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## LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

### WAS ABRAHAM LINCOLN A NORTH CAROLINIAN?

James H. Cathey Writes a Book to Prove it.

### NAMED FOR HIS FATHER

WHO WAS ABRAM ENLOE, OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

### THE MOTHER AND SON SENT TO KENTUCKY

Where Nancy Hanks Afterward Married Thomas Lincoln and the Child Took the Name of his Step Father. Such is the Story.

Was Abraham Lincoln, a splitter, lawyer, president, maker and victim of history, a North Carolinian? To answer this question in the affirmative Mr. J. W. Cathey, of Bryson City, N. C., has written a book, to-wit: "The Genesis of a Wonderful Man"—a book that is interesting as to matter, but a trifle jerky as to style, and of imperfect order and proportion. The proposition Mr. Cathey sets himself to establish is by no means a new one. That Abraham Lincoln was not a Lincoln at all but an illegitimate son of Nancy Hanks and a father unknown to history has been a matter of more or less widely current talk since Lincoln became President, and has been frequently discussed in the public prints. Both in North Carolina and in Kentucky the tradition that history has given Lincoln a name to which he was not by blood entitled has obstinately persisted for high on a century and it is a curious fact that his biographers have been silent, in the main, upon the subject. He also, so far as has appeared, maintained a uniform reticence as to his parentage, even with his most intimate friends. It is perhaps not going too far to say that many things are accepted facts of history which are much less strongly substantiated than that Abraham Lincoln was not a Lincoln at all. If he was not a Lincoln then who was he? That is the question Mr. Cathey endeavors to answer. His answer is that he was Abraham Enloe.

Mr. Cathey's evidence may be said to consist of two sorts: That of tradition. That of heredity. Mr. Cathey finds that the tradition as to Lincoln's parentage has persisted in Swain and neighboring counties of western North Carolina since the early days of the century. The tradition runs that sometime between 1803 and 1808 there lived in the family of Abraham Enloe, of Ocona Lufta, Swain county, a young woman named Nancy Hanks; that while living in his family, she became convinced that the wife of Abraham Enloe bearing him to be the father of the child demanded the expulsion of the girl from the household; that Enloe to restore peace in the family sent Nancy Hanks and her child to Kentucky, where she afterwards married Thomas Lincoln, and her illegitimate son, Abraham, took Lincoln's name.

The story of Abraham Enloe and Nancy Hanks may be said to have passed through two generations and it would be strange indeed if it were groundless. For instance Mr. Cathey interviewed Mr. Walker Battle, who was born in 1812, and whose father went to Ocona Lufta with Enloe when he removed there from Rutherford county. Mr. Battle said: "I knew Abraham Enloe and his family almost as well as my own. The incident occurred, of course, before my day, but I distinctly remember hearing my own family tell of the trouble between Abraham Enloe and Nancy Hanks when I was a boy. I recall, as if it were but yesterday, hearing them speak of Nancy's removal to Kentucky, and that she married a man named Lincoln; that Abraham Enloe had some kind of correspondence with the woman after he sent her to Kentucky. There is no doubt as to Nancy Hanks having once lived in the family of Abraham Enloe, and there is no doubt that she was the mother of a child by him.

Such is an instance of the plain, straightforward and definite evidence which Mr. Cathey has succeeded in collecting. He gives interviews with a number of men, some of them born shortly after Lincoln, and living all their lives in the neighborhood, and all give substantially the same version of the story. It would add nothing to the story to multiply evidence here, though to the reader of Mr. Cathey's book it does much to bring conviction.

By no means the least striking proof of this hypothesis of Lincoln's birth is the remarkable resemblance to him of Wesley Enloe, a man now 88 years old, a son of Abraham Enloe, and still living at the old homestead. The likeness is said to be so remarkable that even the casual observer is at once struck by it; a likeness not only in the facial features, but of form and movement as well.

