



Lincoln Lore

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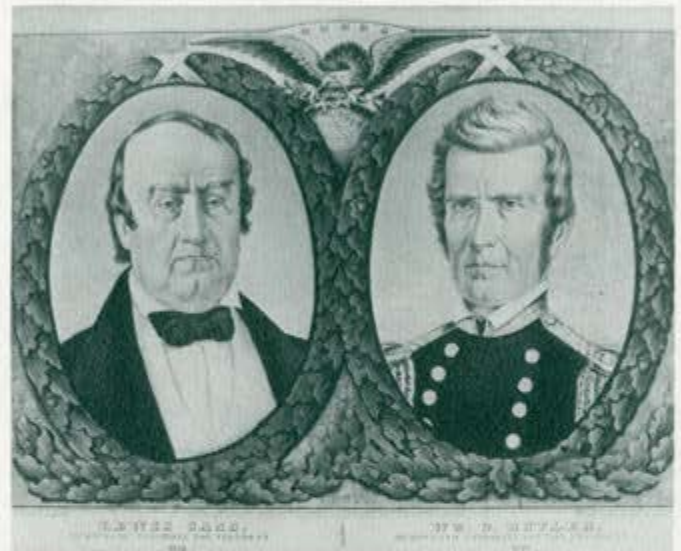
EPHEMERAL POLITICAL EMBLEMS

Today one rarely meets more avid collectors than those whose quest is the ephemeral political emblems of all our Presidential campaigns and even the off-year congressional elections. Collectable items include tokens, medals, ribbons, pins, badges, election tickets, buttons, flags and parade paraphernalia. However, it appears that only the more advanced collectors of political ephemera seek lithographs and broadsides. Perhaps the political prints published by Currier & Ives, Kellogg, Magnus and others became collectors' items long before the cheaper paper, cloth and metal emblems of politics; however, it was only about twenty-five years ago that



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

James K. Polk was President of the United States when Lincoln served his one term in Congress. Congressman Lincoln was never politically friendly to the Democratic administration of "The Young Hickory" whom he considered to be hovering under the military coat-tails of Andrew Jackson, the "Old Hickory." This colored print was published by N. Currier, 2 Spruce St., N.Y. in 1844.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Zachary Taylor, of the Whig Party, defeated Lewis Cass of the Democratic Party by 39,555 popular votes. The electoral vote was 163 for Taylor and 127 for Cass. Taylor's victory over Cass was a great personal satisfaction for Lincoln. This colored print of Cass and Butler was published by N. Currier, 152 Nassau St., Cor. of Spruce, N.Y. in 1848.

the political broadside began to achieve record prices when placed on the market.

J. Doyle Dewitt in his privately published book entitled *A Century of Campaign Buttons 1789-1889* has stated that "Abraham Lincoln has had more medals struck in his honor than any other president or presidential candidate, with the possible exception of Washington." Even if the "exception" were true in 1959 when Mr. Dewitt published his book, it is not likely true today. From collectors' lists the compiler has attributed seventy-six medals and tokens, excluding metal varieties, as being from dies connected with the 1860 campaign, and eighty-one with the 1864 campaign.

The Foundation's collecting interests in this field are limited to the Lincoln presidential campaigns of 1860 and 1864 and those earlier elections when Lincoln played the role of voter, elector and receptive vice presidential candidate. Of course, our interests embrace the defeated candidates as well as those who were elected. In fact, this article has been written to establish a vehicle for the editor to publish for the first time in *Lincoln Lore* some rare campaign lithographs of successful and defeated candidates, acquired over a period of many years by the Foundation's staff.

Lincoln's first presidential vote was cast for Henry Clay on November 5, 1832. In the presidential campaign of 1836 Lincoln publicly announced his political position in an open letter to the editor of the *Sangamo Journal* (June 13, 1836) that "if alive on the first Monday in

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Presidential Campaigns Indicating
Lincoln's Participation

1822
Democratic (Democratic-Republican) Party
New York
Morris Van Buren, N.Y.

Independent Party
John Floyd, Va.
Henry Lee, Mass.

Anti-Masonic Party
William Wirt, Md.
Amos Ellmaker, Pa.

Lincoln voted for Henry Clay on November 5, 1822.

