

Biography of Abraham Lincoln

Abe which he was called was born in Kentucky close to Knob Creek. Nancy Hanks was his mother. Tom Lincoln was his father. Sally, his sister, was two years older than him. Abe was seven when he left Knob Creek. They moved to a settlement called Pigeon Creek in Indiana. When they got there they built a three-sided shack. The nearest spring was on a neighbors farm, Reuben Grigsby. It wasn't long after they had moved there that his mother died. Andrew Crawford was the school master of Pigeon Creek. He liked school very much. He learned to read, write, and work some addition. Master Crawford's "scholars" sat on three long benches made of split logs or puncheons. He also learned to spell. Abe could always tell yarns. People in Kentucky call Abe's second mother Widaw Johnson but her name is Sarah. She had three children - John, Betsy, and Mathilda. Abe is about ten now. Abe and Sally did not take to their new mother right off but after a while they did. Sarah had brought some books with her. Abe read all of these and all others he borrow. He would walk miles to get a book. He got his yarns

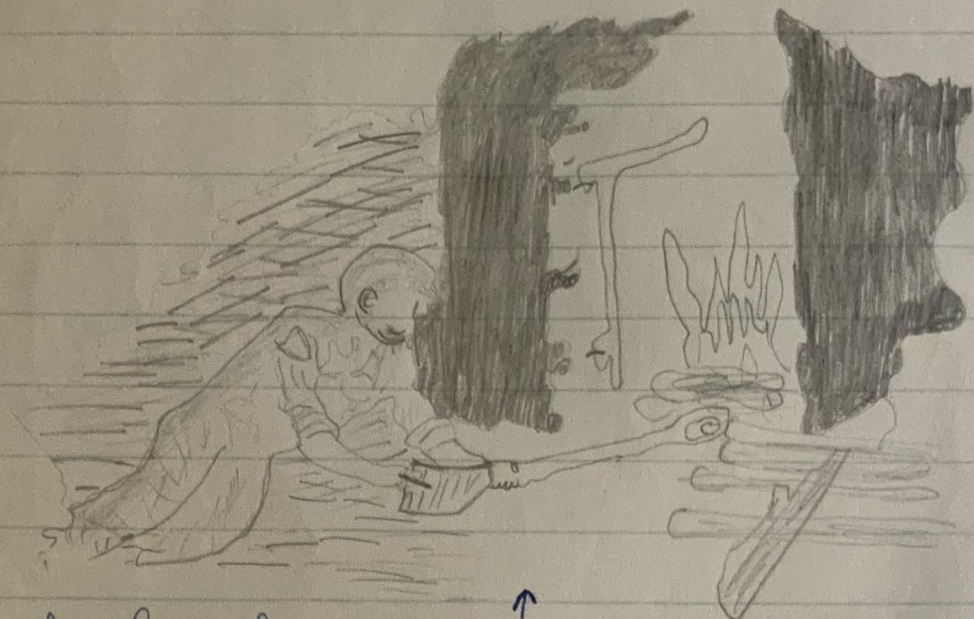
out of book. People thought that he had been to all the different places he told his yarns about. He had not been know where. His father had little education. He didn't think Abe should be smarter than he was. He didn't think much of school. Tom Lincoln needed money bad. He was going to sell the south part of his field. John Carter was the buyer. Tom could not read, so he let Abe read the deed. It was made out for the whole field. Tom did not sell. Abe heard that there was going to be a new schoolmaster, Mr. Sweeney. He was a farmer. He was going to start school after harvest. Tom said he could go since he had read the deed that had been crooked. Master Sweeney was going to charge seventy-five for each scholar, and they get to go all winter. Some schoolmasters charge a dollar. Abe would work hard all day. Wesley Hall was seven about now. One day when Abe was working for his father Wes measured Abe's long feet. Wes's father run a tannery. Abe's father was also a carpenter. People would gather to here Abe "speechify" or "spin a yarn," setting on a tree stump telling his story. Dennis Hank, Abe's cousin had been living with them since they moved to Indiana. It was the last day of school in Pigeon Creek which Master

Dorsey's scholars had long looked forward. One by one the children came forward to the front of the platform to recite a poem or a speech.

