

LINCOLN LORE

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LINCOLN LORE

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Dr. Louis A. Warren - - - - - Editor

LINCOLN LETTERS

Lincoln Lore has not published a more valuable contribution than the series on Lincoln Letters which is being brought to a close with this issue. The cataloging of all of the published letters of Abraham Lincoln has been a task with a two-fold purpose; the ferreting out of unpublished Lincoln correspondence and the visualizing of the mass of Lincoln's writings now available.

When one considers that the most authentic character sketch of Abraham Lincoln is to be found in the letters which he wrote, the value of every fragment of his correspondence is evident.

With over 2300 letters already printed in standard publications of his works, it should not be very difficult for anyone who cares to read through this correspondence to form a fairly accurate opinion of the man. It is this mass of material which the biographers of Lincoln have found to be their most trustworthy source.

There is every reason to believe that there are still hundreds of Lincoln letters which are not included in the seven publications used in compiling this chronological list. More than one hundred letters not appearing in any of these books have been discovered by the foundation, since this series began.

Although the last book featuring new Lincoln letters was published but a year ago, another fully as large is now on the press.

An appraisal of these letters, although some might be considered priceless, would easily amount to two millions of dollars.

There has been no attempt to list the large number of documents signed by Lincoln. One Lincoln manuscript sold recently for \$100,000.

From time to time it is the purpose of Lincoln Lore to issue supplementary lists of new letters discovered so that this series may serve as a complete check list.

We would urge all who may have unpublished Lincoln Letters in their possession to have them deposited if possible in fire-proof vaults and at least have copies made of the contents if inconvenient to secure photographs of them. While this series was in progress the attention of the editor was called to a letter said to have been written by Abraham at least two years earlier than the first one presented in this catalog, but recently it has been destroyed by fire with no copy available. This is but one of many similar instances brought to our attention, where valuable Lincoln letters have been lost or destroyed.

Annual Correspondence			
1833	1	1850	15
1834	1	1851	15
1836	5	1852	3
1837	4	1853	18
1838	3	1854	28
1839	9	1855	19
1840	8	1856	23
1841	6	1857	22
1842	17	1858	70
1843	9	1859	53
1844	10	1860	166
1845	10	1861	216
1846	16	1862	211
1847	12	1863	543
1848	38	1864	536
1849	44	1865	180
Total correspondence		2311	

The books named below have been used as services for this compilation:

REFERENCES

- N.—Nicolay and Hay, *Abraham Lincoln, Complete Works*, Vol. 1 and 2. The Century Company, New York, 1894.
- Ta.—Tarbell, Ida M., *The Life of Abraham Lincoln*, Vol. 2. McClures, New York, 1900.
- G.—(Gettysburg Edition) Nicolay and Hay, *Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Vols. 1 to 12. Francis D. Tandy, New York, 1905.
- F.—(Federal Edition) Arthur Brooks Lapsley, *The Works of Abraham Lincoln*, Vols. 1 to 8. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1905.
- A.—Angle, Paul M., *New Letters and Papers of Lincoln*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1930.
- Tr.—Tracy, Gilbert A., *Uncollected Letters of Abraham Lincoln*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1917.
- B.—Brown University Library, *Lincoln Letters at Brown*, Privately Printed, Providence, 1927.

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1865

- Dana, Gen. N. J. T., Feb. 18, N. 653.
Bennett, J. G., Feb. 20, N. 653.
Officer in command, Davenport, Feb. 20, Ta. 545.
Fletcher, Gov., Feb. 20, N. 653.
Officer in command, Lexington, Feb. 22, Ta. 545.
Grant, Gen. U. S., Feb. 23, Ta. 454.
Pope, Gen., Feb. 24, Ta. 445.
Grant, Gen. U. S., Feb. 24, N. 654.
Palmer, Gen. J. M., Feb. 24, N. 654.
Grant, Gen. U. S., Feb. 25, N. 654.
Grant, Gen., Feb. 27, F. 327.
Fletcher, Gov., Feb. 27, N. 655.
Beecher, H. W., Feb. 27, N. 655.
Command, Harper's Ferry, Feb. 28, Ta. 455.
Scott, Gen., March 1, N. 655.
Conway, T. W., March 1, F. 327.
Cox, S. S., March 2, Tr. 252.
Grant, Gen., March 2, N. 656.
Sumner, Chas., March 5, N. 658.
Seward, Sec., March 6, N. 658.
Tod, Hon. David, March 6, Ta. 455.
Dixon, Judge, March 7, Tr. 252.
Grant, Gen., March 7, N. 658.
Pope, John, March 7, N. 658.
Grant, Gen., March 8, N. 659.
Bartlett, W. O., March 9, Ta. 455.
Sec. of Navy, March 7, B. 50.
Grant, Gen., March 9, N. 659.
Stanton, E. M., March 11, A. 371.
Blow, H. T., March 13, Ta. 455.
Goodrich, J. Z., March 13, N. 661.
Grant, U. S., March 13, A. 372.
Weed, Thurlow, March 15, N. 661.
Ord. Maj.-Gen., March 16, Ta. 455.
Hough & Others, March 17, F. 336.
Pope, Gen. J., March 18, N. 663.
Hall, Mrs. Amanda H., March 20, Tr. 253.
Ord. Gen., March 20, F. 340.
Swann, Gov., March 20, H. 663.
Grant, Gen. U. S., March 20, N. 664.
Lincoln, Captain, March 21, N. 664.
Scates, Judge, March 21, N. 664.
Hancock, Gen., March 22, F. 341.
Grant, Gen. U. S., March 23, G. 61.
Dodge, Gen., March 23, Ta. 456.
Stanton, Sec., March 25, Ta. 456.
Stanton, Sec., March 26, F. 343.
Stanton, March 27, F. 343.
Stanton, Sec., March 28, F. 344.
Weitzel, Gen. Godfrey, March 29, Ta. 253.
Stanton, Sec., March 30, F. 344.
Stanton, Sec., March 31, F. 345.
Grant, Gen. U. S., April 1, F. 346.
Stanton, Sec., April 1, F. 346.
Grant, Gen. U. S., April 1, F. 347.
Seward, Sec., April 1, F. 347.
Seward, W. H., April 1, A. 373.
Stanton, Sec., April 2, N. 666.
Mrs. Lincoln, April 2, Ta. 457.
Grant, Gen., April 2, F. 351.
Lincoln, Mrs., April 2, F. 351.
Stanton, Sec., April 3, N. 667.
Stanton, Sec., April 4, F. 352.
Banks, Gen., April 5, N. 668.
Stanton, Sec., April 5, G. 73.
Seward, Sec., April 5, F. 353.
Secretary of State, April 5, Ta. 458.
Grant, Gen. U. S., April 6, N. 668.
Weitzel, Gen. G., April 6, F. 355.
Stanton, Sec., April 7, F. 355.
Grant, Gen., April 7, F. 256.
Pierpoint, Gov., April 10, N. 670.
Stanton, Sec., April 10, F. 356.
Stanton, E. M., April 10, A. 373.
Gordon, Gen. G. H., April 11, Ta. 459.
Weitzel, Gen. G., April 12, N. 675.
Weitzel, Gen., April 12, N. 676.
McCullough, Hugh, April 13, A. 373.
Speed, James, April 13, A. 374.
Van Alen, Gen., April 14.
Achmun, George, April 14, G. 94.
Grant, Gen., April 14, G. 94.