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Samuel Shackford

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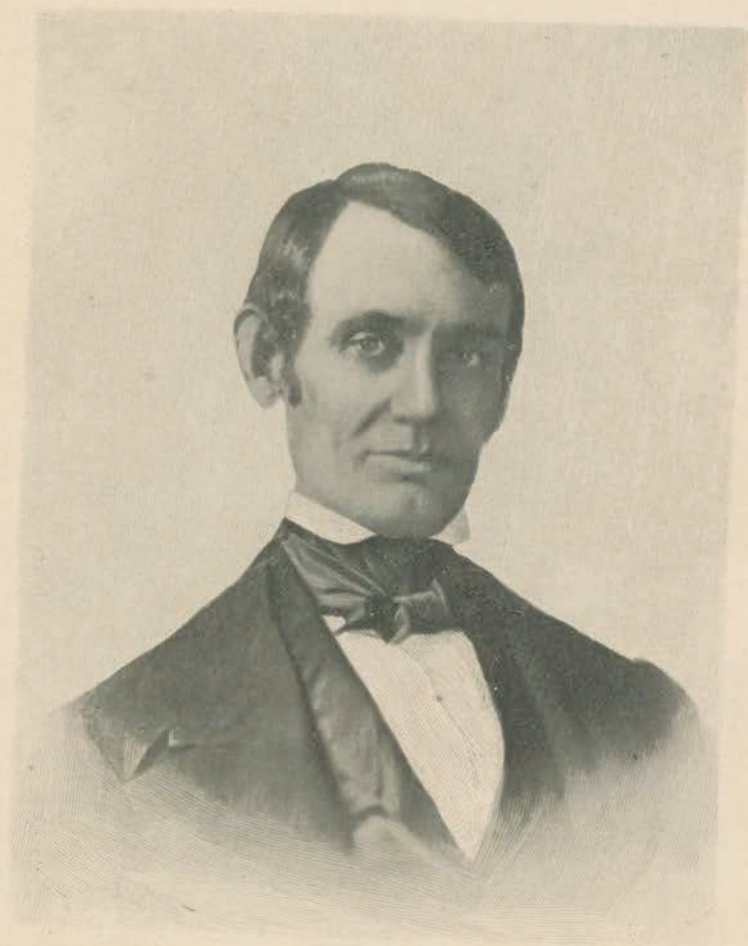
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THE LINEAGE
OF
PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By SAMUEL SHACKFORD,
OF CHICAGO, ILL.



THE LINEAGE OF PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN
TRACED FROM SAMUEL LINCOLN.*

SAMUEL LINCOLN came from Norfolk County, England—probably from the town of Hingham—in 1637, at the age of 18 years. He appears to have been first at Salem, an apprentice to Francis Lawes, a weaver; and on becoming of age settled at Hingham, Mass., where lived his brother Thomas, a weaver, who came over in 1633.

The family name of Samuel Lincoln's wife is not known. By wife Martha he had a family of ten children, whose descendants are numerous. Through their first son, Samuel, came the governors Levi Lincoln, father and son, of Massachusetts, and Enoch Lincoln, governor of Maine.

2. MORDECAI² LINCOLN, the fourth son of Samuel and Martha, born at Hingham, 17th June, 1657, was a blacksmith, and worked at his trade in the town of Hull, where he married Sarah, daughter of Abraham and Sarah (Whitman) Jones. From Hull the family removed into the neighboring town of Scituate, about 1704, where Mordecai engaged in establishing a furnace for the smelting of iron ore. The children of Mordecai and Sarah (Jones) Lincoln were:

Mordecai, Jr., born 24th April, 1686.	} b. in Hingham.
Abraham, born 13th January, 1689.	
Isaac, born 21st October, 1691.	
Sarah, born 29th July, 1694.	
Elizabeth.	} b. at Scituate.
Jacob—by a second wife.	

