture of Lincoln which I possess. The original is 19 1/2 x 25 inches & is a lithograph made in 1858. I think \$5. would be a fair price for it. All who see it say its a wonderful picture. I never seen another like it, anywhere.
Respy
Mrs. Carrie DeRiemer

*416 - 6th Ave SE
Aberdeen SD*
"The Center of Lincoln Information in America"



October 13, 1944

Mrs. Carrie DeRiemer
416 Sixth Ave., S. E.
Aberdeen, S. Dak.

My dear Mrs. DeRiemer:

Thank you very much for your effort to dispose of the Lincoln proof which you have but the photograph you so kindly forwarded and which we take this opportunity to return indicates that we have one identical like it.

We will keep your name and address, however, and if we learn of someone who would like to have the picture, we will be very glad to send them your address.

Very truly yours,

LAW:vff

Director

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Box 747,
Albany 1, N.Y.
Nov 22, 1942.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director,
Lincoln National Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne Indiana.

Volk's Cabinet-Size Bust of Lincoln.

My dear Dr. Warren:-

I believe the riddle posed in your letter of October 23, 1942 has been solved, the tracing of the history back to the Lincolns.

Many years past when the Reed mansion was disposed of, it having become an estate, thru the courtesy of Dr. R.W.C. Vail, then the Director of the New York State Library, my brother and I were permitted to go to the residence, to check and see if missing books or gifts to the library could be found. Among these gifts to the State Library was the original theatre program that Lincoln had in his hand at the onset of the emancipation, bloodstained; and to which frame had been added an oil painting of a portrait of Lincoln. This was part of a group of Lincoln papers. Many of the Reed archives were bequests to Philadelphia being of Reed, the signer. I later discovered the Lincoln bust, cabinet-size, by Volk and purchased it promptly, having been educated as a sculptor, pupil of Lee Kell, Fuchs and Korbel, this training pointing to the quality. The estate, after the bequests were removed, was sold to a dealer who removed the remaining to auction in Detroit. Prior to this purchase the lawyer in charge permitted my brother and I to purchase some things.

These being two known significant items from Reed; and Bernard having brought the original draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to Albany for Health Society benefit during the civil war; the fact of Robert Todd Lincoln's residence nearby in Manchester, and the several noted collectors of Albany; all friends; former of D. and H.; seemed to preclude any chance of ascertaining how the bust came to Albany. The knowledge that Eddy Foy's mother was Mrs. Lincoln's companion, and a lady given me that Mrs. Lincoln used to hold a bust of Lincoln, to which she talked, in her arm, sealed a clue of its having been Foy's mother's property after Mrs. Lincoln's demise. The descendants know nothing. The idea is plausible but could not be confirmed.

Lincoln

his mother and when Fog passed on, the bust came to auction of his effects, but I have found no conclusive evidence in this matter. Every lead seemed to have been a blind alley.

However, the solution appears in my ascertaining who was John Meredith Reed? The Biographical Dictionary produces the following: (abstracted)

John Meredith Reed, 1837 - 1896.

..... Active in Presidential Campaign 1860. In that of 1860, the "Wide Awake" movement, which materially aided in carrying the State of New York for Mr. Lincoln, assuring Lincoln's election..... In November 1860 became Adjutant General of New York State with rank of Brigadier General. He was Chairman of the Military Governor's Commission which welcomed Lincoln at Buffalo, N.Y., the President Elect, and escorted him to the Capitol at Albany, in February 1861.

Reed's Civil War efforts and services "were of a magnitude to evoke thanks of the United States War Department, etc. etc."

Led in the election of General Grant. Consul General to France and Algeria. Minister to Greece, etc., etc.

A bust found in the Reed estate, having been in the possession of an intimate of Abraham Lincoln, a person that carried New York State for his election; that rendered services innumerable to Lincoln; he being an American patriot, descended from the signer; whose tireless effort in the successful prosecution of the Civil War to an extent of receiving plaudits from all proper sources; Reed continued to act in responsible capacities for Lincoln's General, the President Grant; Reed being a man of parts, antiquarian, and proud of his lineage and accomplishments, a collector who had preserved the theatre program with his friend Lincoln's blood upon it; and must have possessed important documents; who had received and treasured the Lincoln Bust by Volk, can readily be credited as receiving them from the Lincoln's, he being, friend, intimate and White House habitue, having rendered warranted faithful service to the Great Emancipator. The bust stands unique in research, as to dating, and the only original extant.

