

LINCOLN LORE

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DR. LOUIS A. WARREN, EDITOR OF LINCOLN LORE

(This 1000th Issue of Lincoln Lore Was Suggested and Prepared by Friends of the Editor)

The wide distribution for nearly twenty years of a weekly publication restricted to a highly specialized historical field is in itself an achievement deserving some attention, but when it is known that this vast reservoir of information is the contribution of but one editor, the task performed is even more worthy of recognition. The 1000th issue of this periodical, *Lincoln Lore*, seems to offer an appropriate occasion to honor its editor, Louis A. Warren, and fulfill a desire expressed by many recipients of the publication, that some word of appreciation might be prepared.

Dr. Warren has lived continuously in communities which have offered peculiar advantages to the Lincoln students. His first interest in the Lincoln family began in Worcester, Massachusetts, where he received his elementary education. The school he attended was situated on Lincoln Square, where Dr. Abraham Lincoln had conducted an apothecary shop as early as 1784. Levi Lincoln, Dr. Lincoln's brother and a member of Thomas Jefferson's Cabinet, also lived in Worcester. When President Lincoln visited Worcester in 1848 he was entertained by Levi Lincoln, Jr., a Governor of the State of Massachusetts. These Worcester Lincolns and Abraham Lincoln were all descendants of Samuel Lincoln of Hingham, Massachusetts. In this Lincoln atmosphere Dr. Warren spent his early years.

During the Centennial year of Lincoln's birth, 1909, Dr. Warren moved to Lexington, Kentucky, where he entered Transylvania University, the oldest educational institution west of the Allegheny Mountains. Here he identified himself with the State of Lincoln's birth.

In 1918, Dr. Warren became the editor of the "Larue County Herald" in Hodgenville, Kentucky, the town near which Abraham Lincoln was born. While serving here as the newspaper editor, he became convinced that too much dependence had been placed upon the reminiscences of elderly citizens and too little search had actually been made of authoritative records for the true facts contained therein about the Lincolns. He then began his exhaustive search of public archives for documentary source material about Abraham Lincoln, and he is still diligently seeking authentic data. It may be truthfully said that no one individual has contributed more information concerning the early years of Lincoln's life than he has brought to light. This new revelation, much of it unpublished, except through *Lincoln Lore*, has caused an entirely different approach to the study of the great Emancipator.

Dr. Warren later moved to Elizabethtown, Kentucky, the first home of Lincoln's parents, and there he continued his investigations, copying thousands of court records relating to the Lincoln family in Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina. The publication of his book, "Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood," caused him to be considered the foremost authority on this subject.

A residence for three years not far from the Indiana country where Lincoln lived from the time he was seven until he became of age, allowed Dr. Warren to interview many of the descendants of Abraham Lincoln's contemporaries who still lived in the community. Later, encouraged by Senator Albert J. Beveridge, he took up his residence close to Indianapolis, where he made an exhaustive study of the Indiana environment of the Lincolns as revealed in the archives of the State Capitol.

While pursuing this research, Dr. Warren was engaged to lecture for the Indiana Lincoln Union, then



—Georg Studio, Springfield, Ill.
Louis A. Warren

attempting to raise funds for the erection of a memorial to Lincoln's mother. His speaking itinerary in Northern Indiana was under the direction of Mr. Arthur F. Hall, then President of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company at Fort Wayne, and through this contact Dr. Warren was consulted in February, 1928, about the possibility of establishing a historical research foundation. His services were retained to accomplish this end. As Director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation, Dr. Warren has gathered what is believed to be the largest collection of literature ever assembled in one place about one man, biblical characters excepted. The collection now includes more than 7,800 books and pamphlets, exclusively Lincoln; 225 association books similar to those that influenced Lincoln; 4,000 collateral publications dealing with Lincoln's associates, histories of the communities where he lived, and reminiscences of men who knew him; more than 3,500 magazine articles on Lincoln, which have been separately bound and indexed according to subject, author, and publication title; and more than 100,000 pages of clippings filed under more than 3,000 different specified subjects. In addition, Dr. Warren has acquired 24 original art studies by some of America's best-known artists, a collection of more than 100 Lincoln photographs from original negatives, more than 6,000 different Lincoln prints which have been catalogued and systematically displayed or filed, more than 1,500 political posters, addresses, ballots and caricatures, 75 busts and statuettes, 80 plaques, and more than 1,200 Lincoln

In my long study of the period of Lincoln and the Civil War, Dr. Warren has been both mentor and friend. His amazing accomplishments (in addition to the weekly production of *Lincoln Lore*, which I value highly) his modesty and learning, make him worthy of any tribute from those who admire him as I do.

