Lincoln in 1854 from a recently discoverdd ambrotype

Mr. William L. Brunyate of Newark, N. J., has recently acquired what, I believe, to be the first portrait of Lincoln made for political purposes. Mr. Meserve, our leading authority on Lincoln portraits pronounce it a contemporary ambrotype.

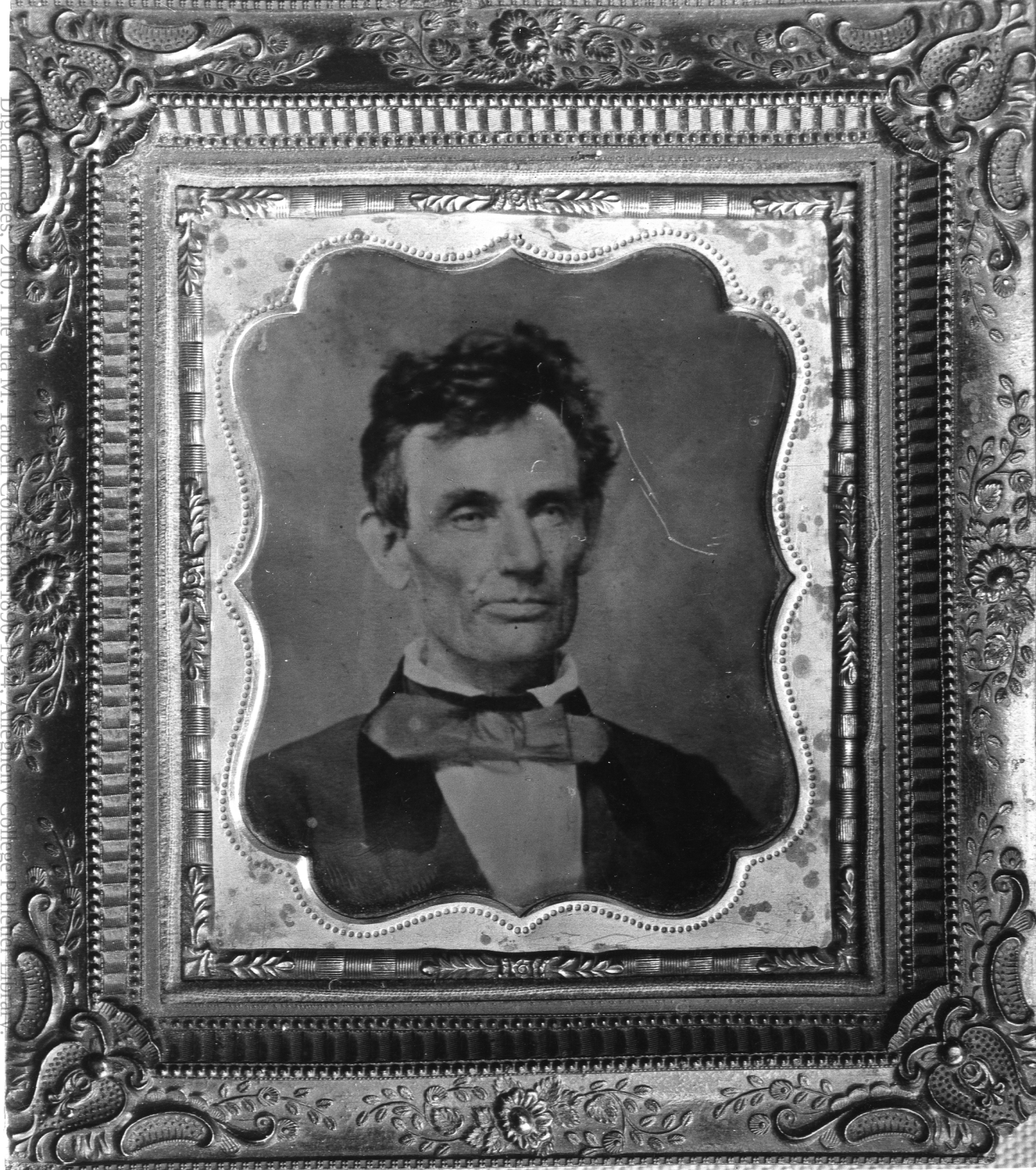
In 1895 I published in McClure's Magazine a reproduction of a half-length photograph, the head and shoulders of which are identical with the Brunyate picture. The photograph from which this illustration was made was given to me by Mr. George Schneider, former editor of the "Staats Zeitung," who had become interested in Lincoln in 1854, when he first attacked Douglas's proposal that the Missouri Compromise be repealed. The picture was taken in Chicago at Mr. Schneider's request. The relation of the Brunyate ambrotype to the McClure peproduction is not clear. The ambrotype was acquired by the family from which Mr. Brunyate bought it in Mattoon and in Mr. Lincoln's life time.

In case of publication this memo should be expanded.

Ida M. Tarbell

Digital Image, 2009. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.



Digital Images, 2010. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1896-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library.