Those American Magazines that should publish an article of this type find it to technical altho they devote much space to the European Defilers.

I rest my case believing that the bust is definitely established. This has taken a good ~~many~~ years of seeking that one can only say has been interesting, a source of pleasure and educating. The bust is more significant than the Mich's painting, in my opinion, and stands with the Washington original by London.

I feel that this bust go, now, into safer precincts, free from the hazard of destruction by fire, which has removed the two other originals from existence, and so it is being sold. Please let me have an expression from you.

With my kind regards to you and appreciation of your past courtesy, etc.,

Wigfred Thomas,
Wigfred Thomas.

P.S.

Mr. Wunderlich of Kennedy and Co., 785 Fifth Ave, New York, who purchased the Lincoln oil portrait by Hicks at auction is considering the bust. It probably would be of interest to the client that acquired the painting, for whom Wunderlich acted as purchaser.

W.F.

4

INDIANA HISTORICAL BUREAU

STATE LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL BUILDING

INDIANAPOLIS 4

HOWARD H. PECKHAM
Director

Sept. 1, 1949

Telephone Riley 8361

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

There is a New York art dealer in town with a portrait of Lincoln. It is a pastel, almost black and white only, about 20 by 25 inches, done by Thomas (?) Hicks from life in 1861. Hicks then took the pastel to his studio and from it painted one or more oil portraits. The price is \$3500.

The John Herron Art Museum is interested in it, and I have called J. I. Holcomb to see whether the old Lincoln Union would want to put it down at the Lincoln Memorial. Would your company be interested?

I rather hate to see another Lincoln item get out of the state, after we have lost the register of the Pigeon Creek Church and the Gettysburg address that was owned locally.

The dealer is Max Safron. I would want to get Wilbur Peat's opinion of both him and the picture.

Sincerely,


Director

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
RESEARCH REPORT

1955

1. Introduction

2. Experimental

3. Results

4. Discussion

5. Conclusions

September 7, 1949

Mr. Howard H. Peckham
Indiana Historical Bureau
State Library and Historical Building
Indianapolis 4, Indiana

My dear Mr. Peckham:

Our procedure here with the requisition of Lincoln paintings follows a commission form of acquisition.

We do not buy historical Lincoln items but commission modern artists to do some Lincoln episode not already portrayed on canvas. This not only allows us to preserve the artistic work of modern painters, but also allows us to utilize the historic episodes for advertising cover pieces and other company needs.

I am quite sure the Company would not wish to break a precedent of so long standing, so I do not think we would be interested in the Hicks painting, although if this is the identical piece that was sold in New York for 1940 for \$11,100, it should be a pretty good buy.

I am attaching to this letter certain enclosures which you may retain or pass over to the committees which may be considering the acquisition of the painting. Of course I think it would be a fine thing to keep it in Indiana if possible, if it is the genuine article.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB
Encs.

Director

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
5800 S. UNIVERSITY AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637

RECEIVED
JAN 15 1964

TO THE DIRECTOR
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

INDIANA HISTORICAL BUREAU

STATE LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL BUILDING

INDIANAPOLIS 4

October 31, 1949

HOWARD H. PECKHAM
Director

Telephone Riley 8361

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director,
Lincoln Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:

Further investigation of the Lincoln portrait offered here turned up considerable doubt as to whether it was actually done by Thomas Hicks and, furthermore, whether it was done from life. Consequently, I abandoned all efforts to find a purchaser. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely yours,


Howard H. Peckham

HHP/g

April 16, 1952

Mr. Julian S. Myrick
850 Park Avenue
New York 21, N. Y.

Dear Julian:

Thanks, and thanks again for calling me about the Hicks painting. It seems that we had been solicited previously as to our interest in this piece of art. Because it is a smooth-face Lincoln and because it is not a traditional Lincoln portrait, it seems that it would not be wise for us to be interested in it.

Sincerely yours,

AJMc:HMCD

President

1870

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1882

LINCOLN LIFE
Referred to Dr. Warren JULIAN S. MYRICK
850 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

REC'D APR 24 1952

Answered _____

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT
(out)

April 22, 1952

Mr. A. J. McAndless, President
The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co.
Fort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Mac:

I am sorry that you did not buy the Hicks painting of Lincoln, for I understand that it was bought by someone living in Cuba for something over \$18,000.