F. H. Meserve

*Eminent Collector
of Lincoln Photographs*

Every student of Lincoln must be happy to salute Dr. Louis Warren in the 1,000th issue of *Lincoln Lore*. His enthusiasm, his friendly personality, and tireless devotion to a search for the truth are appreciated by all who have known him.

J. Monaghan

State Historian of Illinois

Dr. Warren has led the way to new knowledge of Lincoln and a better appreciation and understanding of the work of the "Prairie President." It is most fitting that this work should have originated in Indiana, where Abraham Lincoln spent his formative years.

Ralph G. Newman

Chicago Lincoln Book Dealer

Dr. Warren's ability, scholarship, enthusiasm and energy have advanced the dissemination of accurate information in this specialized field beyond that of any other current figure.

R. D. Packard

Cleveland Author and Collector

Aside from Dr. Warren's voluminous writings, his generous and never-failing willingness to give of his time and his talents has endeared him to all.

H. M. Povenmire

Ada, Ohio, Collector

Long before I knew Dr. Warren personally, I stood in awe before his wealth of information in the field of Lincolniana. Then, when we became friends and he imparted this information to me so generously, I began to stand in awe before his big heart.

C. Percy Powell

*Secretary, Lincoln group of
Dist. of Columbia*

In addition to the many aspects of Dr. Louis A. Warren's career—his distinguished directorship of the Lincoln National Life Foundation, his notable contribution as a speaker, author, and editor—my thought for this occasion focuses especially on his quality as a friend in need, and a most generous one, to the man in search of Lincoln material.

J. G. Randall

*Professor of History,
University of Illinois*

Dr. Warren has done more to disseminate Lincoln's life and works than any living man.

J. Henri Ripstra

Secretary, Lincoln Group of Chicago

As Director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation, as Editor of *Lincoln Lore*, as author, lecturer, and indefatigable Lincoln student, Dr. Louis A. Warren has made outstanding and invaluable contributions to Lincolniana, the permanence and validity of which have been fully demonstrated during his more than twenty years of consistent literary production.

F. Ray Risdon

*Secretary, Southern California
Lincoln Fellowship*

Dr. Louis A. Warren, through *Lincoln Lore*, has thrown the spotlight on more dark places in the Lincoln Legend than any other Lincoln author. For sustained effort on a given objective he has no equal in this field. Taking him all in all, "preeminent" is the word that describes him.

Carl W. Schaefer

*Lincoln Student and
Philanthropist of Cleveland*

Dr. Warren has made an incalculable contribution to Lincolniana. Particularly has he rendered a service in debunking many of the popular superstitions regarding Lincoln. His *Lincoln Lore* has been a monumental contribution to the great body of Lincoln literature.

Lester O. Schriver

*Vice Pres., Board of Trustees,
Lincoln Memorial University*

Reasons for my deep regard for Dr. Warren: A complete file of *Lincoln Lore*, his original research in Lincolniana, personal visits and correspondence profitable to me alone, and his sincere personality.

Milton H. Shutes, M. D.

Oakland, Cal. Author and Collector

In my opinion, Dr. Louis A. Warren is one of the ablest students and Lincoln scholars I have ever had the privilege to know. He lives the philosophy of his ideals.

William Springer

Detroit Collector and Student

Doctor Warren is one of the great Aces of the Lincoln fraternity.

John W. Starr, Jr.

Lincoln Bibliographer

Dr. Warren's combination of an agile brain and scholastic brawn, has lifted more fog from the Lincoln figure and made more students and collectors of Lincoln during the past two decades than has been done in all of the earlier years since there was a Lincoln. A big hand to Louis A. Warren for the spadework he has done and continues to do in the field of Lincolniana.

Thomas I. Starr

Detroit Editor, Author, Collector

Lincoln Lore represents what one would expect from Dr. Warren—a publication factual, accurate and informative. We Lincoln admirers just could not do without Dr. Warren and *Lincoln Lore*.

Alfred Whital Stern

Chicago Collector of Civil War Items

Dr. Warren performs a real public service in editing *Lincoln Lore*. He deserves the thanks of all Lincoln students, because of the interesting way in which he writes, and for making available to us such a tremendous amount of information concerning the Great Emancipator.

