

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TODAY HONOR THE MEMORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

MR. LINCOLN WAS ALWAYS INTENSELY INTERESTED IN AFFAIRS OF NEW MEXICO

"Homely But Kindly," Says Aged Francisco Perea of Albuquerque, Who As Delegate in Congress, Was Close to President in Stormy Days of War, Who Knew John Wilkes Booth and Who Sat Under Lincoln's Box in Theater When Fatal Shot Was Fired.

"He was a wonderful man—wonderful. Plain and unprepossessing, but strong and kindly, homely but of stirring eloquence, history will probably never see his like again."

So said the venerable Francisco Perea, delegate in congress from New Mexico during the administration of President Abraham Lincoln; a personal friend of the martyred president, a man who saw him often, and who occupied a seat in the Ford theater in Washington directly under the box of the president when John Wilkes Booth fired the shot that plunged the civilized world into mourning.

Mr. Perea, now in his eighty-seventh year and partially paralyzed, talked to a representative of the Morning Journal the other day as he lay on his bed in the little Perea cottage at 1299 South Broadway. Although physically infirm Mr. Perea's mind is as keen and his memory of the president is as distinct as it was forty-three years ago and he took visible pleasure in recalling the scenes in the national capital before and after the assassination of the president; his personal acquaintance with Lincoln and particularly the cordial interest that amid scenes of civil war, entertained toward the people and the affairs of New Mexico.

"I first met Lincoln," said Mr. Perea, "I think in the spring of 1864. I was introduced to him by John Watts, then of Santa Fe, formerly of Indianapolis, a man who took part in the campaign through Illinois with the president, his warm friend, and a political speaker of ability. I met the president in the White House, in company with a number of senators, representatives and others. The first impression he made on me was one I have never forgotten. On that first occasion I was struck as always after with his ability as an entertainer and his inexhaustible fund of stories, all ways with a sharp point hidden somewhere in the narrative.

"At that time he had many enemies even in Washington—people from the south who never lost a chance to let drop a hateful word about him. But even his enemies were forced to admire him. Many a time after the president had sent special messages to the senate or house, I would hear people say as I passed along the street, 'What a masterly message,' or 'what beautiful language. Old Abe used in that speech today.' Men of letters wondered at the purity and impressiveness of his diction.

President's Lincoln Day Proclamation

Following is the president's Lincoln day proclamation: "A proclamation: 'Whereas, by joint resolution of congress it is provided that the twelfth day of February, 1909, the same being the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln be, and the same is hereby, made a special legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories of the United States and, 'Whereas by the said joint resolution the president is authorized to issue a proclamation in accordance with the foregoing setting apart the twelfth day of February, 1909, as a special legal holiday.

Important Events in Lincoln's Life

- Born in a log cabin near Hodgenville, now Leno County, Ky., Feb. 12th, 1809. His father moves with his family into the wilderness near Gentryville, Ind.—1816. His mother dies at the age of 35—1818. His father's second marriage—1819. Walks nine miles a day going to and returning from school—1826. Makes a trip to New Orleans and back at work on a flat boat—1828. Drives in an ox cart with his father and step-mother to a clearing on the Sangamon river, near Decatur, Ill.—1829. Splits rails to surround the clearing with a fence—1829. Makes another flat boat trip to New Orleans and back, on which trip he first sees negroes shackled together in chains and forms his opinion concerning slavery—May, 1831. Begins work in a store at New Salem, Ill.—August, 1831. Enlists in the Black Hawk war; elected captain of volunteers—1832. Announces himself a Whig candidate for the legislature and is defeated—1832. Storekeeper, postmaster and surveyor—1833. Elected to the Illinois legislature—1834. Re-elected to the legislature—1835 to 1842. Studies law at Springfield—1837. Is a presidential elector on the Whig National ticket—1840. Marries Mary Todd—November 4th, 1842. Canvasses Illinois for Henry Clay—1844. Elected to Congress—1846. Supports General Taylor for president—1848. Engages in law practice—1849-1854. Debates with Douglas at Peoria and Springfield—1855. Aids in organizing the Republican party—1855-1856. Joint debates in Illinois with Stephen A. Douglas—1858. Makes political speeches in Iowa—1859. Visits New York and speaks at Cooper Union—February, 1860. Attends republican state convention at Decatur, declared to be the choice of Illinois for the presidency—May, 1860. Nominated at Chicago as the republican candidate for president—May 16th, 1860. Elected president over Stephen A. Douglas, J. C. Breckenridge and John Bell—November, 1860. Inaugurated president—March 4th, 1861. Issues first order for troops to put down the rebellion—April 15, 1861. Urges McClellan to advance—April, 1862. Appeals for the support of the border states for the Union cause—March to July, 1862. Calls for 300,000 more troops—July, 1862. Issues Emancipation Proclamation—Jan. 31st, 1863. Thanks Grant for capture of Vicksburg—July, 1863. His address at Gettysburg—Nov. 19th, 1863. Calls for 500,000 volunteers—July, 1864. Re-nominated and re-elected president—1864. Thanks Sherman for the capture of Atlanta—September, 1864. His second inauguration—March 4th, 1865. Assassinated—April 14th, 1865.