I do not believe it was possible for you to have been previously solicited because Mrs. Prentice only died about a month ago and it was not for sale up to that time, and her husband, Bernon Prentice bought it in 1940 from the collection of Mrs. Shipman. Its importance and value was that it was the first portrait ever painted of Lincoln, and naturally it had to be a smooth face.

I thought you might be interested in the description published in the catalogue of the sale, and if you haven't the story you might like to put it in your Lincoln file.

Very sincerely,

Julian

x He was one
of our most
intimate
friends.

Enclosure

JSM:jp



[NUMBER 676]

The Historic First Portrait in Oils of Lincoln, 1860

THOMAS HICKS, N.A.

AMERICAN: 1823-1890

677. *ABRAHAM LINCOLN*. Bust-length portrait, the head turned to half-right; in black coat, dark gray vest, white shirt, and black bow tie. Light greenish background. Signed at lower centre: *Painted from Life by Thomas Hicks*, and dated *Springfield, Illinois, June 14, 1860*. 24½ x 19½ inches

Note: This historic portrait of Lincoln was painted from life in Springfield, Illinois, on the morrow of Lincoln's nomination for the Presidency. Hicks was engaged, when news of the results of the Chicago convention became known, to go immediately to make a portrait of the candidate, from which the lithograph which was circulated during the pending campaign was to be published. A letter written by the artist on Jan. 23, 1879 (not now available) described the circumstances of the sittings, as follows:

"The first oil Portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

"In 1860 after the nomination of Mr. Lincoln at Chicago Mr. Schaus the art publisher of N. Y. sent me to Springfield Illinois to paint a Portrait of Mr. Lincoln to be published for the campaign of that year.

"I carried a letter to Mr. W. H. Herndon, Mr. Lincoln's law partner, and by him was introduced to the future President, who at once consented to give the necessary sittings, and they were to be from eight until nine o'clock in the morning at his office.

"During the sittings he saw many persons on business, talking with them while I continued my work. Amongst those present, was Mr. Lincoln's life long friend O. H. Browning who was afterward in his Cabinet.

"The Portrait was finished June 13th, 1860, and was the first oil Portrait made of him. At that time there had been but one photograph, which entirely misrepresented his looks, and from which a rude woodcut had been made.

"When the Portrait was completed and I was about starting for the East, Mr. Browning handed me a letter saying, no one knows Mr. Lincoln as I do, having been associated with him throughout his long and eventful career, and I discharge a duty in giving you my opinion of the likeness which you have made of him.

"The Portrait is now owned by Mrs. Maria Bradley, and has my name and some record of the Portrait on the lower part of the canvas.

"It has never been copied in oil.

"It would be a great satisfaction to me, if the Portrait of our martyr President could be owned by the State of Illinois and thus find a permanent place in the city so long his home and where the Portrait was painted. *Thomas Hicks*".

An account of the sittings written by the artist in 1885 and published in 1886 in the *Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln by Distinguished Men of His Time (vide infra)*, reads in part:

"When the news of Mr. Lincoln's nomination reached the City of New York, a leading publishing house engaged me to go to Springfield to paint a portrait of him, a lithograph of which was to be used in the coming campaign. A day later, I happened to be in the editorial rooms of the New York *Tribune*, when Horace Greeley returned from the Chicago Convention. As he entered, stained with the dust and grime of travel, the staff crowded around him in great excitement to hear from him the details of the Convention. . . . After the excitement had somewhat quieted, I told them I was commissioned to paint

[Continued



[NUMBER 677]

Number 677—Continued

a portrait of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Dana kindly gave me a letter of introduction to Mr. Herndon, of Springfield, who was a former partner of Mr. Lincoln. . . .

“ . . . When I stood in the presence of a tall, gaunt man, with a pleasant expression on his well-marked features, and had a genial, hearty handshake from his long, swinging arm, I saw that in my subject there was plenty of character with which to make a desirable likeness. When he had read Dana’s letter, which explained the object of my visit, he said: ‘Yes, I will do in this matter what my friends in New York wish of me; and I am much obliged to you, sir, for coming so far to paint my likeness for them.’ He then asked me if I wanted a particular kind of light for my work. There was a very suitable light in his office, and it was quickly arranged that I should do my work there, and that he should give me sittings from eight to nine o’clock in the morning, and at any time during the remainder of the day when he was not too much engaged. In an hour I had the easel up and had commenced the first sitting. Mr. Lincoln was already taking an interest in the work; and, at the conclusion of the sitting, during which I had made the usual charcoal sketch, looking at it, he said, ‘I see the likeness, sir.’