Edward C. Stone

Boston Executive and Collector

Congratulations to Lincoln National Life Foundation on the 1,000th issue of *Lincoln Lore*. I read Dr. Warren's bulletins with interest and find the *Lincoln Lore* file valuable for locating information not always readily available elsewhere.

Benjamin P. Thomas

*Former Secretary,
The Abraham Lincoln Association*

Lincoln Lore is a Lincoln dictionary—until Dr. Warren gives us a complete one—and a reference librarian's first grateful acknowledgments must be for the extent of its coverage and its pioneering efforts.

Henry B. Van Hoesen

Librarian, Brown University

Louis A. Warren—seeing the man and hearing his name you immediately think of Abraham Lincoln. Scholar and humanitarian that he is, he has made the qualities of Lincoln part of himself. The inspiration that he has gained from Lincoln he is ever passing on to others.

Carl E. Wahlstrom

*Judge of Probate Court,
Worcester, Mass.*

No words of appreciation can ever express my thanks to that Christian gentleman and profound Lincoln authority, Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor of *Lincoln Lore*, for the fatherly advice he gave me, a struggling novice, to gain success in the field of humble Lincoln literature. The valuable assistance he gave so freely was the inspiration needed.

John E. Washington

Washington (D.C.) Author

Dr. Warren through the years has made every Lincoln student his debtor, for he has been a vigilant destroyer of misleading Lincoln legends, and also brought dominant features of a great man's career into right perspective.

Rufus Rockwell Wilson

Venerable Author and Publisher

In honoring Dr. Warren a double honor is conferred for his life and his work, in a later generation, are inseparably and permanently associated with the towering spirit on whom he has lavished his scholarship, his purpose and his faith in understanding.

Luther H. Evans
Librarian of Congress

Indexes of Lincoln books are time-savers. *Lincoln Lore* best covers the index field and costs the filer nothing, but gives Dr. Louis A. Warren top place and his firm national publicity.

H. W. Fay
Custodian of Lincoln's Tomb

Dr. Warren has humanized Lincoln for me. Through him I have been made to feel kinship with Lincoln. I shall always be indebted to Dr. Warren for giving me Abraham Lincoln.

G. A. Gerken
Portland, Oregon, Collector

Lincoln Lore has long been a valuable edition and a much-used reference in my Lincoln library and, of course, Dr. Warren's enthusiasm and helpfulness have been a great inspiration to all Lincoln students.

J. M. Hamer
Mason City, Iowa, Collector

Dr. Warren's mosaic of Lincolniana long ago assumed major stature and will grow in importance with each passing year. The pages of *Lincoln Lore* are a monument to his splendid scholarship.

Carl Haverlin
Collector of Civil War Books

No praise is too extravagant in acknowledging the fine work Dr. Warren has done in the field of Lincoln research. His work in bringing to light documentary evidence, relative to the parentage of Lincoln, is sufficient to place him at the top of the list.

O. J. Heber
Secretary, Detroit Lincoln Fellowship

Dr. Louis A. Warren has rendered notable service to Abraham Lincoln scholarship: by his careful investigations particularly into the Lincoln Kentucky and Indiana periods; by his lectures and addresses which have been country-wide; and by the publication, in periodical form, of a great wealth of miscellaneous Lincoln material.

Cheesman A. Herrick
Philadelphia Lincoln Student

Dr. Warren's continued study and research into the life and noble work of Abraham Lincoln, renders a splendid service to our people and our country, and keeps active in our mind the memory of this great American.

Robert E. Heun
Former Executive of Rotary International

Dr. Louis A. Warren, with his "*Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood*," and

his *Lincoln Lore*s, has furnished us with more factual information about Lincoln, and has more accurately interpreted Lincoln's life and character, than has any other Lincoln scholar.

M. L. Houser
Authority on Lincoln Association Books

Dr. Louis A. Warren has touched upon just about every phase of the life of Abraham Lincoln in his 1,000 issues of *Lincoln Lore*. I consider him first in the field as student, interpreter and writer of the subject. If I could retain only one work of my 2,000 volumes on Lincoln it would be my complete file of *Lincoln Lore*.

Frank B. Howard
Detroit Collector of Civil War and Lincoln Items

Dr. Warren in his books has turned the light of modern scholarship on many disputed phases of Lincoln's ancestry and early childhood with results for which every Lincoln student is grateful. And no one can overestimate the value of his *Lincoln Lore* as it comes to us with its timely, incisive and scholarly presentations week by week.

