



Nancy  
Hanks  
Lincoln  
Public  
Library







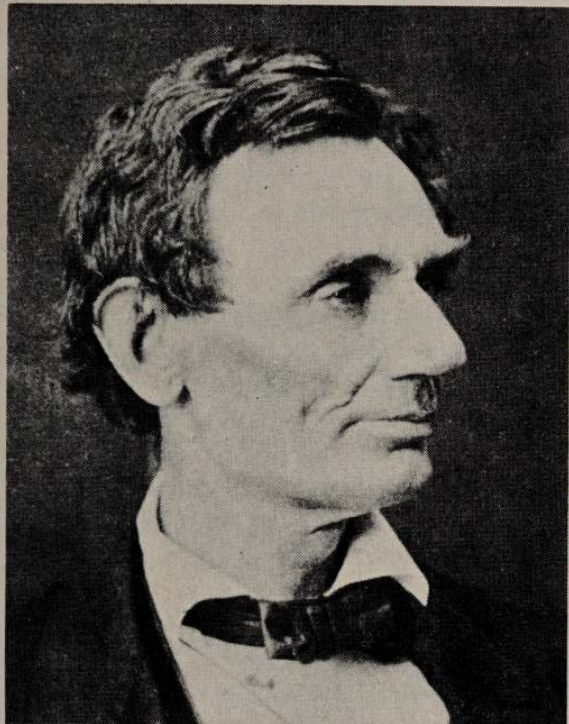


GENEALOGY  
929.2  
L638WC

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
  
3 1833 01815 3624

# *Abraham Lincoln*

## *Photographs*



By CLYDE C. WALTON

*Illinois State Historian*

(See page 7)

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois

**OTTO KERNER, Governor**

Published by Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, 1962, from Illinois Blue Book, 1957-1958, edited by Charles F. Carpentier, Secretary of State.



# Abraham Lincoln Photographs

By CLYDE C. WALTON  
 Illinois State Historian

**T**HE FOLLOWING FOURTEEN PHOTOGRAPHS of Abraham Lincoln were selected from all of the surviving prints of the Emancipator. Here is his first photograph, one that pictures Lincoln as a 37-year-old Congressman. And included in this article is what may well be the last photograph taken before his assassination. Lincoln is seen as he appeared to those who watched his momentous debates with Stephen A. Douglas, as he was when Republican candidate for President, and finally as he was while guiding the nation through the catastrophe of Civil War. In the earlier pictures he was clean-shaven; then this collection includes the first of him with a beard, and the only one showing him wearing spectacles. Finally a careful examination of these pictures will reveal how Lincoln aged as his burden of responsibility grew increasingly heavy throughout the Civil War.

There are only 102 known photographs (including a ferrotype, ambrotypes and daguerreotypes) of Abraham Lincoln. Of these, fifty were taken in Washington, D.C., twenty-five in Springfield, six at the Civil War battlefield of Antietam, four in Chicago, two each in Philadelphia and New York, one each in Urbana, Beardstown, Macomb, Pittsfield, Monmouth, Danville, Decatur, and Gettysburg, and five in unknown places. Of these 102 different photographs, twenty-eight were taken by the famous Mathew B. Brady or his assistants. Twenty-four were taken by Alexander Gardner; there are twelve whose makers' names are not known today. Here is a complete list of those men who took photographs of Abraham Lincoln:

<i>Photographer</i>	<i>Number of Photographs</i>	<i>Photographer</i>	<i>Number of Photographs</i>
Mathew B. Brady (and assistants) .....	28	A. M. Byers .....	1
Alexander Gardner .....	24	P. von Schneider .....	1
Unknown .....	12	W. P. Pearson .....	1
Alexander Hesler .....	5	Calvin Jackson .....	1
C. S. German .....	4	W. J. Thompson .....	1
W. Church .....	3	Amon T. Joslin .....	1
Samuel G. Alschuler .....	2	S. M. Fassett .....	1
Preston Butler .....	2	E. A. Barnwell .....	1
Wenderoth & Taylor .....	2	Joseph Hill .....	1
Thomas Walker .....	2	William Seavy .....	1
A. J. Whipple .....	2	Lewis E. Walker .....	1
F. D. Richards .....	2	Henry F. Warren .....	1
N. H. Shephard .....	1	Gurney & Son .....	1
		Total .....	102

The Illinois State Historical Library, long known as an institution with a distinguished Lincoln collection, receives many inquiries about Lincoln photographs. Generally these inquiries come from people who own Lincoln photographs and who want to know whether or not they have any commercial or historical value.

