TEMPERANCE

DRAWER 3A HABITS

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Abraham Lincoln's Habits

Temperance

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

N. Y. Tribune Sept. 30, 1863

AN APPEAL TO THE WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES. I would ask your exchange papers to give immediate publicity to the following petition, and to urge that one or more public spirited women in each community should at once take it in hand to obtain signatures to it, in overwhelming numbers, so that it may be the expression of a national sentiment. All the women of the United States are cordially invited to give in their names. Signatures may be sent to the Post Office, box 2733, Boston, Mass., and petition papers have been placed at Hovey & Co.'s, 33 Summer street, and other large stores for signatures.

N.

To the President of the United States: We the undersigned, women of the United States, who have freely given our brothers, sons and husbands to fight for their country in this deadly struggle, and who will seek every opportunity to aid, cheer and uphold them to the end—seeing our army, the flower and hope of the land, exposed to needless danger and sufferings—do hereby ask of you, Abraham Lincoln, that you, as chief ruler of this nation, see to it that the strength which is needed against the enemy be not wasted by a foe within—and that you cause all negligent, incompetent, drunken or knavish men, who, in the first hurry of selection, obtained for themselves weighty charges and posts of responsibility, to be at once sought out and dismissed—and that you give our precious soldiers in keeping to the most honest, the most capable, the most faithful, trusty and zealous officers, both civil and military, that can be found within our land.

So that we, waiting at home that issue which the God of Battles alone can give, need fear for our soldiers no evils but those inseparable from war—need fear no inefficient or untrusty quartermasters, no careless, ignorant or drunken officers, no unskilful, unfeeling or drunken surgeons.

We believe that a just severity to such offenders would greatly increase the efficiency of our army, and would strengthen the hands of government by securing the confidence of the people.

It would be welcome to all those officers and officials who are now working faithfully. It would be welcome to every one; for though men are prone to float on the frail platform of "Whatever is, is right," they rejoice when some bold hand breaks it in fragments under them.

We have entrusted to you all that we most value—we believe that you will care for it tenderly and conscientiously—remembering that of this host when one man suffers many hearts bleed. We suffer willingly in the cause of civilization and humanity, and to maintain our national self-respect—we suffer willingly—but we look to you, our chosen ruler, that we do not suffer in vain.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN AS A TEMPERANCE MAN

Leonard Swett tells us that Lincoln told him not more than a year before he was elected President, that he had never tasted liquor in his life, "What," said Swett, "do you mean to say that you never tasted it?"

"Yes," replied Lincoln, I never tasted it." 1908

When we take into consideration the habits of the times, this is a most remarkable testimony to Lincoln's temperance principles, the stability of his character, and the iron quality of his will power.

Mr. C. C. Coffin, a most distinguished journalist of the day, who accompanied the notification committee from the Chicago convention to Springfield at the time of Lincoln's first nomination for the presidency of the United States, related in his newspaper an incident that occurred on that occasion. He says that, after the exchange of formalities, Lincoln said:

"Mrs. Lincoln will be pleased to see you, gentlemen. You will find her in the other room. You must be thirsty after your long ride. You will find a pitcher of water in the library."

The newspaper men crossed the hall and entered the library. There were miscellaneous books on the shelves, two globes, celestial and terrestrial, in the corners of the room, and a plain table, with writing materials upon it, a pitcher of cold water and glasses, and no wines or liquors. There was humor in the invitation to take a glass of water, which was explained to Mr. Coffin by a citizen of Springfield, who said that, when it was known that the committee was coming several citizens called upon Mr. Lincoln and informed him that some entertainment must be provided.

"Yes, that is so. What ought to be done? Just let me know and I will attend to it," he said.

"Oh, we will supply the needed liquors," said his friends.

"Gentlemen," said Mr. Lincoln, "I thank you for your kind attention, but must respectfully decline your offer. I have no liquors in my house, and have never been in the habit of entertaining my friends in that way. I cannot permit my friends to do for me what I will not myself do. I shall provide cold water—nothing else."—Ex.

Lincoln on Temperance.

