

President Lincoln

ATTACKED in a newspaper article for being a Spiritualist, Abraham Lincoln admitted the charge, declaring: "This article does not begin to tell the wonderful things I have seen."

The truth about the psychic life of the great president is told in an article "Lincoln, the Spiritualist," by Dr. W. D. Chesney in the current issue of the American psychic monthly "Chimes."

When Lincoln lost the only woman he ever loved, Ann Rutledge, he almost lost his reason. He told friends that he contemplated taking his own life.

But Lincoln maintained that the spirit of Ann Rutledge warned him against taking such a step.

He became deeply interested in the circulated news of the Rochester rappings, and stories by the orthodox that the Fox sisters made the raps by cracking their big toes angered him.

SEANCES AT HOME

IN the early 1850's Lincoln began to have seances in his home at Springfield, and before his election to the presidency he often went to the seances of trance medium J. B. Conklin in New York.

It was shortly after his election that the "Cleveland Plaindealer" published its article accusing Lincoln of being a Spiritualist and that he made his celebrated reply.

Chesney's familiarity with Lincoln's psychic interests is explained by the fact that his family hails from the Lincoln country. His father read law in Lincoln's office.

Chesney met many of Lincoln's friends at his father's office and heard constantly of his psychic life. Besides, his father kept records of Lincoln's career.

Mrs. Lincoln organized and held countless seances both at their own home and at the White House.

Lincoln often called Conklin to the White House for seances. When the great statesman discovered an even better medium, Nettie Col-

"The

.....
Won -

.....
ders

.....
I

.....
Have

.....
Seen"

.....
burn, he placed great confidence in her.

"There is not the least doubt," writes Chesney, "that through her mediumship he received the message that caused him to issue and enforce the Emancipation Proclamation."

Present at that historic seance were Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, a Mrs. Miller, who possessed great powers of telekinesis, Major Van Vorhees, Representative Somes of Maine and his wife, a man named Laurie and another whose name is not known.

Van Vorhees said later that the seance lasted well over an hour and that no one in the circle doubted that the spirit of Daniel Webster

