

PHYSICIANS

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PHYSICIAN


Health

Abraham Lincoln's Health

Physicians

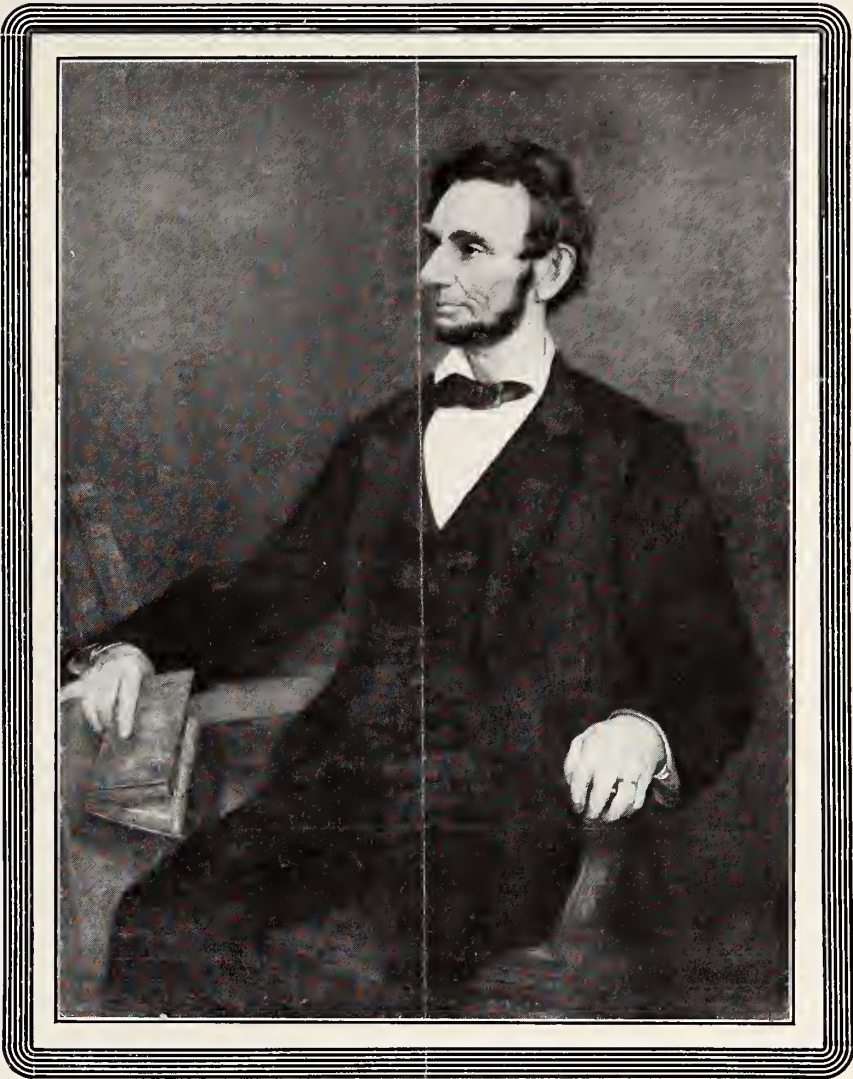
Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

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LINCOLN AND THE DOCTORS

MILTON H. SHUTES

A New Contribution to the **LIFE OF LINCOLN**

A BOOK of an unusual and attractive sort is "Lincoln and the Doctors," by Dr. Milton H. Shutes, of Oakland, California, long a painstaking and reverent student of the career of the great War President.

Gathering his material from widely scattered sources and carefully in each instance confirming its authenticity, Dr. Shutes' delightfully told story of Lincoln's contacts with the medical profession from his early New Salem days until his death, was first given serial publication in *Hygeia*, and there won instant acceptance as a substantial contribution to Lincoln literature.

