Child Poetess Vindicated

The Lincoln Penny

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from the Reader's Digest

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Have you a penny? Look at it to see whose picture is on it. Do not doubt you will find the picture of one of the greatest Presidents America ever had.

Each year America honors Abraham Lincoln's birthday. But 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 17 feet and is 11 feet 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. We shall save the cabin and keep it for all time," they said.

There was a question whether President Lincoln's birthplace should be in Kentucky or Indiana. But the Lincoln family always talked about the cabin. The cabin was the one where the young boy grew up. It was the home where he learned to read and write. It was the place where he first heard the stories of the Indian wars. It was the place where he first learned about the American Revolution.

The people who lived in Kentucky decided to build a stone building over the cabin. They wanted to make sure that the cabin would last for many years to come.

The work was begun in 1932. It was finished in 1936. The stones used to build the new building came from the same place as the stones used to build the cabin. The people who worked on the new building were careful to make sure that the new building looked just like the old cabin.

The Lincoln Cabin was completed in 1936. It is now a national monument. It is open to the public every day. People from all over the world come to see it. They come to see the place where Lincoln was born. They come to see the place where he learned to read and write. They come to see the place where he first heard the stories of the Indian wars. They come to see the place where he first learned about the American Revolution.