

**LINCOLN IN STORY; THE LIFE  
OF THE MARTYR-PRESIDENT  
TOLD IN AUTHENTICATED  
ANECDOTES**

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Lincoln in story; the life of the martyr-president told in authenticated anecdotes by Silas G. Pratt

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**SILAS G. PRATT**

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OF THE MARTYR-PRESIDENT  
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ANECDOTES**





President Lincoln and his son Thaddeus.

# LINCOLN IN STORY

*The Life of the Martyr-President  
told in Authenticated Anecdotes*

EDITED BY  
SILAS G. PRATT



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## INTRODUCTION

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WHEN a boy, the writer listened to the sturdy eloquence of Lincoln. He was in the old "Wigwam" at Chicago when Lincoln was nominated for the presidency, and witnessed the frantic demonstration of enthusiasm when the rails he had split were produced in the convention. Later he saw Lincoln's face, in the silence and calmness of lasting repose, after the assassin had accomplished his death. These small personal associations have strengthened the writer's feeling that the greater the intimacy with Lincoln's life which one can gain, the stronger, better, and more humane one may become.

The memories of such a pure, unselfish, and honest character will form a shield for the individual and a bulwark for a nation.

Nearly every *Life of the Martyr President*, or *Book of Recollections*, so far published, has contained some anecdotes which have given us an occasional glimpse into the realms of his great soul—a rare gem, disclosing the prismatic colors of a cosmic nature—but no volume has been devoted exclusively to narratives.

The great interest shown, especially by the younger generation, in the fugitive Lincoln stories which have appeared in various magazines and journals from time to time, no less than the writer's personal enjoyment of those found scattered through the larger works, as well as the hope of inspiring additional interest in the study of his more complete history, has been the incentive of this compilation.

It is also a pleasure to record the statements of the artist B. F. Carpenter, who for six months lived at the White House with Lincoln; the Hon. William H. Seward, his Secretary of State; and the Rev. Mr. Bristow, of New York, that they never heard the President tell any anecdote which could not have been repeated with propriety in the presence of ladies, thus indicating that the habits acquired "on the circuit" in Illinois had been outgrown in the more serious and lofty ideals of the statesman.

While these stories do not offer a complete life history, they are presented in chronological order, as far as possible, and the salient points of Lincoln's life are briefly mentioned, thus forming a warp upon which the various anecdotes are woven. The book, therefore, offers a biography in story form which it is hoped will prove of interest to older as well as younger readers, and of value to private and public libraries as well as to school li-