C. A. Jones
Executive, American Education Press

Dr. Louis A. Warren is a grand person; and not solely because he is in the inner circle of Lincoln scholars and authors, but also because there is something within Louis, of the spirit of Lincoln himself. An accolade to Dr. Warren's industry, sincerity and perseverance!

Edgar DeWitt Jones
Author, Collector, Orator

With gratitude I salute Dr. Warren for his unique and unequalled contribution to the study of Abraham Lincoln. His 1,000 issues of *Lincoln Lore* are now the most useful, significant, and comprehensive single source of accurate Lincolniana in existence.

Robert L. Kincaid
President, Lincoln Memorial University

Thank God for a man like Dr. Louis A. Warren to inspire mankind with the Doctrine of Abraham Lincoln.

A. C. Larson
Past President, Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin

Dr. Warren's writings have been an invaluable source of information, most helpful to me in my study of certain phases of Lincoln's life. I look forward to many more illuminating words from his pen in the years to come.

Montgomery S. Lewis
Indianapolis Author

To search and find; to study and select; to weigh and determine; to advance the greatness of a truly great

man; to devote a lifetime labor of love to Lincoln—this is Dr. Warren's work. WELL DONE!

Walter Gould Lincoln
Los Angeles Attorney

One thousand monographs by one author, on almost every conceivable facet of the Lincoln life, purpose and accomplishments! The prodigious effort in research, on-the-ground investigations, sifting and sorting out of evidence, combined with accurate reporting and interesting writing has put every Lincolnist deeply in debt to Dr. Louis A. Warren for so magnificent an accomplishment.

Ralph G. Lindstrom
President, Southern California Lincoln Fellowship

I have read and filed all the issues of *Lincoln Lore*. It seems to me that Louis A. Warren is the world's NUMBER ONE living contributor to Lincolniana.

Ross F. Lockridge
Director, Hoosier Historic Memorial Activities

On my desk is a folder marked "Ask Dr. Warren." Whenever I encounter difficulties, whenever I find myself in a dark spot, a note goes into this folder and a letter is sent off to Dr. Warren. And always, during all the years that I have asked questions about Lincoln, his background, his family, by return mail has come the answer from my Santa Claus in Fort Wayne.

Stefan Lorant
Lincoln Picture Specialist

Certain names always will be associated with Abraham Lincoln and remain imperishable. When the twentieth century passes into history, the name of Louis A. Warren will loom large in the Lincoln record. Every one of Lincoln's admirers shall be indebted to Dr. Warren for the valuable material recorded in *Lincoln Lore*.

H. E. Luhrs
President, Pennsylvania Lincoln Fellowship

Twenty years of *Lincoln Lore* witness sufficiently to the wide-ranging scholarship of its lone editor. But to recall Dr. Warren's frequent addresses, his published papers and the definitive character of his book "*Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood*" is to make fully manifest the fruitfulness of his labor. We hail him as a good workman and a warm-hearted friend.

Joseph Lyle McCorison, Jr.
Clergyman, Lecturer, Author

Louis A. Warren has no peer in the field of Lincoln research, and it was my good fortune to have him for a mentor. Students will always be grateful for his boundless enthusiasm and his inexhaustible energy in his efforts to unravel the tangled skeins of history.

R. Gerald McMurtry
Director, Lincoln Department, Lincoln Memorial University

medals. Dr. Warren has also assembled a department of archives, which is especially rich in documents relating to Lincoln's ancestry, Kentucky environments, and early Indiana history, as well as original writings of Abraham Lincoln and his contemporaries. Microfilm copies of the 18,000 Lincoln papers in the Library of Congress have been acquired.

In addition to editing *Lincoln Lore* and the formerly-published *Lincoln Kinsman*, Dr. Warren has written nearly 100 books, pamphlets and magazine articles on Abraham Lincoln. The total wordage of *Lincoln Lore* alone is comparable to the Nicolay & Hay ten-volume *History*.

Through the years, he has engaged in numerous extensive speaking tours which have brought him before more than 2,200 groups located in 38 different states.

When word got around that this issue of Lincoln Lore would be prepared by friends of Dr. Warren, numerous testimonials were received. As many of these as space permits are being reproduced here.

I consider it good fortune to have received, read, and preserved *Lincoln Lore* from the beginning. It was a brilliant idea, successfully carried out, to pass along to Lincoln lovers the fruit of the research of a man of such fine spiritual perception as is possessed by Dr. Louis A. Warren.

