Lincoln Lore

Summer 1996

Number 1845

The Bulletin of

The Lincoln Museum

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Lincoln Lore
is the quarterly bulletin of
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ISSN 0162-8615

http://www.TheLincolnMuseum.org

Does the title of this article mean anything to you? Some readers will suspect it has something to do with computers, and turn the page rather than waste valuable time reading another jargon-laden account of a technology in which they have no interest. Others will immediately recognize "http://www.TheLincolnMuseum.org" as an Internet URL (Uniform Resource Locator), put down their magazines, and fire up their modems and browsers to see it for themselves.

For those still reading, "http://www.TheLincolnMuseum.org" is the address of The Lincoln Museum's new site on the World Wide Web. If you have a computer, modem, Internet service provider and a modern graphical browser (Netscape 2.0 or better), you can now visit the Museum online. You can get information relating to the Museum and its programs, read selected articles from past issues of *Lincoln Lore*, see photographs of the permanent exhibit, buy items from the Museum store, take a quiz, schedule a school visit, and explore various aspects of the history of Lincoln and his times.

Does the advent of the online Lincoln Museum mean that the real Museum will soon be obsolete? Given the hype that surrounds the Internet today, it's possible to imagine someone making such a ludicrous claim. The fact is that museums have survived, and will continue to survive, because they provide a link to the past through the

(On the cover: President Abraham Lincoln and General George McClellan at the Antietam battlefield, October 3, 1862. Detail of a photo by Alexander Gardner. (TLM #0-62))

presentation and preservation of real artifacts. The experience of seeing, in person, objects that were once handled by Abraham Lincoln, cannot be simulated through a computer terminal.

What the Internet can do for museums and their visitors is facilitate the spread of knowledge. Within the next few years, the Museum plans to automate its research library catalog and make it available through the Internet to researchers worldwide. If funding permits, the Museum also plans to put the full, searchable text of every issue of *Lincoln Lore* into its site, allowing readers at home to find at the push of a button every article that mentions, say, Ward Hill Lamon or Thomas Lincoln.

Building the Museum's web site took several months of collaboration between Museum staff members, who provided the content, and NetOffice of Atlanta, Georgia, which provided the technical and design expertise. For all those who participated in the project, it was a challenge to try to develop a site that worked well, looked good, and contained enough meaningful information to be a useful tool for people interested in Abraham Lincoln.

What you'll see ...

When you visit The Lincoln Museum's web site, you'll see a frame containing a changing series of photographs of Lincoln, followed by the Museum's logo. Press the button on the navigation bar marked "Main" to go to the site's main page (pictured at the beginning of this article). From there, you can click on the information bar at the top to get information about the Museum itself, take a quiz (answer the sample question at the bottom of the page to start) or choose one of the six major areas of the site: "What's New," "Exhibit," "Museum Store," "Lincoln Lore," "Research" and "Education."

Let's say you select "Research." A new page will appear, with the following choices: "Frequently Asked Questions," "Speeches and Writings" and "Library and Research Policies." If you select "Frequently Asked Questions," again you have choices: "Some Basic Facts," "Stories, Legends and Myths," "Historical Controversies" and "About The Lincoln Museum." Under each category you will find a half dozen or so of reference questions that have been submitted to the Museum staff, with answers. Under "Stories, Legends, and Myths," for example, is the following question and answer:

Q: Did Lincoln ever fight a duel?

A: Almost. In 1842, Lincoln wrote a series of anonymous letters published in the Sangamo Journal, mocking prominent Democrat James Shields, the Illinois State Auditor. After Mary Todd (to whom Lincoln had been engaged the year before) and Julia Payne wrote a similar letter, Shields demanded that the editor reveal the identity of the author. Upon learning that Lincoln had written the letters, Shields challenged him to a duel. Lincoln, who was always awkward with women, mustered a rare show of gallantry and made no mention of Mary's involvement in writing one of the letters.

Since Shields was the challenger, Lincoln had the privilege of naming the conditions for the contest. He proposed the ludicrous spectacle of a fight with "Cavalry broad swords of the largest size" while standing in a square ten feet wide and about twelve feet deep, which would put the much shorter Shields at a serious disadvantage. Lincoln may have hoped that the silliness (as well as the danger) of the proposed contest would bring Shields to his senses, but both men went ahead with their preparations for the duel until their seconds managed to arrange a peaceable settlement. Lincoln afterwards was embarrassed by the incident and rarely spoke of it.

To see more such questions and answers, visit the Museum online at "http://www.TheLincolnMuseum.org".

A view of the "Lincoln's America" gallery in "Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment."

"Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment" Receives Honors

The American Association for State and Local History announced that The Lincoln Museum has won the prestigious Award of Merit for its permanent exhibit "Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment." The Award of Merit is the highest honor granted by the AASLH, a not-for-profit professional organization of individuals and institutions working to promote and preserve history.

In other international competitions, the exhibit's multimedia presentation "The Fiery Trial" received a silver (second place) CINDY award in the museum category from the International Association of Audio Visual Communications. One of the three segments of "The Fiery Trial," titled "Lincoln and His Soldiers," also received a bronze (second place) TELLY award in the category of history/biography at a national festival of non-network film and video productions. "The Fiery Trial," which was conceived and co-written by Museum staff members and based on images and artifacts from the Museum's collections, was produced for the Lincoln Museum by Odyssey Productions of Portland, Ore.

The Museum staff would like to congratulate Bob Jones of the Lincoln National Corporation's Communications department for winning a "Gold Quill" from the International Association of Business Communicators, for his efforts in promoting the opening of the new Lincoln Museum in 1995.

