



Abraham Lincoln: “Didn’t Want Slavery”

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Abraham Lincoln

16th President of the U.S.A.

Born:February 12,1809 in
Hodgeville, Kentucky

Died:April 14,1865

Age:56

Background

Abraham Lincoln was born in Hodgeville, Kentucky, February 12, 1809. His family was poor. They lived in a **humble** house and the shelter was made out of wood until they built a cabin. Abe's **chores** were to fish, put traps for rabbits and muskrats and follow bees to the honey tree to get honey. Abe's parents couldn't read or write. But Abe studied law, **politics**, and history when he had time. His first election was as a legislator for the Illinois state **legislature**. He lost the election but decided to do it again. After he had a lot of jobs in government. He became a member of the Congress and lost his second term because he wanted to **abolish** slavery. In 1860, he ran for president and lost every Southern state, but he won the election.

Vocab Box:

Humble → simple or not fancy

Chores → work around the house

Politics → Activity or power of government

Legislature → the branch of government that writes laws

Term → a length of time in office

Abolish → to ban



The Lincolns lived in a cabin like this one.

The Civil War and Ending Slavery

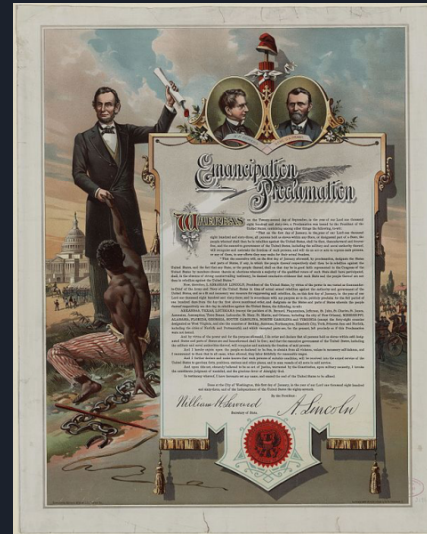
After Abe became president, the seven southern states left the U.S., becoming Confederate States of America (they wanted to keep slavery). Then the Confederates bombed the Fort Sumter. In January 1, 1863, Abe made the **Emancipation Proclamation**, that freed the slaves in the South. Southerners didn't like it because they thought he had no right. Abe wanted to ban slavery in America using the 13th **Amendment** on January 31, 1865. On April 9, 1865, the war ended and the North won.

Vocab Box:

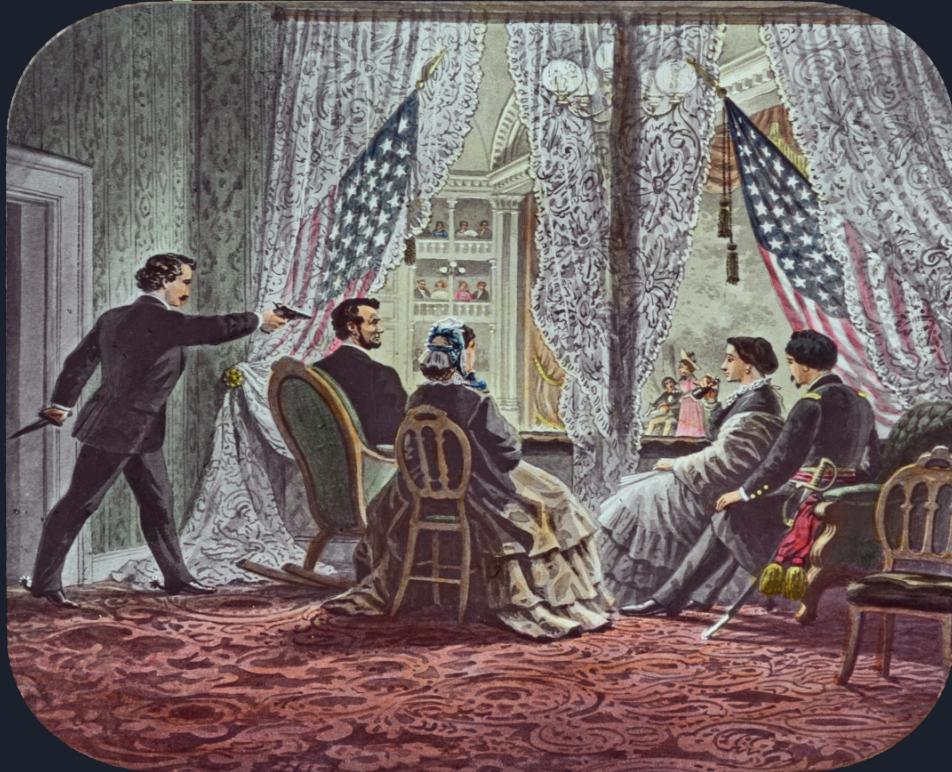
Amendment → a change to the law

Emancipation → freedom

Proclamation → when you make a statement



The President is Shot



John Wilkes Booth was a famous actor. On March 20, 1865 was the day Booth was going to kidnap Abraham Lincoln to take him to Richmond. After the war ended, Booth wanted to kill Abraham Lincoln, the vice president, and the secretary of state, William H. Seward. Five days after the war ended, on April 14, 1865, Booth shot Abe in the back of his head at Ford's Theater at 10:15 PM. Booth thought that Abe ruined America, because Booth wanted slavery. Then, Abe was paralyzed and struggling to breathe. Then, he died at 7:22 AM on April 15, 1865 at the age of 56.



After the Shooting

John Wilkes Booth jumped on the stage and shouted, “Sic semper tyrannis!” (“Thus ever to tyrants!”) Booth broke his leg, but still escaped. People knew where he was, and he went to Virginia. He was hiding and troops set on fire the house where he was, because they were trying to get him out. They shot him in the neck on April 26, 1865.

Lincoln's Memorial

Right after Lincoln died, Abe had a funeral train and it took him to Illinois. He had a parade that was from Washington to Illinois. On the parade, people were **mourning** by shooting guns, burning bonfires, singing, praying, and giving flowers. Later, they built the Lincoln **Memorial** including a twenty foot tall statue of Abraham Lincoln.

Vocab Box:

Memorial → to remember someone who died

Mourn → to feel bad about a loss



The statue of Abraham Lincoln at his memorial



Source List

Abraham Lincoln: Lawyer, Leader, Legend by Justine and Ron
Fontes

“Abraham Lincoln’s Assassination”

www.history.com/topic/abraham-lincoln-assassination