W. H. M. Adams
Minneapolis Collector

Once, when Abraham Lincoln wanted to recommend an old and trusted friend to the Secretary of War, he referred to him simply as "a good man." On this anniversary occasion I can think of no better term by which to characterize my old and trusted friend, Louis A. Warren.

Paul M. Angle
Secretary and Director,
Chicago Historical Society

No Lincoln library can be complete without *Lincoln Lore*. Every Lincoln student is debtor to Dr. Louis A. Warren and the Foundation for added enjoyment, inspiration and education.

Harry S. Ballard
Columbus, Ohio, Student of Lincoln

Lincoln Lore is a bright beacon in the realm of Lincolniana. Every issue impresses one as a devoted attempt to properly portray the towering and steadily growing personage whose life and efforts best characterize that for which the United States of America has stood and will continue to maintain.

F. E. Balmer
Pullman, Washington, Collector

For a score of years *Lincoln Lore* has carried the informative and inspiring messages of Dr. Louis A. Warren, "a scholar gifted with an eye and a soul." His earnestness, sincerity and verity have inspired youth to study, and brought conviction to the student.

Oliver R. Barrett
Dean of Lincoln Autograph Collectors

Being greatly indebted to Dr. Warren, not only for my oft-used files of *Lincoln Lore*, but for the courtesies and welcome assistance he has extended on many occasions, I feel better for this opportunity to say, "Thank you!" out loud.

Robert Barton
Foxboro, Mass., Author and Collector

Dr. Warren's contribution to Lincoln study over the last twenty years is invaluable.

Roy P. Basler
Secretary, Abraham Lincoln
Association

Dr. Louis A. Warren has accomplished a most interesting and valuable task in the conduct of his researches in connection with Lincoln. His indefatigable industry has unearthed much historical material of great interest and value.

Walter B. Beals
Judge, The Supreme Court,
State of Washington

Dr. Warren! Lincoln student, speaker, author, collector, interpreter, fact-finder, lecturer, truth-seeker, youth-inspirer,—yes, America's one all-time Lincoln devotee.

James W. Bollinger
Davenport Author and Collector

The magnificent breadth of Dr. Warren's acquaintance with the Lincoln theme; his insistence upon truth and nothing but the truth in every detail of the Lincoln saga; the nationwide influence of his lectures and writings—these reflect in a large measure his distinguished contribution to a Lincoln-educated citizenry.

Louis W. Bridgman
Secretary, Lincoln Fellowship
of Wisconsin

Greetings to the editor for the millennial issue of *Lincoln Lore* from one

Dr. Warren's outstanding work in the field of Lincolniana has won him many honors. He was recently invited by Dr. Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress, to be one of the 16 special guests to be introduced at the opening of the Abraham Lincoln papers in Washington, D. C., July 26, 1947. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Literature from Lincoln Memorial University in 1929. For over twenty years he has been listed in "Who's Who in America" and is also in "Who's Who Among American Authors." He is a member of the Society of Midland Authors, and for several years he has served as a member of the Indiana Library and Historical Commission and the Indiana War History Commission. It was through documentary evidence uncovered by Dr. Warren in his Lincoln research work that the precise boundaries of the Lincoln birthplace farm were determined and made a matter of record in the archives of the Interior Department of the United States.

who has a complete file. No Lincolnian is more diligent, none more accommodating, none directs a more ambitious undertaking. Some divergencies of opinion need not dilute the warmth of congratulations—a big job well done.

F. Lauriston Bullard
Boston Editor, Author and Collector

These *Lincoln Lore* bulletins constitute a valuable part of my collection of Lincolniana. I read them with much interest and profit and am amazed at the extent of information which they convey.

John B. Campbell
South Bend Industrialist

It has been my privilege to visit the Lincoln National Life Foundation on a research visit, and I was tremendously impressed not only by the resources of this major library but by the extraordinarily generous way in which Dr. Warren makes it and his own enormous stores of information available to fellow students of Lincoln.

David Donald
Department of History,
Columbia University

Lincoln students everywhere are indebted to Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor of *Lincoln Lore*. Through his efforts Lincolniana has been enlarged and the light of truth shines brighter on Lincoln history.

George A. Dondero
Member of Congress
from Michigan

Dr. Louis Warren and I may not always see eye to eye on historical questions, but this does not in the least mitigate my affection for him as a helpful friend, nor my admiration for him as a fine scholar and brilliant champion for his side of a case.

Otto Eisenschiml
Authority on Lincoln's Assassination