Lincoln's Other McClellan: General Don Carlos Buell

By Gerald J. Prokopowicz

Major General Don Carlos Buell *(Miller's Photographic History of the War)*

For the first three years of his presidency, Abraham Lincoln struggled to find generals who could consistently lead the Union's armies to victory. Not surprisingly, his efforts as commander-in-chief focused primarily on the Army of the Potomac and its efforts to capture the Confederate capital at Richmond, or at least to keep rebel troops out of Washington, D.C. While the progress of the armies in Virginia dominated the war news in the nation's capital (as it has since dominated historical writing about the Civil War), Lincoln also had to manage military events in the Western theater, where massive armies were engaged in a war of movement across a front hundreds of miles wide. Here Lincoln encountered the same problem as he did in the East, that of finding leaders who shared his understanding of the war and could implement strategic plans that fit his vision. Among the many promising generals Lincoln tried in the West, none was to add more to his frustration than Don Carlos Buell, commander of the Army of the Ohio in 1861-62.

Buell was in many ways a Western version of George B. McClellan, the charismatic commander of the Army of the Potomac whose military accomplishments repeatedly fell short of Lincoln's hopes. Like McClellan, Buell was an able administrator who excelled at preparing his army for battle, but who proved reluctant to come to grips with the enemy. Through Buell's tenure as an army commander, from November 1861 to October 1862, Lincoln was almost continuously engaged in parallel struggles, to spur McClellan into action in Virginia and to move Buell's army in Kentucky and Tennessee. Like McClellan, however, Buell did not share Lincoln's understanding of the political nature of the war, and thus was unable to accept or implement Lincoln's strategic directives for an aggressive war against the South.

Buell assumed command of Union forces in Kentucky, collectively known as the Army of the Ohio, in November 1861. He brought to the task a solid military record. Buell was forty-three years old, and had been part of the Regular Army since his graduation with the West Point class of 1841, which included nineteen other future Civil War generals. His moderate standing at the academy (thirty-second in a class of fifty-two) had earned him a commission in an infantry regiment. He fought in the Mexican War, suffered a serious wound at the battle of Churubusco, and won several brevet promotions. After the war he transferred from line duty to a staff position in the Adjutant General's office, where his quiet but efficient service eventually brought him to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He was stationed in California when South Carolina troops opened fire on Fort Sumter in April 1861.

While Buell was on his way east from California to take part in the war, various Regular Army officers vied for his services. One of them was George McClellan, who had met Buell in 1852 while on a surveying expedition to the Texas coast; he considered Buell "one of the best men in the army." Another was Brigadier General Robert Anderson, the hero of Fort Sumter, who wrote of Buell to the Secretary of the Treasury, "I must have him" to help command Union forces in Kentucky. McClellan won the Buell sweepstakes, and had him assigned to the Army of the Potomac in September 1861. Given command of one of the army's ten divisions, Buell justified McClellan's regard by quickly establishing a reputation as a strict disciplinarian who wasted no time in whipping his volunteer troops into shape. When McClellan replaced Winfield Scott as general-in-chief in November 1861, he was quick to appoint his old comrade Don Carlos Buell as the new commander of the Army of the Ohio.

Lincoln had great hopes for Buell and his army. A month before Buell's appointment, Lincoln had drafted a "Memorandum for a Plan of Campaign" that spelled out in some detail how the Union forces scattered in Kentucky, now under Buell's command, might concentrate and attack the Confederate position at the Cumberland Gap. By seizing the Gap, Buell's army would cut the vulnerable rail link between Virginia and Tennessee, which would sharply reduce the strategic mobility of the Confederate armies.

Even more important, such a move would bring relief to the predominantly Unionist population of eastern Tennessee. Throughout the first months of the war, Lincoln clung to the belief that the Confederacy was a hollow shell that commanded little grass roots support among Southerners, who would rally to the colors wherever federal forces reasserted the government's authority. This seemed especially true in western Virginia, which was soon to secede from the Confederacy, and in the mountains of eastern Tennessee, where violence between Confederate authorities and Unionist civilians was escalating. Senator Andrew Johnson and Congressman Horace Maynard, both of whom disregarded their state's secession and remained loyal, added to Lincoln's interest in east Tennessee by persistently pressuring him to rescue their constituents from Confederate oppression. A campaign to take the Cumberland Gap would answer the demands of Johnson and Maynard, and demonstrate to latent loyalists elsewhere in the South that they could depend upon the federal government to come to their aid.

Buell's first actions in his new command were promising. Immediately he took the Army of the Ohio in hand and began to enforce order on what had been essentially a mob of volunteer citizen-soldiers. To turn them into an efficient fighting force, he later wrote, "pretty much everything necessary to make an army of soldiers had to be done." He organized dozens of independent regiments into brigades and divisions, procured adequate uniforms and weapons, and insisted that the troops spend endless hours drilling themselves to a high standard of efficiency. He resisted the efforts of various governors and other politicians to interfere with the administration of his army, appointed officers of his own choosing to fill various line and staff positions of responsibility, and firmly established his control over the organization, much as McClellan had done with the Army of the Potomac after the battle of Bull Run the previous summer.

