

Oregon Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Activities (OLBC)

The OLBC is engaged in planning a number of potential activities to celebrate the bicentennial. The OLBC is comprised of 18 volunteers who have an interest in the life of Abraham Lincoln and in the history of his time. Among them are Lincoln scholars, historians, authors, actors, and business people. The commission is chaired by Michael Burton, Vice Provost, Portland State University and who serves as Oregon's representative to the Governor's Council for the national Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC)

The specific bicentennial date is February 12th, 2009. However, the national kick-off for the celebration will occur in Hodgenville, Kentucky on February 12th, 2008 and events will continue all year long. Oregon events are scheduled to occur through 2008 and culminate in 2009. The OLBC is working with the Oregon Historical Society to coordinate events and has been in contact with Oregon 150 which is charged with activities for Oregon's sesquicentennial that is to be celebrated February 14th, 2009.

The following is a synopsis of major activities that the OLBC is planning for the bicentennial:

Governor's Proclamation: The Governor will issue a proclamation declaring 2008-2009 as Oregon's Abraham Lincoln bicentennial year and encouraging all citizens to help participate in the event.

Web Site: The Oregon University System will host a web site featuring activities of the celebration, Lincoln "links", an exchange for people to list Lincoln "connections" and national activities

Richard Carwardine: Author of the well-known Lincoln biography, *A Life of Purpose and Power*, has agreed to speak in Oregon during the year. His schedule is being coordinated.

State-wide Essay and Poetry Contest: The OLBC will conduct a contest among high school students across the state for the best essay and/or poem submitted about Lincoln. The OLBC will draft a list of potential topics which would address Lincoln, the person and what he means to Americans today. The OLBC is requesting funding from the Legislature for prizes to be awarded in each county in Oregon (36). The OLBC is fund conducting fund raising from several sources to fund a trip for the winner of the essay contest to a premier ALBC event in 2008 or 2009. The Oregon Historical Society is also planning an essay contest to pick a single essay from across the state and who will award a \$10,000 prize for that essay. Retired Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, Wallace Carson has agreed to put together a panel of judges for the essays. The OLBC is working with both the Oregon Department of Education and the North West scholarship Press to encourage students to participate. It is hoped that the winning essay and/or poem will be read at the opening session of the Oregon Legislature on February 12th, 2009.

Emancipation Proclamation Ceremony, January 2008: January 1, 2008 marks the 145th anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation. At a date to be determined in January, the OLBC has arranged to have Steve Holgate, a Lincoln actor, read the

proclamation before the Lincoln statue in the Park Blocks in Portland. Following that reading, students from Portland State University and high school students from the region will be invited to see the Lincoln exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society. The exhibit is an official event of the ALBC.

Oregon Legislature, February, 2008. Steve Holgate will read Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address to the House and Senate on February 12th 2008 to mark the beginning of the Bicentennial events.

Eugene Symphony: the Symphony has agreed to perform Copeland's *Lincoln Portrait* during their 2008 season.

Portland Youth Philharmonic: the Portland Youth Philharmonic is considering a "Lincoln" tribute in music for either its 2008 or 2009 season.

Chancellor's Initiative; State-wide discussions: The Chancellor of the Oregon University System has committed dollars to be available for each of the seven OUS campuses for graduate assistants for a Lincoln outreach project. The OLBC will sponsor a series of public panel discussions—town halls-- at each of the seven cities where there is an OUS university about Lincoln and his impact on America. This Chancellor's initiative will support this effort. It is hoped that each of these events will include a "Lincoln Press Conference" by a Lincoln actor.

Oregon Native American Town Hall: Working with the Grand Ronde Tribe of Oregon, the OLBC will conduct Town Hall programs at several reservation locations on "Lincoln, the West and native Americans". These events will be held next year

Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB): The OLBC is working with OPB on two possible programming efforts. A committee of the OLBC will draft a "script" for a possible *Oregon Experience* program to be aired during the Bicentennial. This program would feature Lincolns "links" to Oregon such as the passage of the Morrill Land Act, The Homestead Act, and the Pacific Railroad Act; Fort Stevens, Baker County and all the "named" Lincoln places in Oregon. The OLBC is also exploring the possibility of airing "Lincoln Minutes" featuring well known Oregonians quoting Lincoln.

Friends of History/Civil War Round Table: The CWRT is sponsoring a number of Lincoln related activities during the Bicentennial year including an Oregon Chautauqua Series and a focus on the National History Day 2008 theme: "Conflict and Compromise in History"

Oregon Lincoln Bicentennial Town Halls, February 2008 through 2009

These are the topics which will form the basis for town hall discussions marking the bicentennial celebration of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

The topics are intended to invoke a public discourse about Lincoln, his times and the impact he had and still has on America.

The town hall events will be held in each of the Oregon University System campuses (or adjacent communities).

Discussion leadership for the town hall events will be provided by Lincoln scholars Richard Etulain and Elliot Trommald. They will work with a graduate assistant at each of the OUS campuses to provide information and references about the chosen topics. The graduate assistant will develop the material for public use, advertise the program, work with local history groups, and other interested parties to encourage participation. The GA's will receive a stipend for this work.

