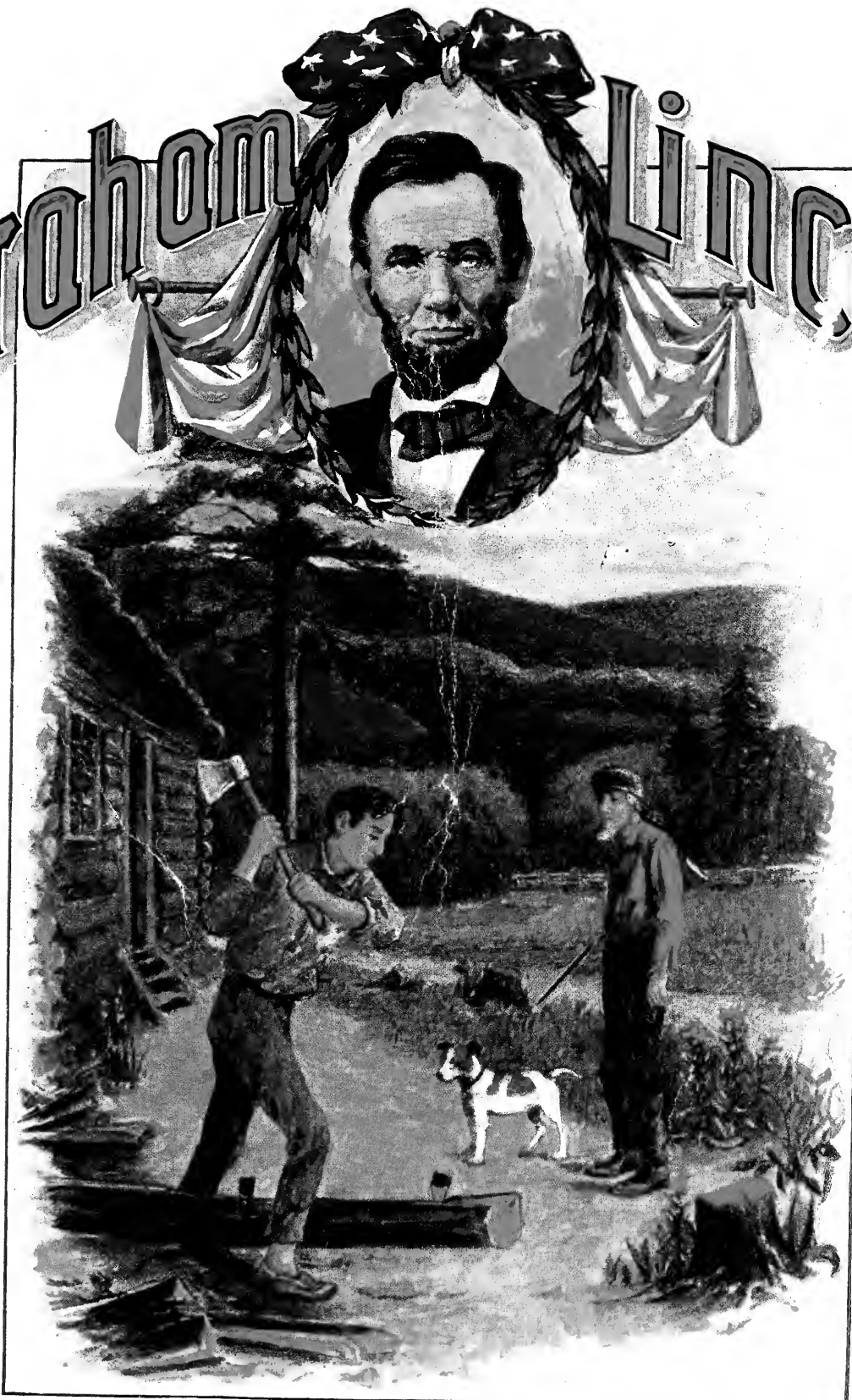


# Abraham Lincoln



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# Abraham Lincoln

**C**HILDREN, look at this picture of a log cabin. How different it is from the pretty cosy homes you live in! This one stood in a great forest in Kentucky. It might have been rather nice in the summer time, but oh, how cold in the winter, when the wind blew the rain and the snow between the logs.

One winter day, a baby boy was born in this poor little house. His name was Abraham Lincoln and his birthday was February 12, 1809. His mother kept him warm in her arms, or tucked him snugly into the trundle bed beside his little sister Sarah, under a bearskin blanket.