The will of Mordecai Lincoln, dated at Scituate 3d March, 1727, is of a somewhat unusual character. The younger sons, Isaac and Jacob—the

* A portion of this article was printed by me in the *Chicago Tribune*, but I have received valuable information since then, which is here incorporated.—s. s.

latter a lad of 16—are appointed executors, and to them is bequeathed all lands in Hingham and Scituate, saw-mill, grist-mill, and interest in iron works. To son Mordecai he gives £110 in money, or lawful bills of credit; to son Abraham £60 in money, or bills of credit, beside what he hath already had. To the oldest son of Mordecai and the oldest son of Abraham, each £10 in money when they become of age, and provision is made for sending three of his grandsons to college, should they desire a liberal education.

It appears evident from the wording of the father's will, that his sons Mordecai and Abraham were not living in his vicinity at the time of his decease, and there is no record to be found in New England of them, or their descendants, since 1727. That many of the settlers of East New Jersey were from New England is a well authenticated fact. The Ilsleys, Moores, Hales, Rolfs, Pikes and others, went from the town of Newbury, Mass., to Middlesex County, N. J., and founded the town which they named in honor of their old Puritan pastor, Rev. John Woodbridge, and these people left their New England homes of their own free will, induced by temporal rather than spiritual considerations. They were not driven away by sectarian intolerance, and were, as the history of their town informs us, as uncharitable in their theological views, in their new homes, as men generally were in those days the world over. At a somewhat later date, the Lincoln brothers left their home in Scituate, and we find strong evidence that they were Mordecai and Abraham Lincoln who are found early in the last century in Monmouth County, N. J., which adjoins Middlesex.

Of these, Mordecai married Hannah, daughter of Richard and Sarah (Bowne) Salter, of Freehold, Monmouth County, N. J., previous to September 14, 1714, the date of her uncle Capt. John Bowne's will, in which Hannah Lincoln has a bequest of £250. Richard Salter was a leading lawyer of the province, was County Judge, member of the Provincial Assembly, besides holding other official positions of honor and trust. Capt. John Bowne was a wealthy, influential person; the settlement of whose estate involved a tedious lawsuit, as shown by the court records of Monmouth County. The suit was commenced in 1716 by Obadiah Bowne, executor, against the other heirs, and the name of Mordecai Lincoln appears as one of the defendants. Twice the plaintiff was nonsuited. In 1719, the suit being renewed, there stands against the name of Mordecai Lincoln the words "non est," and again in 1720 the same words stand against his name, and the suit is withdrawn as against him at this term of the court. In connection with this suit, John Bowne, one of the heirs, wrote a letter, relating to the estate, to his uncle Obadiah Bowne, the executor, dated April 16, 1716, in which he calls Mordecai Lincoln "brother." The original of this letter is in the possession of Judge John C. Beekman, of Monmouth, N. J., who has kindly furnished the writer with a copy of the same.

There is on file at the secretary of state's office, Trenton, N. J., a deed dated February 29, 1720, from Richard Salter to Mordecai Lincoln, both of Freehold, Monmouth County, N. J., conveying four hundred acres of land situate on the Machaponix River and Gravel Bank, Middlesex County; and another deed of May 26th, 1726, from the same to the same, conveying one hundred acres of land at the same place, and mentions the grantee as then of Chester County, Penn.

It appears from the preceding extracts and the following circumstances, that Mordecai had not alienated himself from New Jersey in 1720; there was unearthed in 1876, in the old burying ground near Allentown, a tomb-

stone bearing the inscription, "To the memory of Deborah Lincoln, aged 3 years 4 months, May 15, 1720," which was, I presume, the child of Mordecai and Hannah Lincoln, as I find no evidence of any other family of Lincoln having ever lived in the neighborhood.

From a deed on file among the records of the department of internal affairs of Pennsylvania, dated Dec. 14th, 1725, the following extracts were obtained:

Know all men by these presents that I Mordecai Lincoln of Coventry in the County of Chester, for and in consideration of the sum of five hundred pound, etc., do forever quit claim to William Branson Merchant of Philadelphia, his heirs and assigns, one full and undivided third part of one hundred and six acres of land, according to articles of Agreement made between Samuel Nutt of the one part and the said Mordecai Lincoln of the other part, together with all and singular of the Mines and Minerals, Forges, Buildings, Horses, Lands and Improvements whatsoever thereunto belonging.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of

MORDECAI LINCOLN. [Seal]

Jn^o Robeson

Jane Speary

The foregoing deed is important as showing the place at which the grantor first resided on going to Pennsylvania, and that he was there engaged in the manufactory of iron, a trade which he undoubtedly learned in his father's establishment at Scituate.