To compare the cuts of Wesley Enloe and Abraham Lincoln as given in this volume is to admit that either Lincoln and Enloe were of one blood or nature played a queer prank in fashioning them. The pictures of other members of the Enloe family show that the Enloe type is very marked and persistent. In the course of his investigation Mr. Cathey has accumulated a great deal of

evidence from Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri and other places where Lincoln or the Enloe family have lived, and it must be admitted that it holds together remarkably well. All that Mr. Cathey claims is that he has supplied data for the consideration of the historian who would write history as it was. No reader will deny that his claim is well founded. By no means all his argument is convincing or all his hypotheses impressive, but taken by far and large the reader will find it difficult to discard or explain away the genesis of Lincoln as Mr. Cathey gives it.

The volume is small, only 185 pages, and deserves to be read by every student of history. The name of the publishing house is not given, but presumably the volume may be had of the author, Mr. James H. Cathey, Bryson City, N. C.

### THE GENESIS OF LINCOLN.

Bill Arr's Opinion of J. H. Cathey's Book.

I was ruminating about all this and how these negroes have all been fooled about Grant and Lincoln being their friends and were fighting to free them, when there is not a word of truth in it. Neither of them cared a continental dime for the negro and both of them were more concerned about their own successes than anything else. But I have had great regard for Lincoln. He was a much better man than his party and his death was a calamity to the South. I have recently received a little volume entitled "The Genesis of Abraham Lincoln." It is carefully and affectionately written by James H. Cathey, of Western North Carolina, and its unprejudiced perusal will convince any man that Abraham Lincoln was the son of Abraham Enloe, and that Nancy Hanks was a good orphan girl who served in Enloe's family. The affidavits and other evidences establish this beyond dispute. Old father Abraham Enloe was a second Abraham and poor Nancy Hanks a second Hagar and for the same reason she was sent away from the paternal homestead to keep peace in the family. The father of her child had great regard for her and placed her with his relatives in Kentucky, where she afterwards married Thomas Lincoln. Some of the witnesses to these facts are now 90 years old and have passed all desire to deceive anybody. The descendants of this Enloe family are numerous and their testimony has been taken from North Carolina, Missouri and Texas, and all confirm the story. All the very old people in Western North Carolina were familiar with the girl Nancy Hanks and the Enloe family and old man Enloe's acknowledgement of the child's paternity and why he sent this modern Hagar and her Ishmael away.

But this is no new thing. During the war it was talked of in the army and Lincoln was denounced by the entire Todd family, into which he married. Fifteen years ago, while I sojourned in Western North Carolina, I found the story current that Lincoln was the son of Abraham Enloe and was named for him by his mother, Nancy Hanks. Now Mr. Cathey writes a pretty little book about it and his excuse is that the truth cannot hurt the living or the dead; that Abraham Lincoln was America's most remarkable man, and there would be no attempt to cloud the life of a real hero. Cicero says that the first law of history is that it should neither care to say anything that is false nor fear to say anything that is true.

It is, therefore, the sole purpose of this little book to prove that this wonderful man was not without ancestors. His mother was Nancy Hanks. If he was the son of a worthy sire the world is entitled to know who that sire was, where he came and what his characteristics. The custodians of this history of Abraham Lincoln are numbered by scores and hundreds of the first people—men and women of Western North Carolina, for the Enloes were a large and influential family and their descendants have intermarried with many distinguished people. But I do not propose to review the book. It is an interesting and remarkable revelation, and is written by an enthusiastic admirer of Mr. Lincoln, and establishes beyond question his paternity. Abraham Enloe was himself an extraordinary man—the father of 13 children; and his photographic likeness to this particular son is very striking, both in form and feature. Both were the same height and had the same long, unshapely limbs.

This little book of 175 pages was written by James H. Cathey of Bryson City, N. C., and is kind in motive and classic in style. I thought when I first opened it that perhaps it had better not have been written, but on its personal I believe that it is better for the whole truth to be told than that this remarkable man's genesis should continue to be uncertain and unknown. The price of this book is 60 cents and it is now on sale at Rogers' book store, Asheville, and by Chas. E. Wood, Murphy, N. C.

### BURIAL OF AN OLD VETERAN.

Kittrell, N. C., May 27.—(Special.)—Before the ranks of the dead in our cedar girdled Confederate cemetery will be complete eight more of their comrades must join them. These places are reserved for such veterans as may wish to rest there.