Lincoln's Address at Gettysburg

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new union, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now that we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived or so dedicated can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who gave their lives that the nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather to be dedicated to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be dedicated here to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

ROOSEVELT TO LAY CORNER STONE

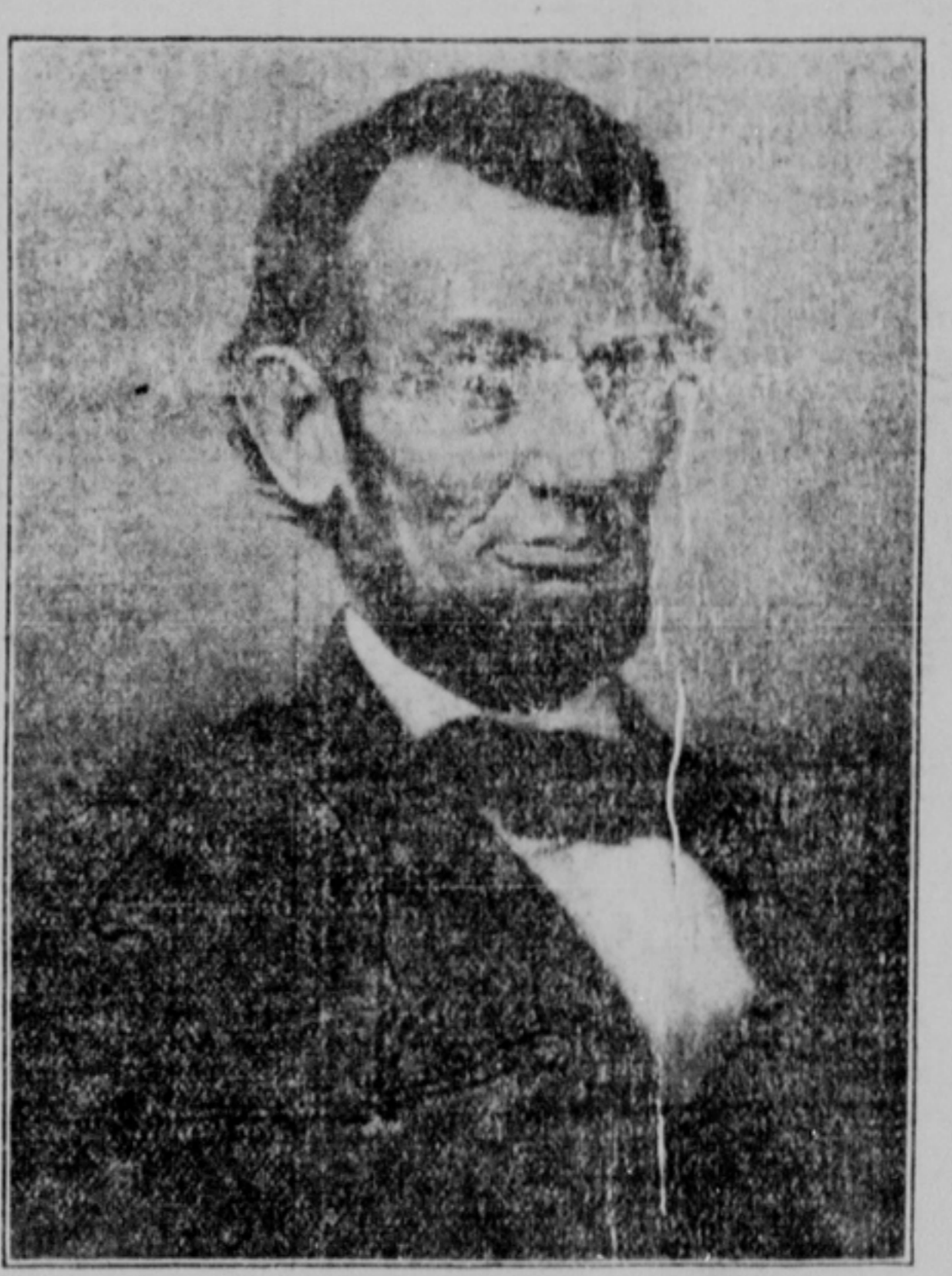
GREAT MEN GATHER AT LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE Impressive Are Exercises at Site of Little Log Cabin Among the Mountains of Kentucky at Hodgenville.