The publication of "Lincoln and the Doctors" in revised and expanded form will appeal alike to collectors and lovers of beautiful books. It is appropriately illustrated with full page reproductions of portraits of physicians who had intimate association with Lincoln and of the arresting photograph of him taken a few days before his death. The opposite page shows the type and format selected for it. The book is bound in cloth of an attractive and durable sort and printed on paper expressly manufactured for the purpose. The edition is limited to 550 numbered and autographed copies, of which 500 are offered for sale.

An Appreciation

I have read the manuscript of "Lincoln and the Doctors" with great interest and admiration. I think it is splendid. It is continuously interesting and contains many surprises.

The pituitary peculiarities of Lincoln are of special interest to the medical profession; also the deviation of his left eye upwards is well shown in one of the fine illustrations. The details of the great tragedy and of the subsequent post mortem are graphic and instructive. The author has the great gift of narrative.

WILLIAM PALLISTER, M.D.
(Author of POEMS OF SCIENCE)

CHAPTER TWO

ON the high banks of the Sangamon River there was perched the young town of New Salem, an ambitious but short-lived venture of the Reverend John Cameron and his uncle, James Rutledge. Here came, about August 1, 1831, the stalwart, resourceful young Lincoln, an Ichabod in appearance; sad of eye but with a wonderful smile, poor in pocket and raiment but rich in personality and character. He came armed with a contract to build and manage a store for one Denton Offutt, who already had sent him on the famous flatboat trip to New Orleans.

The stock in trade for the new store was scheduled to arrive in Beardstown, where the Sangamon empties its waters into the Illinois River, and Abe Lincoln was "fixing to go fetch" it overland to New Salem. Now there lived near the town along the river a Dr. Nelson, who felt himself being crowded by too many neighbors, it was said, and who was hankering for Texas where the spaces were still wider and more open. So he arranged with our experienced flatboatman to help him raft his household goods down the river to Beardstown, where he boarded a river steamer for the South. It was no doubt a busy trip and gave Lincoln little

MILTON H. SHUTES

author of "Lincoln and the Doctors"

Dr. Milton H. Shutes is a widely known and successful ophthalmo-otolaryngologist of Oakland, California. He was born in St. Louis in 1883, graduated from Central Wesleyan College in 1904, and received his medical degree from Northwestern in 1908. He spent two years in the Philippine Islands and Europe, and in 1911 and 1912 he was interne in and assistant surgeon to the Illinois Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary at Chicago. For the past twenty years he has been connected with the University of California at Berkeley, and is now chief of staff to two hospitals.

The parents of Dr. Shutes lived many years in Springfield, Illinois, and his college vacations were all spent in the home town of Lincoln. For the past ten years he has been an absorbed student of Lincoln, and now possesses the best Lincoln library in Northern California. He is a member of the Illinois Historical Society and of The Abraham Lincoln Association of Springfield.

LINCOLNIANA PUBLISHERS

Box Number 1110
Fort Wayne, Indiana

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LINCOLN AND THE DOCTORS

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L I N C O L N
and the D O C T O R S

A Medical Narrative
of the
LIFE *of* ABRAHAM LINCOLN



By
MILTON H. SHUTES, M.D.

THE PIONEER PRESS : *New York*
APRIL 15, 1933

A New Contribution to the **LIFE of LINCOLN**



THE PIONEER PRESS of New York is pleased to announce that it has in preparation for publication on April 15 a book of an unusual and most attractive sort. It is entitled *Lincoln and the Doctors*, and its author is Dr. Milton H. Shutes of Oakland, California, long a painstaking and reverent student of the career of the great War President.

Gathering his material from widely scattered sources and carefully in each instance confirming its authenticity, Dr. Shute's delightfully told story of Lincoln's contacts with the medical profession from his early New Salem days until his death was first given serial publication in *Hygeia*, and there won instant and wide acceptance as a welcome and substantial contribution to Lincoln literature.