W. H. Pruett, Company E, First North Carolina cavalry, was yesterday, according to his dying wish, interred there. He had scarcely ever been out of sight of his humble home but once. That was when early in 1861 the State called her sons to arms in her defence. Mr. Pruett then went to the front, and remained there, with only two short furloughs, till the Confederate banners were furled at Appomattox. He belonged to Capt. J. H. Fuller's company, who testifies that he was a true, faithful and courageous soldier.

### HOW CONVENTIONS ARE MANIPULATED

When the Choice of United States Senator is at Stake.

### MINORITY DISFRANCHISED

IN ALL COUNTIES WHERE IT CANNOT ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE

### LEGISLATURES ONCE ELECTED GOVERNORS

But the Method has Been Abandoned and There is no Reason Why it Should be Retained

in the Election of United States Senators.

(Washington Post.)

Editor Post: In 1787 scarcely a State elected its Governor and higher officials by popular vote. Now there is no State in the forty-five which elects its Governor by the Legislature. Why should each of those States continue to elect its two Senators by a method it has condemned as to the election of its Governor? The interest of consolidated wealth in the election of Senators is far greater than it is in the choice of Governors, and the corrective of popular choice is, therefore, more needed.

A little consideration will show that under the present system it is possible for a skillful combination and money combinations are always (skillful) to secure the United States Senator in each of the close States if it can obtain control of one-sixteenth of the voters or even less. Let us see. Take a close State which casts 400,000 votes. A majority of the Legislature is elected from counties having 200,000 votes, or less (when as is often the case) there is a gerrymander. A majority of the caucus, which controls the party's choice, is therefore chosen from counties having 100,000 votes. But nearly half of these were of the opposite political party, leaving the majority of the caucus chosen by 50,000 voters. These members were nominated in the conventions in their respective counties by a majority only of their party, i. e., by delegates representing, say, 25,000 voters or less, which is one-sixteenth of the 400,000 voters of the State. The money combinations, to whom the choice of Senators is all-important, have money and skillful manipulators. They pick their counties. With free passes to the conventions over the railroads and by other methods, it is easy to secure the requisite delegates in the county party conventions, who represent these 25,000 voters, and thus name the nominees who shall, when elected, constitute a majority of the caucus which shall name the Senator. The counties belonging to the minority party are neglected by the manipulators as also are the counties belonging to the majority party, which are disposed to handle. The money combinations waste no money.

### MINORITY SENATORS.

That this is not a fanciful sketch will be recalled by many instances in diverse States in which the caucus nominee of one or two majority in the caucus. It is true this great disparity could happen only in close States, but it demonstrates that in any State the election of Senator can be controlled by a small but skillful minority under the present system.

There is another objection to the election of the United States Senators by the Legislature, in that the voters of the dominant party residing in counties in which the party is in a minority are utterly without influence or voice in the election of Senator, whereas in the election of Senator by popular vote every voter, irrespective of the county of his residence, would have an opportunity to express his wishes. In such an election the United States Senator must be the expressed choice at the ballot-box of more voters than shall cast their ballots for any other man, and his nomination must be made by the majority in the nominating convention of the successful party representing, therefore, say, one-fourth of the voters, subject to approval by a majority of the whole people at the ballot box. By this method of selection a United States Senator must be the choice of the State he represents as fully as the Governor is. In the present mode of legislative election the voice of his own party is stifled and unrepresented in all those counties in which, being in the minority, it shall fail to elect the member to the Legislature. Then, again, the voters of the counties electing members of the Legislature belonging to the dominant party are also disfranchised if those members do not belong to the majority faction of the caucus.