All of the 102 different Lincoln photographs are printed in two fine books: (1) Stefan Lorant, *Lincoln, A Picture Story of His Life*, New York, Harper & Brothers, 1957, and (2) Frederick Hill Meserve, *The Photographs of Abraham Lincoln*, Privately Printed, 1911, [four supplements have been issued, in 1917, 1938, 1950, and 1955]. One or both of these books may be found in most public libraries, and in the libraries of most Lincoln or Civil War collectors. Indeed, all who would study Lincoln photographs are greatly indebted to Mr. Meserve and Mr. Lorant.



Many prints have been made of these 102 photographs, not only during the Civil War, but through the intervening years to our own time. Often a good, clear print has been photographed, a new negative (copy negative) produced, and more prints made. While many of these prints come from original negatives, many more do not, and in any case, copies of these 102 Lincoln photographs are quite common. Occasionally, however, libraries and collectors will be glad to acquire good, clear copies of these pictures which measure more than 8" x 10".

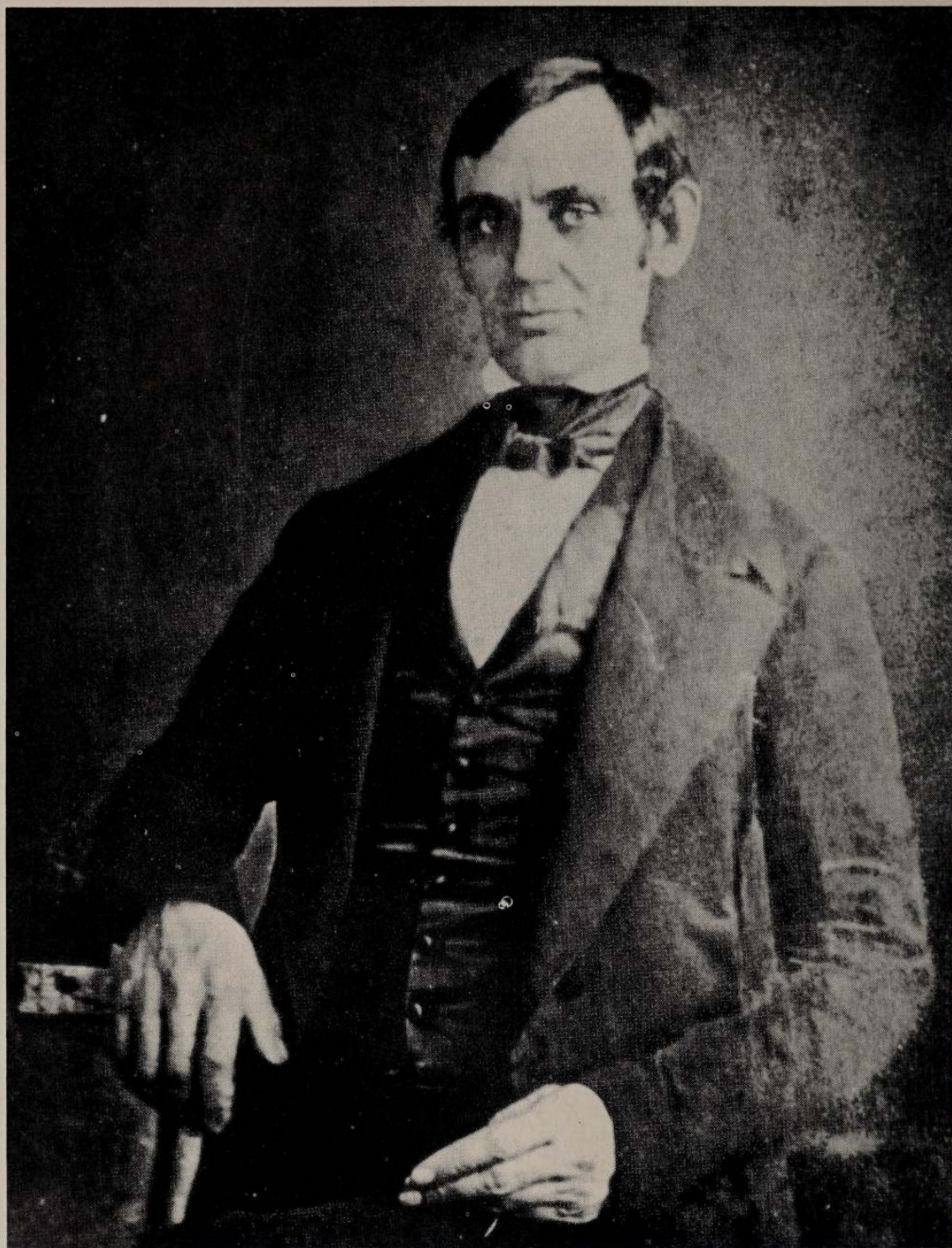
If you have a Lincoln photograph, first check it against those photographs printed in either one of the two books mentioned above. Be sure that you have a print from a photographic negative taken of Lincoln. Many so-called Lincoln photographs are not original photographs of Lincoln at all. Paintings, etchings, engravings, lithographs and other forms of artistic representations of Lincoln frequently have been photographed and made available to the public. If you do not know whether or not your print is a photograph, ask the nearest commercial photographer to tell you.

