

HIS HAIR IS LONG AND MUSSED in this unique tintype (O-12) taken about 1858 by an unknown photographer and first published by Ida M. Tarbell from a copy owned by artist Truman H. Bartlett of Boston. This is the only extant *original* tintype of Lincoln, although a few paper photographs were later copied on tintypes for use as campaign badges.

Made of black japanned iron, the tintype (often called ferrotype or melainotype) was produced by the collodion or wet-plate process. Like the daguerreotype, it could not be used as a negative, but it was cheap and practically indestructible. Using a nine-tube camera, a photographer could take thirty-six pictures with four exposures and four moves of a large plate, afterwards cutting apart the separate pictures with tin snips.

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