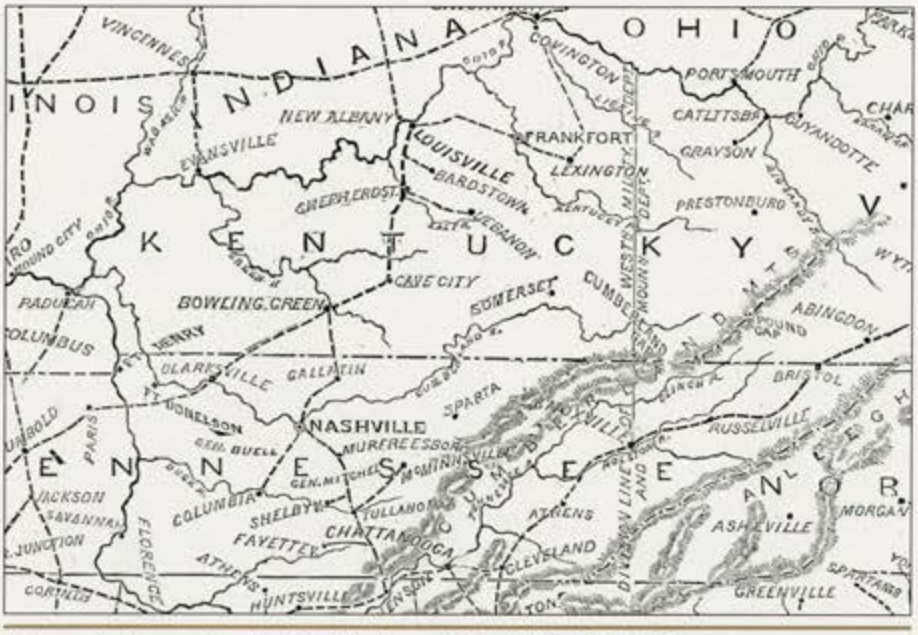
In one respect, however, Buell's leadership differed significantly from McClellan's: his men didn't like him. He was, in the words of historian T. Harry Williams, "a McClellan without charm or glamour." In his private life, he was capable of entertaining guests with the parlor trick of demonstrating his strength by lifting his wife off the ground with his arms extended, but in front of his soldiers, he was stiff and uninspiring. He lacked McClellan's sense of drama. He made no attempt to play the role of a great general at the head of a great army, nor did he stroke the egos of his men with bombastic pseudo-napoleonic proclamations, as McClellan did. He did not indulge in the spectacular parades and reviews that McClellan's troops enjoyed, and even took the morale-defeating step of abolishing regimental bands in the Army of the Ohio. For many months his soldiers clung to their confidence that Buell's professional competence would lead them to victory, but they never displayed for him the fervent loyalty and devotion that the men of the Army of the Potomac showed for their Little Mac.

If Buell lacked McClellan's ability to inspire his men, he shared that officer's miserly regard for their lives. As the fine campaigning weather of October and November 1861 passed by, Lincoln grew increasingly impatient with the slow pace of operations both in Virginia and in Kentucky. Lincoln met with McClellan repeatedly, to express his personal desire for action as well to educate the "Young Napoleon" on the need to take heed of public opinion and the press, which were clamoring for the army to march on Richmond immediately. McClellan responded that his army was not ready, that he needed more men and more time to train them, and that he could not start until Buell had moved on east Tennessee.

Buell's response to Lincoln's desire for action was equally unsatisfactory. He disagreed with the idea of moving the Army of the Ohio into east Tennessee, which he considered too barren to support an army, and proposed instead to take Nashville. As a well-trained West Point graduate, Buell was aware that the strategically "correct" way to approach an enemy line was to strike it at a right angle, which in this case meant moving south toward Nashville rather than southeast toward the Cumberland Gap. Buell also knew that Nashville was one of the South's few industrial centers, and that an advance on Nashville would allow his army to use the railroad from Louisville for supplies. That the capture of Nashville would do nothing to help the beleaguered Unionists of eastern Tennessee was of little relevance to Buell.

McClellan, ironically, sided with Lincoln and advised Buell to elevate political considerations above strict military calculations. In his correspondence on the subject with Buell, McClellan stressed the political implications of the situation, much as Lincoln was doing to him. He warned Buell that "Johnson, Maynard, & Co. are again becoming frantic, and have President Lincoln's sympathy excited." He forwarded to Buell a letter to Maynard written by one of Buell's own officers, which had passed from Maynard to Lincoln to McClellan, imploring the government to save east Tennessee. Although McClellan refused to recognize the political urgency of moving his own forces, he repeatedly lectured Buell to "sacrifice mere military advantage" for political gain. "The military problem would be a simple one could it be entirely separated from political influences," he wrote to Buell on November 7. "Such is not the case."

In the last days of December 1861, General McClellan was temporarily incapacitated by typhoid fever, and Lincoln experimented with taking over the role of general-in-chief himself. McClellan's missives to Buell had produced no effect; as late as the end of November Buell was boasting that "thus far I have studiously avoided any movements which to the enemy would have the appearance of



The seat of operations for Buell's Army of the Ohio, 1861-1862.

activity or method." Lincoln, who apparently agreed that Buell's movements showed neither "activity or method," applied his intuitive military sense to Buell's situation. On December 31, 1861, he sent almost identical messages to Buell and Major General Henry Wager Halleck, who commanded Union troops along the Mississippi River. Halleck's version read: "General McClellan is sick. Are General Buell and yourself in concert? When he moves on Bowling Green, what hinders it from being re-enforced from Columbus? A simultaneous movement by you on Columbus might prevent it." The next day, both Buell and Halleck sent discouraging answers that no plans for common action between them existed. Lincoln responded immediately: "General McClellan should not yet be disturbed with business. I think you better get in concert with General Halleck at once. I write you to-night. I also telegraph and write Halleck."

On January 4, Lincoln impatiently telegraphed again to Buell: "Have arms gone forward for East Tennessee? Please tell me the progress and condition of the movement in that direction. Answer." Not only did Buell report no movement in that direction at all, but he went further and confessed that he had never had his heart in the East Tennessee plan: "my judgment from the first has been decidedly against it." To the extent he had made any preparations for such a campaign, they were motivated "more by my sympathy for the people of East Tennessee and the anxiety with which you and the General-in-Chief have desired it than by my opinion of its wisdom ...."

With this Buell had overplayed his hand. The letter drew a sharp rebuke from the President, who wrote back that "Your dispatch ... disappoints and distresses me" and that "I cannot safely show" it to Johnson or Maynard. Lincoln gave the letter to McClellan, who was equally critical of Buell's strategic ideas, sarcastically observing that "interesting as Nashville may be to the Louisville interests ... its possession is of very secondary importance in comparison with" east Tennessee.