It is through this Mordecai Lincoln that President Lincoln's pedigree is traced to Samuel Lincoln, but it is essential that Abraham of Monmouth County should also be identified as one of the missing sons of Mordecai and Sarah (Jones) Lincoln. Abraham, like his supposed father, was a blacksmith, as the following deed proves:

Abraham Lincoln, blacksmith, of Monmouth County Province of N. J. conveys to Thomas Williams Feby. 20th 1737, two hundred and forty acres of land near Crosswick, County aforesaid, being the same granted and confirmed to him from Safety Boyden, by deed bearing date Feby. 11th 1722: and also, 200 acres conveyed to him from Abraham Vanborn March 15 1725. The consideration for both lots being £590, and furthermore, every year thereafter, forever, upon the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, the sum of one penny good and lawful money.

The sale of this estate was preparatory to following his supposed brother from New Jersey into Pennsylvania. His will is dated Springfield, Chester Co., Pa., April 15th, 1745, and was entered for probate on the 29th of the same month. His estate consisted of a plantation at Springfield and two houses in Philadelphia, which was divided among his children, Mordecai, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, John, Sarah and Rebecca. No wife mentioned. Four of his sons, it will be observed, bore the same Old Testament names as the four sons of Mordecai, of Scituate. Many of his descendants have been members of the old Swedish Church of Philadelphia, and some of them were recently living in that vicinity.

The will of Mordecai is substantially as follows:

Feby 22^d, 1735-6, I Mordecai Lincoln of Amity, Philadelphia Co. Province of Penn. give and bequeath to my sons Mordecai and Thomas all my land in Amity, with this proviso: That if my present wife, Mary, should prove with child at my decease and bring forth a son, then I order that the land be divided into three equal parts, Mordecai to have the lower S. E. part, Thomas ye middle, and ye posthumus ye upper part.

I give my daughters Hannah and Mary, a piece of land at Machaponix N. J. already settled upon them by deed of gift.

I give my son John Lincoln, a certain piece of land lying in the Jersey containing three hundred acres.

I give my daughters Ann and Sarah one hundred acres of land at Machaponix in

the Jersey, which I order my executrix to sell and divide the money betwene them.

I give to my beloved wife, Mary, all ye remainder of my estate, goods and chattels quick and dead to be at her disposal, and liberty to remain on my plantation at Amity, until these my children are at their several ages.

I nominate and appoint my Wife Mary my sole executrix, and my loving friends and neighbors Jonathan Robeson and George Boone trustees to assist my executrix.

Admitted to probate Philadelphia, June 7th, 1736.

The children are not named in the will in the order of their birth. The oldest son, John, was by the first wife Hannah Salter, and went with his father to Pennsylvania. A deed from him dated Nov. 8, 1748, is on file in the secretary of state's office at Trenton, N. J., wherein he is described as the son and heir of Mordecai Lincoln, of the town of Caernavon, county Lancaster, which deed conveys to William Dye three hundred acres of land in Middlesex County, N. J., which was a portion of the property conveyed Oct. 9, 1720, by Richard Salter to Mordecai Lincoln, and by him bequeathed to said son John.

John Lincoln in 1758 owned a farm in Union township adjoining Exeter, which he sold and went to Virginia, settling in Augusta County, in that portion of it which was organized into Rockingham County in 1779. His will cannot now be found, part of the papers in the Probate Office at Harrisonburg having been destroyed by fire. But there is ample proof of his having had sons John, Thomas, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, with daughters, and perhaps other sons. The maiden name of their mother is not positively known, but is supposed by some of her descendants to have been Moore. The son Abraham married Mary Shipley in North Carolina, where their sons Mordecai, Josiah and Thomas were born, and in 1782, or thereabout, the family removed to Kentucky, where their daughters Mary and Nancy were born. The son Thomas married Nancy Hanks, near Springfield, Ky., Sept. 23, 1806, and their son Abraham, born July 12th, 1809, became President of the United States.