Topics:

- 1) Lincoln and Race:
 - Native Americans
 - African Americans
 - Attitude about the Mexican War
- 2) Lincoln, Oregon and the West
 - Lincoln links to Oregon
 - Homestead Act
 - Morrill Act (land-grant)
 - Pacific Railroad
 - Native Americans
- 3) Lincoln, the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence
 - Lincoln, the "letter of the law" vs the "spirit of the law"
 - Resolving the tension between the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence
 - Failure of compromise
 - Lincoln and the Supreme Court
 - violation of the Constitution (suspension of habeas corpus)
- 4) Lincoln: Defining the "New Nation"
 - Did Lincoln bring about the Civil War?
 - What was Lincoln fighting for?
 - The Gettysburg address, a statement about a "new" nation?
- 5) Lincoln, the man
 - family influences
 - Character
 - Religion and "theology"
 - Education
 - Lincoln in literature
 - Abiding qualities (attitudes?) and changing qualities (attitudes?)
- 6) Lincoln, leadership and power
 - Exercise of power in a democracy

-Character

-Lincoln the politician

-Relationships with the press, the Congress and the Cabinet

7) Lincoln and the 21st Century

-Can Lincoln speak to the issues of the 21st century?

-What is most important and applicable about Lincoln to today's society and government?

LINCOLN LINKS TO THE AMERICAN WEST

1. Lincoln had strong connections to every western state and territory (trans-Mississippi West). Anyone dealing with any of these states could treat Lincoln's patronage dealings in western states and territories. He made numerous patronage appointments in the West.

2. Lincoln was linked through dozens of friendships with persons in the West. Often these were his family, lawyer, political, or Illinois friends he appointed to public office. For example, his doctor (Anson G. Henry), his newspaper editor (Simeon Francis), his lifelong Whig/Republican political friend and the man who introduced him as the new president in 1861 (Edward D. Baker), and the son of his law partner (David Logan) all came to Oregon. So did several other Illinois friends. Similar networks existed in other western areas.

3. He was linked with western areas through national controversial questions: for example, (a) slavery and no extension of slavery; (b) military operations; (3) Reconstruction policy.

4. Presidential/Congressional legislation provided other ties: (a) the Pacific RR Act of 1862 and the first transcontinental RR; (b) the Homestead Act of 1862; (3) the Morrill Land Act of 1862; and the organization of the Department of Agriculture. These notable pieces of legislation linked Lincoln with virtually every state and territory.

5. Lincoln and Indians. Here we see one of the weak points in Lincoln's administration and personal views. He didn't know much about Indians, yet he tried to be fair in the horrendous Sioux uprising in Minnesota in 1862, with John Ross and the Cherokee in Indian Territory, and in his reactions to the Sand Creek Massacre in Colorado in 1864.

6. Lincoln and Mormons: The president's reactions to Brigham Young, as well as his earlier reactions to Mormons in Illinois, are revealing about Lincoln, his willingness to compromise, and his reactions to polygamy.

7. Lincoln and Mexicans/Hispanics: Lincoln was guilty of referring to some Mexicans as "Greasers," but he also wanted New Mexico, with its Hispanic population, to be well

looked after.

8. Lincoln and Party Politics: Lincoln dealt with Republican Party politics in virtually every new western state and territory. His political connections, as well as western politicians' attitudes toward him, are an interesting topic not yet thoroughly examined.

9. Lincoln's role in and reactions to specific western events provide still another area needing examination: his reactions to the Oregon Question, the Mexican-American War, the California Gold Rush, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, for instance, need further discussion.

10. Finally, Lincoln's attitudes about race, slavery, and civil rights had national significance, and they are central to understanding what happened west of the Mississippi in the years from the 1850s onward. Many historians realize that Lincoln came into the White House in March 1861 favoring no extension of slavery as his stance on this momentous question. But rarely have they seen that this is as much a WESTERN as a SLAVERY question since all unorganized territories yet deciding on slavery were in the West, save the area that broke from Virginia to become the new state of West Virginia during the Civil War.

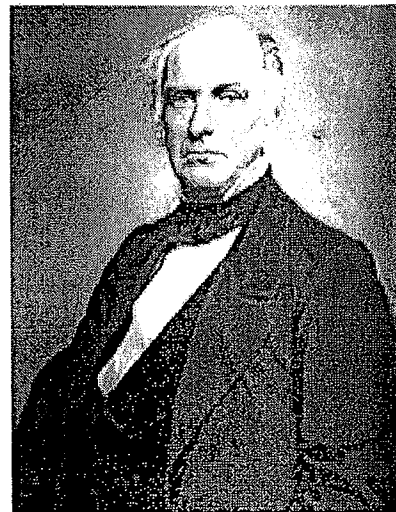
These are but 10 topics and several other subtopics that presenters, writers, and researchers might undertake in tracing Lincoln links with the American West.

Edward D. Baker (1811-1861)

Friend of Abraham Lincoln and lawyer who came in second in 1843 Whig Convention for Congress. Subsequently took the following Congressional term and Abraham Lincoln took the third. Resigned from Congress to serve in Mexican-American War; he had earlier served in the Black Hawk War. Later, Baker was elected to Congress from another congressional district in northwest Illinois. Subsequently helped lead California Republicans before he became a Senator from Oregon (Republican, 1860-61) after less than a year's residence in the state—through the help of another former Illinoisan, Anson Henry. His oratorical abilities helped carry California and Oregon for Lincoln. Though a new senator, he was one of two Senate escorts for the President-elect on the way to Lincoln's inauguration in 1861 and it was Baker who introduced "Abraham Lincoln, the President-elect of the United States."