On January 7, Lincoln continued to try to get Halleck and Buell to work together, cautioning them that "Delay is ruining us." By January 9, McClellan was healthy enough for Lincoln to refer Buell's response to him, noting that neither Halleck nor Buell "meet my request to name the DAY when they can be ready to move." "It is exceedingly discouraging," Lincoln noted on Halleck's reply. "As everywhere else, nothing can be done."

On January 13, McClellan further warned Buell that, "You have no idea of the pressure brought to bear here upon the Government for a forward movement. It is so strong that it seems absolutely necessary to make the advance on eastern Tennessee at once." On the same day, Lincoln again wrote to Buell and Halleck. As though addressing a pair of stubborn, pampered children, he carefully explained in simple terms his understanding of the strategic principles that would allow their two forces to outmaneuver a single Confederate one, "by menacing him with superior forces at *different* points, at the *same* time."

Even under such direct pressure, Buell took only token aggressive action. To mollify Washington, he sent a small force in the direction of east Tennessee. Buell did not expect the expedition, led by Brigadier General George Thomas, to accomplish much. On January 19, however, Thomas won a stunning victory at Logan's Cross Roads. This battle, coupled with Ulysses S. Grant's capture of Fort Donelson a few weeks later, forced the rebels to retreat from their defensive position near the Kentucky-Tennessee border, and to abandon Nashville in the process. Buell, ignoring Lincoln's suggestion that this might be a good time to send some troops into east Tennessee, occupied Nashville on February 25.

Lincoln wheels a reluctant McClellan toward Richmond in this 1862 cartoon. (TLM #2009)

In the East meanwhile, Lincoln continued to struggle with McClellan, who had resumed his duties. On January 27, Lincoln issued "President's General War Order No. 1," commanding McClellan, Buell and other Union generals to launch a concerted offensive on February 22, the birthday of George Washington. The day came and went, with no action anywhere. When McClellan finally sent some of his troops forward in early March, they found the Confederate entrenchments at Manassas empty, an embarrassing discovery for a general who had feared for months to attack the position.

Why did not Lincoln simply remove McClellan and Buell, who were taking so long to do what he asked? As he later explained to Carl Schurz, Lincoln was "dissatisfied with the slowness of Buell and McClellan; but before I relieved them I had great fears I should not find successors to them, who would do better ...." Although Lincoln had no one to replace them, he did reduce the responsibilities of both generals in March. McClellan was relieved as general-in-chief, and left in command only of the Army of the Potomac. In the West, Lincoln placed Buell and all other Union forces west of Knoxville under the overall command of General Halleck.

These reorganizations, coupled with gradually improving weather, apparently spurred both of Lincoln's reluctant warriors. McClellan moved the Army of the Potomac by sea to the Peninsula of Virginia, and prepared to march on Richmond from the southeast. In Tennessee, Buell bickered and fussed with Halleck, but after considerable negotiations finally agreed on a line of advance, to be coordinated with the movement of Grant's troops along the Tennessee River.

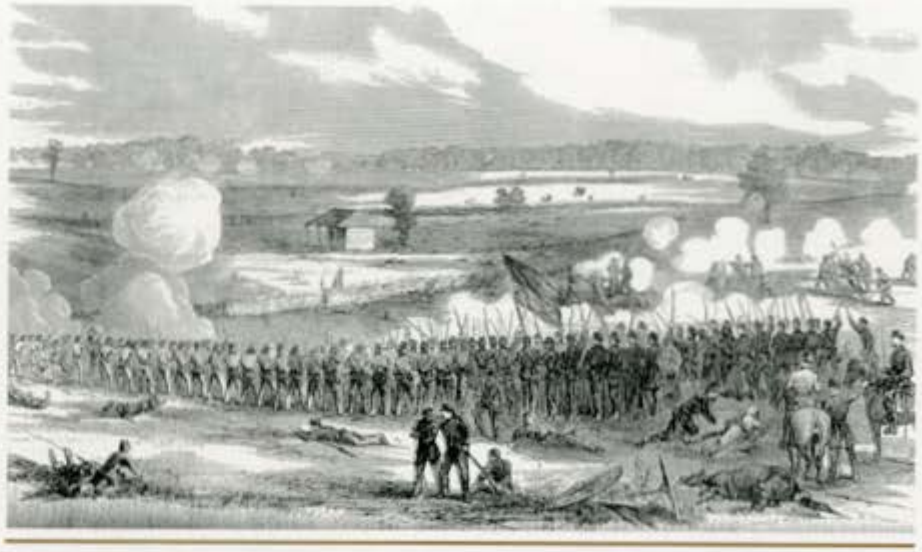
The month of April 1862 seemed to bring an end to Lincoln's troubles with his recalcitrant generals. Buell was on his way to meet Grant, and McClellan was advancing (albeit slowly) toward Richmond. On April 6, Confederate troops

under Albert Sidney Johnston tried to stop the Union advance in the West by launching a surprise attack on Grant's encampment at Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee. Grant's men managed to rally and form a precarious line at nightfall. The lead divisions of the Army of the Ohio arrived to reinforce Grant's shattered army, and the next morning the Union troops counterattacked and drove the Rebels from the field. The battle of Shiloh ended as the first great Union victory. With the rebels in retreat in the West, and McClellan's army moving slowly but steadily up the Peninsula toward Richmond, victory seemed assured.

May saw the blight of April's promise. After marching almost to the gates of Richmond, McClellan allowed Robert E. Lee to outmaneuver him and drive him back in seven days of fighting to the James River. At the end of June, McClellan's army was huddled impotently at Harrison's Landing, no longer an immediate threat to Richmond.

