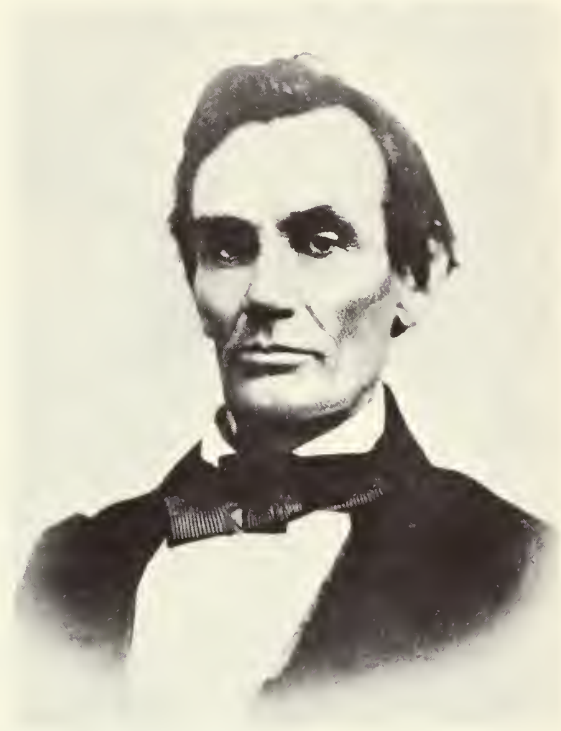


TWO DAYS BEFORE HIS SIXTH DEBATE with Douglas, Lincoln spoke at Monmouth for three hours. The lean, picturesque lawyer from the backwoods was now a national figure. This ambrotype was taken by William Judkins Thompson on Monday, October 11, 1858, while Lincoln was in Monmouth. Several days later the humorist Petroleum V. Nasby (David R. Locke) met Lincoln at Quincy, recording: "I never saw a more thoughtful face. I never saw a more dignified face. I never saw so sad a face."



Meserve collection O-11

◀ "THIS IS NOT a very good-looking picture," wrote Lincoln to the granddaughter of his stepmother, "but it's the best that could be produced from the poor subject."

Taken by special request, as were most of his early photographs, this formal pose was made for Mrs. Harriet Chapman, granddaughter of Sarah Bush Lincoln. While in Charleston for the fourth debate with Douglas, Lincoln spent the night with A. H. Chapman, son-in-law of Dennis Hanks.

Just before he left, Mrs. Chapman said to him, "Uncle Abe, I want a picture of you."

"Well, Harriet," answered Lincoln, "when I get home I will have one taken and sent to you."

Describing the incident, Mrs. Chapman's son, R. N. Chapman, wrote to Ida M. Tarbell: "Soon after, mother received from Springfield, already framed, the photograph she still has with a letter from Mr. Lincoln."