The President's loyalty to Baker was strong, according to Congressman George Julian: "Sometimes [President Lincoln] lost his temper. An instance of this occurred soon after his inauguration, which also illustrates his fidelity to his friends. A delegation of California Republicans called on him with a proposed political slate covering the chief offices on the Pacific coast. Their programme was opposed, in part, by Senator Baker, of Oregon, who quite naturally claimed the right to be consulted respecting the patronage of his section of the Union." According to a *Cincinnati Commercial* reporter, "A highly exciting scene occurred at the White House yesterday morning. About a hundred citizens of California, including many leading Republicans, called on the president to protest against the interference of Senator Baker, of Oregon, with appointments in their state, and his attempt, as they claim, to foist corrupt and broken-down politicians of doubtful antecedents upon the administration and the people of the Golden State. The President had arranged, whether from love of fun or a sense of justice has not yet appeared, that Senator Baker should be present, without the knowledge of the protestants."¹

Julian wrote: "Some of the Californians very unwisely sought the accomplishment of their purpose by assailing both the public and private character of the Oregon



Senator, who was an old-time friend of the President. The anger of Mr. Lincoln was kindled instantly, and blazed forth with such vehemence and intensity that everybody present quailed before it. His wrath was simply terrible, as he put his foot down and told the delegation that Senator Baker was his friend; that he would permit no man to assail him in his presence; and that it was not possible for them to accomplish their purpose by any such methods. The result was that the charges against Senator Baker were summarily withdrawn and apologized for, and such a disposition of the offices on the Pacific slope finally made as proved satisfactory to all parties."²



Baker biographers Harry C. Blair and Rebecca Tarshis wrote: "D.J. Staples, a Californian who had come to Washington for the inauguration, attempted to speak in Baker's defense. But Lincoln put up his hand and exclaimed: 'Not a word; not a word. I don't want to hear a word. I have known Colonel Baker twenty-five years. I have known him better than any of you know him, and I don't want any defense of him from anyone.'"³



Major Am. Forces U.S.A.
COL. E. D. BAKER

As a Senator, Baker liked to make Senate speeches against the Confederacy while wearing his Army uniform. As an Army colonel, Baker precipitated a major congressional investigation when he was killed at the Battle of Ball's Bluff on October 22, 1861. He had been visiting with President's family the day before and relaxing with the President on the White House lawn. According to John Hay, Baker "came down to Washington and settled all his affairs. He went to say farewell to the family of the president. A lady—who in her high position is still gracefully mindful of early friendships—gave him a bouquet of flowers. 'Very beautiful,' he said, quietly. 'These flowers and my memory will wither together.'"⁴



Death of Col. Edward D. Baker

Baker had been commissioned a general but would have had to resign from the Senate if he had accepted the commission so he opted to continue as a colonel and a Senator. President Lincoln learned of Baker's death at McClellan's headquarters from General George B. McClellan. He was so upset that on leaving the headquarters, Mr. Lincoln "almost fell as he stepped into the street."⁵

Baker had been a regular confidant of Mr. Lincoln. "Col. E.D. Baker breakfasted with us. His military ardor is all

aroused and he is making application to Mr. Lincoln and others here to be appointed Major General of the volunteers—particularly those from the west, and more particularly from Illinois," wrote Mrs. Lincoln's cousin, Elizabeth Grimsley on May 8, 1861. She added: "I cannot bear that man. He seems to have such a supreme contempt for lesser intellects, that it quite lowers his own in my estimation. Mary has always admired [him] very much."⁶



Death of Col. Baker at Ball's Bluff (near Leesburg, Va.)

John Hay recorded how the nation's top leaders gathered at the headquarter of George B. McClellan to mourn Baker: "A king might have been proud of the simple and hearty eulogies uttered last night in McClellan's room, where the President, and Seward, and Cameron and M'Clellan, and another, in deep but not unmanly grief, received the heavy news of their friend. Each had his word of earnest sorrow and honest praise. The President mourned the sundering of the dearest of those ties that connected him with the memory of a happier and more careless day."⁷ Mr. Lincoln's son Willie wrote a poem that was published in the Washington National Republican:

There was no patriot like Baker,
So noble and so true;
He fell as a soldier on the field
His face to the sky of blue...
No squeamish notions filled his breast,
The Union was his theme,
'No surrender and no compromise,'
His day thought and night's dream
His country has her part to play,
To'rds those he left behind
His widow and his children all—
She must always keep in mind.⁸

Eventually, Baker's superior, General Charles Stone was scapegoated for Baker's death and defeat—although Baker himself was largely responsible for his rash actions. Historian Stephen B. Oates noted that "administration critics saw Ball's Bluff as symptomatic of incompetent leadership from the White House to the battlefield."⁹ Stone was unjustly charged with

disloyalty and was jailed for six months. On Stone's release, he appealed to President Lincoln, but in a White House meeting, Stone said Mr. Lincoln said "that if he told me all he knew about the matter he should not tell me much."¹⁰

Congressman Isaac Arnold later recalled, "One evening in the summer of 1863, when the President was living in a cottage at the 'Soldier's Home,' on the heights north of the capital, some one spoke to him of Baker's burial place in the '*Lone Mountain Cemetery*.' [near San Francisco] The name seemed to kindle his imagination and touch his heart. He spoke of this '*Lone Mountain*' on the shore of the Pacific, as a place of repose, and seemed almost to envy Baker his place of rest. Lincoln then gave a warm and glowing sketch of Baker's eloquence, full of generous admiration, and showing how he had loved this old friend."¹¹

Baker was born in England and move to Illinois when he was 14. He served in both the Illinois State House (1837-1838) and State Senate (1840-1844). During his second stint in Congress, Baker became involved in the construction of a railroad across the isthmus of Panama. Although he fell seriously ill in Panama, he eventually decided to move to California, arriving in 1852 to establish a law practice in San Francisco. Baker was charismatic and controversial—a forceful speaker with an unusually good memory for people he had met. He also had a weakness for cards and defending gamblers which affected his political reputation in San Francisco.

