

LINCOLN LORE

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COMPLETE WORKS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

John Nicolay and John Hay, two of Abraham Lincoln's secretaries, have been more often associated with Lincolniana than any of the other numerous biographers who have written about the Emancipator. Their close association with the President has given to their efforts a degree of authority not enjoyed by any of the other Lincoln authors.

There is very much confusion, however, about the contents of the two separate publications which bear their names as co-authors. Still further uncertainty exists among the best informed students of Lincolniana about the identity of the many revised and enlarged editions based on one of these biographers' original publications.

The ten volume biographical study by Nicolay and Hay has become a recognized exhaustive source of historical information for the period of the Civil War. The *Century Magazine* first published the story in serial form beginning with the November issue of 1886 and, although greatly condensed, it contained monthly instalments until the February issue of 1890. The biography first appeared in book form in 1890 with the title *Abraham Lincoln, A History*, and this is the publication one usually recalls when the authors' names are mentioned.

Nicolay and Hay Original Edition

Nicolay and Hay published in 1894, at the suggestion of Robert Lincoln, another book which has been greatly overshadowed by the ten volume publication, but in many respects is a more important contribution. It is entitled *Abraham Lincoln, Complete Works*, and it is a compilation of his speeches, letters, state papers, and miscellaneous writings. It soon became known as "The Works" to distinguish it from "The History."

The "Works" as originally prepared by Nicolay and Hay in two volumes, usually bound in green cloth, has appeared in several issues, these dates on the title page having been noted by the Foundation, 1894, 1902, 1907, and 1915. It is this publication which became the source of many revised and enlarged sets of the writings and speeches of Lincoln. Lack of space will prevent little more than the listing of the various editions arranged by three different editors, Francis D. Tandy, Arthur Brooks Lapsley, and Marion Mills Miller.

Francis D. Tandy Series

Francis D. Tandy used the original two volume Nicolay and Hay works with its one thousand seven hundred thirty-six documents and speeches as a basis for a more exhaustive twelve volume publication. Five hundred and eighteen newly discovered Lincoln writings, the Fish bibliography, a Lincoln anthology, and an exhaustive chronological index were added to the contents.

The first of the many revised and enlarged printings appeared in 1905. At least seven different sets have been noted and there may be others. These editions without any exception have used the same plates except for supplemental pages in the preliminaries or the change in illustrations. The size of the volumes, 8vo, are also the same in all instances with one exception. The copy of the title page which follows is practically the same in all editions with the exception of the imprint:

Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln/Edited by/John G. Nicolay and John Hay/With a General Introduction by/Richard Watson Gilder, and Special Articles/by Other Eminent Persons/New and Enlarged Edition/...../
New York/Francis D. Tandy Company.

1. Gettysburg Edition de Grand Luxe.

Limited to three hundred numbered and registered sets. Printed from pica Caslon type on "Riverside", deckle-edge, antique wove paper. Upwards of one hundred illus-

trations. Bound in three-quarter crushed morocco, extra, gilt tops.

2. Gettysburg Edition de Luxe.

Limited to seven hundred numbered and registered sets. Same plates, same paper, same illustrations as de Grand Luxe but bound in red linen cloth.

3. Biographical Edition.

The second printing from the plates of the Gettysburg Edition with the same paper but illustrations limited to sixty. Size of books 5 3/4 x 8. Three bindings: green buckram, half leather, and full morocco. Advance publicity mentions the Lincoln History Society, New York. Published in 1907.

4. Memorial Edition.

Limited to one thousand numbered and registered sets. Same plates, same illustrations as biographical edition but size of book reduced to 6 x 8 3/4. Bears imprint of "The Tandy-Thomas Company," the successors to the Francis D. Tandy Company.

5. Presidential Edition.

Limited to fifty numbered sets. Same plates, Tandy-Thomas imprint with insertion, "Illustrated with numerous portraits and facsimilies." Elaborately bound in full crimson crushed levant.

6. Sponsors' Edition.

Same plates, same illustrations, and same size as Memorial Edition. Title page notes, "Introduction by John Wesley Hill," and the imprint, "Lincoln Memorial University." Copies numbered, purchaser's name printed, and each set signed by Chancellor of Lincoln Memorial University. Elaborately bound in full crimson crushed levant, also other bindings available.

7. Boy Rangers' Edition.

Same plates, same illustrations, and same size as Memorial Edition. Title page notes, "With a Foreword by Stephen F. Chadwick," and the imprint, "Boy Rangers of America." Elaborately bound in full blue crushed levant.

Arthur Brooks Lapsley Series

Arthur Brooks Lapsley edited at least five separate eight volume editions of Lincoln's works known as:

1. Connoisseur's Federal Edition. Limited to four hundred copies, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1905.

2. Collectors' Federal Edition. Limited to six hundred copies, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1905.

3. Centennial Edition. Published by P. F. Collier & Son, 1909.

4. Constitutional Edition. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1923.

5. National Edition. Published by The Lamb Publishing Co.

Marion Mills Miller Series

Compilations of Lincoln works were edited by Marion Mills Miller and are briefly noted here.

1. Commemorative Edition. Current Literature Publishing Co., 10 vols., 1907.

2. Centenary Edition. Current Literature Publishing Co., 10 vols., 1907.

3. Centenary Edition Deluxe. Lincoln Centenary Association, 9 vols., 1907.

4. University Edition. The University Society, 8 vols., (1908).

5. Hammond Edition. C. S. Hammond & Co., Publishers, 8 vols., (1908).

6. Newton & Cartwright Edition. Newton & Cartwright, 4 vols., (1908).