In the West, Halleck directed the united forces of Buell and Grant on an agonizingly slow march toward the strategic railroad crossing at Corinth, Mississippi, then detached Buell's army to capture Chattanooga, Tennessee. Through June and July, Buell struggled to keep his army supplied via a long, vulnerable line of communications back to Louisville. Buell refused to allow his troops to try to live off the land, as Sherman would later do in Georgia, so that by the end of July the demoralized and hungry Army of the Ohio was stuck outside of Chattanooga, lacking the strength to storm the well-defended city. Like McClellan, Buell found himself in command of an army that had ceased to pose a significant threat to the South.

But Lincoln was not through with either general. After Robert E. Lee crushed a Union force led by Brigadier General John Pope, Lincoln reluctantly recognized that he had no choice but to recall McClellan to Washington. No other general possessed the personal magnetism needed to rally the defeated troops and stop Lee's army, which was marching north into Maryland. In the West, meanwhile, General Braxton Bragg had given Buell the slip at Chattanooga and was also marching north, toward Buell's base of supply at Louisville. Buell sent the Army of the Ohio racing in Bragg's tracks, hoping somehow to get to Louisville ahead of him.



Union troops at Perryville, October 8, 1862. Buell's failure to pursue the Confederates after this battle led to his dismissal. (*Harper's Weekly*, November 1, 1862)

Both Buell and McClellan thus had a last chance to redeem their reputations. At Antietam, McClellan hesitantly committed a portion of his men to an attack on Lee's greatly outnumbered army, but Lee managed to hold him off and retreat unmolested back to Virginia. Three weeks later, on October 8, Buell's army fought with Bragg's in a savage but little-known battle at Perryville, Kentucky. Buell's army narrowly defeated the rebels, but through poor staffwork Buell remained unaware that a battle was taking place until it was nearly over. Like McClellan, he allowed his foe to retreat after the battle, instead of launching an immediate and vigorous pursuit.

The failure to pursue was the last straw. Lincoln relieved Buell on October 24, and McClellan on November 5. McClellan went on to run against Lincoln in the 1864 presidential election, and after the war became governor of New Jersey. Buell was called upon to defend his conduct in the "Race to Louisville" and Perryville campaigns by a military commission, and never again served in the war. Unlike his eastern counterpart he stayed out of politics, and instead faded away in soldierly fashion, resigning from the army in 1864; it was his last, and perhaps best, service to the president he so frustrated in 1862.

References

The best single work covering Lincoln's relationships with his generals is still T. Harry Williams, *Lincoln and His Generals* (1952; reprinted Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1981). The basic facts of Buell's career are in the standard references for Union generals: Ezra Warner, *Generals in Blue: Lives of the Union Commanders* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State U. Press, 1964); and Mark M. Boatner III, *The Civil War Dictionary* (rev. ed. New York: David McKay Co., Inc., 1987). Curiously, no one has yet written a full-length biography of Buell, although at least one is underway. For McClellan, see Stephen W. Sears, *George B. McClellan: The Young Napoleon* (New York: Ticknor & Fields, 1988).

All Lincoln quotations are from Basler, ed., *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, 8 vols. (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers U. Press, 1953-55).

Most Buell and McClellan quotes are from *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 128 vols. (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1880-1901).

Books for Sale

The following is a list of the books available from The Lincoln Museum store. Please write or call (219) 455-3798 for a listing with prices and book descriptions. Complete book catalog with Civil War titles due in the fall.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address in Translation
Various editors

The Lincoln Reader
Angle, Paul, ed.

The Life of Abraham Lincoln
Arnold, Isaac N.

Lincoln and the Illinois Supreme Court
Banister, Dan W.

Lincoln in the Telegraph Office: Recollections of the United States Military Telegraph Corps during the Civil War
Bates, David Homer

The Day Lincoln Was Shot
Bishop, Jim

The Historian's Lincoln: Pseudohistory, Psychohistory, and History

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Lincoln and the Economics of the American Dream

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Braden, Waldo W., ed.

The Every-Day Life of Abraham Lincoln
Browne, Francis Fisher

Lincoln and the Riddle of Death
Bruce, Robert V.

The Great American Myth: The True Story of Lincoln's Murder
Bryan, S. George

The Inner World of Abraham Lincoln
Burlingame, Michael

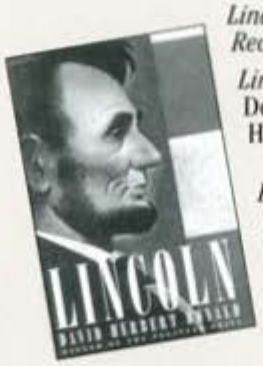
Young Abraham Lincoln: His Teenage Years in Indiana
Conway, W. Fred

Lincoln and Black Freedom
Cox, LaWanda

The Lincoln No One Knows

Lincoln's Loyalists
Current, Richard Nelson

In Lincoln's Footsteps
Davenport, Don



Lincoln Reconsidered

Lincoln
Donald, David Herbert

Lincoln and The Black Hawk War
Efflandt, Lloyd H.

Abraham Lincoln la Terre et le Travail
Fraysse, Oliver

Lincoln: A Photobiography
Freedman, Russell

Assassin on Stage
Furtwangler, Albert

Lincoln in Photographs
Hamilton, Charles and Lloyd Ostendorf

The Lincoln Murder Conspiracies
Hanchett, William

Famous Speeches of Abraham Lincoln
Hawkins, J. Donald, ed.

Herndon's Life of Lincoln
Herndon, William Henry

The Lincoln Image
Holzer, Harold; Gabor S. Boritt; Mark E. Neely, Jr.

Dear Mr. Lincoln
Holzer, Harold

Lincoln's Reconstruction: Neither Failure of Vision Nor Vision of Failure
Hyman, Harold M.

The Lincoln Douglas Debates
Johannsen, Robert W., ed.

Lincoln and the South in 1860
Johannsen, Robert W.