Footnotes

1. Robert S. Harper, *Lincoln and the Press*, p. 96.
2. Allen Thorndike Rice, *Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln by Distinguished Men of His Time*, p. 50-51.
3. Harry C. Blair and Rebecca Tarshis, *Colonel Edward D. Baker: Lincoln's Constant Ally*, p. 128.
4. Michael Burlingame, editor, *At Lincoln's Side: John Hay's Civil War Correspondence and Selected Writings*, p. 163.
5. Fletcher Pratt, *Stanton: Lincoln's Secretary of War*, p. 145.
6. Harry E. Pratt, editor, *Concerning Mr. Lincoln*, p. 78-79.
7. Michael Burlingame and John R. Turner Ettlinger, *Inside Lincoln's White House: The Complete Civil War Diary of John Hay*, p. 285.
8. Stephen B. Oates, *With Malice Toward None: A Life of Abraham Lincoln*, p. 264.
9. Oates, *With Malice Toward None: A Life of Abraham Lincoln*, p. 264.
10. Stephen Sears, *Controversies and Commanders*, p. 46.
11. Isaac Arnold, *Life of Abraham Lincoln*, p. 240.

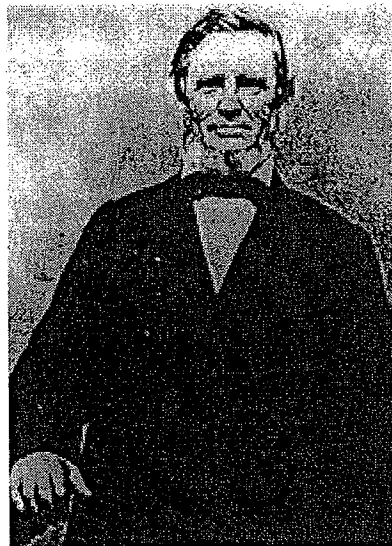
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Anson G. Henry (1804-65)

Close friend and personal doctor of Abraham Lincoln. He was appointed by President Lincoln as Surveyor General of Washington State. President Lincoln once described Dr. Henry to a new Oregon congressman: "What a great, big-hearted man he is. Henry is one of the best men I have ever known. He sometimes commits an error of judgment, but I never knew him to be guilty of a falsehood or of an act beneath a gentleman. He is the soul of truth and honor."¹



Henry visited the White House in March and April 1863 and was "ordered" by President Lincoln to move into the White House before joining the President on a visit to the war front from April 5 to April 10. He was a frequent guest at the White House and observed that "nine times out of ten not half the Senators get in [to Mr. Lincoln's office] unless several go in to-gether & this is very often done, and they can take in with them as many of their friends and constituents as they please. It is no uncommon thing for Senators to try for ten days before they get a private interview."²

Henry conspired with Mary Todd Lincoln to replace John Nicolay with Noah Brooks as the President's secretary. In February 1865, Dr. Henry visited the White and was pressed by Mrs. Lincoln to remain: "Why can't you come to Washington with Mrs. Henry, we would like very much to have you here, but I suppose I would be troubling you a good Deal."³ On March 13, he reported in a letter to his wife his observations of the White House and his efforts to secure new posts for Brooks and himself. Dr. Henry wanted to replace William P. Dole as commissioner of Indian affairs:

...I have a very pleasant half hours interview with Mr. Lincoln last evening. My Pacific friends insisted that I should see him and let him know that I would like to remain in Washington. My friend Mr Noah Brooks was with me. I have been working ever since I have been here with Mrs. Lincoln to get [John G. Nicolay] out as private Secretary and Mr. Brooks in his place. Mr. Lincoln had never intimated what he would do, in reply to my suggestions, that Mr. Brooks was capable of rendering him infinitely more substantial service than Mr. Nickolay [sic] could, and that I presumed Mr. N. would like to go abroad. But to our happy surprise it was officially announced yesterday morning that Mr. Nickolay had been confirmed as Consul to Paris, hence the importance of seeing him before anybody else could see him. I am quite sure he will make Mr. Brooks his Secretary. It may turn out otherwise. The matter is confined to Mr. Brooks and myself. Mr. Nickolay will remain two or three weeks yet, & we don't want it known that Mr. Brooks expects his place, but by the time this reaches you it will be all disposed of.

After Mr. Brook's matter was laid aside, I said—Mr. Lincoln, you will bear me witness that I have never yet made a claim on you for preferment on personal grounds, and have sought this interview for the purpose of saying that I desire you to decide the application now being pressed upon you by the Pacific Delegation, as if you had never before seen or heard of me; not because I would not be gratified with receiving from you an additional manifestation of confidence. I wish my application to rest entirely upon the claim of our coast for a representation here at Washington in the Government. But while I say this, I think it is not egotism in me to say, that I am capable of serving you faithfully & efficiently, and to the general satisfaction of the country.