Should your print be something other than a photograph of Lincoln, you may send it to the Illinois State Historical Library or to a competent book dealer for examination. No authority will want to give an opinion without actually seeing your picture (or a good photograph of it).

If your print is a Lincoln photograph, and it cannot be identified with one printed in the two books mentioned above, the staff of the Illinois State Historical Library will be glad to examine it. But—be prepared to be disappointed! Long experience has taught us (and many disillusioned photograph owners) that discovering a new and hitherto unknown Lincoln photograph is a "once in a lifetime" event!

• • • • •

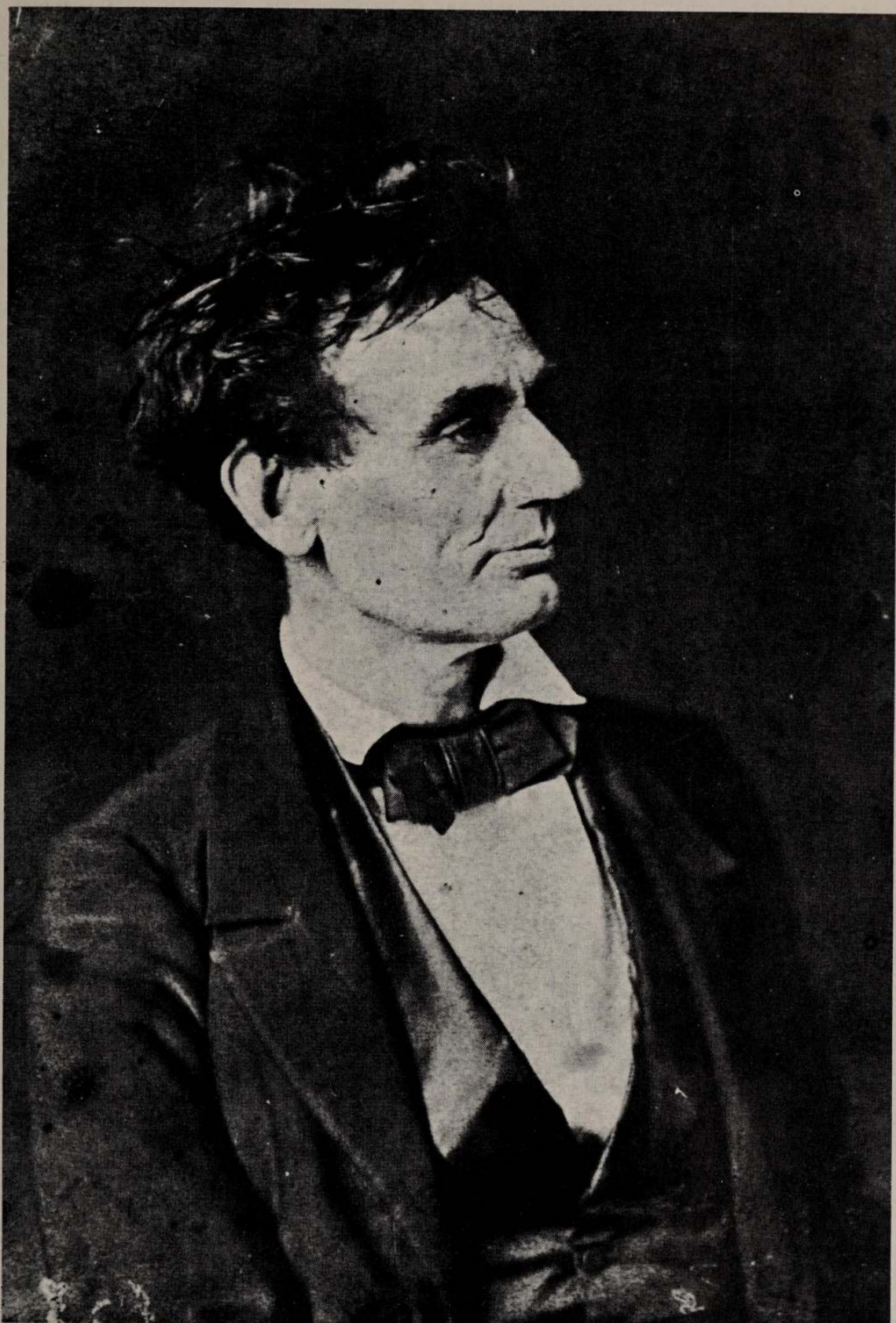




A DAGUERREOTYPE BY N. H. SHEPHARD, TAKEN IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, 1846.

