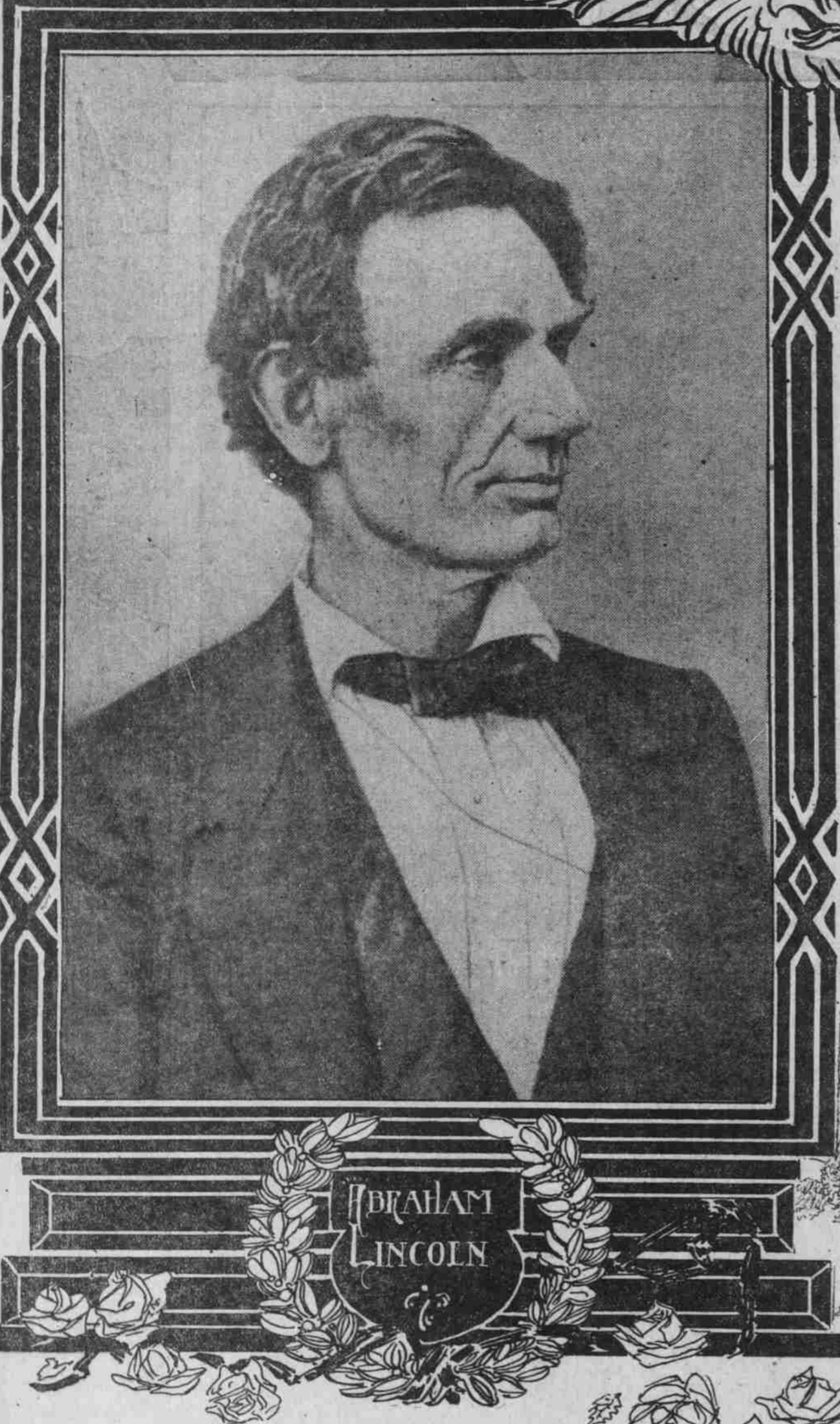


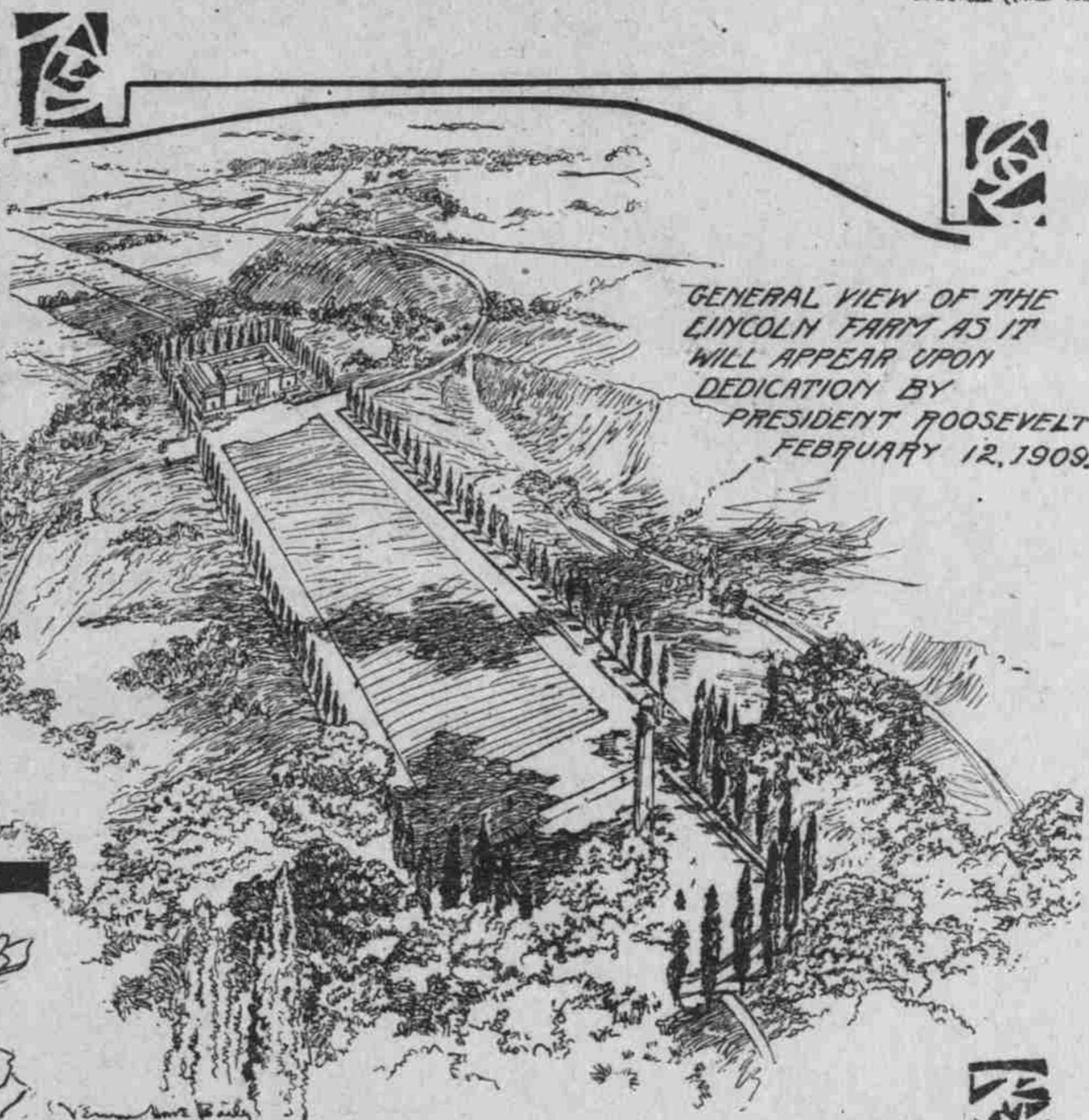
LINCOLN'S LOG CABIN HIS MEMORIAL

It Will Be Dedicated by President Roosevelt On the Centenary of His Birth, February 12, Next Year

How the Farm on Which He was Born was Rescued from Mercenaries for a National Shrine



MEMORIAL BUILDING ENCLOSING LINCOLN CABIN, FELICIS, AND CABINET OF DONATORS' NAMES.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE LINCOLN FARM AS IT WILL APPEAR UPON DEDICATION BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT FEBRUARY 12, 1909.