The present publication of *Lincoln and the Doctors* in revised and expanded form will appeal alike to Lincoln collectors and to lovers of beautiful books. It will be appropriately illustrated with six full page reproductions of portraits of physicians who had intimate association with Lincoln, and of an arresting photograph of him taken a few days before his death. The opposite page shows the type and format that have been selected for it. The book will be bound in cloth of an attractive and durable sort and will be printed on paper expressly manufactured for the purpose.

The edition will be limited to five hundred and fifty numbered copies of which five hundred will be offered for sale at \$5.00 a copy. Subscriptions will be filled in the order received.

For further particulars address:

THE PIONEER PRESS
1107 BROADWAY
New York

CHAPTER ONE



THE ANCESTRAL HISTORY of Abraham Lincoln reveals nothing that might cause the medical director of a life insurance company to hesitate in granting a policy to America's greatest son. His virile paternal grandfather, Captain Abraham Lincoln, was killed in the forty-second year of his life by the bullet of an Indian, and left five children and 1,200 acres of land.

Bathsheba Lincoln, the widow, well born and strong of body and intellect, lived a pioneer's life and died at the reputed age of 100 years. As there is no knowledge of Lincoln's maternal grandfather, except that he was well born, the medical investigator would find nothing of interest there. But Lucy Hanks Sparrow, his maternal grandmother, led a useful life until about the age of 61, leaving eight children and many grandchildren to honor her.

Thomas Lincoln, the father, survived the hardships of his life in Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, where he died in his seventy-fifth year; but his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, succumbed when 37 years old to an epidemic disease possessing a high mortality.

From a medical point of view the idea of family environment and of immediate forebears known as "poor but honest" is not a bad beginning for any biography. Thomas Lincoln was honest and

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(Author of POEMS OF SCIENCE)

Shutes, Milton H.

LINCOLN AND THE DOCTORS

The Pioneer Press : New York
April 15, 1933

A valuable narrative history of the doctors with whom Lincoln had contact including the medical records of the entire family. There is some new and suggestive material, which would be immeasurably more valuable if adequately documented. The Appendices contain fourteen pages of significant letters.

Notes on LINCOLN AND THE DOCTORS by Milton H. Shutes, M.D.

(References at left are to page and line.)

- 3-27 Not three- in his third year.
28 Not 12 miles, I think.
- 4-1 Not eight- about seven years and eight months.
- 5-19 Did not split rails-pulled fodder.
- 7-26 I think Polly was not then married.
- 8-6 L. split comparatively few rails.
- 10-6 Confused , I think, with the raft built earlier for the
Miss. trip.
- 14-7 Is not L. usually represented as lending the horse.
- 14-24 (too contact Mr. Lincoln)
- 16-13 to 16 Gives wrong idea of Lincoln
- 18-13 The cabin disappeared long ago.
- 31-27 Not a true picture
13-9 Dr. Duncan Introduced L. to "Oh why should the..."
17-7 Ann died of typhoid
19-23 Source?
31-21 Van Buren's coment on the night with Lincoln.
33-6 How about Eddie's death? Cf. p55
- 36 25-38 Too much emphasis on Lincoln's sorrow as compared with
that of Mrs. Lincoln.
- 45 19-27 Source?
- 50 7-10 Source?
- 52 22-26 Source?
- 53 24-28 "
- 59 -20 Loaned for lent.
- 61 2-5 Rung sweat. Source?
- 70-16 Lincoln on Flowers
- 74-24 Source?

- 77-19 into in one word for in to.
- 43-23 Why Thaddeus?
- 45-21 L. used Jayne's Carminative.
- 58-9 The Lincoln's used two bottles of brandy in ten days, possibly for a rum sweat.
- 59 Whisky, perhaps caused the death of Sara and her child. Source?
- 80 1-4 Source? Period missing line four.
- 80-19 non-medical, not nonmedical
- 81-16 Broncho-pneumonia, not bronchopneumonia
- 82-3 Period below line
- 82-4 to 9 Awkward sentence
- 83 12-18 How does Dr. Shutes know this?
- 88
89 Chloroform story Source for this is absolutely essential.
- 97-21 A strange figure if you think about it.
- 98-13 "en échelon"
- 101-17 Bowling Source?
- 101-24 Distance to Soldiers' Home
- 85 Varieteloid after Gettysburg speech.
- 93 14-17 I had some desire to retain the paper (Gettysburg Speech) Source?
- 97 5-8 Mrs. Lincoln returned to Washington on Thursday evening, apparently much improved by her visit North. The sick and wounded soldiers in our hospitals will hail her return with joy. Daily Morning Chronicle of November 29, 1863
- 102-20 sclerosing. Is there any such word.
- 102-28 Source? Not true I think.
- 103-7 astohined for astonished