From an address to a delegation of the "Sons of Temperance," September 29, 1863: If I were better known than I am you would not need to be told that in the advocacy of the cause of temperance you have a friend and sympathizer in me. When I was a young man, long before the Sons of Temperance as an organization had an existence, I, in a humble way, made temperance speeches; and I think I may say that to this day I have never, by my example, belied what I then said. * * * I think the reasonable men of the world have long since agreed that intemperance is one of the greatest, if not the very greatest, evils among mankind.

2-7- 1905

LINCOLN'S HABITS.

Col. John Hay, in the Century.

The President rose early, as his sleep was light and capricious. In the summer, when he lived at the Soldiers' Home, he would take his frugal breakfast and ride into town in time to be at his desk at eight o'clock. He began to receive visits nominally at ten o'clock, but long before that hour struck the doors were besieged by anxious crowds, through whom the people of importance, senators and members of congress, elbowed their way after the fashion which still survives. On days when the Cabinet met, Tuesdays and Fridays, the hour of noon closed the interviews of the morning. On other days it was the President's custom, at about that hour, to order the doors to be opened and all who were waiting to be admitted.

At luncheon time he had literally to run the gauntlet through the crowds who filled the corridors between his office and the rooms at the west end of the house occupied by the family. The afternoon wore away in much the same manner as the morning; late in the day he usually drove out for an hour's airing; at six o'clock he dined.

He was one of the most abstemious of men; the pleasures of the table had few attractions for him. His breakfast was an egg and a cup of coffee; at luncheon he rarely took more than a biscuit and a glass of milk, a plate of fruit in its season; at dinner he ate sparingly of one or two courses. He drank little or no wine; not that he remained always on principle a total abstainer, as he was a part of his early life in the fervor of the "Washingtonian" reform; but he never cared for wine or liquors of any sort, and never used tobacco.

1850

HABITS OF LINCOLN.

Cisco, Ill., April 13, 1880.

1. Did A. Lincoln use tobacco in any form? 2. Give the middle name of S. A. Douglas, the "Little Giant." J. B. Irwin.

Answer.—1. No. He was very temperate in all his habits, and never used tobacco or liquors of any kind. 2. Arnold. 1850

LINCOLN'S TEMPERANCE ADDRESS.

By S. R. Reno.

So far as I know the authenticity of this address of Mr. Lincoln before the Washingtonian Temperance Society has not been called in question. I have a copy of this address and the title is:

"AN ADDRESS. 1842

Delivered Before the Washingtonian Temperance Society at Springfield, Ill., on the 22d Day of Feb., 1842.

By ABRAHAM LINCOLN, Esq.,"

First. I am just a little curious to inquire if there is a living person who heard this memorable address. Almost seventy-four years since it was delivered! There is probably no such person living!

Second. It was a memorable address. It is far in advance of the average thinking of that day upon the question of temperance. It was delivered on the one hundred and tenth birthday anniversary of George Washington. It was delivered by a young man just entered upon his thirty-fourth year, little known outside of his own town and perhaps little known in Sangamon County, though he was a member of the legislature three successive terms, 1835-7-9.

Third. It is a high commendation of the Washingtonian Temperance Society with many quite original ways of putting the truth in favor of temperance, and without one single expression from which a pronounced temperance advocate would dissent today!

Fourth. The closing sentence of this memorable address is a deathless eulogy upon the name of Washington, and is a supremely fitting eulogy to place upon the man himself, who uttered it:

"In solemn awe pronounce the name, and in its naked deathless splendor leave it shining on!"

J WRIGHT

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR.

The article in THE INTERIOR of April 19, headed, "Water Good Enough," is rot strictly correct. The true version is as follows: When the committee of five hundred, headed and appointed by George Ashman, of Massachusetts, the presiding officer of the presidential convention of 1860, reached Springfield, Norman B. Judd of this city, who was one of the delegates, hastened by a more direct route than that taken by the remainder of the delegates to the home of Mr. Lincoln. He passed hurriedly through the parlor where Mr. Lincoln was waiting to receive the delegation and entered the dining room, where he found Mrs. Lincoln. On the table were two baskets of champagne, and others under the table. Mr. Judd said, "Does Mr. Lincoln know these are here?" "No," was Mrs. Lincoln's reply, "they have just been sent in by neighbors." "Take them away, out of sight before a delegate arrives. The issues are too momentous, too pregnant with the destiny of a nation to be celebrated by wine drinking," and calling a servant he helped with his own hands to remove them from the room. When the delegates arrived only cold water was found on the table. "Honor to whom honor is due." A R T

Abraham Lincoln never drank, used tobacco nor swore. And yet he had the advantage of no Sunday school, there being none in his youth, at least in the part of the country he lived in. He was not noted as an especially pious lad, and in after years, some friend asking him how it was that he escaped practices which in his day were nearly universal among men and boys, he simply replied: "I just thought it mean to indulge in them, and having got in the habit of leaving them alone, I never broke the habit in all my later life." The career of Abraham Lincoln is the best comment of this undoubtedly true story. 1873

NO WINE AT HIS TABLE.

