

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

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"THE BOYS OF '76" "DRUM-BEAT OF THE NATION" "MARCHING TO VICTORY"
"REDEEMING THE REPUBLIC" "FREEDOM TRIUMPHANT" ETC.

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coln had his patience sorely tried by three boys who loved fun, and who had rollicking times when he was not with them. They had "spoken pieces" at school, and it was far more agreeable to Abraham to mount a stump and rehearse what he had learned from the "American Preceptor," or make an impromptu political speech than to work. His audience—John Johnston, Dennis Hanks, and the three girls—were ever ready to clap their hands at his performance. (")



SITE OF JONES'S STORE AT GENTRYVILLE, IND.

[From a photograph taken by the author, 1890.]

Abraham was hungry for intellectual food. He walked twelve miles to David

Turnham's home to obtain a copy of the laws of Indiana. A man accused of committing murder was arraigned at Booneville, the county seat, fifteen miles distant. Abraham attended the trial. He had great respect for the judge, who represented the majesty of the law. He listened with intense interest to the argument of Mr. Breckenridge, the lawyer who defended the accused man. When the argument was finished there occurred a scene for an artist. Abraham Lincoln, tall, slim, with bare feet, wearing buckskin trousers and a jean coat, walked across the room and shook hands with him. "That is the best speech I ever heard," he said. (")

Once more Abraham was in school—one taught by Master Swaney. He helped Katy Roby in spelling. Several scholars in the class had failed in their attempts to spell the word "defied." "D-e-f," said Katy,

1825. and stopped. Should she say *i* or *y*? She saw the tall young man raise a finger and touch his eye, and, comprehending the meaning of the action, spelled the word correctly. When the term closed his school-days were over. Putting all the weeks together,