Lincoln: An Illustrated Biography
Kunhardt, Philip B., Jr.

Recollections of Abraham Lincoln 1847-1865
Lamon, Ward Hill

Mr. Lincoln's City: An Illustrated Guide to the Civil War Sites of Washington
Lee, Richard M.

The Assassination of Lincoln: History and Myth
Lewis, Lloyd

Lincoln: Speeches and Writings 1859-1865: Speeches, Letters, Miscellaneous Writing, Presidential Messages and Proclamations

Poems of Abraham Lincoln

Lincoln Speeches and Writing 1832-1858: Speeches, Letters, and Miscellaneous Writings, The Lincoln-Douglas Debates

Great Speeches of Abraham Lincoln
Lincoln, Abraham

Lincoln as a Lawyer: An Annotated Bibliography
Matthews, Elizabeth W.

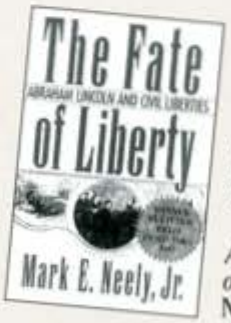
Abraham Lincoln and the Second American Revolution
McPherson, James M.

Mr. Lincoln's Camera Man: Mathew Brady
Meredith, Roy

Lincoln Day by Day: A Chronology 1908-1865
Miers, Earl Schench and C. Percy Powell, ed.

Basil Moore's Lincoln
Moore, Basil

The Insanity File
Neely, Mark and R. Gerald McMurtry



The Abraham Lincoln Encyclopedia

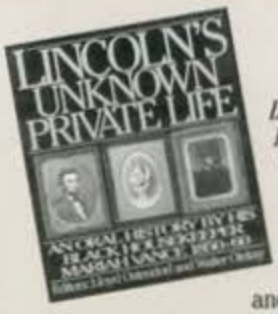
Our Fiery Trial

The Fate of Liberty: Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties
Neely, Mark E., Jr.

An Oral History of Abraham Lincoln
Nicolay, John G. and Michael Burlingame, ed.

Abraham Lincoln: The Man Behind the Myth

With Malice Towards None: A Life of Abraham Lincoln
Oates, Stephen B.



Lincoln's Unknown Private Life: An Oral History by his Black Housekeeper Mariah Vance 1850-1860
Ostendorf, Lloyd and Walter Oleksy, ed.

The Better Angels of Our Natures

The Presidency of Abraham Lincoln

A Covenant with Death
Paludan, Phillip S.

This Grand Pertinacity

Lincoln In American Memory
Peterson, Merrill D.

Abraham Lincoln at City Point
Pfanz, Donald C.

Beware the People Weeping: Public Opinion and the Assassination of Abraham Lincoln
Turner, Thomas

Lincoln the President: Last Full Measure
Randall, J.G. and Richard N. Current

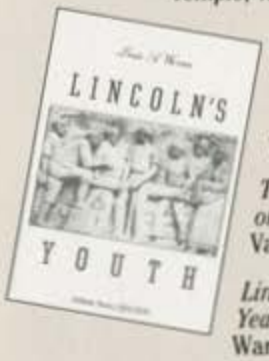
A. Lincoln: His Last 24 Hours
Reck, W. Emerson

House Divided: Lincoln and His Father
Simon, John Y.

Lincoln's Preparation for Greatness: The Illinois Legislative Years
Simon, Paul

Lincoln: A Pictorial History
Steers Jr, Edward

Abraham Lincoln: From Skeptic to Prophet
Temple, Wayne



Lincoln's New Salem
Thomas, Benjamin P.

Lincoln's Devotional
unknown

The Long Loom of Lincoln
Vandiver, Frank E.

Lincoln's Youth: Indiana Years 1816-1830
Warren, Louis A.

The Lincoln Train is Coming
Wesolowski, Wayne and Mary Cay

Lincoln At Gettysburg
Willis, Garry

JAMES T. HICKEY, FIRST LINCOLN CURATOR

By Thomas F. Schwartz, Illinois State Historian

(Illinois State Historical Library)

James Thomas Hickey, the first curator of the Henry Horner Lincoln Collection, died at St. John's North on May 13, 1996. Hickey was seventy-three years old. He was born on June 6, 1922 and lived his entire life at the ancestral home of Pine Lodge Farm in Elkhart, Illinois. His interest in history began as a youth and was encouraged by Judge Lawrence B. Stringer, the foremost expert on the history of Logan County. Stringer knew Abraham Lincoln and spent many hours recalling to the young Hickey stories he had heard from his own youth about Illinois' favorite son. Jim took over the operation of the family farm after his father's death in 1947. The period after harvest and before planting found Jim exploring for new Lincoln documents in courthouses. Raymond Dooley, president of Lincoln College, hired Hickey to organize the Lincoln material at the college as well as teach a course on the Sixteenth President. It was Jim who found the Marine Bank ledgers as well as the Robert Irwin store ledgers with Abraham Lincoln's account. Given his growing reputation as a Lincoln expert, he was hired by State Historian Clyde Walton in 1958 to oversee the daily operations of the Illinois State Historical Library's world renown Lincoln Collection.

No sooner had Jim begun than he was asked to take a year's leave of absence to conduct research for an updated version of Lincoln Day by Day being undertaken by the federal government's Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission. Jim used his previous knowledge of courthouses and added a significant number of new Lincoln legal cases to the book which is considered the most valued reference work on Lincoln. Later, Jim lobbied to have the state undertake the Lincoln Legal Papers, knowing that there was more to be found. Jim worked with Hollywood script writers and producers, Lincoln scholars, Lincoln buffs and anyone who showed a serious interest in Lincoln and antebellum Illinois. He participated in major historic preservation projects including the Old State Capitol and the Executive Mansion. His most significant accomplishment was bringing back to Illinois the papers of Robert Todd Lincoln. Jim had met Robert Todd Lincoln Beckwith during the 1960s Civil War Centennial celebrations in Illinois. As their friendship grew, Mr. Beckwith asked Jim to assist him in sorting through family materials at Hildene, Robert Todd Lincoln's summer home in Manchester, Vermont. Many items belonging to Abraham and Mary Lincoln, Robert Todd Lincoln and his descendants were discovered. In an obscure closet were found the forty-six letterpress volumes of Robert Todd Lincoln's correspondence.