THIS IS THE EARLIEST KNOWN PHOTOGRAPH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, AND IT SHOWS HIM JUST AFTER HIS ELECTION TO CONGRESS.

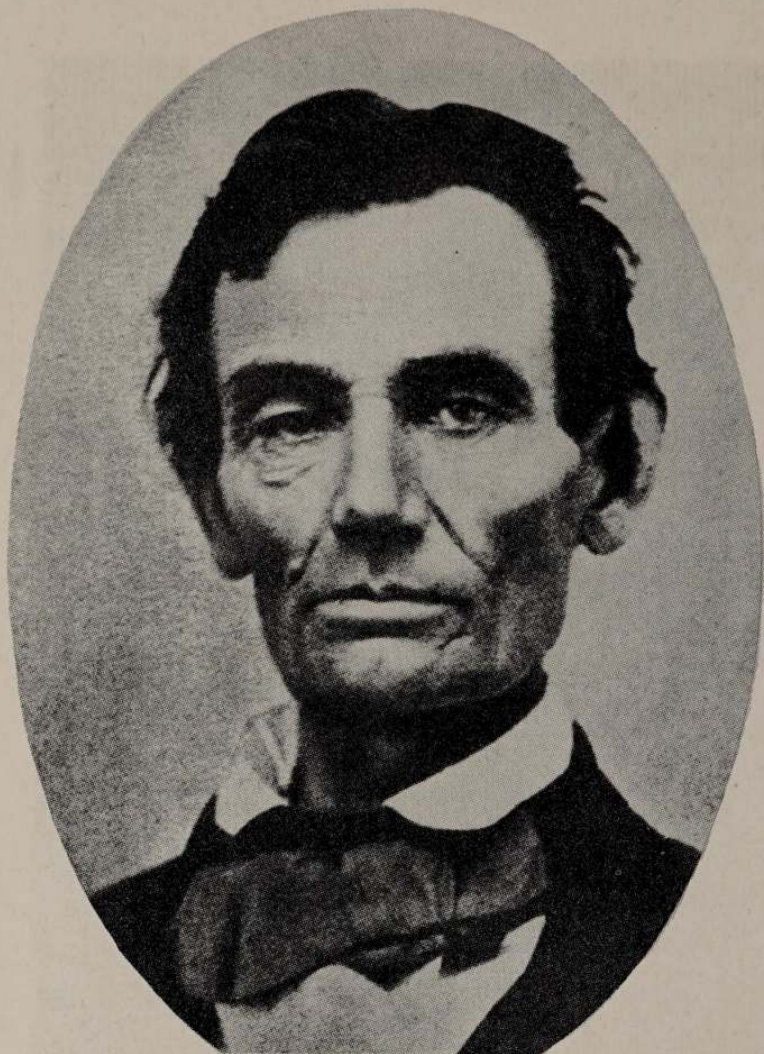




A PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEXANDER HESLER, TAKEN IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, FEBRUARY 28, 1857.

HESLER HAS SAID THAT HE RUMPLED LINCOLN'S HAIR, PURPOSELY MUSSING IT FOR THIS PHOTOGRAPH.



