

Mary's Velvet Rose

May 2023

ASSOCIATION OF LINCOLN PRESENTERS



The 2023 Association of Lincoln Presenters Conference was held in Springfield, Illinois.

The Mary Lincoln Luncheon was held at Edward's Place on Saturday afternoon, April 15. Edwards Place, built in 1833 is an historic house museum that tells the story of social and domestic life in Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Illinois. Edwards Place was the home of attorney Benjamin Edwards, youngest son of Governor Ninian Edwards and brother-in-law of Mary Lincoln's sister Elizabeth.



The group was seated in the 2 front parlors. Lunch was catered by Mojo Café. The annual business meeting was conducted. The group of 19 ladies enjoyed the presentation Kathryn Harris did of Elizabeth Keckley. The highlight of the luncheon was the tour of the historic mansion.

2024

We look forward to Teena Baldrige's conference in Dayton, Ohio next year April 25-28, 2024. Several special things for Marys are in the planning stages like a feather fan workshop and a lady's tea/luncheon.



Lincoln Days in Hodgenville, Kentucky

October 7-8, 2023

**Look-a-like contests
Luncheon for Lincolns
Lincoln Days Parade
Craft Booths
5K Race
Frontier Skills Contests**

Lincoln Days Celebration, Inc. was chartered in 1975 as a non-profit, non-partisan organization. It was established for the purpose of celebrating the birth of Abraham Lincoln in an appropriate manner, to create an awareness of his values and influences upon this nation, and further the cultural, economic and civic interests of LaRue County. Come join with us as we celebrate the birth and birthplace of President Abraham Lincoln.

Victorian Cameo Jewelry



Cameo brooches are a type of jewelry that has been worn for centuries. They are small, intricate pieces that usually feature a raised image of a person or scene. During the Victorian age, which lasted from 1837 to 1901, cameo pins became particularly popular. These pins were often made of delicate materials such as ivory, coral, and shell, and they were cherished as symbols of femininity and gentility.

One reason that cameo pins were so popular during the Victorian era was that they represented a departure from the heavy, ornate jewelry that had been fashionable during the Georgian era. In contrast, Victorian jewelry was characterized by its delicate, feminine designs, and cameo pins were a perfect embodiment of this trend. They were often worn as brooches, and their intricate designs and delicate materials made them ideal for pairing with the lightweight, flowing dresses that were popular at the time.



Most cameos are carved from the Helmet Shell.

Another reason that cameo pins were so popular during the Victorian era was that they were associated with classical art and literature. Many of the designs

featured on cameo pins were taken from famous works of art or literature, such as the works of Shakespeare or the myths of ancient Greece and Rome. In this way, cameo pins were seen as a way for women to connect with the culture and knowledge of the past.



Despite their delicate appearance, cameo pins were often highly valued and were passed down as heirlooms from one generation to the next. They were also frequently given as gifts, particularly by men to their wives or daughters. This was seen as a way for men to demonstrate their love and appreciation for the women in their lives, and the gift of a cameo pin was often accompanied by a handwritten note or poem expressing these sentiments.



Today, cameo pins remain popular among collectors and antique enthusiasts. While many Victorian-era cameo pins have been lost or destroyed over time, those that survive are highly prized for their beauty and historical significance. They serve as a reminder of a bygone era, when delicate, feminine jewelry was highly valued and when the culture of the past was celebrated and revered.



In conclusion, cameo pins were an important part of the jewelry landscape during the Victorian age. They represented a departure from the heavy, ornate jewelry of the past, and were associated with classical art and literature. Today, they serve as a reminder of a time when femininity and gentility were highly valued, and when the culture of the past was cherished and revered.

TINTYPES ON COCKADES

THE COCKADE COLUMN



In 1856 a patent was issued to Professor Hamilton L. Smith "For the Use of Jappaned Metallic Plates in Photography"... and photography was revolutionized.

As were cockades. The **tintype** was born!

The beautiful velvet-edged photo button on this U.S. Grant cockade became not only possible, but durable and affordable for everyone.

Unlike previous methods of photography which included fragile glass, tintypes were printed on iron (hence their other name, ferrotypes). And due to another invention by Simon Wing called the "multiplying camera" tintypes could be easily and inexpensively reproduced. Wing's camera could literally take one image and reproduce it hundreds of times on a single plate. These hundreds of images could then be cut apart and framed... or put into buttons.



Photo buttons became extremely popular in the 1860s and 1870s. In *Uniform Buttons of the United States, 1776-1865* Warren Tice observes, "At the beginning of the Civil War hostilities, ferrotype buttons bearing the images of sweethearts, mothers, children, soldiers, politicians and national heroes appeared. Soldiers commonly wore buttons with photos of loved ones on their clothing to glimpse when homesick and lonely."

The presidential campaign industry also capitalized on photo buttons. Cockades, mementos and jewelry were all created with tintypes of presidential contenders. Here's a few samples - a necklace, a pin and a bracelet.



Another boon for the photo button industry was the mourning cockade. During the American Civil War, death touched nearly every family in America. And when President Lincoln was assassinated in 1865, it became very popular to wear mourning cockades and ribbons with his image in a photo button.

This picture from Heather Sheen's collection shows a soldier with an appropriately grave expression wearing a Lincoln mourning cockade with one of these buttons in the center.



Above are some of the Lincoln cockades still in existence that sport ferrotype buttons.

(Heather) The Button Baron is doing a wonderful job of recreating these ferrotype buttons. Their photographs are no longer perishable tintypes, but instead are high quality laminates. However, all other parts are made exactly as the originals on a vintage button-making machine at their shop in Gettysburg. In this picture you can see an original tintype button on the left and the Button Baron's reproduction on the right. Looks pretty darn good to me! These good folks have been supplying me with lovely reproductions for my cockades.



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