

LINCOLN LORE

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AN ACCUMULATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Judge Daniel Fish was the first bibliographer to compile, number, and prepare for publication an exhaustive list of books relating to Abraham Lincoln. His findings, published in 1906, included all the known works printed up to that time. Subsequent data gathered by Fish was incorporated in a Lincoln bibliography arranged and supplemented by J. B. Oakleaf in 1926.

Inasmuch as The Lincoln National Life Foundation is in possession of the library and data used by Judge Fish in his bibliographical efforts, it has felt under obligation to continue the work so ably started by him. For the past four years, through the medium of *Lincoln Lore*, the Foundation has listed, quarterly, the new Lincoln titles coming from the press.

After studying the needs of Lincoln students, with reference to bibliographical data, it appears that an accumulative bibliography will serve them most satisfactorily. Under this plan a chronological grouping will be used, with each year serving as a unit. Thus the first book published in 1933 called to the attention of the compiler will be listed in the bibliography as 1933-1; the second, 1933-2, etc. This system will permit the development of the plan from year to year without confusion. It will also make possible working back into the past until a complete bibliography, under one system, will be available. Unrecorded books discovered from time to time can also be catalogued without difficulty.

SUBJECT MATTER

The plan used by Fish, in determining what publications should be included in a Lincoln bibliography, will be followed with but few exceptions. While it is impossible to draw hard and fast lines of demarkation, the following summary will suggest the general character of the subject matter to be included, as well as a list of items which do not fall within the necessary classification.

Subjects Included

- a. Literature in which Lincoln data dominates the text.
- b. Writings and addresses of Lincoln.
- c. Communications addressed to Lincoln.
- d. Publications devoted to the assassination of Lincoln and the arrest and trial of the conspirators.
- e. Fiction where Lincoln is one of the important characters.
- f. Dramas in which Lincoln takes one of the principal parts.
- g. Poems with Lincoln as the theme.
- h. Catalogues where Lincoln items make up at least one-third of the listed numbers.
- i. Programs, advertisements, souvenirs, etc., where Lincoln data predominates.
- j. Separately printed magazine articles.
- k. Government proclamations, orders, reports, etc., which deal directly with Lincoln data.
- l. Compilations of literature where at least one-third of contents consists of Lincolniana.

Subjects Excluded

- a. Civil War data.
- b. Contemporaneous political works not featuring Lincoln.
- c. Administration policies treated generally.
- d. Biographies of Lincoln's associates and contemporaries.

MECHANICAL MAKE-UP

After the subject matter of an item has made it eligible for a place in the bibliography, it must then be passed upon for its purely mechanical make-up. It must come within one of the six following classes to be included:

Items Included

- Book—Eighty-one pages or more, 4x5½ inches or larger.
Booklet—Eighty-one pages or more, smaller than 4x5½ inches.

Brochure—Not more than eighty pages, stitched and bound in stiff boards, cloth or leather.

Pamphlet—Not more than eighty pages, stapled or tied, with cover of paper or flexible boards.

Folder—One or more sheets printed on both sides, folded one or more times.

Folio—One sheet printed on one or both sides, issued in a series for temporary or permanent binding.

Items Excluded

a. Newspapers. b. Magazines. c. Sheet music. d. Broad-sides.

DATA IN BIBLIOGRAPHY

When it has been decided that the subject matter and mechanical make-up of the book determines it should have a place in the bibliography, the following means of identification will be made available:

Catalogue Name

In cataloguing items, the author's name (excepting the name Lincoln), will be used as the key word. When the name of the author is not available, preference will be given names in the following order: compiler, editor, organization or institution, publisher, printer, copyright holder, and anonymous. Where Lincoln is the author his name will be omitted and the next name in the order of preference given above will be used. Books grouped under the catalogue name "Anonymous" will require a sub-catalogue word which will be "the first word of the title not an article."

Number of Item

The permanent number by which the item will be known will appear at the end of the line on which the name of the author appears.

Title Page

The title page will be copied verbatim with a division character used to separate each line of text. This inscription will become the standard of classification for each item. Where no title page is available the cover title will be used. Lacking a cover title, the first printed lines of the publication will be cited.

Description of Publication

A descriptive paragraph in smaller type will furnish additional identification. First there will appear the classification of the items according to the mechanical make-up of the publication such as book, booklet, brochure, pamphlet, folder, or folio. Then will follow description of cover material, size of book, number of pages, illustrative data, advertisements, edition, number published, and price.

An additional paragraph will include a brief statement about the contents of the publication if the title does not make this clear.

NEW EDITIONS

A new edition will become a separate item in the bibliography when it complies with any one of the following requisitions:

1. Wording of the title page different in any particular from the original with the exception of date.
2. Any revision made in text, illustrative material, or additional data appended.
3. A change in pagination differing from the original plan.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following definitions of words used in descriptive data will assist in clarifying the terms:

- Device—A symbol, seal, or publisher's insignia.
Imprint—The name of the publisher and address.
Frontispiece—The illustration preceding the title page.
These abbreviations will be used: n. i., no imprint; n. p., no place; n. d., no date; pp., pages; fr., frontispiece; adv., advertisement.

Note: The first quarterly instalment of the accumulative bibliography will appear April 3, 1933.