

NARRATOR'S NOTES: A. Lincoln

It is unfortunate that the Historical Abe Lincoln is set largely within the context of his Role as U.S. President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the Grand Republic during the 1861 - 1865 Conflict known as "the War Between the States" or "the American Civil War" for such focus obscures the real genius of the Man.

In truth, contrary to his Public Persona as a political leader, Lincoln was a consummate Orator endowed with inordinate "talent of tongue" and "power of voice". Far in advance of Radio, Television and instruments for voice-amplification he was capable of projecting Images with words and penetrating hundreds of Eardrums with what seemed to be minimal yet tireless effort. His words reflected a voracious appetite for Literature while offending neither the highly-educated nor those like himself with a bare minimum of Formal Education. This itself is ironic in that he professed himself to have been educated "by Littles" - "a Little here and a Little there"!

In another Era, Lincoln might well have been a renowned writer and successful Platform Entertainer but true to his Quaker ancestry, he heeded the call of his "Inner-Light" to sacrifice himself as did JESUS of NAZARETH to "a Higher-cause". And as was the case with JESUS, when his Mission was complete,

so too did the Curtain drop for the final time without return-engagement.

Scene 1:

ABE LINCOLN started Life in a one-room log cabin on his Father's 348-acre farm in Hardin County, Kentucky, February 12, 1809. Seven years later the Family relocated to PIGEON CREEK, Indiana.

THOMAS LINCOLN was ABE's father.

From some undocumented source, ABE had obtained a copy of a book entitled LESSONS IN ELOCUTION written by William Scott. This was the Primer that introduced him to the Art of Public Speaking. The Book recommended that Orators emphasize their words with appropriate Arm- and Hand- gestures. LINCOLN was to become a Master of this "Signing".

Scene 2:

GENTRYVILLE, INDIANA is a town located in Spencer County. The community was named in honor of JAMES GENTRY, a Storekeeper who with his partner, WILLIAM JONES, employed LINCOLN as a Clerk.