When he was older, he had clothes and mocca-



Lincoln Studying by the Fire-light

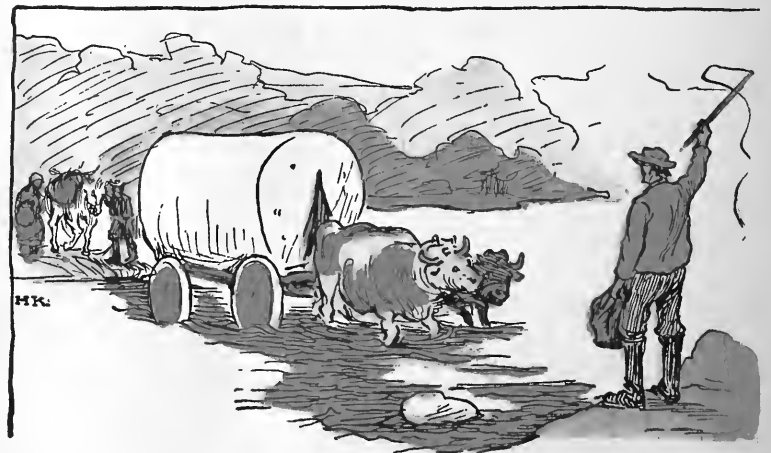


sins made of deerskin and such a funny cap. It was made of a 'coon skin with the tail hanging down his back.

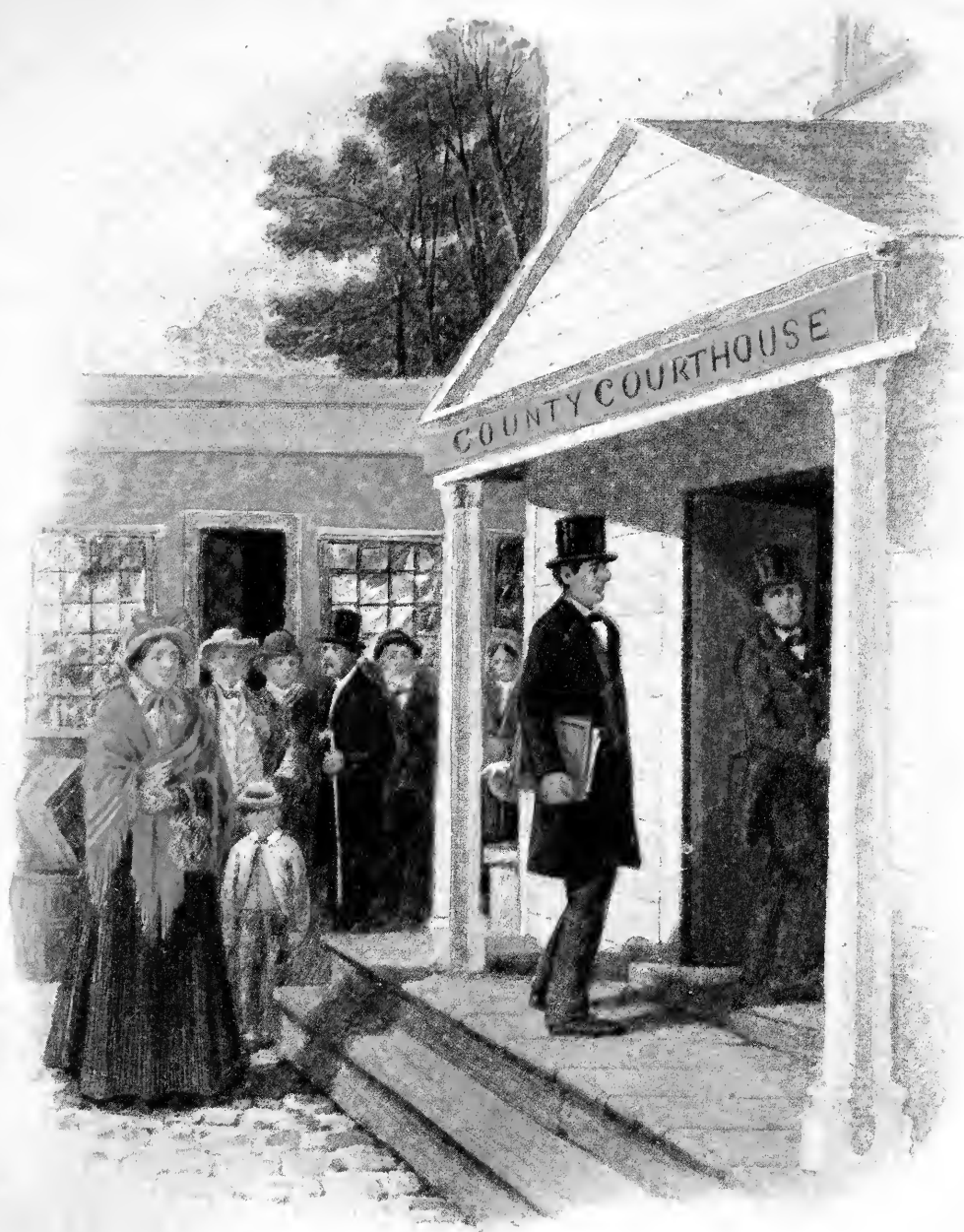
When Abe was seven years old they moved to Indiana to a place where no white men had ever lived before. Strong little Abe could swing his axe like a man

and he helped his father cut down small trees and make a shelter of poles. It had no floor and was open on one side where they built a fire. The bears in the forest had a warmer home than they.