### COSTLY AND OFTEN SCANDALOUS

Another very serious objection to the legislative mode of choosing Senators is the frequent "dead locks," or protracted contests, which take up a large part of the time which should be devoted to the legitimate duty of legislation. The expense to the public is no small item, and the frequent attendant scandals are not edifying, and all this could be avoided by choosing United States Senators the same day and by the same method the

members of the lower house of Congress are chosen. The selection of members of the Legislature, often with an eye solely to their preferences for Senator and in total disregard of their fitness for legislation or views on public questions or their personal characters, frequently leads to serious inconvenience. It is no proper part of a legislator's functions or duties to be an elector for Senator, and the two duties should not be combined. Members of Congress are not constituted electors for President. Yet they might be with as much appropriateness.

The present mode of electing Senators does not give any approximate security of selecting the choice of the State as its representative to the hall of Federal ambassadors, each of whom should be able to speak for the State, and not as the agent of the corporations doing business therein, or a small manipulated fraction of its voters.

The change to election by the people would greatly lessen the chance for corruption. The members of the party convention of the State, brought together directly from the people and so soon dispersed again among them, are not so subject to the subtle arts of the corporation lobbyists and wire-pullers which are brought to bear on the members of the Legislature as soon as his nomination is probable (if, indeed, they do not procure his nomination), and continued until after the election of Senator is over, when, like a squeezed lemon, he is thrown aside. Besides, the party convention is accessible to public opinion, being censured, is liable to rejection at the polls. No such responsibility attaches to the deliberations of a legislative caucus. A mistake there made, or a defiant disregard of public sentiment, is subject to no ratification by the people and is without remedy for six years. There can be a further check upon delegates to State party conventions, in that the popular choice for Senator can be indicated by a primary election.

### CHECK ON ANOTHER 'PREROGATIVE.'

A Senator in office may be tempted to disregard the will of his State if he knows he can, by use of public patronage or other means, secure, as shown above, the control of one-sixteenth of the voters who compose a majority in the nominating conventions of those counties which send a majority of the legislators of the dominant party. But he will pause when he knows that his renomination must command the approval of a majority of his party convention, and that its action in turn must be ratified by a majority, or at least a plurality (if there are more than two parties), of the voters of the entire State at the ballot-box.

The two Senators are intended to represent the State. They cannot truly do so unless chosen by the whole State. At present, as already pointed out, larger sections of each State are absolutely disfranchised and have no weight whatever in the choice of its Senators, because not sending to the Legislature members belonging to the dominant party.

The bill to modernize the choice of Senators, by transferring it from the Legislature to the people of each State has passed the lower house of Congress several times, and once at least by a unanimous vote and once with only two dissenting votes, but the measure has heretofore found its grave in the Senate itself, which does not wish to go on record on the question. The Legislatures in at least twenty-four States have instructed in favor of the measure, among them Oregon, California, Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska, New York, Louisiana, North Carolina, West Virginia, Illinois, and Michigan. The constitution of Nebraska requires that the choice of Senator shall be submitted to the people at the ballot box the same day members of the Legislature are chosen, but this necessarily has only a moral force, which would certainly be disregarded whenever (as is not unusual) the majority in the State on the popular vote should be for one party, while the majority elected to the Legislature should belong to the opposite party.

### A TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT.

In many States the United States Senator is nominated by the State party conventions, and the nominees of that party for the Legislature are deemed pledged to vote for him, according to the similar custom now obtaining as to electors for President. There are also many States whose statutes provide for primary elections for United States Senator. This expedient is the best possible under the circumstances, perhaps, and should be resorted to till we can amend the Constitution by frankly giving the people of each State the right to choose the two men who are to represent their State in the Senate. But to be of value, the primary for a nomination should be for the whole State, and not merely by counties. If the people are competent to choose the members of the lower house of Congress and Governors, why are they not competent to name the Senators?

WALTER CLARK.  
Raleigh, N. C., May 10.

### BURIAL OF A CHILD.

Henderson, N. C., May 27.—(Special.)—The funeral services of little William, aged two years, only child of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Sturges, was held from the Episcopal Church yesterday afternoon, the Rev. Julian E. Ingole officiating. The remains were interred in Elmwood cemetery.

It's always safe to name a baby boy William. If he grows up to be a good young man people will call him Willie, and if he doesn't they will dub him Bill.

Bargain sales have parted many a wife and her husband's money.

