

**HISTORY OF "OLD ABE," THE  
LIVE WAR EAGLE OF THE  
EIGHTH REGIMENT WISCONSIN  
VOLUNTEERS. [CHICAGO-1865]**

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History Of "Old Abe," the Live War Eagle of the Eighth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers.  
[Chicago-1865] by Joseph O. Barrett

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**JOSEPH O. BARRETT**

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HISTORY  
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THE  
LIVE WAR EAGLE  
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EIGHTH REGIMENT WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS.

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BY JOSEPH O. BARRETT.

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"Ah! that Eagle of Freedom! when cloud upon cloud  
Swathed the sky of my own native land with a shroud:  
When lightnings glanced fiercely and thunder bolts rang,  
How proud to the tempest those pinions were flung;  
Though the wild blast of battle swept swiftly the air  
With darkness and dread, still the Eagle was there—  
Unquailing and towering his high flight was on,  
Till the Rainbow of Peace crowned the victory won."

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Northern District of Illinois.

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### NOTE TO THE READER.

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The incidents herein described were related by valid witnesses, whose valuable services are gratefully acknowledged. Aside from the "Romances of the Eagle," they actually occurred. This book has been written under severe pressure of other duties. This edition is a gift to the sick and wounded soldiers, who, by their sacrifices, have now consecrated our native land. As an item of love in the inventory of 'Sanitary Supplies,' I trust it may find an humble niche in the voluminous histories of the Holy Crusade of the Nineteenth Century, and focalize its tiny spark in the great flame of patriotism that is sunning the American heart, to make there an Eden, beautiful and clean, *without* the Serpent of Slavery.

"Cast thy bread upon the waters, and thou shalt receive it after many days."

J. O. E.

Esu Claire, Wis., March 25, 1865.



## DEDICATION

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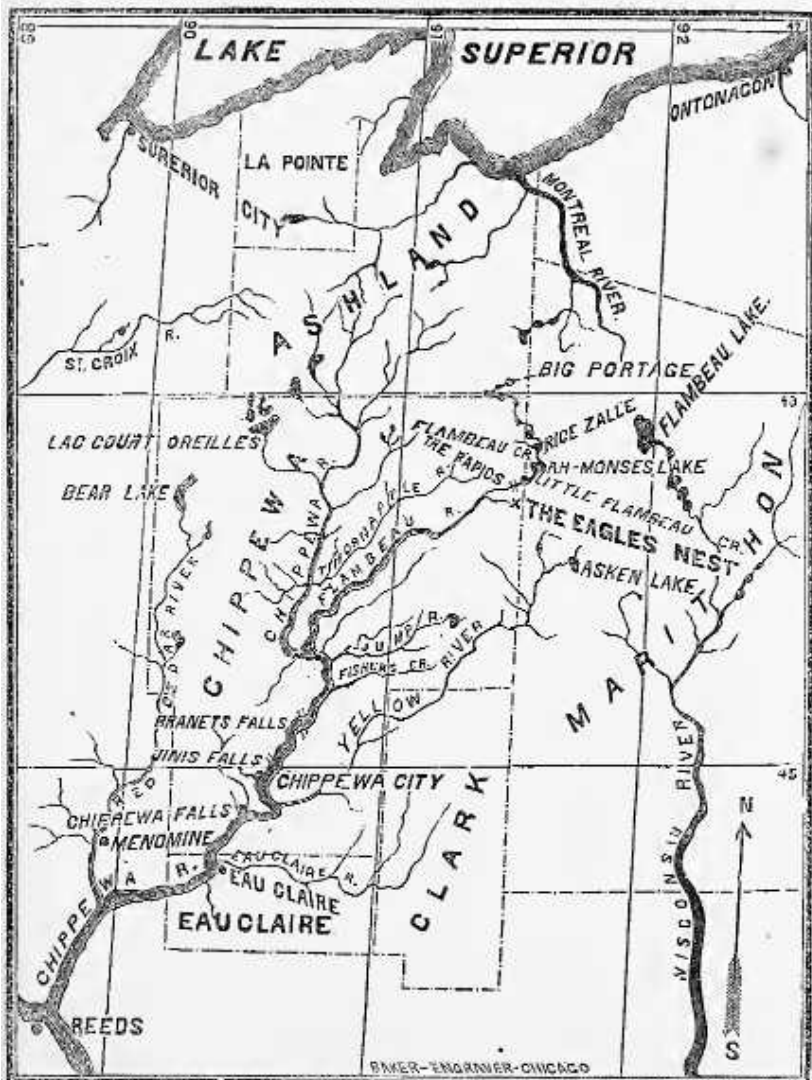
"Old Abe" is the Yankee appellation of Abraham Lincoln, the beloved President of the United States, and immortalized Emancipator, and is the *living* emblem of the Freedom he has faithfully guarded and saved to the world; it is, therefore, fitting that this little volume should be dedicated to him, in remembrance of his pure example of merciful justice and patriotism which, for all time, endear him to his countrymen.

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NOTE.—Since the above dedication, "Father Abraham," by the cruel hand of an assassin, has passed from earth to heaven. But so precious is his name, we do not propose to change anything; for is he not now, like the hovering wings of the American Eagle, our presiding national angel? Among the heart-monuments to his memory, let this be one, tearfully offered to the people he loved.

BY THE AUTHOR.

Chicago, Ill., May 1st, 1865.



# THE LIVE EAGLE

- OF THE -

## EIGHTH WISCONSIN REGIMENT.

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### A-GE-MAH-WE-GE-ZHIG.

"Lo! the poor Indian whose untutored mind  
Sees God in clouds, or hears him in the wind."

In northern Wisconsin, at the head-waters of the Flambeau and Eau Claire rivers—tributaries of the classic Chippewa—live a branch-tribe of the Ojibways, known as the Flambeaus. During the winter, they follow the instincts of the deer, hunting them along the borders of the forest; towards spring they gradually recede to the maple-topped hills, to manufacture their sugar; and at the beginning of summer, are again circling around the Lac Flambeau.

The personage who captured the Eagle of the Eighth Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers, is a celebrity among these Indians. As the infant history of the bird is essential to the completeness of this book, it was necessary to find that Indian, and in the most unfavorable season of the year. It was like searching for a particular fish in the sea; but, making the attempt, the author sent letters to different individuals, holding commercial relations with the Indians, soliciting the strictest inquiry.

Meanwhile, the matter was submitted to the judgment of two esteemed friends, of Chippewa Falls, herein mentioned, who immediately undertook the task, with sanguine faith. They first found the man who bought the Eagle, and taking his testimony, compared it with that of others—all of whom are personally acquainted with the Indian—and had the satis-