

Lincoln's Inaugurations Activity

Intro to mid-19th Century Photography:

Louis Daguerre is considered to have created the first practical photographic process, named the daguerreotype, which was publicly unveiled in 1839. Since dry plate technology using gelatin wouldn't be available until 1871 (and George Eastman wouldn't create the Kodak until 1888), daguerreotypes are the primary way photographers captured the life of the 1840s-1860s.

Daguerreotypes are created by exposing a sheet of polished silver-plated copper, treated with iodine vapors, to light. This made a latent image available on the image once exposing to mercury vapor, rinsing it, and then drying/sealing it. Tintypes, the primary photographic tech of the 1860s, are created much the same way, but by creating a direct positive on a sheet of metal (tin) coated with dark lacquer that supports photographic emulsion (gelatin).

Directions:

-Examine the documents from **Lincoln's 1861** inauguration.

What are your first impressions of the size of attendance in the photos versus the sketch?

What is the point-of-view of these images? Do you think the photographer/artist is trying to make a point?

Why do you think the photographs were taken?

-Now, examine the documents from **Lincoln's 1865** inauguration.

What differences do you see in the photographs of the 1865 inauguration versus that from 1861?

1861	1865

How do you think four years of photographic technology improvements impacted the photographs you are examining from 1865 versus those from 1861? Think in terms of both physical changes and the content of the images.

Next examine the sketch of the Inauguration Ball from 1865 and the invitation. Compare that to the coverage/invite from 1861. What do they tell you about the change in attitude over time?

CONCLUSION OF SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations."

Finally, look at the photograph of the statue of Lincoln in New York City. Why do you think the Second Inaugural Address is remembered and commemorated so much more than the first?

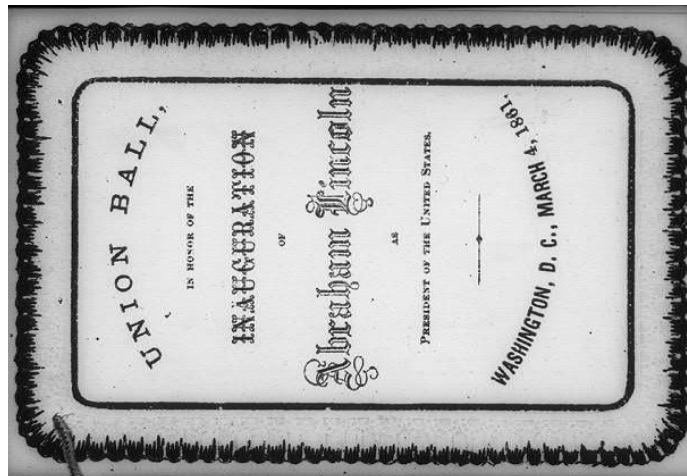
1861





THE INAUGURAL PROCESSION AT WASHINGTON PASSING THE GATE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS.—FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.—[SEE PAGE 165.]

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FRANK LESLIE'S
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Miss Carrie Ross Miss White, of Washington. Miss Sabcock. Mrs. Frank Smith, of Boston. Mrs. Brown.

Mrs. Orignal Tins Mrs. Rose Green Mrs. Gower Mrs. Alexander of Washington Mrs. Davis Hill Mrs. Roe, of Boston.

INAUGURATION BALL AT WASHINGTON, MARCH 4, 1861.—FURNISH COURTESY OF AMERICAN LADIES PRESENT OF THEIR EXQUISITE COQUETRY.—FROM SKETCHES BY OUR SPECIAL AGENTS.—SEE PAGE 265.

1865







GRAND RECEPTION OF NOTABILITIES OF NATION.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE 1865

*Dedicated to Mr. Abraham Lincoln,
by the Publishers of Frank Leslie's Chimney Corner.*

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National Immigration Bill
MARCH 4TH 1865.

MARCH 4TH 1865.



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Photograph of sculpture "Lincoln of The Second Inaugural," bronze by Brown located in New York City.,
Unveiled September 16, 1870