### FORMING A GREAT RAILROAD SYSTEM

An Instance of Successful Southern Enterprise.

### BANKERS IN CONTROL

THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE SEABOARD AIR LINE.

### A MILLION DOLLARS FOR WHARVES

The New Rival of the Pennsylvania, the Louisville and Nashville and Southern Systems. The Leader in the Deal.

(United States Investor.)

For the last three years a railroad combination has been steadily progressing in the South, despite the most strenuous efforts to break it. It has been planned and carried out by southern financiers who realized the value in having a competing system from the Potomac gateway to the heart of the Southern States.

The nucleus of this system was the Savannah, Americus and Montgomery railroad. A glance at the map of the Southern States in 1895 would not indicate that this line was of special importance. Terminating at Montgomery, Ala., connecting with the Louisville and Nashville, and one or two other railroads, it was cut off at the little station a few miles east of Savannah, and was entirely at the mercy of the Central, of Georgia for an eastern and seaboard terminus. A syndicate of bankers in Baltimore and Richmond realized the possibility of extending this road to Savannah, and discovered a way by which it could be done. They obtained control of enough of the stock and bonds to give them a majority interest, the stock being bought at a very small figure, as it was considered of very little value.

### BANKERS IN CONTROL.

At the next annual meeting it developed that the banking syndicate was in control. The railroad which had been in the hands of a receiver was re-organized as the Georgia and Alabama railroad, and the Georgia Central Company was forced to reduce its rental of tracks under a threat that the other would build its own line into Savannah. This arrangement, however, was only temporary, as within the last eight months right of way has been secured, and land for terminals on the water front purchased by the new owners of the Georgia and Alabama, and wharves and warehouses are now being constructed at a cost of over \$1,000,000 in Savannah.

With the Georgia and Alabama secured, and arrangements made to terminate it at tide water, the syndicate turned its attention to the Seaboard Air Line, which for the last four years has been the only obstacle in the plans of J. P. Morgan and Company to secure a monopoly of the transportation lines from the Potomac river southward. Readers of the "Investor" are familiar with the bitter fight which has been made between the Seaboard Company and the Southern, backed by Morgan and Company.

### THE KEY TO THE SITUATION.

With terminals on Hampton Roads, Wilmington, N. C., Baltimore and Atlanta, and reaching the best section of the Carolinas, the Seaboard Air Line was indeed a very desirable property. The key to the whole system is the Seaboard and Roanoke railroad, which gives it entrance into Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va. It was only necessary to obtain control of this road to carry with it the entire system, and the syndicate laid its plans for this purpose. Originally comprised of the banking firms of Middendorf, Oliver and Company of Baltimore, and John L. Williams and Sons, of Richmond, it took in the Baltimore Trust and Guarantee Company, in order to secure the necessary capital to finance the big deal. Negotiations were conducted so quietly that Morgan and Company and the Southern railway discovered one morning that the stock in the Seaboard and Roanoke had practically been transferred to the new owners without their knowledge, and that the plan of absorbing the Seaboard in the Southern system was at an end, at least for the present. With the Georgia and Alabama the syndicate now controlled 1,300 miles of road, but there was no physical connection between the lines.

Another railroad owned in the South principally, is the Florida Central and Peninsular, which was built a few years ago from Columbia, S. C., to Jacksonville and Savannah, with branches to the more important Florida winter resorts. This line connects with the Georgia and Alabama at Savannah, while the Seaboard enters Columbia, by an arrangement with the Columbia, Newberry and Laurens railroad.

Naturally the property of the Florida Central and Peninsular was the next step in the deal, and this has been taken. The syndicate purchased a majority of this stock. Consequently a combination of lines extending from the North Carolina border to Montgomery, Ala., and all of the South Atlantic seaports of any consequence except Charleston, through the principal cotton manufac-

turing districts of Georgia, and through agricultural territory which is absolutely barren capital.

### COMPETITOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

But this is only a small part of the scheme. While it is being carried out on Chesapeake bay, the Baltimore Steam Packet Co., it may be said to be "bottled up" so far as an all rail line to the North is concerned, for it must use the Atlantic Coast Line, known to be a strong ally of the Southern, to Richmond, and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac and Pennsylvania lines, north of the Virginia capital. The Seaboard has been given the small end of the deal by the Pennsylvania as to train service, and the trackage for its through trains to New York over the Pennsylvania and Atlantic Coast Line has been very heavy. The Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina railroad, now being constructed, and partly completed between Richmond and a connection with the Seaboard Air Line, is in reality the Richmond extension of this system. It will probably be completed within the next year, as bonds have been floated to insure its construction and contracts have been let. By the charter of the State of Virginia any railroad company has the right to lease the tracks of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac on equal terms with the Pennsylvania or any other system, and no line can be kept out. Consequently the Seaboard has an equal right to use this road to its terminus, which is but 30 miles from Washington. Only this distance remains to be built, in connection with a bridge across the Potomac river, to make a connection with the Baltimore and Ohio, which with its connections, the Philadelphia and Reading and the Jersey Central, is a competing line to New York with the Pennsylvania.

It can safely be said that within the next two years the plan of the southern syndicate which comprises a system from Jersey City to the heart of the South will be completed, and train service will be in operation. The single bridge across the Potomac river, which the Pennsylvania railroad now controls, will have a parallel structure. It is unnecessary to state that the Baltimore and Ohio would be such a gainer from the new plan that it would willingly form a traffic arrangement with the southern combination now being carried out.

### THE LEADERS IN THE DEAL.

The main man in the deal has been Mr. John Skelton Williams, of Richmond. Mr. Williams may be termed the Pierpont Morgan of the South, for in addition to bringing about this combination thus far successfully, he has also purchased several street railroads in Richmond, Petersburg and Norfolk, and has conducted other operations on a large scale. Altogether through these plans, \$10,000,000 have exchanged hands in the acquisition of railroad lines or in the floating of bonds for extensions, and all within three years.

From an expert railroad standpoint the combination described forms the most powerful competitor, not only to the Southern, but the Louisville and Nashville and other north and south lines as well, for it is closely allied with the Mobile and Ohio system, connecting with the latter at Montgomery. By means of the St. Louis division of the Mobile and Ohio a new freight route has been formed for shipments direct from St. Louis to Savannah by the Mobile and Ohio and the Georgia and Alabama. This will give a new export route in competition with the Illinois Central and the Louisville and Nashville. The Mobile and Ohio reaches the extensive mineral district of Alabama and the timber tracts of Mississippi, having one outlet at Mobile which can be utilized by the new combination if desired. In return the connection with the Georgia and Alabama gives the Mobile and Ohio another seaport at Savannah. With the Mobile and Ohio, the combination aggregates 3,280 miles of railroad. With the chain completed to Jersey City, the entire mileage will be 3,550 miles.

### TEACHERS' ASSEMBLY NOTES.

Whitsett, Guilford County, N. C., May 27.—(Special.)—Arrangements have about been completed to have the First North Carolina Regimental Band at the Teachers' Assembly June 13th to 18th. This is easily the finest band of musicians in the South, and its presence will attract hundreds to Morehead City.

The management of the Atlantic Hotel reports that scores of inquiries are pouring in asking for rooms, information, etc. All who attend will be granted the reduced rate on railroads and hotels by presenting a certificate, which they can secure from the secretary of the assembly after arrival at Morehead.

Those who intend going to the Summer Schools at Wake Forest and the University can stop over on their return and thus make the assembly tickets answer both purposes. The ticket allows this stop over for the entire summer school.

"I will see you at Morehead at the assembly," is current talk among hundreds these days. The warm weather is causing a "feeling of longing" for the delightful breezes of the seaside.

Prof. D. Matt. Thompson, of Statesville, writes that the outlook is excellent for a large attendance of teachers from the western part of the State.

Prof. O. A. Betts and a party of teachers from Morganton will be among the many who will attend from the west. Many Asheville parties have written that they would attend.

Scores who are not teachers will avail themselves of the kindness of the assembly officers, which will allow friends of the profession to attend upon the reduced rates.