“Mr. Lincoln had given up his law practice, that he might devote his time to the campaign. From ten o’clock in the morning till four in the afternoon, he had many visitors, most of whom were from the Northern and Western States. Many of them were strangers who came to pay their respects to him and others came to re-establish old friendships or to strengthen new ones; but all were delighted to listen to his quaint remarks and humorous stories.

“During one of the usual sittings a gentleman from Massachusetts called, and introducing himself, said, he was on his way to St. Louis and had stopped over at Springfield to pay his respects to the future President. . . . Alluding to the portrait in progress, he remarked: ‘I suppose, Mr. Lincoln, you have to give a good deal of your time to this kind of work,’ Mr. Lincoln said, ‘No, this is the first time that I have had this specific sort of picture made, but I have had the sun pictures [daguerrotypes] made several times.’

“I found that Mr. Lincoln’s temper was even, his voice mild and persuasive, and that the habit of his mind was to advise, rather than to rebuke. . . . Mr. Lincoln was often silent and thoughtful, but he never wore a frown, and I loved him from my first day with him.

“As the work on the portrait advanced, Mr. Lincoln became more and more interested in its progress. At one time he said, ‘It interests me to see how, by adding a touch here and a touch there, you make it look more like me. I do not understand it, but I see it is a vocation in which the work is very fine.’

“Once, during a sitting, I asked Mr. Lincoln how he first heard the news of his nomination. He said, ‘There were a dozen or twenty of us in the telegraph office, and we were receiving dispatches from the convention every few minutes, and as they came the operator handed them to me to read to those present. Then one came announcing that my name was before the convention, but I had no idea that there was any chance of my nomination. However, the next dispatch brought the report. I couldn’t read this one to them, so I said, there is a little woman down at the house who will be interested in this, and, handing them the dispatch, I left them to discuss it among themselves; and this is the way I first got the news.’

“ . . . The portrait was finished; and Mr. Lincoln had taken great interest in its progress and had expressed himself as pleased with the result. He said, ‘It will give the people of the East a correct idea of how I look at home, and, in fact, how I look in my office. I think the picture has a somewhat pleasanter expression than I usually have, but that, perhaps, is not an objection.’

Number 677—Concluded]

"Mrs. Lincoln was to have come to the office to see the portrait, but on the day appointed it was very rainy, so I had it taken to the house. It was carried to the drawing-room, where I put it in a proper light to be seen, and placed a chair for Mrs. Lincoln. Sitting down before it, she said, 'Yes, that is Mr. Lincoln. It is exactly like him, and his friends in New York will see him as he looks here at home. How I wish I could keep it, or have a copy of it.'

"Mr. Lincoln had a large number of acquaintances with whom he was more or less intimate, men who respected him and whom he respected. But the one man, in those days, who was always with him, with whom he advised, in whom he confided, with whom he talked over the Constitution of the United States in its relations to slavery, the condition of the South, and the mutterings of the slave-owners, whose views accorded with his own, whom he held by the hand as a brother, was O. H. Browning of Quincy. The future President cracked his jokes and told inimitable stories, by way of illustrating some question or argument, with a hundred men, during the week I was there, and always in his quaint way, with aptness and an abundant good-humor. But when he and Browning were alone together, they discussed with thoughtful consideration many events which might occur. . . .

"The sittings for the portrait were concluded, and the likeness was approved by the family and the towns-people. While it was still on exhibition in Mr. Lincoln's office, Mr. Browning placed in my hand the subjoined letter:

"Springfield, Illinois

June 13, 1860

"I have carefully examined the portrait of Hon. A. Lincoln painted by Thomas Hicks Esq., and do not hesitate to pronounce it a great success.

"I have known Mr. Lincoln intimately for many years, and was present and in conversation with him much of the time whilst it was being painted, and cannot adequately express my admiration of the fidelity of the picture, and the perfect and satisfactory idea which it (*sic*) gives of the original, and his physical, mental and moral characteristics.