It was a great day in Springfield when Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency. The bells rang all day, and when a telegram was received from Chicago that a committee from the convention would arrive in Springfield the next afternoon formally to notify Mr. Lincoln of his nomination, to put it mildly, the town went wild. A great many Springfield people had been at Chicago during the convention, and when they began to arrive each one added to the excitement by telling his story of the great contest. I was then a clerk in my brother's store and was alone when Mr. Lincoln came in. His face was long and he wore an air of extreme depression. He dropped into a chair and looked like a man who had not a friend on earth.

"Can I do anything for you?" I asked.

"I don't know," Mr. Lincoln replied.

"Do you want anything?"

"I don't know."

"What is the trouble, anyway, Mr. Lincoln?" I asked anxiously.

I recall that Mr. Lincoln went on to unfold the difficulty he was in. It seemed that Mrs. Lincoln had considered it the proper thing to prepare a supper at their house for the notification committee, and that she had insisted there should be wine at the table. In that I suppose Mrs. Lincoln was entirely correct, judging from the usual custom of the times, but Mr. Lincoln objected to the wine.

"Do you want to have it?" I remember asking him.

"I have never had wine in my house and I don't want to commence now if I can help it."

Mr. Lincoln added that he realized there were many things he had never done and did not want to do which his new position would require of him, but he did not want wine the first thing.

I told him that he need not and ought not to have a supper at his house anyway that night. The committee of Springfield citizens already had prepared an elaborate dinner for the visitors at the Chenery House, then the leading hotel of Springfield; we were going to have wine and brandy and whisky and water, and the committee ought to be well enough entertained at the dinner before going to call on him to require anything to eat or drink at his house.

He was much pleased at this arrangement, which seemed to take a load off his mind. He then asked what was expected of him during the visit of the committee. I advised him to be waiting at the house and to be much surprised when the committee called. He answered that that would be a lie, for, while he might be excited by the visit of the committee, he would not be surprised.

The plans of the committee were carried out, and there was a big dinner at the Chenery House before the visit to the Lincoln homestead. I still can see in my mind how pleased Mr. Lincoln was when he found out that he need not have wine that night.

Mr. Lincoln had a remarkable power of attracting people to him. Our Springfield society in the early days was, perhaps, the gayest in the State. There were many Kentucky people in the city, and there was much wealth and fashion with us. Only the other day I met a gentleman from St. Louis who was still enthusiastic over a party he attended at the home of Ninian W. Edwards, brother-in-law of Mrs. Lincoln, before the war. We then had a population of only 7,000 or 8,000, and it required all the good people in the town for these events. There were generally card tables up-stairs, while the young people danced in the parlors below. Euchre was the great game at the card tables, and Lincoln was not long at the parties before he was at the card tables, playing euchre. He kept at this until the young people gathered around him and demanded some stories. I still recall how vexed the young men were because the young women preferred hearing Mr. Lincoln tell his stories to dancing. As late as 1860 I recall that a beautiful young woman from the South who was visiting Springfield attended one of these parties where Mr. Lincoln was. She had come from the South with the idea that Mr. Lincoln was a full-fledged devil with horns. She had not been long at the party before she sought an introduction to him, and for the rest of the evening she remained near him. I don't know whether her opinion of him was changed or not, but her experience shows in the most striking way his power of attraction. He had a happy faculty of winning people.

During the campaign of 1860 I saw a good deal of Mr. Lincoln. He kept himself well posted on what was going on throughout the country, and had affairs well gauged before the time for election came.

JOHN W. BUNN.

Chicago [illegible]

The Classmate, June 21, 1902.

Lincoln's Temperance.