Mr. Lincoln replied. The thing that troubles me most is, that I dislike the idea of removing Mr. Dole who has been a faithful and devoted personal & political friend. I took up my hat & said, Well Mr. Lincoln, I will go home & remain where I am, not only, without a murmur, but entirely satisfied that you have done what you believe to be best calculated to promote the welfare and prosperity of the Government.

Mr. Lincoln said rather emphatically, Henry—you must not understand me as having decided the matter—and then said, "The Delegation from Minnesota are pressing very strongly for that place for Ex-Senator Wilkinson, and the Delegation from Illinois headed by Yates & Trumbull are pressing their man Judge Kellogg. I replied—yes—our Pacific men are beginning to think that the old North West are getting the Lyons share of the offices. He replied laughing, "It does look a little that after. After some general conversation, we left very well pleased with the interview. Brooks says I am bound to have the place if Dole goes out. I think myself, that I have the inside track of all my competitors. The Illinois Delegation express their preference [sic] for me as against a man outside of their own state."⁴

Henry was a friend to both Mary Todd Lincoln and Julia Jayne Trumbull during their long feud. In February 1863 during a visit to the White House, he had a long conversation with Mrs. Lincoln about her problems with the Trumbulls and other Springfield families. "I think Mary is right, & that they were aggressors," wrote Dr. Henry: "Mary & Julia have both made me their confidant telling me their grievances, and both think the other *all* to blame. I am trying to make peace between them. It is as I told you. Mr. Trumbull was jealous of Col. Baker's influence with Mr. Lincoln, and this was the cause of the family rupture." (Henry was a long-time friend of Edwin D. Baker, whom he had helped entice to Oregon to run for the Senate in 1860.)

After President Lincoln's assassination, he attended Mrs. Lincoln until she moved out of the White House. Henry wrote his wife: "I could not realize he was dead until I saw him lying in the guest chamber, cold and still in the embrace of death....After recovering my composure I sought the presence of poor, heart-broken Mrs. Lincoln."⁵ Henry himself died in a shipwreck off California a three months later. He had left Washington when his appointment as commissioner of Indian affairs appeared stalled by Secretary of the Interior James Harlan.

He had served as fellow editor with Lincoln of a Whig paper called *The Old Soldier* in 1840—it was one of several newspapers with which Henry was involved during his life as a writer and editor. Henry aided and abetted Lincoln and Mary Todd during their troubled courtship—and attended Lincoln during his post-engagement depression of 1841. He was active in political affairs and held or sought a variety of political and governmental posts—including State House Commissioner. In the late 1830s and early 1840s, he was the effective head of the Whig organization in Illinois. When Henry was a candidate for probate justice in 1837, Lincoln wrote a scathing, anonymous critic of Henry's opponent under the pseudonym "Sampson's Ghost." The attacks backfired and Henry lost. Lincoln unsuccessfully promoted him for Postmaster of Springfield in 1841 to keep him from leaving town—again unsuccessfully. He eventually moved to Oregon.⁶

Footnotes

1. Harry E. Pratt, "Dr. Anson G. Henry, Lincoln's Physician and Friend," *Lincoln Herald*, Volume 45, No. 3, October 1943, p. 34.
2. Benjamin P. Thomas, *Abraham Lincoln*, p. 457-458.
3. Ruth Painter Randall, *Mary Lincoln: Biography of a Marriage*, p. 331.
4. Harry E. Pratt, editor, *Concerning Mr. Lincoln*, p. 117-118.
5. Harry E. Pratt, "Dr. Anson G. Henry, Lincoln's Physician and Friend," *Lincoln Herald*, Volume 45, No. 3, October 1943, p. 38.
6. Thomas, *Abraham Lincoln*, p. 479.

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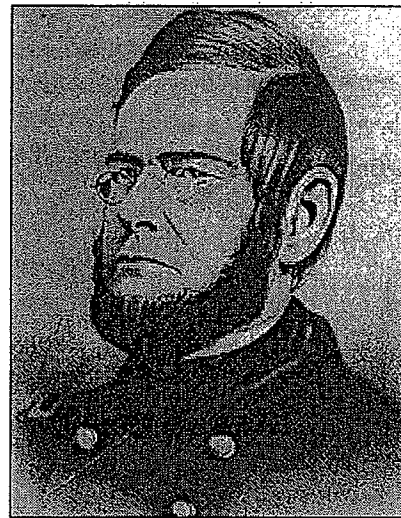
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Simeon Francis (1796-1872)

The interests of Springfield editor Simeon Francis often coincided with those of his friend, Abraham Lincoln. Early in Mr. Lincoln's legislative career, he championed the shift of the State Capital from Vandalia to Springfield - a project which was also a pet cause of Francis. Since Francis had founded the *Sangamo Journal* in Springfield in 1831, any economic development of the growing city was in his interest. Commenting on one of Mr. Lincoln's speeches that was published in 1837 in the *Journal*, Simeon Francis wrote: "Mr. Lincoln's remarks...in this paper are quite to the point. Our friend carries the true Kentucky rifle, and when he fires seldom fails of sending the shot home."¹



Robert S. Harper observed in *Lincoln and the Press* that the office of the *Sangamo Journal* was as much Mr. Lincoln's office as was the office of his law partner, John T. Stuart: "He made the newspaper office his loafing place, telling stories and talking politics. The editor and his wife treated Lincoln as one of the family, and a lifelong friendship was formed."² Contemporary biographer William H. Herndon wrote that Francis "ran the Whig organ, and entertained great admiration for Lincoln's brains and noble qualities. The esteem was mutual, and it is no stretch of the truth to say that for years Lincoln exercised undisputed control of the columns of the *Journal* himself."³