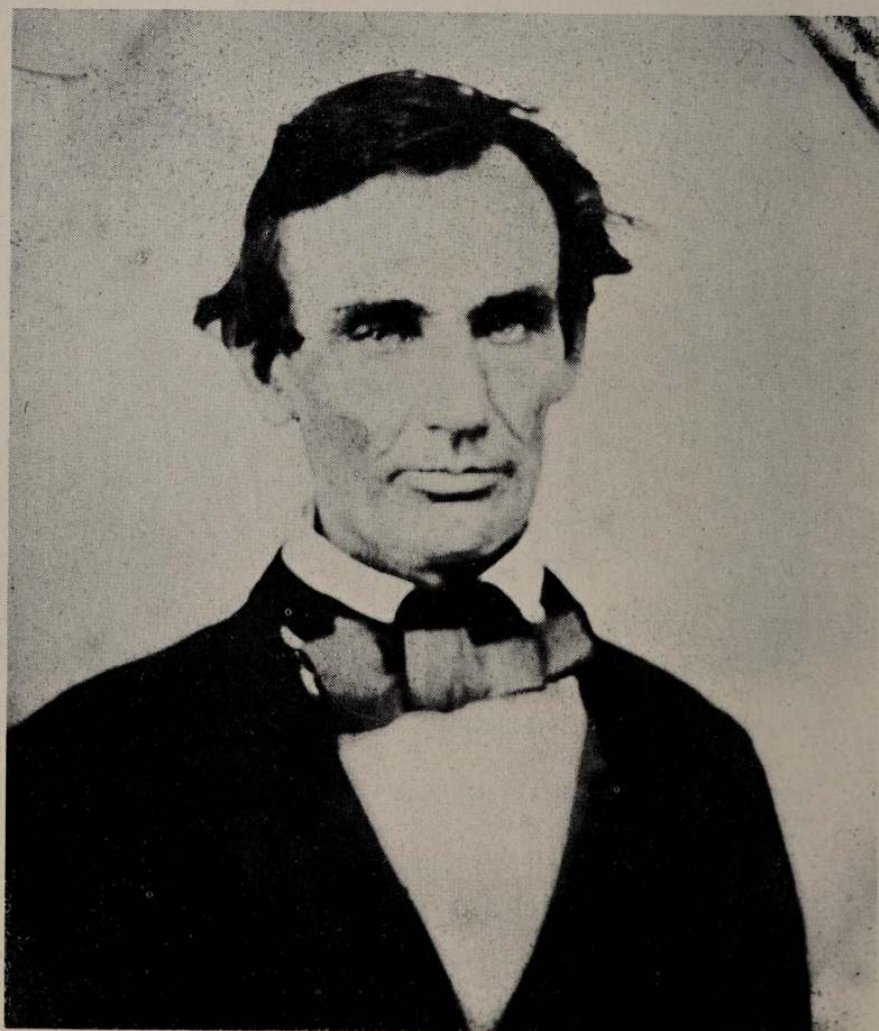


AN AMBROTYPE BY W. P. PEARSON, TAKEN IN MACOMB, ILLINOIS, AUGUST 26, 1858.

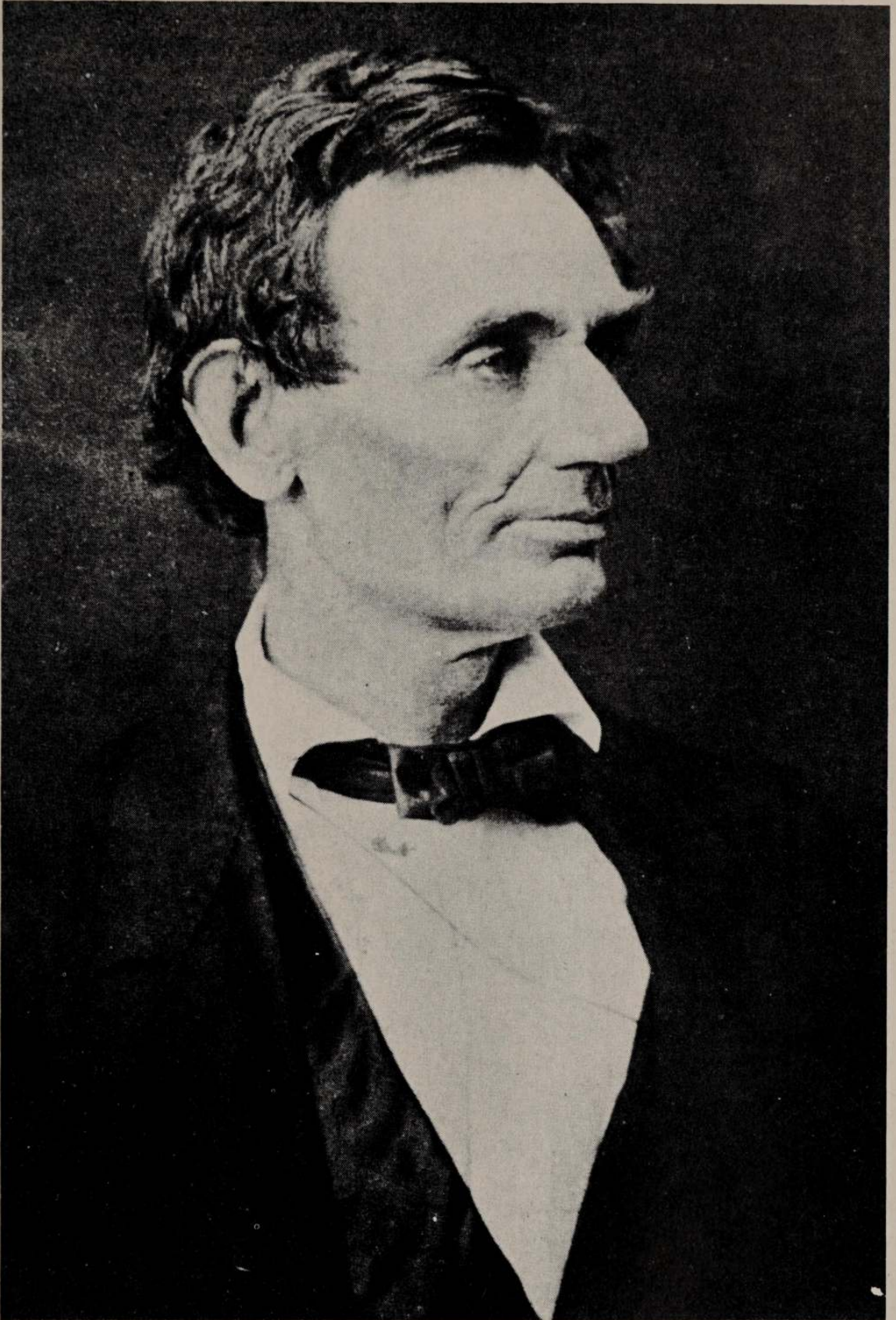
MADE DURING THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES, THIS REPRODUCTION SHOWS LINCOLN AS HE WAS DURING THAT GREAT ORATORICAL CONTEST.