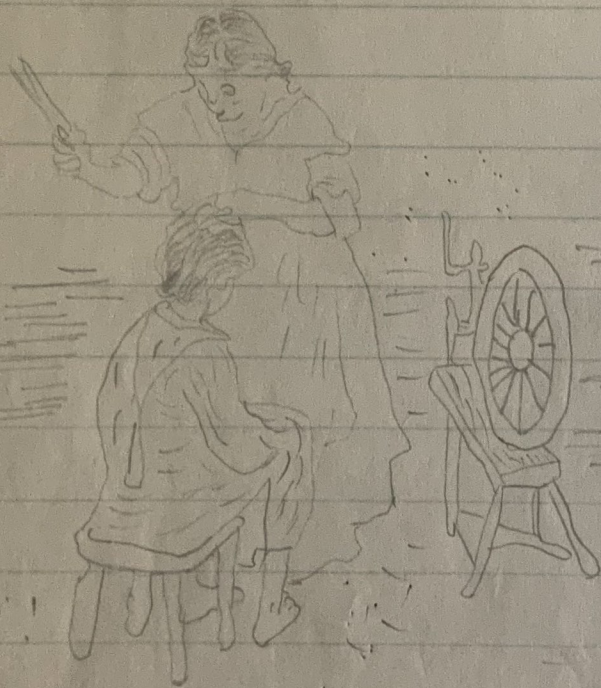
Master Dorsey had been keeping school in Pigeon Creek. Abe gave his speech about the address when Thomas Jefferson was inaugurated. He got the address out of a book Mrs. Crawford let him borrow, the name of the book was "The Kentucky Preceptor." After this is when Abe said he was going to become president. He told Mrs. Crawford. Abe was seventeen when he made that remark.

Abe carried a chicken pen that three men were going to carry. Everybody looked so funny when he set it down. Two men were letting their geese run together. The men were Josiah Blake and Jake Adams. One of them came up with a goose missing. He said the other had it. They were going to court over it. When they were waiting on the lawyers Abe got up and told them what a silly thing to go to court for. Just over an old gray goose worth about two bits. After that everybody left to become friends again, especially Jake and Josiah.

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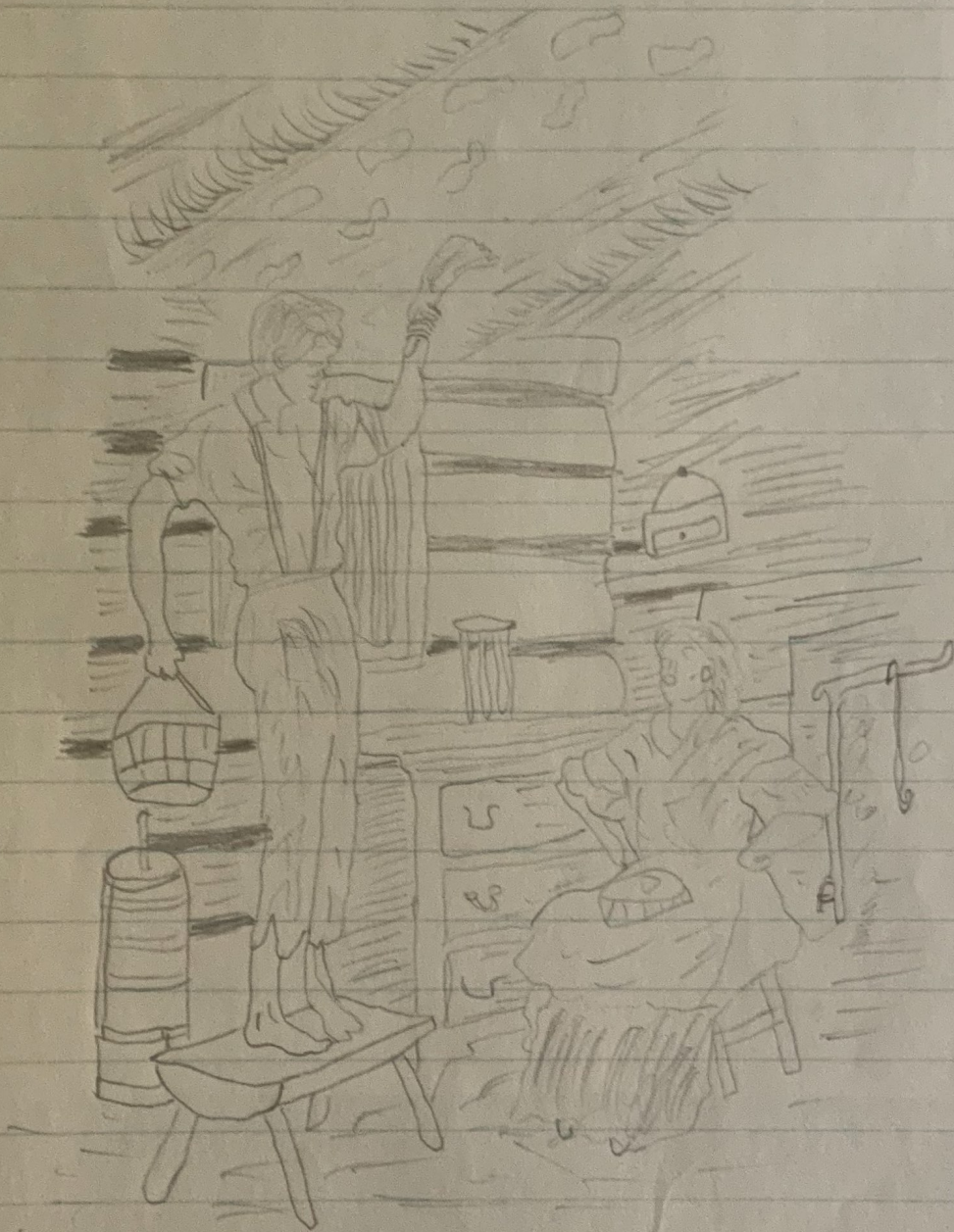