For nearly two decades, Mr. Lincoln promoted Francis' interests and helped produce his paper while Francis promoted Mr. Lincoln's career. "The files of the *Journal* during the period Lincoln was at Vandalia reveal a series of quaintly written articles about the goings-on in the legislative hall, and some authorities are convinced they were written by the tall Sangamon Solon," wrote Harper. "The *Journal* of January 6, 1837, carries a satirical letter in which the correspondent pretends he was formerly employed by the *National Intelligencer* at Washington but quit because he could not make a living there. There are many other letters in the *Journal* files during the next few years that bear the unmistakable sign of Lincoln. These are signed 'Johnny Blubberhead, Citizen of Sangamon, Conservative, Our Correspondent and Sampson's Ghost. Lincoln later used the Pseudonyms Old Settler and Rebecca."⁴

Herndon wrote: "I frequently wrote the editorials in the Springfield *Journal*, the editor, Simeon Francis, giving to Lincoln and to me the utmost liberty in that direction. Occasionally Lincoln would write out matter for publication, but I believe I availed myself of the privilege oftener than he."⁵ Herndon said: "Lincoln and I both kept on furnishing political matter of many varieties for the Springfield *Journal* until 1860. Many of the editorials that I wrote were intended directly or indirectly to promote the interest of Lincoln."⁶

There were limits to which Francis was willing to go to protect politician Lincoln, according to Harper. Mr. Lincoln had anonymously authored a handbill on August 5, 1837 in which he alleged that the candidate for probate judge, General James Adams, had defrauded the estate of Joseph Anderson. About two weeks later, the contents of the handbill were published in the

Sangamo Journal with an editor's note: "It having been stated this morning that the subscriber had refused to give the name of the author of the hand bill above referred to (which statement is not true): to save any farther remarks on this subject, I now state that A. Lincoln, Esq. is the author of the handbill in question."⁷ In the election, Adams defeated Mr. Lincoln's close friend, Dr. Anson G. Henry.⁸

It was the Shields episode that caused Francis the most trouble. "James Shields was then Auditor of State, elected on the Democratic ticket; and from his swaggering dress, his dudish manners and his satisfaction with himself as a ladies' man, quickly drew on himself the ridicule of the Whigs," wrote *Alton Telegraph* reporter William H. Souther several decades after he witnessed the near-duel between Mr. Lincoln and Shields. "Lincoln wrote a series of letters to the *Sangamo Journal*, after the style of the 'Bigeow Papers,' keenly satirizing young Shields, who fumed under these assaults, and thus encouraged their continuance. Finally a poem was sent to the *Journal* by Mary Todd and Julia Jayne, in which Shields was described as receiving a proposal of marriage from 'Aunt Rebecca,' and later another rhyme followed, celebrating the wedding. In the phrase of the bounding West, these mischievous girls made life exceedingly wearisome for the dudish State Auditor."⁹

According to early Lincoln biographer Isaac Arnold, State Auditor "Shields was so sensitive he could not bear ridicule, and would much rather die than be laughed at. On seeing the papers, he went at once to Mr. Francis, the editor, and furiously demanding the name of the author, declaring that unless the name of the writer was given he would hold the editor personally responsible. Francis was a large, broad man, and Shields was very thin and slim, and the editor realized that with his great bulk it would be very unsafe for him to stand in front of Shields' pistol. He had plenty of stomach, but none for such a fight. He was a warm personal and political friend of Lincoln; and knowing the relations between him and Miss Todd, in this dilemma he disclosed the facts to Lincoln, and asked his advice and counsel. He was not willing to expose the lady's name, and yet was extremely reluctant himself to meet the fiery Irishman on the field. Lincoln at once told Francis to tell Shields to regard him as the author."¹⁰

According to Souther, "On the appearance of the last poem Shields sought the editor of the *Journal*, in a towering rage, and demanded the name of his tormentor. The editor, in a quandary, went to Lincoln, who unwilling that the two young women should figure in the affair, ordered that his own name be given as the author. Soon after, he received a letter from Shields, demanding an apology," wrote Souther. This removed Francis from the affair - which was eventually resolved short of the duel Shields demanded.¹¹

The aborted duel was soon followed by a wedding. *Alton Telegraph* editor George T. M. Davis wrote: "While the relatives of Mary Todd were trying to discourage the courtship and while Mr. Lincoln was being made to feel he was not welcome at the Edwards home, where Miss Todd was living with her sister, the residence of Simeon Francis was the meeting place of Mr. Lincoln and Miss Todd. It was at the house of Mr. Francis that Mr. Lincoln and Miss Todd were to be married until the relatives, yielding to the inevitable, insisted on a home wedding," wrote Davis. "The personal friendship between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Francis continued very close for years. All that the *Journal* could do to advance the political interests of Mr. Lincoln it did."

