

Human
Editorial McClures Magazine

Watanga letters to Temp

Gent

Your Nov. no is before me on the life
of Abraham Lincoln in which you say his paternal
grandfather Abraham Lincoln left his home in Rockingham
county Va in 1780 through the influence of his friend
Daniel Boone which I think is incorrect as
to his location. from records on existence and
tradition the Lincolns lived in the Watanga Valley
and were the first settlers of the Valley or among them
and helped to start the first settlement west of the
Alleghenies many writers and historians speak of him as
being of poor and low parentage which I claim
is incorrect as the Lincolns were of the first and
best families of the colony at the time, it is not
necessary to go into details about the history of the early
settlers in this. as you can look at the history and find
all about its first inhabitants. for such men as
John Sevier John Lupton, James Robertson, Andrew Jackson
Samuel Houston Dorris Crockett Andrew Johnson Brownlow
(the Militant Pason) and (our Bob.) Ex Gov. Taylor were
all at some period in life residents of the Watanga
Valley and quite a number of them natives
as you are aware this country was first settled by
men whose sense of freedom prompted them to leave the
colonies then under British rule and settle in East Tennessee
where Liberty and freedom has ever reigned (~~since~~ a few
years under the dominion of Jeff Davis)
much has been the history of East Tennessee and they
have been some of their factors to this day.
Being a native and a descendant of one of the
first settlers is why I write this

When first settled this was thought to be in Virginia as
the boundary line of Va had never been surveyed or established
but when the line was established it was found twenty miles
inside of North Carolina and all the records of the lands
taken up by the settlers after the Revolution were lost
as N.C. the records are in existence to day and
among such records I find the Lincolns and through
tradition from my grandfather I know it that
Joac Lincoln Abraham Lincoln and Mordicia Lincoln
were among the first settlers and neighbors of his
father John Hendricks and the lands on which they
live are known to day as the Lincoln homestead
or farm. They were among the men who fought
Indians and Tories and help to shape the destiny of
Tennessee and western civilization west of the Alleghanes
They were all Patriots during the Revolution their sons were under
Jackson at New Orleans and under Gen Taylor in Mexico
and ever remained loyal to the flag of their Country
in 1861. 7.5.

When the truth is known as to his ancestors it will
not be wondered at why he was Abraham Lincoln President
of the United States at a time when it took men of
patriotism and love of Country

Yours Respectfully

J H Hendricks

PS

Please excuse my Grammar & Rhetoric as the four years
of the last war interfered somewhat in my chances for an education
three years services under the flag of our Country and one
year in Rebel prisons

J H H

The Pioneers I speak of were Virginians & Pennsylvanians
and not North Carolinians as some have it