Before Abe's ninth birthday, his mother died, telling the sobbing little boy to be good and love God. They were very poor and uncomfortable then. But a good stepmother came. She had their father make the house warm with a floor and a door and windows. She dearly loved lonely, sad little Abe. There were no schools, but



He helped his father move



Lincoln, the Young Lawyer



sometimes a teacher would come for awhile and his mother always sent Abe to him. In all his life, he went to school less than a year.

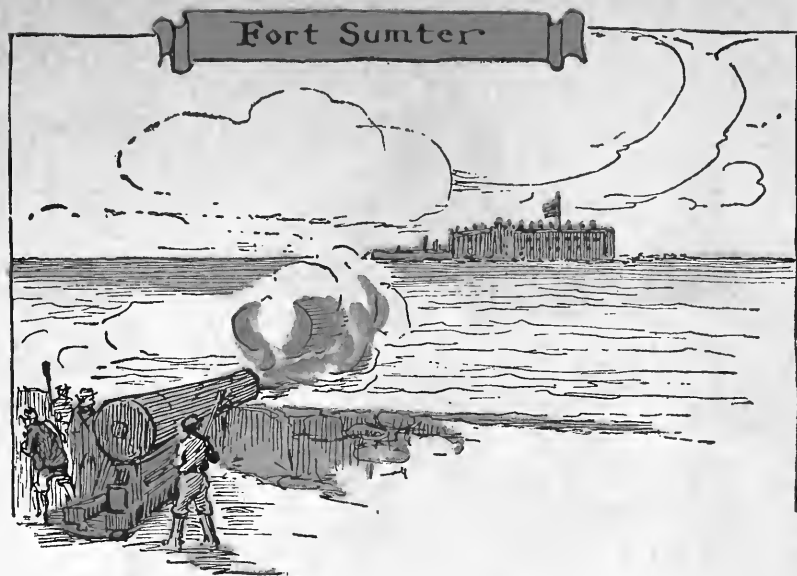
They had no books or papers, but Abe read everything he could find. He often walked miles through the forest to borrow a book. He worked hard all day. Sometimes he chopped down trees and split them into fence rails. At night, when the work was done, he sat down by the fire-light where he read or worked sums on a smooth board. His pencil was a piece of charcoal.

His friends liked him because he was full of fun. He told them what he read and was always kind.

He was nearly twenty-one when his father thought he would go to Illinois to live. Abe



helped him move. He built his step-mother the nicest log cabin he could. He cut down the trees and planted corn and made a fine rail fence around the little farm. Then he left home to work for himself.



A man hired him to take a flatboat to New Orleans. There he saw a poor negro girl sold as a slave. He felt so sorry that he wished he could stop slavery forever.

He worked hard at anything he could find to do. In his spare time he read and studied. After awhile he became a lawyer and was sent to Congress where the laws of the country are made. Abraham was now married and had a little boy named Robert.

Several years went by. Abraham Lincoln could never forget the injustice to the poor colored slaves of the South. He said, "This nation cannot



Lincoln Made President





The call to Arms

endure half free and half slave. The government must end slavery.” So many people thought his opinion correct, that the next time a president was elected, he was the man.

Of course, as soon as he became president, Lincoln felt he had to free the slaves. The people of the South, who needed them, were very angry, and said they would have a Nation of their own. They called themselves Confederates.

This started the Civil War. How sad Abraham Lincoln was to see the whole country thrown into terrible bloodshed. That the Nation might endure, this was necessary, and so for four long years the war lasted. When the Northern armies had won and the slaves were set free, there was peace once again.



Tramp, tramp, tramp,  
the boys are marching ~ ~ ~



Lincoln Delivering His Gettysburg Address

Lincoln loved his little boys and played with them whenever he could. He liked their ponies and dogs and goats and kittens. Some people thought he was homely, but his face really was beautiful with goodness and love.

Abraham Lincoln had just been made president for the second time when he was shot, while attending a theatre, on April 15, 1865. He was buried, with great honors, in the city of Springfield, Illinois. A big beautiful monument marks his grave.



The Lincoln Monument  
at Springfield, Illinois