[By Morning Journal Special (Leased Wire) Hodgenville, Ky., Feb. 11.—The centenary of Abraham Lincoln's birth will be observed generally throughout the United States, but nowhere will the commemorative exercises command more interest than those to be held in this little town on February 12. Two miles from here, on the Lincoln farm, which has been purchased by a national association, formed for the purpose, President Roosevelt will lay the corner stone of a memorial building now being erected by popular subscription to mark Lincoln's birthplace and to protect for all time the little log cabin in which the martyr president was born. The centenary address on this occasion will be delivered by President Roosevelt. General Luke E. Wright, the secretary of war, will speak on behalf of the Confederate soldiers. General Grant Wilson will represent the veterans of the union army and Lincoln's native state will be represented by Governor Augustus E. Wright, son of Kentucky. Other addresses will be made by Bishop Galloway, of Mississippi and ex-Governor Joseph W. Folk, of Missouri.



Hon. Francisco Perea of Albuquerque, Delegate in Congress in 1864, Who Was in Theater When Lincoln Was Killed.

Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, Sixteenth President of the United States.



A blend of mirth and sadness, smiles and tears, a quaint knight errant of the pioneer, a homely hero, born of star and sod; A Peasant Prince, a masterpiece of God. Walter Malone in Chicago Tribune, Feb. 12, 1907.

ALBUQUERQUE TO PAY FITTING TRIBUTE TO EMANCIPATOR

Great Patriotic Demonstration at Elks' Theater This Afternoon Will Mark Celebration of Centennial While University and City and County Schools Will Carry Out Special Exercises in Honor of Memory of the Martyr President.

Tuesday, February 12th, 1909, the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, in a log cabin in Kentucky, will be observed in Albuquerque today with that patriotic fervor which always marks a national celebration in this city. New Mexico has a peculiar affection for the memory of the great emancipator, which will find sincere and enthusiastic expression in special exercises all over the territory, nowhere more enthusiastic and impressive than in Albuquerque.

A big patriotic demonstration and mass meeting will be held at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon in the Elks' theater, to which the general public is invited and it is likely that the capacity of the theater will be taxed when the time for the gathering arrives. The members of G. K. Warren post Grand Army of the Republic, the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Women's Relief Corps, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution will attend the meeting in a body. The city schools will co-operate and the school pupils will attend en masse, the pupils to furnish the music for the occasion under the direction of Miss Caroline A. Strong, director of music in the public schools. Mayor Felix H. Lester will preside at the meeting and addresses will be made by prominent people. The program will be as follows: Program: Music, "When the Regiment Goes Marching By"; Jessie Gaynor Reading, "Gettysburg Address"; Prof. John H. Crum, University of New Mexico, Address—Hon. F. H. Moore, Board of Education, Music, "I Love the Stars and Stripes"; Jessie Gaynor Address—Col. Edward Johnson, Grand Army of the Republic, Address—Mrs. Abigail Jones, Ladies of the Grand Army, Address—Mrs. E. C. Whitson, Woman's Relief Corps, Music, "Tearing Tonight"; By the Misses Lois Neher and Viola Blusher, Address—Mrs. Rupert F. Asplund, Daughters of the American Revolution, Oration—Hon. H. R. Ferguson, Sons of the American Revolution, Music, "America"; At the University, This morning at 10 o'clock at New Mexico a special program will be rendered, the afternoon being made a half holiday so that the student body may also attend the meeting at the opera house. The program this morning is as follows: Invocation—Rev. J. C. Rollins, D. D. Singing—"University Hymn"; Reading—"Lincoln's Independence"; Hall Speeches—Lillian Winters Reading—"The Man of Sorrows"; From "The Crisis" Harriet Davis Instrumental Trio, Messrs. Browning and McGuinness and Miss Durling, Paper—"The Honor of Lincoln."

ARTESIA MEN ARMORY BILL CONFIDENT OF GOES TO THE SUCCESS

MAKE STRONG SHOWING BEFORE LEGISLATURE ACT TO PAY ALBUQUERQUE DEBT BECOMES LAW

Flourishing District of Northern Eddy County Has Population and Wealth to Assure Prosperity From Start.