1828

Democratic (Democratic-Republican) Party
Morris Van Buren, N.Y.
Richard Mentor Johnson, Ky.

Whig Party
Presidential Candidates
William Henry Harrison, Ohio
Ralph Latham White, Tenn.
Daniel Webster, Mass.
Wille Patten Mangum, S.C.

Two Presidential Candidates
Francis Pickens, S.C.
John Tyler, Va.
William Smith, Ala.

Lincoln voted for Hugh L. White on November 7, 1828.

1840

Whig Party
William Henry Harrison, Ohio
John Tyler, Va.

Liberty (Abolitionist) Party
James Gillispie Birney, N.Y.
Thomas Earle, Pa.

Democratic Party
Martin Van Buren, N.Y.
Richard Mentor Johnson, Ky.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this presidential election, even though he worked vigorously for the Whig ticket as an Illinois statesman.

1844

Whig Party
Henry Clay, Ky.
Thomas Springsays, N.J.

Liberty Party
James Gillispie Birney, N.Y.
Thomas Morris, Ohio

Democratic Party
James Kinn Pugh, Tenn.
George Hiffins Dallas, Pa.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this presidential election, even though he worked vigorously for the Whig ticket as an Illinois statesman.

1848

Whig Party
Richard Taylor, La.
William Fillmore, N.Y.

Free Soil (Democratic) Party
Martin Van Buren, N.Y.
Charles Francis Adams, Mass.

Democratic Party
Levin Cox, Mich.
William Orlando Butler, Ky.

Lincoln took part in a vigorous campaign to elect the Taylor-Fillmore ticket. Lincoln voted for the Taylor-Fillmore ticket on November 5, 1848.

1852

Democratic Party
Franklin Pierce, N.H.
William Rufus De Vane King, Ala.

Free Soil Party
John Parker Rich, S.E.
George Washington Adams, Ind.

Whig Party
Winfield Scott, N.J.
William Alexander Graham, N.C.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this presidential election.

1858

Republican Party
John Charles Fremont, Calif.
William Lewis Dayton, N.J.

American Party
Mifflin Jackson, N.Y.
Andrew Jackson Donelson, Tenn.

Democratic Party
James Buchanan, Pa.
John Caldwell Breckinridge, Ky.

Lincoln was considered for the vice-presidential nomination at the Republican convention in Philadelphia and received 110 votes out of 181 total. On November 4, 1858 Lincoln voted for the Fremont-Dayton ticket.

1860

Republican Party
Abraham Lincoln, Ill.
Hercules Hamilton, Mo.

Democratic Party
(Northern Democrats)
Stephen Arnold Douglas, Ill.
Brecheen Virginia Johnson, Ga.

Democratic Party
(Southern Democrats)
John Caldwell Breckinridge, Ky.
Joseph Davis, Ga.

Constitutional Union Party
John Bell, Tenn.
Edward Everett, Mass.

On November 6, 1860, Lincoln voted for the Lincoln-Hamlin ticket.

1864

National Union Party
(Republican Party)
Abraham Lincoln, Ill.
Andrew Johnson, Tenn.

Democratic Party
George Butler McCulloch, N.Y.
George Bland Fisher, Ohio

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this election of November 7, 1864.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation
Herschel V. Johnson

If Stephen A. Douglas had defeated Lincoln for the presidency in 1860 (Douglas died June 3, 1861), his Vice President, Herschel V. Johnson, would have become President, the course of history would have been changed, and Andrew Johnson of Tennessee might never have emerged as president on the national political scene. This colored print was published by Currier & Ives, 152 Nassau St., N.Y., in 1866.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

William L. Dayton was the running mate of John Charles Fremont in the 1856 presidential election. The Fremont-Dayton ticket was the first Republican effort in a national election. Dayton was unanimously nominated on the first official ballot for Vice-President, even though Lincoln received 110 votes on an unofficial, preliminary, informal ballot. This colored print was published by F. V. & E. C. Kellog, 87 Fulton St., N.Y., circa 1866.

Presidential Campaigns Indicating Lincoln's Participation

1832

Democratic (Democratic-Republican) Party
Andrew Jackson, Tenn.
Martin Van Buren, N.Y.