AN AMBROTYPE BY CALVIN JACKSON, TAKEN IN PITTSFIELD, ILLINOIS, OCTOBER 1, 1858.

ANOTHER PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN WHILE LINCOLN WAS CAMPAIGNING AGAINST STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS FOR A SEAT IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE. LINCOLN APPEARS HERE JUST AFTER FINISHING A LONG SPEECH IN PITTSFIELD.



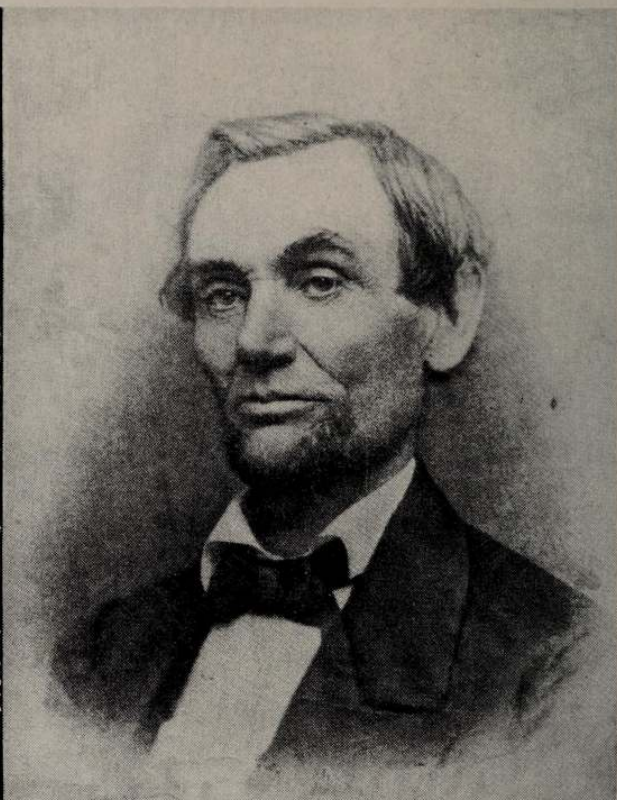




PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEXANDER HESLER, TAKEN IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, JUNE 3, 1860.

PHOTOGRAPHER HESLER CAME TO SPRINGFIELD FROM CHICAGO ESPECIALLY TO TAKE PICTURES OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.





PHOTOGRAPH (ABOVE) BY SAMUEL G. ALSCHULER, TAKEN IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, NOVEMBER 25, 1860.