LOG CABIN NEAR HODGENVILLE KY, WHERE ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BORN FEB. 12, 1809.

Forty-three years after his tragic death a plan has been adopted for enshrining the memory of Abraham Lincoln after a manner that has no counterpart in ancient or modern times. As befitting the man's personality this memorial will be no gorgeous pantheon, no splendid tomb—only the log cabin in which he was born and which will be sheltered by a more or less unadorned building of Tennessee marble erected on the spot of his birth near Hodgenville, Ky.

Simple as are the plans it is believed that the Lincoln Farm Memorial will have such a significance and endurance as to make it a mecca for American citizens so long as the Republic lasts. Should this Nation swing away so far as to entirely forget early traditions—justice, piety and honesty—the memorial would still be a curiosity, and, even then, would perchance, be a moral stimulus to a decadent progeny.

When the organizers of the Lincoln Farm Association rescued the old plantation from various promoters, department store owners and whiskey agents who wanted to use the place for a mercantile asset they were somewhat at a loss to know exactly what to do with it. The task of beautifying 119 acres meant a tremendous expenditure and long delay in completion.

The committee gave very vague instructions to bidders for the work and the man who won—John Russel Pope, of New York succeeded principally because he combined sentiment with craftsmanship. He did not attempt to adorn the whole territory, nor yet to construct a single magnificent cenotaph. What he did was to portion off a strip of land 100 feet long at the farm's western corner which will be screened from the other landscape by hedges and poplar trees. Eventually, when funds are sufficient, it is intended to beautify the whole area, making it a National show place. But when President Roosevelt dedicates the spot next year, that being the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the visitor will see about what is depicted in the accompanying photographs, now printed for the first time.

Protecting the Cabin.

Facing each other, with an intervening space of 600 feet, are the memorial proper and a marble column, 90 feet high.

The latter marks the precise spot where the cabin stood, while the cabin itself will repose in a court of the building, protected by a hermetically sealed covering of glass. To give a semblance of nature it is designed to plant grass in the space surrounding the cabin that separates it from the railings.

When the architect cast around for building material he very speedily discovered that the super-quality light-gray marble quarried in Tennessee was better than any other, being indigenous, beautiful and practically imperishable. Moreover, it is near at hand. Both memorial and shaft will, therefore, be constructed of this stone. Likewise the statue directly in front of the grand approach, the character of which has not been determined.

The building complete, steps, porch, reception-room and cabin court, is, roughly estimating, half the size of the White House. Above the entrance will be engraved Lincoln's deathless sentiment "With charity toward all, with malice toward none," and above that a dedication to show that the memorial was erected with funds freely subscribed by the American people as units and not by a Government appropriation.

Contributions From the Poor.

This last element in furthering the project has served to bring forth the full extent of Lincoln enthusiasm and appreciation for his life work and sacrifice in a way that no other method could have done. Already there has been received at the association's headquarters in New York nearly a roomful of letters representing the entire gamut of a great nation's populace. Those from poor people far exceed those from the rich. Many take joy in recounting their poverty; the condition of others again may be even more accurately judged by the quality of the stationery. Widows, children in orphan's homes, veteran sailors and soldiers, even tramps, have contributed their mite and written sentiments, some of which are classical. In order that the name of every donor may be handed down to posterity a large space has been set aside at the north end of the building for a voluminous cabinet. Parts of this have already been set up in the New York headquarters, No. 74 Broadway, each contributor having cast on which is inscribed his name, occupation and address. One may fancy the young American and his bride of 200 years later deliv-

ing through this permanent record to see if his or her ancestor is on the rolls.

The length of time that elapsed between Lincoln's death and a project to honor

his memory in a visible manner does not indicate, as foreign nations seem to be-

brush and gravel to amount to anything." Another ferryman observed: "We people here think it mighty common, but folks that come from away make a great ado about it, and fuss around cutting ass-frass sticks, canes and 'n' like."

