

39.29.1

.HISTORY OF CANE MADE BY THOMAS LINCOLN.

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This cane, of cherry wood, was cut from a tree near the site of a town now known as Santa Claus, Indiana, by Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham, about the year 1818, when Abraham was nine years of age. It was fashioned by the elder Lincoln, who used it for a time and then presented it to his friend, Joseph Bettag.

Joseph Bettag retained the cane throughout his life, when it descended to his son, Anton Bettag, whose family resided near the old Lincoln home. Upon the death of Anton Bettag, the cane passed into possession of his daughter, Mrs. Frances Bettag Wilson, who now resides at 2135 South First street, Louisville, Ky.

The Bettag family possessed many of the relics of Thomas Lincoln and of Abraham Lincoln, but most of these have become lost or have passed into hands of unknown owners. Mrs. Bettag's sole remaining Lincoln relic is a small iron skillet used by Abraham Lincoln during many years.

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Presented to The J.B.Speed Memorial

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Museum by

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Mr .A.H.Tarvin

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SUGAR BOWL

which formerly belonged to  
Mrs. Samuel Mudd,  
wife of Dr. Mudd who dressed the  
broken leg of John Wilkes Booth  
after assassination of Lincoln.

~~Lent by~~ *Gift*  
Miss Ethel Allen Murphy.

41.136

TO THE J. B. SPEED MEMORIAL MUSEUM  
OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

The affiant, J. O. Dever of Summit, Hardin County,  
Kentucky hereby states that he was at one time the owner of  
the Lincoln Cupboard now in the possession of the Speed  
Museum and that it was sold to this institution by him several  
years ago and that at this time he is selling to the Speed  
Museum a sugar bowl, two spoons and two forks which he believes  
were property of Thomas Lincoln and the Lincoln family.  
According to word which has come down from past generations  
and according to tradition J. O. Dever hereby states that to  
the best of his knowledge and belief the above mentioned  
articles were owned and used by the Lincoln family.

KENTUCKY  
HARDIN COUNTY

Subscribed and sworn to before me a Notary Public, this  
27th day of June 1941.

J. O. Dever

Nellie B. Hoke

Notary Public

My Commission Expires Oct. 18, 1941

To Whom This May Concern:

I, Elizabeth Chamberlain, purchased this brown gentleman's shawl at an auction sale in Springfield, Ill. about September 15 th. 1925, at the home of a Mrs Wilson or Williams. After I had the bid for the shawl, a little old lady came up to me and told me the shawl had been given to the late owner by a relative of Mrs Mary Todd Lincoln, and had been worn by Mr Lincoln, she said a cousin of Mrs Lincoln's by the name of Evans had been with Mrs Lincoln during her late illness and she gave her the shawl then Mrs or Miss Evans gave it to her sisters grand-daughter and the grand-daughter had given it to a woman who had been very kind to her when she was ill and this Mrs Wilson or Williams was the grand-daughter of the lady the shawl was given to, and the elderly lady talked as if she would like to have it on account of the history of the shawl, but she remarked " I am the last of our family and no one would care for it when I am gone". I made the purchase among some other things without much tho't at the time of its historical value, because I wanted it for a throw cover for the davenport, and to carry in the car. I was not interested in antiques at that time, however, now I will try to get in touch with some one who can, I trust, give me some information on the history of this shawl. There are the Herndon's in Springfield, Ill. the decendents of President Lincoln's Law Partner, also a relative by the name of Ballard. the Ballards I am told were resturant owners in Springfield, Ill. I will try to contact these people and will give you the information I receive.

(Signed) Elizabeth Chamberlain.

*Elizabeth Chamberlain.*

Personal appeared Elizabeth Chamberlain this 10th day of October 1941 who made solemn oath to the truth of the contents of this paper.

My commission expires Apr. 29, 1945

*Blanche M. Cluse*  
Notary Public.