"I doubt whether art is capable of transferring to canvas a more exact and life like representation of the 'human face divine.'
O. H. Browning."

The portrait was purchased by Mr. Edson Bradley, Sr. at the sale of the artist's pictures from his studio in New York in 1861, the year after it was painted.

Painted in 1860

Collection of Edson Bradley, Washington, D. C., 1861

Collection of Mrs. Herbert Shipman, Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc, 1940, his granddaughter

Exhibition, *The Life and Time of Abraham Lincoln*, New York, 1936, no. 105

Described and engraving illustrated in *Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln by Distinguished Men of His Time*, edited by Allen Thorndike Rice, 1885, pp. 593-607

Described in *The Diary of Orville Hickman Browning*, edited by Theodore C. Pease and Jas. G. Randall, 1925, Vol. I, p. 415

Described and illustrated in Rufus Rockwell Wilson, *Lincoln in Portraiture*, 1935, pp. 95-99, no. xvi, ill. p. 93

[See illustration facing page 140]

WM. EDWIN MILLER

ATTORNEY AT LAW
411-4 J. M. S. BUILDING
SOUTH BEND 1, INDIANA

March 12, 1953.

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
C/o Lincoln National Foundation,
Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:

I have just been binding the recent numbers of Lincoln Lore and find that I have two copies of No. 1223, and no copy of 1225. With that exception I have a complete file of Lincoln Lore - but a dozen or so of the Numbers are not originals but are photostatic copies which you had made to supply missing numbers for those who wished to keep a complete file of Lincoln Lore. (I assume that an error was made in the mailing to me of the quarterly pack that contained 1223 and 1225, but I am chagrined that I did not notice the error at the time, - for I aim, whenever possible, to read all the issues of Lincoln Lore soon after they are received, and, evidently, I failed to notice that 1225 was not received). I am returning Number 1223 herewith, and hope that you can supply me with No. 1225. — sent 3-13-53

I wonder whether I ever told you about the possibility that an unknown photograph of Lincoln was found among the papers of Schuyler Colfax (by George Baker, a "local-history-fan"- now long since dead). George showed it to me soon after he found it. It appeared to be a "proof", not finished like a portrait would have been if it had been intended for delivery. It was of large size - head about the size of a silver-dollar, as I recall it. I was not then as familiar with the many current pictures of Lincoln as I have since become, and so rather assumed that the "find" was only a "proof" of some picture that had been well known. My recollection is that it was a beardless picture; and, if so, must have been taken before he left Springfield for the inauguration. I have never tried to find out whether Baker left the picture to our local historical society - which shows how disinterested a fellow can act; but Baker was a very zealous member of that society. I think I shall go over to the museum and ask the custodian to look through the papers which Baker must have left there. (He was a great collector, and may have left bundles of old papers with the museum, and, maybe, they have never been examined with care. Of course, it is a "long-shot", for, if I am right in believing the picture was a beardless-portrait of Lincoln, how would Colfax have come into possession of it, as his intimacy with Lincoln must have begun after Mar. 4, 1861. My recollection is that Baker told me that he ran across the photograph in an old book that had been discarded as worthless when the library was broken up - long after the death of Mr. Colfax. (Mrs. Colfax continued to live in the home long after I came to South Bend in 1902, and the library remained much as it had been in his life-time - as I have always understood.

Respectfully,





WM. EDWIN MILLER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
411-4 J. M. S. BUILDING
SOUTH BEND 1, INDIANA

March 12, 1953

Dr. Louis A. Warren,
C/o Lincoln National Foundation,
Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:

I mailed you a letter this P.M., in which I suggested the possibility that a certain beardless-photograph of Lincoln (found in a discarded book from Hon. Schuyler Colfax's library) might be an unknown portrait of Lincoln. I have telephoned with Mrs. Stanfield, custodian of the Northern Indiana Historical Museum, and she tells me that there is attached to a large picture of Schuyler Colfax (in the Museum) a cabinet-sized beardless-photograph of Lincoln which bears the notation, "owned by Schuyler Colfax; taken in Chicago in 1857" (or words to that effect). She said it is a "brownish" photograph, - which corresponds to my recollection of the one George Baker showed to me. The fact that the notation states that it was taken in Chicago in 1857, would seem to make it quite certain that it is only a duplicate of some well-known Lincoln-photograph, and the fact that it is attached to a Colfax portrait and "belonged to" him, makes me feel quite certain that it is the identical picture which Baker showed to me. Mrs. Stanfield says that you once visited the Museum before she became the custodian, and that the Lincoln picture was then on display; so, I assume that you have seen it and that you doubtless know which of the various Lincoln photographs it is.