Jim "officially" retired from the Library in 1985, but, in fact, he was always actively adding to the Library's collections and contributing gifts until his death. Many of the staff fondly referred to him as "Mr. Hickey" even though he thought it made him sound like an old man. His sense of humor and storytelling were legendary and it was not unusual for crowds of people to surround him in the staff lounge while he recounted tales from the Library's past, puffing on this signature Robert Burns Panatela cigars. Mark E. Neely described Jim as the foremost curator of his generation. The Library staff already knew this. More importantly, they knew Jim was one of their best friends.

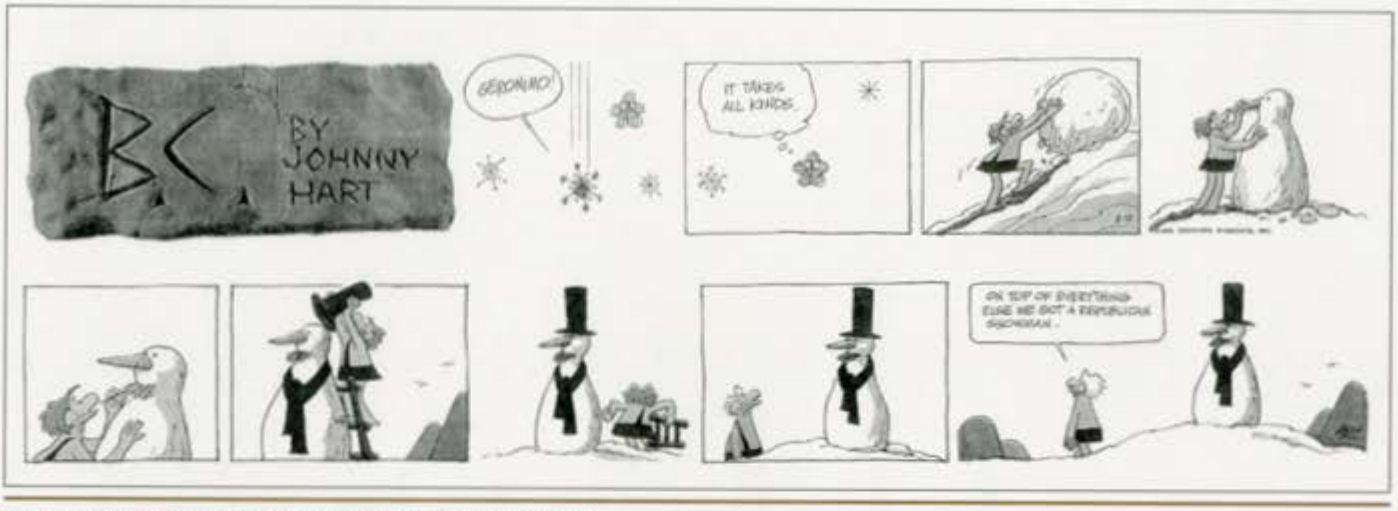
Lincoln Cartoons of 1995

In Lincoln Lore *1843, Frank J. Williams presented a compilation of 1995 news and scholarship related to Abraham Lincoln. The original draft of his article included descriptions of these and other cartoons, which demonstrate the continuing vitality of the image of Abraham Lincoln in American popular culture. As talented a writer as Judge Williams is, something was lost in the translation from cartoon to written summary. Here, thanks to the patient efforts of Judge Williams to secure republication permissions, are some of the best examples of how cartoonists used the Lincoln image in the past year.*