- 106 Was it a Miniéball, and where did this story come from?
- 111-12 Why "regicide"
- 106 Source?
- 108-1 Life mask by Clark Mills in spring 1865
- 109-4 and then fainted. Source?
- 109-25 Meeting of Lincoln, Grant, Sherman and Porter
- 125-29 Should roman be Roman?
- 126-1 Edwards'
- 113-6 Lincoln taken to the room of William Clark.
- 121 Mary at turn of life during '61 to '65
- 126-18 Why immortal in death?
- 127-24 Immortal

NY Times
2/12/85

On Presidential Toes

Today is the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, and Dr. Gerald M. Robin, a podiatrist in the Washington area, has come up with a historical note on the Lincoln Presidency that is of obvious pride to his profession.

President Lincoln, according to Dr. Robin's research, engaged Dr. Isa-

char Zacharie to treat his foot problems and then was so impressed with the podiatrist that he came to rely on him as an unofficial White House adviser.

Dr. Robin said a New York newspaper editorial in 1864 reported that the podiatrist "enjoyed Mr. Lincoln's confidence perhaps more than any other private individual." Among his other assignments, Dr. Zacharie was sent to Richmond as the President's emissary to confer with members of the Confederate Cabinet.

"Dr. Zacharie apparently was not too successful as a political emissary of the President, but he performed wonders in caring for the foot problems of Mr. Lincoln and other high Government and military officials of the time," said Dr. Robin, who hired a public relations concern to put out the news.

Drug Store Ledger Of 1850-54
Shows Purchases Made By
Martyr President.

Abraham Lincoln used four gallons of paregoric in his home during the year 1854, and only seven quarts of brandy over the same period.

This, and other interesting information, is contained in the Hoy & James drug store ledger.

The Hoy & James drug store operated in Springfield, Ill., when Lincoln resided there. The building no longer stands, but the account book is well preserved and bears the recorded needs of 250 families, including the family of Mr. Abraham Lincoln.

Drug stores during the Lincoln era adhered strictly to drugs and powders. Merchandise did not range from toilet goods to hardware fixtures.

Castile soap was the common cleanser; cologne, the perfume; rice powder, the cosmetic; and licorice, the popular confection. Purchases were not skimpy. Lard was purchased by the half gallon; castor oil by the gallon. The finest whiskies sold for 35 cents a quart, while gasoline retailed at 99 cents a gallon. Restoratives for faints and cures for spasms were good sellers.

Had Young Children.

Mr. Lincoln's account in the ledger ran from 1850 to 1854, during the years that he was a young married man with a family. This accounts for his large purchases of paregoric. The Lincoln family also used quantities of cream of tartar (used to cure hives), ginger, bay rum, epecae, sarsaparilla, and pain extractor.

The prices, traced in faded ink on the ledger, seem paltry compared to the present scale of living. One of Lincoln's orders, castor oil, coffee, and sap pills, totaled 35 cents. Another order indicates that the combined prices of a hair brush, tooth brush, and a bottle of beef marrow extract totaled 40 cents.

The account of one Reuben Cook shows the following purchases: Four gallons of castor oil; 10 bottles of expectorant, at \$1 per bottle; 15 boxes of Scotch snuff; eight boxes of horse powder; and numerous purchases of gun arable.

no date,
no source

PHYSICIANS

DRAWER 3A

Health

1892

1875