

Lincoln National Life Foundation O-32

SUBDUED LIGHT MAKES HIS FACE RUGGED in this photograph by an unknown artist, Springfield, about June, 1860. The sharp cleavage of light and shadow gives strength to the candidate's features. This portrait suggests the description of Lincoln by a London journalist: "An honest old lawyer, with a face half Roman, half Indian, wasted by climate, scarred by a life's struggle."

After the glass negative of the preceding portrait (O–18) was accidentally broken, Lincoln showed a Springfield photographer his only print and asked for a picture "something about like that." The result is this almost identical pose. The negative was sent to M. C. Tuttle of St. Paul and prints were widely distributed during the Presidential campaign.