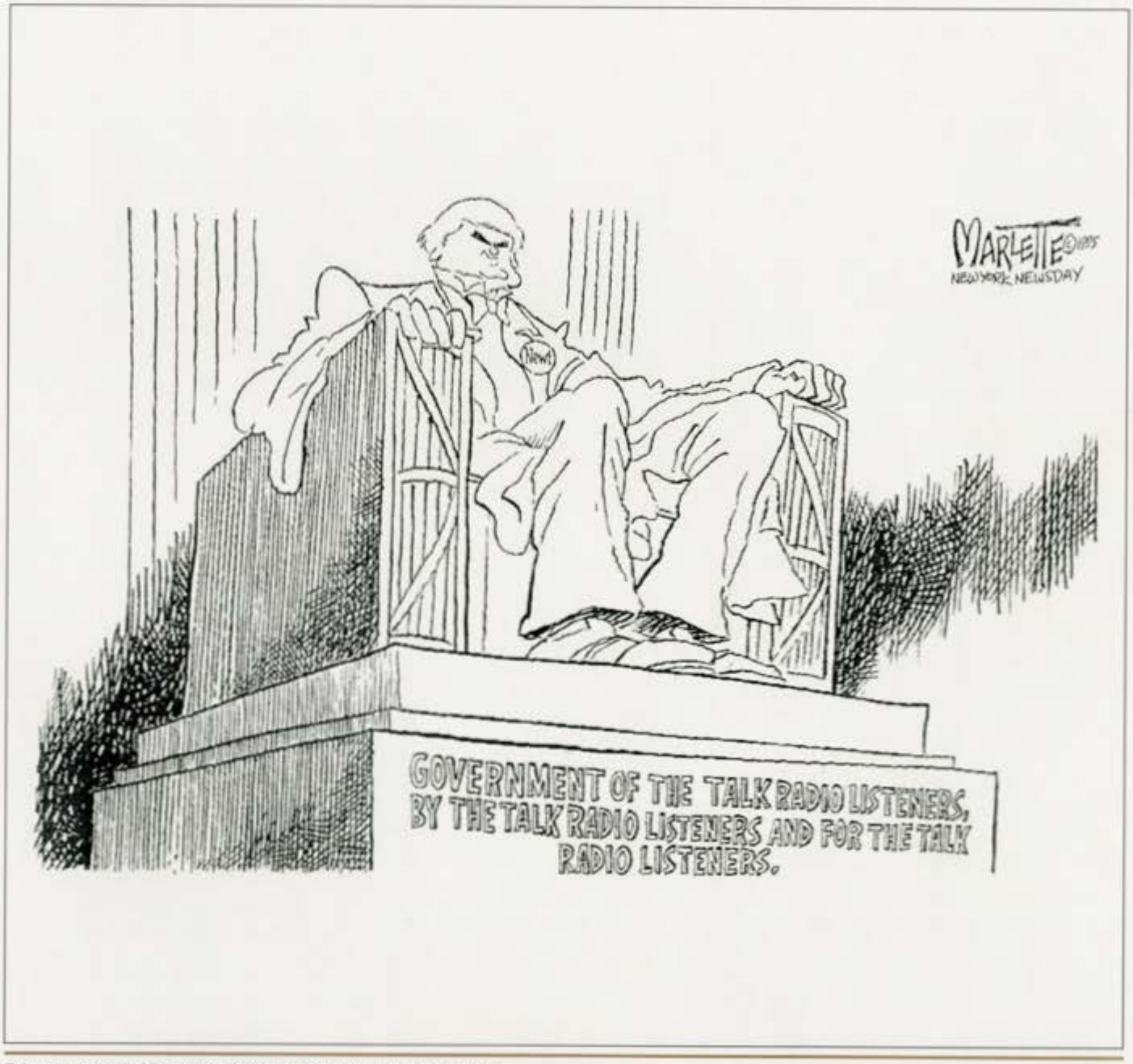
By permission of George Danby and Bangor *Daily News*

By permission of Frank J. Williams

By permission of Bob Thaves and NEA, Inc.



By permission of Johnny Hart and Creators Syndicate, Inc.



By permission of Doug Marlette and Creators Syndicate, Inc.

At the Lincoln Museum

Upcoming exhibit:

Making Their Marks: Signatures of the Presidents

Opening October 1

Who were America's greatest presidents? Who were the worst? Why do some presidents' reputations rise (or fall) dramatically after they leave office? The Lincoln Museum's collection of presidential signatures, from Washington to Clinton, will be the centerpiece of an exhibit that explores the changing historical reputations of America's presidents. The exhibit includes a time line that shows how the presidents have been rated by historians; visitors will be invited to offer their views as to how history will look at recent chief executives, and to vote for the four greatest presidents.

Latest Acquisition Adds to Lincoln-Williamson Connection

The Museum has acquired a letter, dated February 23, 1865, from Alexander Williamson to Abraham Lincoln, with an annotation by Lincoln. The letter reads "My son William B. Williamson was enlisted as a private in the General Service on or about the 20th day of Feb., 1864, for the purpose of acting as a messenger in the Military Telegraph Bureau in connection with the War Department, & his discharge therefrom is earnestly requested by me." In the margin are the words, in Lincoln's handwriting, "Let him be discharged. A. Lincoln Feb. 23, 1865."

The elder Williamson was at one time tutor to the Lincoln boys, and the original recipient of the inkwell with which Lincoln signed the Final Emancipation Proclamation, as described in *Lincoln Lore* 1843. Although Williamson's letter does not explain why his son should be discharged, Lincoln granted the request the day it was written.

New Director of Marketing Named

Guy Young, formerly Director of Development at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, has joined the Museum staff as Director of Marketing. Before coming to Fort Wayne, Young was in charge of Public Relations and Marketing for the Sunrise Museum, a museum of art and science in Charleston, West Virginia.

Special Events:

All events are at The Lincoln Museum

The Grand Picnic

July 12 — September 2

More than 100 guests attended the opening of "The Grand Picnic" on July 12, to enjoy a picnic meal provided by Scott's Foods and hear Louise Larson of Fort Wayne Settlers describe 19th century American picnic customs. Fourteen imaginative picnic displays provided by local business and community organizations will remain in the Temporary Exhibit Gallery until Labor Day, with visitors invited to vote for their favorite. Look for the winner's name, to be announced September 3, in the next *Lincoln Lore*.

The Picnic Basket Auction

Friday, August 23 — 6:30 p.m.

Readers are invited to support The Lincoln Museum, and perhaps snare a bargain in the process, by attending the fund-raising Picnic Basket Auction. Baskets filled with certificates for goods and services from the Museum and local merchants will be auctioned off for the benefit of the education programs of the Museum. Entertainment and refreshments are included in the admission price of $8 for members, $10 for non-members.

The Seventeenth R. Gerald McMurtry Lecture

Saturday, September 21 — 7 p.m.

"The Mirror Image of Civil War Memory: Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis in Popular Prints" will be the topic of this year's lecture, presented by Harold Holzer. Holzer, recently named Vice President for Communications at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, is the author of many books and articles on Lincoln and his era, including *Dear Mr. Lincoln, The Lincoln Image* (with Gabor Boritt and Mark E. Neely, Jr.), and *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art* (with Mark E. Neely, Jr.). In July Holzer received the first Manuscript Society Book Award for *Dear Mr. Lincoln*, the latest of many honors for his scholarship.

The lecture will be followed by a reception, including an opportunity to meet the speaker and tour the Museum. Admission for the event is $20 for members, $25 for non-members. To make your reservation, or for further information, please call (219) 455-7494.