National Republican Party
Henry Clay, Ky.
John Sergeant, Pa.

Independent Party
John Floyd, Va.
Henry Lee, Mass.

Anti-Masonic Party
William Wirt, Md.
Amos Ellmaker, Pa.

Lincoln voted for Henry Clay on November 5, 1832

1836

Democratic (Democratic-Republican) Party
Martin Van Buren, N.Y.
Richard Mentor Johnson, Ky.

Whig Party
Presidential Candidates
William Henry Harrison, Ohio
Hugh Lamson White, Tenn.
Daniel Webster, Mass.
Willie Person Mangum, N.C.

Vice Presidential Candidates
Frances Granger, N.Y.
John Tyler, Va.
William Smith, Ala.

Lincoln voted for Hugh L. White on November 7, 1836

1840

Whig Party
William Henry Harrison, Ohio
John Tyler, Va.

Liberty (Abolitionist) Party
James Gillispie Birney, N.Y.
Thomas Earle, Pa.

Democratic Party
Martin Van Buren, N.Y.
Richard Mentor Johnson, Ky.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this presidential election, even though he worked vigorously for the Whig ticket as an Illinois elector.

1844

Whig Party
Henry Clay, Ky.
Thomas Frelinghuysen, N.J.

Liberty Party
James Gillispie Birney, N.Y.
Thomas Morris, Ohio

Democratic Party
James Knox Polk, Tenn.
George Mifflin Dallas, Pa.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this presidential election, even though he worked vigorously for the Whig ticket as an Illinois elector.

1848

Whig Party
Zachary Taylor, La.
Millard Fillmore, N.Y.

Free Soil (Democratic) Party
Martin Van Buren, N.Y.
Charles Francis Adams, Mass.

Democratic Party
Lewis Cass, Mich.
William Orlando Butler, Ky.

Lincoln took part in a vigorous campaign to elect the Taylor-Fillmore ticket. Lincoln voted for the Taylor-Fillmore ticket on November 7, 1848.

1852

Democratic Party
Franklin Pierce, N.H.
William Rufus De Vane King, Ala.

Free Soil Party
John Parker Hale, N.H.
George Washington Julian, Ind.

Whig Party
Winfield Scott, N.J.
William Alexander Graham, N.C.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in this presidential election.

1856

Republican Party
John Charles Fremont, Calif.
William Lewis Dayton, N.J.

American Party
Millard Fillmore, N.Y.
Andrew Jackson Donelson, Tenn.

Democratic Party
James Buchanan, Pa.
John Cabell Breckenridge, Ky.

Lincoln was considered for the vice-presidential nomination at the Republican convention in Philadelphia and received 110 votes on an informal ballot. On November 4, 1856 Lincoln voted for the Fremont-Dayton ticket.

1860

Republican Party
Abraham Lincoln, Ill.
Hannibal Hamlin, Me.

Democratic Party
(Northern Democrats)
Stephen Arnold Douglas, Ill.
Herschel Vespasian Johnson, Ga.

Democratic Party
(Southern Democrats)
John Cabell Breckenridge, Ky.
Joseph Lane, Ore.

Constitutional Union Party
John Bell, Tenn.
Edward Everett, Mass.

On November 6, 1860, Lincoln voted for the Lincoln-Hamlin ticket.

1864

National Union Party
(Republican Party)
Abraham Lincoln, Ill.
Andrew Johnson, Tenn.

Democratic Party
George Brinton McClellan, N.Y.
George Hunt Pendleton, Ohio

There is no record that Lincoln voted in the election of November 7, 1864.

Continued from Page 1

November (7th), I shall vote for Hugh L. White for President." While White, a United States Senator from Tennessee, ran a good race in New Salem, Springfield and Sangamon County, he received the electoral votes of only two states, Tennessee and Georgia.

There is no record that Lincoln voted in the presidential election held on November 2, 1840. However, as an electoral candidate he did more stumping for Harrison and Tyler than in any other previous campaign. Harrison, though elected, did not carry Illinois, thereby depriving Lincoln of casting a vote as a presidential elector. Nevertheless, Lincoln never forgot his first taste of national politics.