When Commissioner Handy mounted the courthouse steps, announcing: "Gentlemen, if you will close in around here, I'll sell the Lincoln farm, a Hodgenville citizen made the first bid—\$1500. But he promptly retired in confusion as his neighbors twitted him with such queries as: "What're you going to do with it, Hank, get a Carnegie library on it?"

Not so the other would-be purchasers, among whom were a G. A. R. veteran of Racine, Wis., a Milwaukee newspaper man, a New York lawyer and a Louisville gentleman. Hundred by hundred the price advanced, while Mr. Jones nearly collapsed with anxiety, keeping one eye fixed on the turpentine, where every moment he expected to see the whiskey and department store agent approaching in a cloud of dust, his other eye on the auctioneer. Finally, when each second was critical, Mr. Jones had the satisfaction of bidding \$2000, about one-sixty-fifth of the amount paid for Mount Vernon, and upon returning from Hodgenville he had the additional relief of refuting \$10,000 cash from the whiskey agent who, wild-eyed and chagrined, was out-traveling Sheridan at Winchester. This was Lincoln's birthplace saved to posterity.

Prominent People in Charge.

Deed and title secure, the next move was to select a board of trustees which after several revisions, became permanent, as follows:

- Joseph W. Folk, President.
- Clarence H. Mackay, Treasurer.
- Richard Lloyd Jones, Secretary.
- Robert J. Collier, Chairman of the Executive Committee.
- Frederick R. Pierce, Assistant Treasurer and General Manager.
- Horace Porter, Henry Watterson.
- William T. Deane, Samuel Gompers.
- Jenkins Lloyd Jones, William H. Taft.
- Charles A. Towne, August Belmont.
- Edward M. Shepard, Samuel L. Clemens.
- Lyman J. Gage, Cardinal Gibbons.
- Ida M. Tarbell, Albert Shaw.
- Norman Thomsen, Thomas Hastings.
- Joseph H. Choate, Oscar S. Straus.

Present Day Eulogies.

Immediately when it was known what the Lincoln Farm Association intended to accomplish, American citizens, high and low, hastened to express their approval. "Saving the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln," declared James Tanner, past commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, "from the grasp of a sordid speculative greed is as purely a patriotic deed as has been performed in this country for years. In the name of the quarter of a million members of the organization at the head of which I have the honor to stand, I thank the founder most heartily."

"We, of the war days, stood, in a measure, too close to Mr. Lincoln and his time to properly gauge the mighty strength and grandeur of his character. But the years as they have raced along, given us a better perspective, as our minds and power to view and measure life and its real import have alike enlarged, till now we bow with all-in-dulgent thanksgiving reverently at his shrine and view as almost sacred scenes and the material matters with which he was intimately associated. By all means, let us dedicate to patriotism forevermore the fields so familiar to his youth."

"By all means, let us have the Lincoln Farm," said Archbishop Ireland. "The land upon which Abraham Lincoln was born and upon which he spent his early youth is too sacred to be turned over to vulgar every-day purposes. It must be for all time our holy shrine, a national shrine, over which the spirit of America shall hold undisputed sway, and whither worshippers shall come from every clime to honor it and inhale its sublime and purifying life. Let it be the freewill offering of the people of America, the gift of their hearts, the generous effusion and expression of their very souls. Nationalism allows naught else, by naught else will patriotism be nurtured into best and sweetest flowering."

President Roosevelt practically coiled the expression of all State and National legislative bodies with: "I heartily approve of the movement to make the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln a National park, so that the building in which he was born may be preserved to illustrate the real conditions of his birth and childhood. I am glad that the scheme of preservation contemplates an appeal to individual Americans. Lincoln's memory, like Washington's, is one of the hallowed and priceless heritages of all our people. Most assuredly his birthplace should be preserved in such shape as will enable us, as a Nation, to realize vividly the conditions from which the second of our great Pres-

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