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Abe Lincoln writes on a shovel with a piece of charcoal in the firelight.



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Sarah Abe's new mother is cutting his hair.

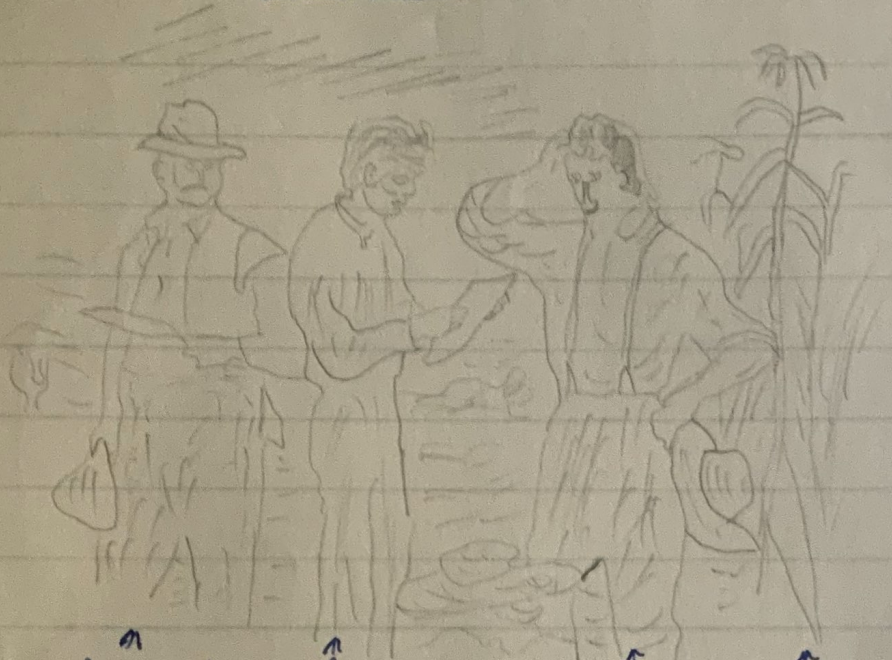
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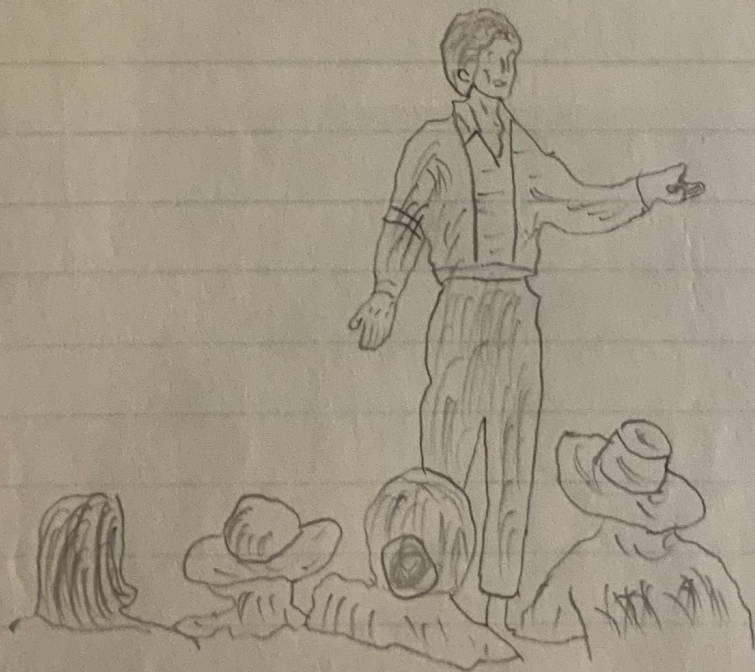
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Abe whitewashin' footprints off the top of the room.

Illustrated



John Carter Abe Tom corn
 Tom was going to sell his South part of the field,
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 deed made out for the whole field. Tom did not sell.



Abe making his speech at Martin Dorey's school. It was the last day.