In fact, Lincoln never cast a vote as a presidential elector, even though his political leadership was further recognized by his being made a presidential elector for Henry Clay in 1844. During this campaign he addressed groups in Illinois and near his old home in Indiana. Polk's victory over Clay in Illinois amounted to 23,392 votes. There is no record of Lincoln voting for Clay on November 5, 1844.

Lincoln entered the national political arena on December 6, 1847 when he took the oath as an Illinois Whig congressman. He remained in office one term, which expired on March 5, 1849. While in Congress, Lincoln was always the politician, and on July 27, 1848, in a speech on the "Presidential Question," Lincoln made an audacious political attack on General Lewis Cass who was being groomed by the Democratic party for the presidency. Lincoln answered the charge that the Whig party had taken shelter under General Taylor's military coat-tail, by asking the "Gentleman from Georgia," who made the charge, if he had "no acquaintance with the ample military coat-tail of General Jackson? Does he not know that his own party have run the five last presidential races under that coat-tail? And that they are now running the sixth, under the same cover. Yes sir, that coat tail was used, not only for Gen. Jackson himself, but has been clung to, with the grip of death, by every Democratic candidate since?"

In Lincoln's attack on Cass he referred to "the mili-

tary tail you Democrats are now engaged in dovetailing onto the great Michigander" and in the course of his ludicrous speech, Lincoln revealed something about his own political nature that few freshmen congressmen would dare utter in public. He said,

"Mr. Speaker, if I should ever conclude to doff whatever our democratic friends may suppose there is of black cockade federalism about me, and thereupon they shall take me up as their candidate for the Presidency, I protest they shall not make fun of me, as they have of Gen. Cass, by attempting to write me into a military hero."

Did Lincoln aspire to be President as early as July 27, 1848?

During Lincoln's term in Congress he was active in the presidential campaign for the Whig ticket of Taylor and Fillmore, even going to the extent of a New England speaking tour. In 1848 the slavery issue had not yet developed into the burning problem it would become a decade later, and Lincoln had no compunctions against soliciting Whig votes for a slaveholding presidential candidate.

Lincoln's next brush with national politics and political fame was in 1856 when he received 110 votes on an informal ballot for the vice presidency of the United States. This distinctive honor came to Lincoln without any effort being put forth on his part; consequently, it cannot be described as a political defeat.

Historians have erred in stating that Lincoln received 110 votes on the first ballot at the Republican National Convention at Philadelphia in 1856 for the vice presidency. Lincoln's 110 votes were received on an informal, unofficial, preliminary ballot. The first formal official ballot nominated William L. Dayton unanimously. Nevertheless, Lincoln was now a hopeless victim of a virulent form of presidential brain fever which would permeate his political thinking the rest of his life.

While little new can be written about Lincoln's presidential campaigns in 1860 and 1864, it has undoubtedly come as a surprise to a great many readers (See *Lincoln Lore* No. 1567 "Lincoln And The Vice Presidency," September, 1968) that Lincoln possibly "as

late as the opening of the Chicago convention (May 16, 1860) was still flirting with the vice-presidential possibility." The fact that Lincoln was nominated for the presidency on the Republican ticket of 1860 in no way nullifies the belief that he would have accepted the vice-presidential nomination if the Chicago delegates had nominated Seward, or Chase, or Bates, or Cameron for President.

Another fact that presidential campaign collectors have to remember about the 1864 campaign is that Lincoln was re-nominated for the presidency by the National Union convention in Baltimore as the leader of the National Union party, although politicians sometimes forgot and reverted to the term "Republican." The issues of the campaign were union and disunion, freedom and slavery, and war and peace. The coalition ticket embraced Andrew Johnson as a candidate for the vice presidency—a politician with Democratic antecedents.

The results of the pro-Lincoln political efforts of both the 1860 and 1864 campaigns are too well-known to be discussed again; however, these remarks and the accompanying chart may have provided some little known facts for the collector of presidential campaign ephemera.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

LEFT. The Republican Banner For 1860 which features the candidates Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin. This colored print was published by Currier & Ives, 152 Nassau St., N.Y. in 1860. RIGHT. Grand, National Union Banner for 1864 which features the candidates Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson. This colored print was published by Currier & Ives, 152 Nassau St., N.Y. in 1864.