Of all the county division projects now pending before the New Mexico legislature there is none with a more solid basis than that which proposes to create Artesia county, out of the northern portion of Eddy county. That at least is the impression which has been left in the minds of a large majority of people here in and out of the legislature by the delegations of Artesia business men who left for their homes tonight after four busy days spent in presenting their claims to the legislature. In the delegation are D. L. Newkirk, Harry W. Hamilton, J. W. Trunkner, J. R. Enfield and J. B. Christopher, all of whom have had an active part in the unbuilding of the thriving town of Artesia, which it is proposed to make the seat of government of the new county. Two years ago Mr. Newkirk came to Santa Fe in the interest of Artesia county. With a different membership in the house of representatives he might have succeeded at that time in getting Artesia county created. As

Hodgenville, which is near the geographical center of the state of Kentucky, and not far from the center of population of the United States, promises to become a new Mecca in American history. The Lincoln farm, which Abraham Lincoln had other homes, there is a sentiment about his birthplace that does not attach to any of them. He lived here for eight years, and before he left, knew very much of what Mark Twain calls "the moiled little farm that raised a man." He went swimming in the nearby creek and by the light from the huge fireplace in the little one-room cabin, he learned his first lessons. It was in 1806 that Thomas Lincoln brought his bride, Nancy Hanks, and established the rude little home that three years later was to welcome into the world the future president. Theirs was the rough life of pioneers; the farm was then, as it now is, a sterile piece of land, and to make both ends meet the older Lincoln did odd jobs of carpentry in the vicinity, besides working on the farm. The actual necessities of life were seldom lacking, but it was a life of severe poverty. For some years Thomas Lincoln served as a county supervisor of public roads an important position in that time. Land owners paid their poll-tax with pick and shovel then, and on road he never failed to take little Abe along for company and for help. There are old-timers here now who claim that there is not a section of the old pike within several miles of his home along which Abraham Lincoln has not played or on which he has not driven his ox team.

At this time Kentucky offered few attractions to a poor man. And in 1814 the Lincoln's sold the little farm and moved to Indiana. Subsequently Abraham Lincoln moved into Illinois and the rest is history. But through all the years that followed he never forgot his first home. He rarely referred to it, but after he had become president of the United States he is known to have said, "When the war is over I would like very much to buy my old Kentucky home. I remember it well."

But he never did return and the farm and the little log cabin had a varied history. Thomas Lincoln sold the place to a family named Great and it remained in their hands for over seventy years. Its beautiful rock spring was apparently its one redeeming feature and only recently has anyone awakened to the realization that those one hundred and ten acres had any value beyond their yield in corn and sorghum. From time to time newspapers have announced that the Lincoln birthplace farm was to be sold but as a matter of fact it has only changed hands twice since Thomas Lincoln's original transfer. A few years ago it was given to the management of a Rev. J. W. Ringham, who removed the log cabin to the exhibition at Nashville, and later sold it to some exhibitors who took it about the country as a traveling show. But a year or two ago the logs were found in a cellar at College Point, Long Island, where it was stored, and with ceremony was restored to its original site.

The farm itself has been the subject of litigation for several years and efforts have been made by various interests to use it for one purpose or another. Many schemes have been suggested from time to time but none of them have borne a large national significance. Finally in 1905 it was advertised that on August 28 the Lincoln Farm was to be sold between the hours of ten and two from the court house steps at public outcry to the highest bidder. Mr. Robert J. Collier, of New York City, had been negotiating for the property and upon the appearance of this notice he despatched Mr. Richard Lloyd Jones to Hodgenville, with instructions to buy the place if possible. The day set for the bidding was

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(Continued from Page 1, Column 2.)

men and am confident he planned the thing out long before."

"Abraham Lincoln was the greatest man the nation has ever seen," concluded Mr. Perea with a sigh, "the lowliest and the greatest. I doubt if the world has seen any greater. To my mind he was a much bigger man, for instance, than this fellow here,"—and Mr. Perea turned and pointed up to an old engraving showing Napoleon taking leave of his wife.—"When I went to school in Baltimore I knew an ex-captain in the army of Bonaparte who knew the emperor well and who used to tell me much about him that I never learned otherwise. But the fame of the war lord is not as great to my mind as that of the Man of Peace. It is doubtful if, all things considered, there will be another man who will rise to the sublimity of Abraham Lincoln."