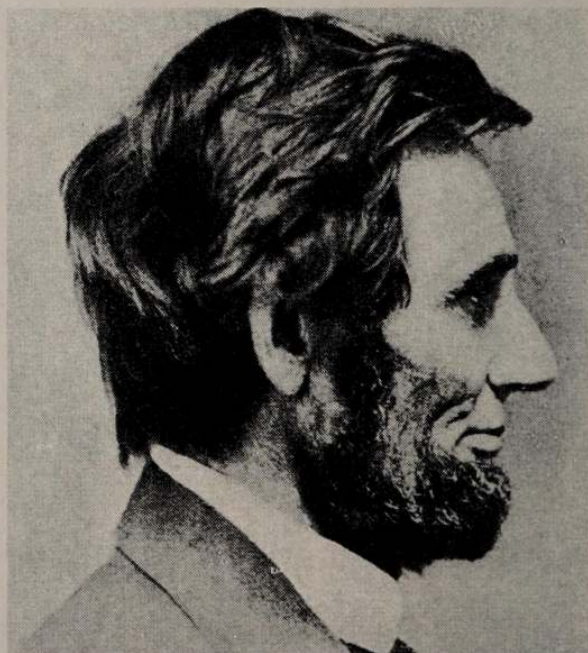
THIS IS THE FIRST PHOTOGRAPH TO SHOW LINCOLN AS PRESIDENT-ELECT, AND THE FIRST TO SHOW HIM WITH A BEARD.

PHOTOGRAPH BY AN UNKNOWN PHOTOGRAPHER, TAKEN IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, SUMMER, 1860.

THIS IS THE FIRST FULL LENGTH STUDY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

PHOTOGRAPH BY C. S. GERMAN, TAKEN IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS, FEBRUARY 9, 1861.

THIS LAST SPRINGFIELD PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS LINCOLN THREE DAYS BEFORE HE WAS TO LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON, D. C.





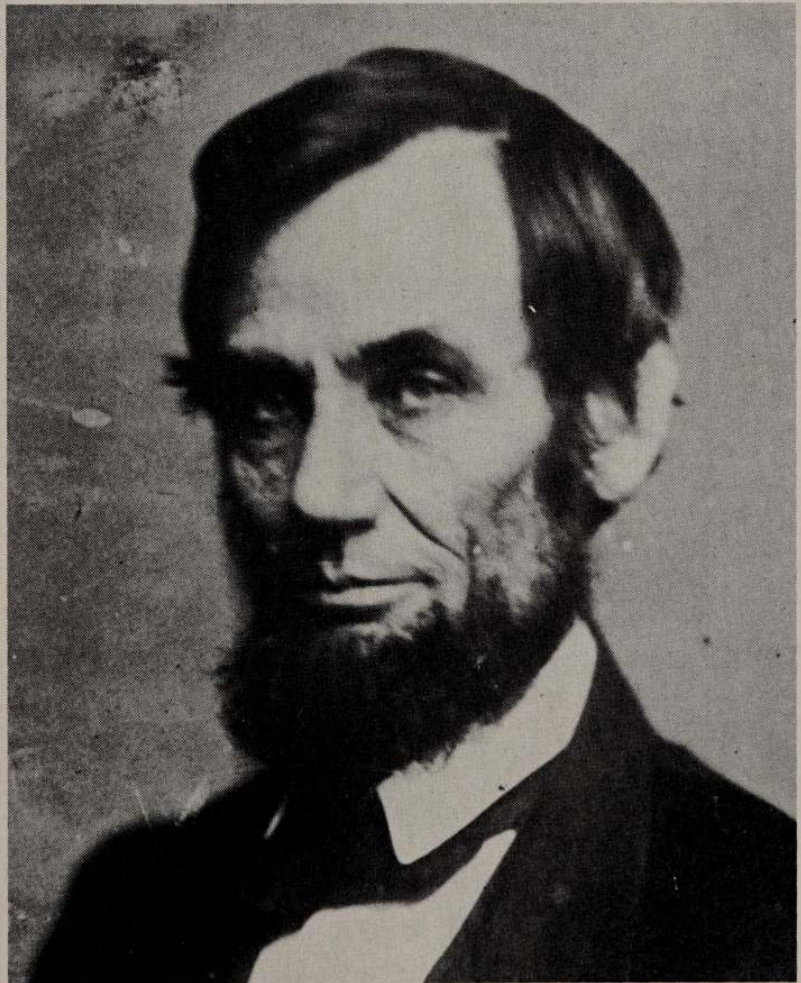


PHOTOGRAPH BY MATHEW B. BRADY, TAKEN IN WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 9, 1864.