Respectfully,



116

March 20, 1953

Mr. William Edwin Miller
411-4 J. M. S. Building
South Bend 1, Indiana

My dear Mr. Miller:

We are very happy indeed to make available another copy of Lincoln Lore #1225 and we want to congratulate you on having a complete set of the publication. I do not think there are very many of them that are complete as very few copies were published when they were first sent out.

I do remember seeing the picture many many years ago, the one you mention that is in the Colfax collection and I believe if you will turn to your Lincoln Lore number 116 you will find it described in that issue. I shall be happy to learn if it is not similar to that one.

Very truly yours,

LAW:PE

Director

1901

1901

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1901

August 26, 1960

Miss Margaret Scriven, Librarian
Chicago Historical Society
North Avenue and Clark Street
Chicago 14, Illinois

Dear Miss Scriven:

I have your letter of August 17, 1960. My delay in answering you is due to an extended vacation in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Very soon I will make a study of your letter relative to our file of New York Herald newspapers, April 15, 1865 and I will reply to your queries. I fear, however, I will not have much of a contribution to make.

In the meantime, I am wondering if you can give me some information pertaining to your acquisition of the Thomas Hicks portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

I enclose an uncorrected page proof copy of the September, 1960 Lincoln Lore relative to the Hicks portrait of Lincoln. You will note that I know nothing about how your institution acquired this fine work of art.

Today I discovered some more information about the portrait. This I will incorporate in the October, 1960 issue of Lincoln Lore.

Can you tell me if the Chicago Historical Society acquired the Hicks portrait from Oscar B. Cintas? Was it a gift? Can you give me some details so that I may elaborate.

Any help you can give me will be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

RGM:hw
enc. 2

R. Gerald McMurtry

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

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[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

(To appear in the October, 1960 issue of Lincoln Lore)

Some Additional Facts Pertaining
to the Thomas Hicks Portrait of
"The Youthful Lincoln"

(See Lincoln Lore, No. 1471, September, 1960)

On November 24, 1940 the Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc., 30 East 57th Street, New York, N.Y., sold the Lincoln portrait by Hicks to Kennedy & Co., Art Dealers, 785 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y., for \$11,100. From newspaper clippings in the Foundation files it appears that Kennedy & Co. purchased the Hicks portrait for Bernan S. Prentice who owned a collection of American and English paintings.

Parke-Bernet Galleries again offered the portrait for sale on April 19, 1952. According to the New York Herald Tribune, April 20, 1956 the "First Lincoln Portrait" was purchased by the late Oscar B. Cintas, a former Cuban ambassador to the United States.

Mr. Cintas wanted the portrait as a companion item to the Bliss copy of the Gettysburg Address which he bought for \$54,000 after spirited bidding in the same gallery on April 27, 1949.

While Mr. Cintas was present at the sale of the Gettysburg Address he telephoned from Havana a bid of \$18,000 for the Hicks Portrait. This was the successful bid as the second highest bidder offered \$17,500.

It is of interest to point out that at this same sale, during the same session one of Gilbert Stuart's portrait of George Washington sold for \$12,000.

The portrait was next acquired by the Chicago Historical Society in 1959.

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August 29, 1960

Mr. R. Gerald McMurtry
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Gerald:

Miss Scriven has asked me to reply to your letter of August 26.