WHEN the committee appointed by the Republican National Convention called to inform Lincoln of his nomination for the Presidency, a number of citizens of Springfield, knowing that he did not keep intoxicating liquors in the house, sent a case of wine with which to entertain his guests. He returned it, thanking them for their kindly interest, and said, "I cannot allow you to do what I would not do myself." After the committee had formally notified him of the honor conferred upon him, Mr. Lincoln called a maid, and asked her to bring a pitcher of water and several glass tumblers. He then gravely addressed the distinguished gentlemen present, saying: "Gentlemen, we must pledge our mutual healths in the most healthy beverage God has given to man. It is the only beverage I have ever allowed or used in my family, and I cannot conscientiously depart from it on the present occasion; it is pure Adam's ale from the spring."

Mr. Lincoln often preached what he called a sermon to his boys. It was: "Don't drink, don't gamble, don't smoke, don't lie, don't cheat. Love your fellow-men, love God, love truth, love virtue, and be happy." He taught temperance by example and by precept, and on several occasions suggested to young men not to "put this enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains." While visiting General Grant's army on the Potomac an officer asked Mr. Lincoln to drink a glass of champagne, saying, "Mr. President, that is a certain cure for seasickness." Mr. Lincoln replied that he "had seen many fellows seasick ashore from drinking that vile stuff."—*Northwestern Christian Advocate.*

Lincoln's Promise

WHILE a member of Congress, Abraham Lincoln was once criticised by a friend for his "seeming rudeness in declining to test the rare wines provided by their host." The friend said to him: "There is certainly no danger of a man of your years and habits becoming addicted to the use of wine."

"I mean no disrespect, John," answered Lincoln; but I promised my precious mother only a few days before she died that I would never use anything intoxicating as a beverage, and I consider that promise as binding today as it was the day I gave it."

"But," the friend continued, "there is a great difference between a child surrounded by a rough class of drinkers and a man in a home of refinement."

"A promise is a promise forever," answered Lincoln; "and when made to a mother, it is doubly binding."—Selected.

Union Signal Nov
Oct 13, 1903

HOLDS LINCOLN TO HAVE BEEN FOE OF LIQUOR.

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—To the Editor: One of the resolutions in the platform of the national Republican party recommends the celebration of the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birthday on the 12th of next February. During the coming year it is certain the life of our great President will be studied as never before. His character grows brighter and his influence grows greater as time goes by. Considering the time in which he lived and the circumstances of his early life, it is amazing how unstained is his personal record and how little there is for explanation or apology.

The defenders of liquor selling and liquor drinking persist in their efforts to make it appear that Mr. Lincoln favored the use and sale of intoxicating liquor. Recently a Chicago paper that poses as a national organ of the liquor dealers had an article in which it is claimed that Mr. Lincoln not only drank but sold liquor, and the writer has the impudence to declare that he has evidence to show "that Lincoln once worked in a moonshine stillhouse, that he bought and sold whisky, wine, rum and brandy, and that he held a saloon-keeper's license, in no wise to his discredit."

In the days when Mr. Lincoln was in a grocery store, where whisky was sold, such a man as a saloon-keeper or moonshiner was not known, neither was such a thing as a saloon-keeper's license, as now understood, in existence. It is simply a piece of shameful misrepresentation to try to identify the great name and fame of Mr. Lincoln with the licensed saloon of our day. In this same article the following letter from Secretary Hay is quoted:

DEAR SIR: Mr. Lincoln was a man of extremely temperate habits; he made no use of either whisky or tobacco during all the years that I knew him. Yours very truly, JOHN HAY.

The liquor correspondent refers to this as "most cunningly worded" and doubts its genuineness and says: "The impartial reader will observe that this letter is undated and that the name of the person to whom it is sent is carefully omitted."

The letter was sent to me from Cleveland and was dated Nov. 24, 1894, and was a reply to an inquiry in connection with the claim of some man who said he drank with Mr. Lincoln.

The evidence is cumulative that Mr. Lincoln's lifelong habit was that of total abstinence; that he was a member of total abstinence societies, and that he made public speeches advocating the pledge of total abstinence. While President he addressed a committee of the Sons of Temperance and referred to his former work as an advocate of temperance while a young man, and said: "I think I may say that to this day I have never by my example belied what I then said." This statement by Mr. Lincoln ought to be counted conclusive.

