



Lincoln National Life Foundation O-2



Ostendorf collection Variant O-2

A TRUE PHOTOGRAPH AND A RETOUCHEd COPY. On February 28, 1857, Alexander Hesler took the famous photograph of Lincoln (left) in Chicago. About seven months earlier, so went the story, Lincoln had posed for William H. Masters of Princeton, Illinois. No photograph by Masters has turned up, and there is no evidence that he took Lincoln's picture. But the Masters Studio, avoiding the use of the word *photograph*, widely distributed the picture (right) "from the Masters Portrait made July 4, 1856, at Princeton, Ill." So extensive were the sales of the Masters portrait, a reversed and retouched copy of Hesler's likeness, that it has become the best known of Lincoln faked photographs.