

LINCOLN LORE

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S FIRST COUSINS

Most of the Lincolns and Hankses in America have referred, in a casual way, to Abraham Lincoln as a cousin. If the original meaning of the term cousin (the child of a mother's sister) is retained, Abraham Lincoln had no cousins, as his mother was the only child of her parents. In the more commonly used form, wherein children of both uncles and aunts become first cousins, Lincoln had several relatives who would qualify as first cousins, but none by the name of Hanks. There were some half brothers and sisters of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, children by a second marriage of her mother, but their offspring cannot be considered as full cousins of Abraham Lincoln.

Abraham Lincoln's father had two brothers, Mordecai and Josiah, and two sisters, Mary and Nancy. It is the children of these uncles and aunts who may be called with propriety the first cousins of Abraham Lincoln.

Children of Mordecai and Mary (Mudd) Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln

The President's oldest cousin, son of Uncle Mordecai, bore his own name, Abraham Lincoln, and was about twelve years older than the President. This Cousin Abraham was born in Kentucky and on January 20, 1819, married Elizabeth Mudd, daughter of Hezekiah Mudd of Washington County. They had seven children, Priscilla, Parmelia, Mary Jane, Robert, Hezekiah, Nicolas, and Ellen. Abraham died about 1852 at Fountain Green, Illinois.

James Bradford Lincoln

The second son of Mordecai Lincoln was born about 1802 in Washington County, Kentucky, and married Frances Day, daughter of William and Frances (Children) Day, in Grayson County, the same state, on January 1, 1821. They named their first child, Thomas Jefferson Lincoln. The names of their five other children follow: Elizabeth, Mary Rowena, Emily Susan, James Riley, and Charles Prentis. James Bradford Lincoln died in Hancock County, Illinois, November 13, 1837.

Mordecai Lincoln

The youngest son of Mordecai and Mary Lincoln was named for his father and was born in 1804, in Washington County, Kentucky, not far from where the parents of President Lincoln were married in 1806. He remained a bachelor all his life and resided in Leitchfield, Kentucky, until 1839 when he joined the rest of the family at Fountain Green, Illinois, where he died in 1867.

Elizabeth Lincoln

Elizabeth, the oldest daughter of Mordecai Lincoln, was born in Washington County, Kentucky. She married Benjamin Mudd, son of Charles Mudd, by whom she had eleven children. The family migrated to Scotland County, Missouri.

Mary Rowena Lincoln

Little is known about Mary Rowena, daughter of Mordecai Lincoln. She married George Neely and at the time of her death three children survived her. Some of her descendants lived near Memphis, Missouri.

Martha Lincoln

Martha, the youngest daughter of Mordecai Lincoln, married Washington Neighbors, so Uncle Mordecai Lincoln not only had a grandson, Thomas Jefferson, but a son-in-law by the name of Washington. Martha had no children and died at Fountain Green, Illinois.

Children of Josiah and Katherine (Barlow) Lincoln

Barbara Lincoln

Barbara, the oldest daughter of Josiah Lincoln, born about 1802, in Washington County, Kentucky, was married in Harrison County, Indiana, November 4, 1819, to John Crutchfield.

Thomas Lincoln

Thomas, the oldest son of Josiah Lincoln, was born in Washington County, in 1806, the year the President's parents were married. In 1825, at Leavenworth, Crawford County, Indiana, he married Sarah Weathers, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Bullington) Weathers. They had nine children: Rachel, Benjamin, Mordecai, Jacob, Washington, Warden, Joseph, William, and James. Abraham Lincoln's cousin, Thomas, probably named for Abraham's own father, died January 26, 1849.

Elizabeth Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln had two cousins by the name Elizabeth. The daughter of Josiah Lincoln by this name was born about the same time as the President. She was married July 17, 1826, to Isom Denton, in Harrison County, Indiana. The number or names of her children are not known.

Nancy Lincoln

This cousin of the President, Nancy, a daughter of Josiah, may have been named for Lincoln's own mother. She was born March 2, 1810, and, at seventeen years of age, married John Briscoe of Harrison County, Indiana. They had two sons and four daughters. Nancy Lincoln Briscoe died in Harrison County on July 31, 1842.

Jacob Lincoln

The youngest son of Josiah, Jacob Lincoln, was born July 16, 1815, in Indiana, a year before the parents of Lincoln moved to that state. He married Martha Gibbs of Crawford County, November 20, 1839, and later on moved to Wayne County, Missouri. Jacob and Martha had eleven children, Mary, Thomas, William, James, Elizabeth, Jonathan, Joseph, Matilda, Katherine, Charles, and Rosanna.

Katherine Lincoln

Little is known about the youngest child of Josiah Lincoln, Katherine, who was born about 1817 and married in 1836 to John Sullenger in Harrison County, Indiana.

Children of William and Nancy (Lincoln) Brumfield

Mary Brumfield

Mary, the eldest daughter of William and Nancy Brumfield, was born in 1803 in Hardin County, Kentucky. She married Ralph L. Crume, presumably her cousin, on July 1, 1827, and passed away October 9, 1845. The names of her children, if any, are not known.

Elizabeth Brumfield

Elizabeth was born Dec. 3, 1804, in Hardin County and married William P. Nall in 1825. They had at least one child, John Nall, and possibly others.

Lucretia Brumfield

Lucretia Brumfield was also born in Hardin County and in 1835 married John Alston. There were two children born to this union, Lloyd and Brown, and possibly others.

Susan Brumfield

There were four Brumfield sisters but no boys in the family. Susan Brumfield is said to have died unmarried.

Children of Ralph and Mary (Lincoln) Crume

Sarah Crume

Sarah is the only daughter of Ralph and Mary Lincoln Crume about which we have positive evidence. Her father was married twice and both wives were named Mary. There were several children by the first marriage, but it is not known how many children there were by the second union. Sarah married James Hasty and they had a son, Ruben K.

William Crume

William Crume is said to have been a son of Ralph and Mary Crume and he married Louella Jones. They had one son, James, and possibly others.