

**A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE
POLITICAL AND MEMORIAL MEDALS
STRUCK IN HONOR OF ABRAHAM
LINCOLN, SIXTEENTH PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES. [1873]**

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A Descriptive Catalogue of the Political and Memorial Medals Struck in Honor of Abraham Lincoln, Sixteenth President of the United States, [1873] by Andrew C. Zabriskie

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ANDREW C. ZABRISKIE

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STRUCK IN HONOR OF
ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

SIXTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

BY
ANDREW C. ZABRISKIE.

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a.c.z.

PREFACE.

IN the following pages will be found descriptions of one hundred and eighty-nine Medals struck in honor of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. No President or public man in this country—WASHINGTON excepted—has been honored with an equal number of medallie memorials.

I believe very few pieces have escaped my observation, and they are probably those known as "mules."

The infamous practice of muling, at one time carried to a great extent, tends to confuse any one attempting to catalogue political pieces.

Those individuals who urge die-cutters to strike them, can be looked upon only with contempt by any true student of Numismatics.

I am indebted to the late Mr. A. H. Satterlee's work on "Presidential Medals" for descriptions of some of the earlier politicals. Also, to several gentlemen, who furnished me with rubbings and information on the subject.

A. C. Z.

CATALOGUE.

No. 1.

Obverse—Head facing to the left: "Dédié par la Democratie Française à Lincoln, Président deux fois élu des Etats-Unis."

Reverse—Victory stands on one side of an altar with a sword in one hand and a wreath in the other. The altar bears the inscription: "Lincoln l'honnête homme abolit l'Esclavage, rétablit l'Union, sauva la République, sans voler la statue de la Liberté. Il fut assassiné le 14 Avril, 1865." On the other side of the altar are two freedmen. The elder points to the American eagle, and the younger places a palm-branch on the altar. Above, a triangle. In the background, the emblems of Commerce. Beneath the altar, "Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité."

The circumstances attending the production of this beautiful medal are very interesting. Immediately after Mr. Lincoln's assassination, a subscription was started in France, limited to two sous for each person, to raise funds to present a gold medal to Mrs. Lincoln, as a testimonial of sympathy from the French people. Napoleon III. would not allow it to be struck in France, but it was finally produced in Switzerland.

The following is a translation of the letter of presentation:

"PARIS, *October 13, 1866.*

"MADAM:—We have been charged with the duty of presenting to you the medal in honor of the great and honest man whose name you bear, and which forty thousand French citizens have caused to be struck, with a desire to express their sympathy for the American Union, in the person of one of its most illustrious and purest representatives.

"If France possessed the liberty enjoyed by Republican Amer-

ica, we would number with us not merely thousands, but millions of the admirers of Lincoln, and of the partisans of those opinions to which he devoted his life, and which are consecrated by his death. Please accept, madam, the homage of our profound respect.

"The members of the Committee :

"Etienne Arago, Ch. L. Chassin, L. Greppo, Laurent Pichat, Eug. Despois, L. Kneip, C. Thomas Albert, J. Michelet, Jules Barni, T. Delord, V. Chaffour, E. Littré, V. Schoelcher, V. Joigneaux, Ver. Maugin, Edgar Quinet, Louis Blanc, Eugene Pelletan, Victor Hugo."

GOLD.

Size 52.

No. 2.

Same as the preceding.

BRONZE.

Size 52.

No. 3.

Obverse—Bust facing to the right: "Salvator Patriæ." *Reverse*—A wreath incloses the inscription, "In memory of the life, acts, and death of Abraham Lincoln. Born February 12, 1809. Died April 15, 1865."

The publication of this medal was undertaken by the American Numismatic Society. The first die broke before many impressions had been taken, and the second exhibits a slight difference.

The planchet is remarkably thick.

BRONZE.

Size 48.

No. 4.

Same as the preceding.

WHITE METAL.

Size 48.

No. 5.

Obverse—Bust facing to the right: "Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, 1862." *Reverse*—Two Indians and weapons form a circle, within which an Indian in full war costume

is plowing. In the background little Indians are playing in front of a school-house.

This medal belongs to the Mint Series of Indian Peace medals.

SILVER. VERY RARE.

Size 48.

No. 6.

Same as the preceding.

BRONZE.

Size 48.

No. 7.

Same as the preceding, but reduced in size.

SILVER. VERY RARE.

Size 40.

No. 8.

Same as the preceding.

BRONZE.

Size 40.

No. 9.

Obverse—Bust facing to the right: "Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States. Born February 12, 1809. Died, assassinated, April 15, 1865." *Reverse*—Star: "With malice towards none, with charity for all." Star: "4th March, 1865: Emancipation of Slavery Proclamation. September 22, 1862."

Dies cut by Huguer Boyz.

BRONZE. RARE.

Size 38.

No. 10.

Obverse—Head facing to the right: "Memoria in Æterna Abraham Lincoln." *Reverse*—A female figure holds the American flag, and points to a camp at her feet. Below her, an eagle standing on a shield. Barrels and boxes on the ground. "Northwestern Sanitary Fair, Chicago, Ill., 1865."

Dies cut by Paquet. Five hundred were struck, and dies destroyed.

BRONZE. SCARCE.

Size 36.