

LINCOLN LORE

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THINNING OF THE RANKS

Through the years at certain intervals a copy of *Lincoln Lore* has been set aside to pay tribute to students, authors, and collectors whose passing has thinned the ranks of the admirers of Abraham Lincoln. The Memorial Day atmosphere seems to offer an appropriate season for recognizing some of those at least who will be missed from our Lincoln fraternity. The last necrology was published in December 1952 and during the intervening months some of the best known and most accomplished disciples of the Emancipator have passed away. There are probably other names which should be mentioned but those which follow have come to the attention of the editor.

Robert S. Barton

Robert Shawmut Barton was best known as the youngest son of Dr. William E. Barton, famous Lincoln biographer. After his father's library went to the University of Chicago, Robert began collecting Lincolniana on his own account and affiliated with the Lincoln Group of Boston. He was the author of many Lincoln monographs, the best known being *Berry and Lincoln, The Store that Winked Out*. He passed away at his home at Foxboro in his sixtieth year on January 14, 1954.

Frank B. Cowgill

Members of the Lincoln Fellowship of Southern California will especially miss Rev. Frank Brooks Cowgill who for many years has contributed worth-while pieces of verse on Abraham Lincoln. His earliest Lincoln work *A Trilogy of Lincoln Verse* was published in 1932 and he has continued these contributions through the years. He was born in 1856 and passed away on August 20, 1953 at 97 years of age.

Edwin C. Crampton

More or less withdrawn from the habitat of Lincoln students in general and having lived in Raton, New Mexico for forty-eight years, yet Richard C. Crampton, an attorney, became a student of Abraham Lincoln and a collector of Lincolniana. He lived in Fort Wayne, Ind. from 1896 to 1898 and apparently as early as that time, his interest in Lincoln was kindled. He was a graduate of Indiana University and as a young man conversed with many who had seen and known Lincoln personally. He was another one of the oldsters who recently stepped out of the ranks.

Carl Albert Gerken

As far back as 1933, C. A. Gerken then living at Berkeley, was in correspondence with the Lincoln National Life Foundation about the possibility of organizing a Lincoln group in the San Francisco Bay area, and he was largely responsible for establishing the Abraham Lincoln Society of Northern California. Removing to Portland, Oregon, his former home, he brought together an informal group of students interested in Lincoln in that city. Within a few days after the editor's visit with Mr. Gerken and his friends at Portland this last February, he learned that Mr. Gerken had passed away on March 7 at 65 years of age.

Foreman M. Lebold

Although Mr. Lebold participated in the collecting of Americana, it was only in the past ten years that he had given special emphasis to the Lincoln field. He will be best remembered for his generosity, especially with respect to his fine perception of orientation and he firmly believed that manuscripts of historical significance to one locality especially should be deposited there. Mr. Lebold was born in Chicago January 7, 1895, and passed away on November 11, 1953.

Montgomery S. Lewis

Montgomery S. Lewis was a lifetime resident of Indianapolis except for the years at Cambridge, Mass., where he graduated from Harvard in 1907. His father, Charles S. Lewis, up to the time of his death was subscriber to *Lincoln Lore* and his son Montgomery came by his interest in Lincoln naturally. He became greatly incensed about the untrue and defaming character of much biographical material released about the father and also the wife of Abraham Lincoln. It was upon these myths that he attempted to focus the attention of Lincoln students in his book *Legends that Libel Lincoln*. He passed away at Indianapolis January 1, 1954.

Eugene G. Moody

Over a period of years no student or admirer of Abraham Lincoln visited the Foundation with more consistent regularity than Eugene G. Moody. His connection with Benjamin H. Sanborn Co., educational publishers of Chicago, encouraged his keen interest in books on Abraham Lincoln. Mr. Moody was well informed on new publications which appeared about the Railsplitter and his rather extensive Lincoln library was his most cherished material possession. He passed away from a heart attack on July 31, 1953.

James G. Randall

When James Garfield Randall passed away on February 21, 1953 at 71 years of age, America lost its most profound student of Abraham Lincoln and like most active personalities was in the very midst of what may be considered his most ambitious undertaking, the last volume of his four volume work on *Lincoln the President*. So many fine eulogies have been pronounced on him in all leading journals that this notice is but to further emphasize a place in the Lincoln fellowship it will be difficult to fill. The historical contributions coming currently from the pen of Prof. Randall's widow, Ruth Painter Randall, will keep her late husband's works continually in mind.

Mrs. Dorothy Lamont Teillard

Ward H. Lamont, Lincoln's "particular friend" had a daughter Dorothy who was one of the few people living with a vivid memory of the Emancipator. In 1863 when she was six years of age she remembered riding in her father's carriage when President Lincoln was their guest. She was born in Bloomington, Ill., and when but five years of age her mother died and Abraham Lincoln attended the funeral as she had heard her father relate. The editor of *Lincoln Lore* many years ago had the privilege of introducing at Washington, D. C. Dorothy Lamont Teillard to Helen Nicolay, daughter of Lincoln's secretary. Mrs. Teillard died on January 20 at ninety-five years of age in her home at Bunker, Hill, West Virginia.

Charles T. White

The first brochure published by Charles T. White came from the *Herald Press* at Hancock, N. Y. It was entitled "Lincoln the Comforter" and was limited to two hundred copies. White himself set the type and printed the brochure. He had completed his printing trade apprenticeship in the Herald Press office 35 years before. Later he became political news editor for the *New York Herald Tribune*. His best known work was "Lincoln and Prohibition." He was an enthusiastic collector of Lincolniana and passed away at Hancock, New York, January 21, 1954 at ninety-one years of age.