



Abraham Lincoln

I WAS BORN FEB. 12 1809 IN HARDIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY. MY PARENTS WERE BOTH BORN IN VIRGINIA. MY MOTHER WHO DIED IN MY TENTH YEAR WAS OF A FAMILY OF THE NAME OF HANKS. MY FATHER AT THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER WAS BUT SIX YEARS OF AGE, AND HE GREW UP LITERALLY WITHOUT EDUCATION. HE REMOVED FROM KENTUCKY TO WHAT IS NOW SPENCER COUNTY, INDIANA. IN MY EIGHTH YEAR WE REACHED OUR NEW HOME ABOUT THE TIME THE STATE CAME INTO THE UNION. IT WAS A WILD REGION, WITH MANY BEARS AND OTHER WILD ANIMALS, STILL IN THE WOODS. THERE I GREW UP. THERE WERE SOME SCHOOLS, SO CALLED, THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO EXCITE AMBITION FOR EDUCATION. OF COURSE WHEN I CAME OF AGE I DID NOT KNOW MUCH. STILL, SOMEHOW, I COULD READ, WRITE, AND CIPHER TO THE RULE OF THREE, BUT THAT WAS ALL. THE LITTLE ADVANCE I NOW HAVE UPON THIS STORE OF EDUCATION, I HAVE PICKED UP FROM TIME TO TIME UNDER THE PRESSURE OF NECESSITY.

A. LINCOLN.

Inscription in Memorial Hall