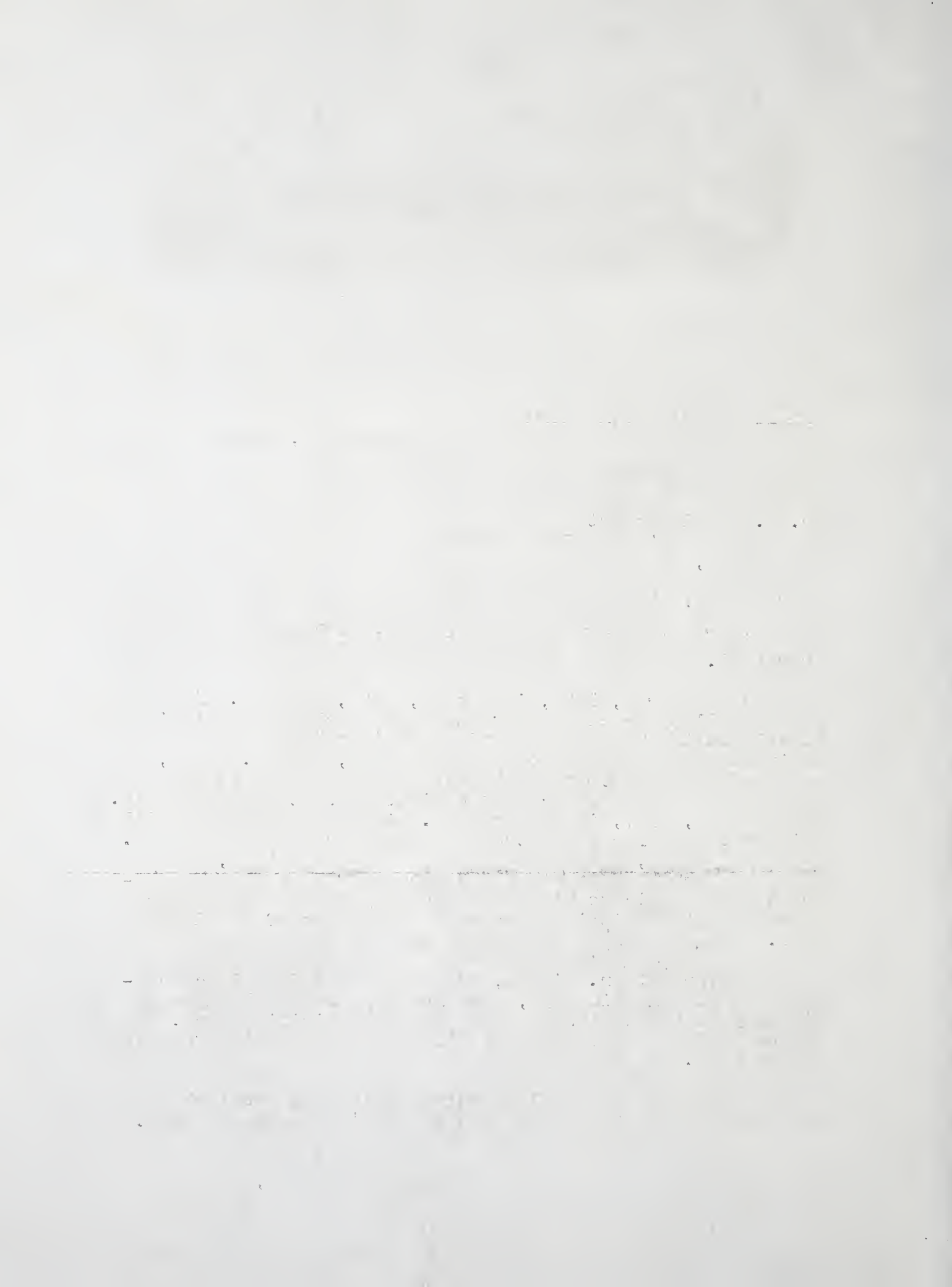
On October 5, 1953, in Havana, Cuba, Oscar B. Cintas made a will by which he bequeathed the Hicks portrait of Lincoln to the Chicago Historical Society "as a sign of admiration and respect for its secretary, Paul M. Angle," and his holograph copy of the Gettysburg Address to the United States to be placed on exhibition in the White House. On April 30, 1957, in New York Mr. Cintas made another will which provided for a different disposition of his property. Since his death, the estate has been in litigation, but in 1959 the Surrogate Court of New York awarded the Hicks portrait to the Chicago Historical Society and the Gettysburg Address to the United States under the terms of the 1953 will.

I never met Mr. Cintas, but I had considerable correspondence with him in 1950, when he very graciously lent us his copy of the Gettysburg Address for exhibition here. I suppose this accounts for the flattering personal reference in the will.

I hope that you will be able to find time to look over your New York Herald with Miss Scriven's queries in mind.

Sincerely yours,

Tano



Hills - Thomas - Correspondence

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