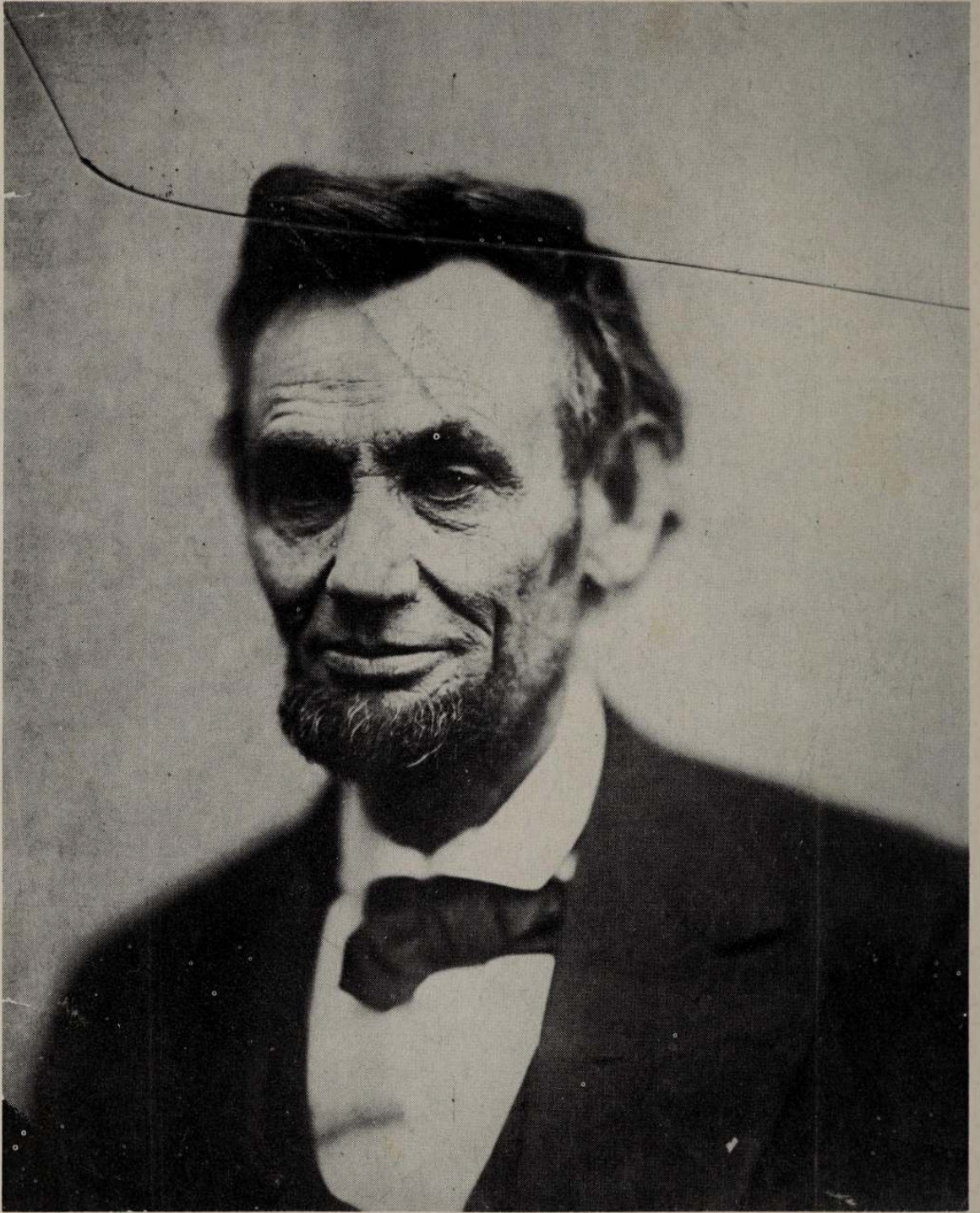
TAKEN IN THE WHITE HOUSE, HERE ARE LINCOLN AND HIS SON TAD IN A CAREFULLY ARRANGED SCENE. THIS IS THE ONLY POSED PHOTOGRAPH WHICH SHOWS LINCOLN WEARING GLASSES.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATHEW B. BRADY, TAKEN IN WASHINGTON, D. C., PROBABLY IN 1862.

HERE LINCOLN APPEARS WITH THE CAREWORN LOOK ASSOCIATED WITH HIS PRESIDENTIAL YEARS.







PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEXANDER GARDNER, TAKEN IN WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 10, 1865.

TAKEN JUST FOUR SHORT DAYS BEFORE LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATION, THIS PHOTOGRAPH MAY BE THE LAST ONE MADE OF THE 16TH PRESIDENT.









Nancy  
Hanks  
Lincoln  
Public  
Library