



# **BEST LINCOLN STORIES: TERSELY TOLD - A Collection of Stories, Anecdotes, and Remembrances of Abraham Lincoln**

*J. E. (James Ernst) GALLAHER*

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A unique collection of stories from those that knew Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President, which illuminate all of his humanity and his qualities. Originally published in 1898.

EXCERPTS:

How Lincoln Became Known as "Honest Abe."

As a grocery clerk at New Salem, Lincoln was scrupulously honest. This trait of his soon became known, but the two following incidents are particularly responsible for the appellation of "Honest Abe," given him and by which he has been so familiarly known.

He once took six and a quarter cents too much from a customer. He did not say to himself, "never mind such little things," but walked three miles that evening, after closing his store, to return the money.

Lincoln Asked for Some of Grant's Whisky.

When officious intermeddlers went to President Lincoln and demanded Gen. Grant's removal from the command of the armies, charging that he was in the habit of getting drunk, Lincoln coolly asked them where he could get some of the brand of whisky that

Grant was using; he wanted to supply it to his other generals. This remark of his silenced his callers, and he heard no more complaints about Grant getting drunk.

One of Mr. Lincoln's Autographs.

Abraham Lincoln once received a letter asking for a 'sentiment' and his autograph. He replied: "Dear Madam: When you ask a stranger for that which is of interest only to yourself always enclose a stamp. -- Abraham Lincoln."

A Strange Coincidence in the Lives of Lincoln and His Slayer.

When President Lincoln was assassinated on the night of April 14, 1865, while witnessing a play at Ford's Theater, in Washington, he was removed to the Peterson house, which was directly opposite the theater. The late John T. Ford related that he had occasion to visit John Wilkes Booth at the Peterson house once. The Davenport-Wallack combination was playing "Julius Caesar" at Ford's theater. Booth had been cast to play Marc Antony and was late in coming to rehearsal. Ford went over to the house to ask him to hurry up. He found Booth lying in bed studying his lines. He little dreamed then that Lincoln would so shortly die in the same house, the same room and on that identical bed, or that Booth would turn out to be his assassin.

The photo above was one of the last known photographs taken by Alexander Gardner of Abraham Lincoln (not in the Kindle edition).

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