When Lincoln was appointed Secretary of the Oregon Territory, he requested that Simeon Francis be named instead; Francis did not, however, get the appointment. "Lincoln refused the governorship of Oregon," according to George T. M. Davis, "under circumstances showing a sense of honor not common in political life." Davis wrote: "John Addison of the City of Washington, with myself and a few other strong political and personal friends of Mr. Lincoln, then at the seat of our national government, united in an effort to have him appointed governor of the territory of Oregon. Those efforts were so far crowned with success as to be dependent only upon the willingness of Mr. Lincoln to accept the position to secure his appointment. Mr. [John] Addison was delegated to correspond with Mr. Lincoln, to inform him of the assurances given that his appointment would follow if he would accept it, and to urge him to do so."¹²

Mr. Lincoln wrote Addison: "I can not but be grateful to you and all other friends who have interested themselves in having the governorship of Oregon offered to me; but on as much reflection as I have had time to give the subject, I cannot consent to accept it. I have an ever abiding wish to serve you; but as to the secretaryship, I have already recommended our friend Simeon Francis, of the '*Journal*.' Please present my respects to G.T.M. Davis, generally, and my thanks especially for his kindness in the Oregon matter."¹³

Indeed, in September 1849, Mr. Lincoln wrote Secretary of State John M. Clayton:

"I send you a paper recommending Simeon Francis for the appointment of Secretary for the Oregon Territory. I know I have no right to claim the disposal of the office; but I do think, under the circumstances, that he ought to receive the appointment. If a long course of uniform and efficient action as a whig editor; if an honesty unimpeached, and qualifications undisputed; if the fact that he has advanced to the meridian of life without ever before asking for an office, be considerations of importance with the Administration, I can not but feel that the appointment, while it will do him justice, will also do honor to the Administration."¹⁴

According to Davis: "The motives influencing Mr. Lincoln in declining the public honor which was held in abeyance for him were these: His friend and neighbor, Simeon Francis, who was the proprietor and editor of the *Sangamon Journal* of Springfield, and at the time the leading and most influential Whig paper in the state, was an applicant for the office of secretary of the Territory of Oregon. Mr. Lincoln had not only strongly recommended Francis to the president, but, upon both personal and political grounds, felt the deepest interest in his success. Of course, Mr. Lincoln was well aware that the president would not, for a moment, entertain the idea of making both appointments from the same state. And as soon as he received the letter from Mr. Addison, without hesitation and with his proverbial magnanimity and high sense of honor, wrote the letter in which he said: 'I can not accept it.' This disinterestedness became the more conspicuous, as Mr. Lincoln had been advised by us that for political reasons the president had determined against the appointment of Mr. Francis during his administration. Mr. Francis never did receive the appointment, but a short time previous to the election of Mr. Lincoln to the presidency he removed with his wife to Oregon, on account of his health."¹⁵

Francis remained an unapologetic admirer of Mr. Lincoln and eventually did move to Oregon in 1859. He became editor of the *Oregonian* and the *Oregon Farmer*. He was also appointed an Army major and paymaster by Mr. Lincoln, serving until 1870.

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. SUNY at Buffalo, American History, 1977.
- M.A. Boston University, European History, 1962.
- B.A. Yale University, American Studies, 1959.

EXPERIENCE

- 2005- Adjunct lecturer, Continuing Education, Clark College, Vancouver, WA.
- 2001-2002 Adjunct lecturer, Division of Continuing Education, University of MA, Dartmouth, MA.
- 1995-2000 Kravis Chair of Economics and History, Middlesex School, Concord, MA.
- 1985-2000 Head, Social Science Division, Middlesex School, Concord, MA
- 1977-1985 Chairman, History Department, Blair Academy, Blairstown, NJ..
- 1974-1975 Visiting Lecturer on Business and Society, School of Business Studies, QIT, Brisbane, AUSTRALIA.
- 1970-1977 Senior Lecturer in History, University of Queensland, Brisbane, AUSTRALIA
- 1968-1970 Teaching Assistant and Instructor in American History, SUNY at Buffalo, NY.
- 1962-1968 History Instructor, Blair Academy, Blairstown, NJ.
- 1959-1961 History Instructor, Governor Dummer Academy, S. Byfield, MA.

PRESENTATIONS, RESEARCH

- "Lincoln, Ottawa, and the Meaning of America," Washington Park, Ottawa, IL, May 12, 2007.
- "The American Dream Revisited," Northwest Dental Conference, Black Butte OR, September 23, 2005.
- 2003,2004,2005 Seminar By The Sea, "Crisis of the American Dream," "The Monroe Doctrine to Bush Doctrine: A Radical Road to World Power?" "Lincoln and Bush: The Problem of Legitimacy in American Foreign Policy," Pebble Beach, CA.
- "Bush Doctrine: Necessary Security or Dangerous New Direction?" Lecture, University School, Cleveland, OH, December 6, 2004.
- "Defining Our Role in a Changing World," Thomas J. Watson Jr. Institute for International Studies, Brown University, Leader of 6 week public policy discussion program in Westport, MA. 2002.
- "Crisis of the American Dream," Four School Consortium, Eastern MA, 2000-2001.
- "Blair in New Jersey Politics: 1868," The Blair Review (2004).
- "Crisis of the American Dream," Follin Lecture, Bell Buckle, TN, September 28, 1998.
- New England History Teacher Association Conference, Presenter, "A More Perfect Union: Shaping American Government," Bentley College, October 25, 1997.
- "John I. Blair: The 'Railroad King' of Iowa," The Blair Review (1998), 4-23.
- "John I. Blair: From Nails to Rails," The Blair Review (Fall 1992), 5-27.
- "Growing Up with Father," The Blair Review (Winter, 1991), 5-11.
- "John I. Blair: Getting Started," The Blair Review (Summer 1989), 4-15.
- "Business Responses to Crisis: The Depression 1929-1933," Ph.D. dissertation, SUNY at Buffalo, 1977.
- Book reviews in World History Review, for Australian Institute of International Affairs.
- Papers delivered at Staff Seminars at University of Sydney, Monash, Flinders, Queensland, New South Wales and Teachers' Associations; Australian New Zealand American Studies Association, and written for the Australian Broadcasting Commission, 1971-1977. (Titles on request*)
- Assistant Editor, Britannica Review of American Education, Chicago, 1969.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Member, Oregon Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, 2007-

Board Member, Friends of History, Portland State University, Portland, OR, 2007-

Board Member, Northwest District Association, Portland, OR, 2003-

Senior Associate, Choices for the 21st Century Project, Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University, 1997-2000.

