THE LINCOLN PENNY

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Have you a penny? Look at it to see whose picture is on it. Do you doubt you will find the picture of one of the greatest Presidents America ever had? If so, you are wrong.

Each year America honours Abraham Lincoln's birthday. In 1909 special notice was made of his hundredth birthday.

One of the biggest celebrations that year was held near Hodgenville, Kentucky. It was there that President Lincoln was born. The people planned to fix the Lincoln cabin so that Americans could always visit it.

The Lincoln cabin sits on a small hill. The cabin is 12 feet by 11 legs high. The logs are chinked with clay. A log chimney lined with clay is at one end of the cabin. The only light comes from one small window.

But logs and clay will not last forever, to the people made more plans. "We shall build a beautiful stone building over the small log cabin," the building will save the cabin and keep it just as it is," they said.

President Roosevelt was in Hodgenville to lay the cornerstone of the stone building. While President Roosevelt was in Hodgenville, he saw a bronze medal that had been made especially for the celebration. President Roosevelt liked the picture of Lincoln on the metal very much. He wished that every man, woman and child in our country could see this picture of Lincoln.

Then the President remembered that new pennies were to be made that year. Why not put the picture of Lincoln on the penny? As you have guessed, that was done. Now almost all the people see a picture of Abraham Lincoln every day.

The Lincoln penny is the first of our coins to have a picture of a President. Abraham Lincoln was great and fine, but not rich, proud or grand. He was a humble man who came from humble home. Is it not fitting for his picture to be on the humble little penny? Every person in our country uses and sees this coin.

A long time ago, President Roosevelt was interested in the Lincoln penny. So he asked the Congress to have a Lincoln penny made. When the penny was made, he was very pleased. He said that this was a beautiful coin and that he would like to have as many as possible. He was right. The Lincoln penny is one of the most popular coins in the world.