The Lincolns through which the president's genealogy is traced, were for six generations, with but a single exception, pioneers in the settlement of new countries: 1st. Samuel, from England, was an early settler at Hingham, Mass.; 2d. Mordecai, of Scituate, lived and died near to where he was born; 3d. Mordecai settled in Pennsylvania thirty years previous to the organization of Berks County; 4th. John went into the wilds of Virginia; 5th. Abraham went to Kentucky with Daniel Boone when the country was inhabited by savages and wild beasts; 6th. Thomas, who went with his son Abraham, the future president, into the sparsely settled portion of Indiana, from whence Abraham, on attaining to early manhood, went to Illinois.

Mordecai Lincoln, son of Mordecai and Mary, who inherited one third of the Amity plantation, was taxed in Berks County in 1752, afterward kept a store, and was connected with the commissary or quartermaster department of the army during the Revolutionary War. His family Bible was destroyed by fire, but in an old account book, running from 1763, with entries therein down to 1784, the family record is partially restored, as follows:

Mordecai Lincoln (the father) born 1730, had children:

Benjamin, born Nov. 29, 1756.

John, born Mar. 28, 1758.

Ann, born Nov. 23, 1759; married W^m Jones.

Hannah, born Dec. 31, 1761.

Sarah, born Feb. 25, 1767.

June 12, 1806.
Wednesday, 4 May
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After the Revolutionary War, Mordecai removed to Fayette County, western Pennsylvania, where he died in 1812, aged 82 years, and was buried at Uniontown. His son John, who appears to have been a ne'er-do-well, went to visit his father's half-brother John at his place in Virginia, when a young man, and there had his nose bitten off in a fight, and his father was obliged to go for him. He was brought home and placed under the guardianship of his brother Benjamin on the homestead farm, and these facts were personally known by those who were recently living.

Ann Lincoln, daughter of Mordecai and Ann of Amity, married William Tallman and settled near the Lincolns in Virginia. Their family Bible is in the possession of Miss M. J. Rowe, Zanesville, Ohio, who has permitted me to copy the following :

William Tallman his Bible bought in 1770 Price £2. 2. 6.

William Tallman born March 25 1720 on Bode [no doubt Rhode] Island, deceased Feby 13 [The year obliterated.]

Ann Tallman daughter of Modie Lincoln in Penn., born March 1725, deceased Dec. 22

William and Ann Tallman married Oct. 2

The names of eleven children are given, but one of whom lived to the age of maturity. Their son Benjamin, born in Pennsylvania, January 9, 1745, deceased June 4, 1820, married Susanna, daughter of Benjamin and Susanna Boone, Nov. 9th, 1764. She was born in Pennsylvania, May 10th, 1746, died July 28, 1824.

Abraham Lincoln, the posthumous son of Mordecai and Mary, of Amity, was born in 1736, and married Ann Boone, a cousin of Daniel, the Kentucky pioneer. Their grandson, David J. Lincoln, Esq., of Birdsboro', Pa., informs me that his father James, who died in 1860 at the advanced age of 94 years, and his uncle Thomas who died in 1864, told him that Daniel Boone repeatedly visited his friends in Pennsylvania, and always spent a portion of his time with his cousin Ann, and that his glowing accounts of the south and west probably induced John Lincoln to remove to Virginia. After his removal he was known among his friends as Virginia John, to distinguish him from others bearing the same name.

The descendants of Thomas Lincoln, son of Mordecai and Mary, of Amity, are not traced, but they may, perhaps, be found among the Lincolns of Westmoreland County, Pa.

The foregoing facts, taken from original documents on file and family papers, surely prove beyond a reasonable doubt, that the brothers Mordecai and Abraham Lincoln, sons of Mordecai and Sarah Jones Lincoln, of Scituate, Mass., were the ancestors of the Lincoln families of Pennsylvania, and that ABRAHAM LINCOLN, the martyr President of the United States, was descended from the brother Mordecai, through John, Abraham and Thomas, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather.