



Ostendorf collection O-37

THE LAST BEARDLESS PORTRAIT, an ambrotype by Preston Butler, taken at his daguerreotype studio in Springfield, August 13, 1860, was made at the request of the miniaturist, John Henry Brown of Philadelphia. Lincoln's lips are firmly set, but there is a half-twinkle in his eyes. Earlier in the summer the journalist Charles C. Coffin had called upon the candidate and noted "a sincerity which won instant confidence. The lines upon his face, the large ears, sunken cheeks, enormous nose, shaggy hair, the deep-set eyes, sparkling with humor, and which seemed to be looking far away, were distinguishing facial marks . . . a stranger meeting him on a country road, ignorant of his history, would have said, 'He is no ordinary man'."