Chairman of the Board, Center for American Studies at Concord, Concord, MA, 1986-1988, 1990; Curriculum Committee 1986-1992.

Master Teacher (History), 11th Annual NJAIS Institute, Xavier Center, NJ, October 29-30, 1984.

Commissioner, Commission on History in the Schools, Council for Basic Education, Washington D.C., 1978-1981.

Chairman of Committee on Consumer Affairs and Treasurer of Queensland Council for Civil Liberties, 1975-1977.

Executive Committee, Australia New Zealand American Studies Association (ANZASA), 1972-1974, 1976-1977.

Chairman, Semester Implementation Committee, Faculty of Arts, University of Queensland, 1973-1974.

Provost Advisory Committee, SUNY at Buffalo, 1968-1970.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

Outstanding Teacher Award, University of Chicago, 1993, 1991, 1988.

Special Recognition for Teaching, Tufts University, 1991.

1991-1992 Roundtable Honoree of Peabody College of Education and Human Development, Vanderbilt University.

National Fellowship Award for Independent Study in the Humanities, Nat'l Endowment for the Humanities, 1989.

Grant-in-Aid for Research in NJ History, NJ Historical Commission, Trenton, NJ. 1985-1987.

University Research Grant, University of Queensland, Australia, 1973.

Dissertation Research Award, Faculty of Social Sciences and Administration, SUNY at Buffalo, 1969-1970.

NDEA History Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, 1967.

Coe Fellowship, Institute of American History, Stanford University, 1966.

Andrew White Memorial Prize in European History, Yale University, 1957.

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Richard W. Etulain specializes in the history and culture of the American West and modern US. He has two BAs from Northwest Nazarene College in English and history, and his PhD is from the University of Oregon (1966). He taught at Northwest Nazarene College (1966-68), Idaho State University (1970-79), and at the University of New Mexico (1979-2001), where he directed the Center for the American West. He has lectured in several countries, including as a Fulbright Lecturer (2004) in the Ukraine. Etulain is author or editor of more than 45 books, including:

Owen Wister (Western Writers Series, 1973)
A Bibliographical Guide to the Study of Western American Literature New Mexico, 1982, 1995)
Conversations: Wallace Stegner on History and Literature 2d ed. (Nevada, 1983, 1990, 1996)
Ernest Haycox (Western Writers Series, 1988)
The Twentieth-Century West: Historical Interpretations (coeditor, New Mexico, 1989)
The American West: A Twentieth-Century History (coauthor, Nebraska, 1989)
Writing Western History: Essays on Major Western Historians (editor, New Mexico, 1991)
Contemporary New Mexico (editor, New Mexico, 1994)
The American West in the Twentieth Century: A Bibliography (coeditor, Oklahoma, 1995)
Re-imagining the Modern American West: A Century of Fiction, History, and Art (Arizona, 1996)
Researching Western History: The Twentieth Century (coeditor, New Mexico, 1997)
Religion in Modern New Mexico (coeditor, New Mexico, 1997)
By Grit and Grace: Eleven Women Who Shaped the American West (coeditor, Fulcrum, 1997)
Does the Frontier Experience Make America Exceptional? (editor, Bedford Books, 1999)
Portraits of Basques in the New World (coeditor, Nevada, 1999)
With Badges and Bullets: Lawmen and Outlaws in the Old West (coeditor, Fulcrum 1999)
Telling Western Stories: From Buffalo Bill to Larry McMurtry (New Mexico, 1999)
The Hollywood West (coeditor, Fulcrum, 2001)
New Mexican Lives: Portraits and Historical Stories (editor, New Mexico, 2002)
César Chávez: A Brief Biography with Documents (editor, Bedford Books, 2002)
Wild Women of the Old West (coeditor, Fulcrum, 2003)
The American West in 2000: Essays in Honor of Gerald D. Nash (coeditor, New Mexico, 2003)
Chiefs and Generals (coeditor, Fulcrum, 2004)
Western Lives: A Biographical History of the American West (editor, New Mexico, 2004)
Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West (New Mexico, 2006)
The American West: A Modern History, 1900 to the Present, 2d ed. (Nebraska, 2007)

Etulain's The American West: A Twentieth-Century History (with Michael P. Malone) was a Main Selection of the History Book Club; his Re-imagining the Modern American West won the Western Heritage Award and the Caughey Award for the best nonfiction book on the American West in 1996; and Telling Western Stories garnered the Gaspar Pérez de Villagrà Award (2000) as an outstanding book in western history. Professor Etulain also edits three series of books.

Etulain was President of the Western Literature Association (1978-79) and the Western History Association (1998-99). At his retirement in 2001, the University of New Mexico honored him by establishing an annual Richard W. Etulain lectureship in western history and culture. Professor Etulain has recently published narrative histories of the American West and is at work on a study of Abraham Lincoln and the American West.