

LINCOLN LORE

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CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENCY AND VICE PRESIDENCY—1860

Four different political parties entered the contest for the elections of 1860: Republican, Constitutional Union, Democratic, and National Democratic. Three of the candidates for the presidency were born in the South and one in New England. Two of the candidates for the vice presidency were born in the South and the other two in New England. Two of the presidential candidates at the time of the campaign were living in Illinois, however, while the other two were southerners. The campaign was really a contest between the West and the South.

The youngest presidential candidate, Breckenridge, was but thirty-nine years of age; the oldest, Bell, was sixty-three. Both Lincoln and his running mate, Hamlin, were the same age, fifty-one; both Douglas and his associate, Johnson, were the same age, forty-seven.

Lincoln, Breckenridge, and Lane all spent their early days in Kentucky. Lincoln and Lane left Kentucky the same year and lived in adjacent counties in southern Indiana for fourteen years. Lincoln's wife was born in the same city, where Breckenridge was born three years later, and they grew up in the same social group. Lincoln, Hamline, Bell, Douglas, and Johnson were all members of the Thirtieth Congress. Edward Everett, opponent of Lincoln in 1860 and principal speaker at Gettysburg in 1863, was a Presidential Elector for Lincoln in 1864. Four of the eight men who were candidates for the presidency and vice presidency in 1860 were dead by 1865.

Below are cited important facts relating to the eight candidates with special attention given to their political history:

REPUBLICAN PARTY	CONSTITUTIONAL UNION PARTY	DEMOCRATIC PARTY	NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY
Abraham Lincoln of Illinois	John Bell of Tennessee	Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois	John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky
1809, Feb. 12, Born near Hodgenville, Kentucky.	1797, Feb. 15, Born near Nashville, Tennessee.	1813, April 23, Born in Brandon, Vermont.	1821, Jan. 21, Born near Lexington, Kentucky.
....., Educated in pioneer log cabin schools.	1814, Graduated from Cumberland College., Educated at Brandon Academy., Educated at Center College and Transylvania University.
1832, Captain in Black Hawk War.	1816, Admitted to the bar.	1834, Admitted to the bar., Admitted to the bar.
1833-1836, Postmaster at New Salem, Illinois.	1817, Democratic State Senator.	1835, State Attorney for Morgan Circuit.	1847, Maj. in Mexican war.
1834-1842, Whig Representative in State Legislature.	1827-1841, Whig Representative in Congress.	1840-1841, Secretary of State for Illinois.	1851-1855, Democratic Representative in State Legislature.
1836, Admitted to the bar.	1841, Secretary of War in Harrison's Cabinet.	1841, Judge of State Supreme Court.	1856-1860, Vice President.
1847-1849, Whig Representative in Congress.	1847, Whig Representative in State Legislature.	1843-1847, Democratic Representative to Congress.	1860, Candidate for Presidency on National Democratic ticket.
1861-1865, President of the United States elected by Republican party.	1847-1859, Whig U. S. Senator.	1853-1861, Democratic U. S. Senator.	1861, Democratic U. S. Senator.
1865, President of the United States elected by Union party.	1860, Candidate for Presidency on Constitutional Union ticket.	1860, Candidate for Presidency on Democratic ticket.	1861, Major-General in Confederate Army.
1865, April 15, died at Washington, D. C.	1869, Sept. 4, Died at Cumberland Iron Works, Tennessee.	1861, June 3, Died in Chicago.	1861-1865, Secretary of War for Confederacy.
Hannibal Hamlin of Maine	Edward Everett of Massachusetts	Herschel V. Johnson of Georgia	Joseph Lane of Oregon
1809, Aug. 27, Born in Paris, Maine.	1794, April 11, born in Dorchester, Massachusetts.	1812, Sept. 18, Born in Burke County, Georgia.	1801, Dec. 14, Born in Buncombe County, North Carolina.
....., Educated at Hebron Academy.	1811, Graduated from Harvard College.	1834, Graduated from Franklin College., Educated in common schools at Henderson, Kentucky.
1833, Admitted to the bar.	1814, Ordained minister of the Unitarian Church.	1834, Admitted to the bar.	1822-1846, Served in both houses of State Legislature.
1836-1840, Democratic Representative in State Legislature.	1825-1835, Whig Representative in Congress.	1848-1849, Democratic U. S. Senator.	1846, Colonel in Mexican War, later Brigadier General.
1843-1844, Democratic Representative in Congress.	1836-1840, Governor of Massachusetts.	1849-1853, Judge of Superior Court for the Ocmulgee District.	1847, Brevet Maj. General.
1847, Democratic Representative in State Legislature.	1841-1845, Minister to Great Britain.	1853-1857, Governor of Georgia.	1849-1850, Governor of Oregon Territory.
1848-1857, Democratic U. S. Senator.	1846-1849, President, Harvard College.	1860, Candidate for Vice Presidency on Democratic ticket.	1853, Governor of Oregon Territory.
1857, Republican Governor of Maine.	1852-1853, Secretary of State in Filmore's Cabinet.	1861-1865, Senator in Confederate Congress.	1859-1861, Democratic U. S. Senator.
1857-1860, Republican U. S. Senator.	1853-1854, Whig United States Senator.	1873-1880, Circuit Judge.	1860, Candidate for Vice Presidency on National Democratic ticket.
1861-1865, Republican Vice President.	1860, Candidate for vice presidency on Constitutional Union ticket.	1880, Aug. 16, Died in Jefferson County, Georgia.	1861, April 19, Died at Roseburg, Oregon.
1869-1881, Republican U. S. Senator.	1865, Jan. 15, Died in Boston, Massachusetts.		
1891, July 4, Died at Bangor, Maine			