* * * * * * *

The latest attempt to array the name of Lincoln on the side of liquor is in a pamphlet by Nicholas Michels of Chicago. It is entitled, "The Rise and Fall of Prohibition in Illinois; 1830-1855; a Crushing Defeat Concealed by Prohibitionists; Lincoln as Legislator, Orator and President; Never a Prohibitionist"; and it is dedicated to "All Lovers of Truth." A careful reading of this pretentious pamphlet shows that in connection with proposed prohibitory legislation in the Illinois legislature Mr. Lincoln voted against it. There is not, however, one word from Mr. Lincoln expressing his opposition to prohibition. There seems to have been a careful sifting of the newspaper reports of the time, but not a sentence was found in any speech of Mr. Lincoln opposing prohibition.

Mr. Michels shows good judgment by not repeating again the fabricated message against prohibition that has been so widely circulated by the liquor papers, but never found in any authorized publication of Mr. Lincoln's speeches.

The best thing in Mr. Michels' pamphlet is the long extract from Lincoln's noted speech made before the Springfield Washingtonian Society on Feb. 22, 1842. He opposed the denunciation of dram sellers and dram drinkers as impolitic and in his usual catholic and generous way gave some of the reasons why men would sell and drink liquor because "universal public opinion not only tolerated, but recognized and adopted its use."

Mr. Michels ought to have quoted still further and found that Mr. Lincoln not only was opposed to liquor selling, but foresaw the time when the traffic would be annihilated. In that address he made a powerful picture of the evils of drink. He said: "The demon of intemperance seems to have delighted in sucking the blood of genius and generosity." He made a powerful comparison between the political revolution of 1776 and the coming moral revolution as to intemperance, and said:

> Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage broken, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed—in it more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it, no orphans starving, no widows weeping; by it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest. Even the dram maker and dram seller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change, and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness.

He refers also to the conflict with slavery and adds:

> And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory! How nobly distinguished that people who shall have planted and nurtured to maturity both the political and moral freedom of their species!

* * * * *

It is a fact of very striking interest that General George Pickett, who led the famous confederate charge at Gettysburg, received his appointment to West Point through Abraham Lincoln, then member of Congress. The widow of General Pickett, in McClure's for March, gives a quotation from a letter of Mr. Lincoln to his protege written about the time of his famous Washingtonian speech: "I have just told the folks here in Springfield, on this one hundred and eleventh anniversary of the birth of him whose name, mightiest in the cause of civil liberty, still mightiest in the cause of moral reformation, we mention in solemn awe, in naked deathless splendor, that the one victory we can ever call complete will be that one which proclaims that there is not one slave or one drunkard on the face of God's green earth. Recruit for this victory!"

In the destruction of the legalized liquor traffic now on the programme of civilization, there can be no proper use of Abraham Lincoln in its defense.

DUNCAN C. MILNER.

Northwestern Christian Advocate

February 3, 1909.

LINCOLN AND TEMPERANCE.

Just as we go to press the following is presented for publication. The matter is one of urgency and should be taken up by all our people at once:

WHEREAS, the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln will be celebrated on the twelfth day of this month by a banquet in Springfield, our capital city, which will be of state-wide interest and influence, and at which, it is reported, intoxicating liquors are to be served; and,

WHEREAS, this great and foremost American was a total abstainer and an ardent advocate of prohibition:

Resolved, by the ministers of the Chicago Methodist Preachers' Meeting that we express our sincere regret at the introduction of such an inconsistent and incompatible feature of a banquet in memory of this man whose prohibition habits and utterances were among the most pronounced features of his life: and be it further,

Resolved, that we respectfully request the committee in charge to omit all intoxicating liquors for the sake of consistency, and a proper respect for his strong and pronounced prohibition habits and principles, and also for the sake of the hundreds of thousands of citizens who have since become adherents of these same righteous and sane principles.

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the committee and also to the city press.

S. H. WIRSCHING, Chairman.
J. W. MOHNEY, Secretary.

The Interior, February 11, 1909.

Lincoln at a Saloon Door

BY JOHN TALMADGE BERGEN, D.D.

SOME years ago at a Lincoln meeting among the old soldiers of a Michigan city, one of the battle-worn veterans gave the following testimony: "We have heard what Lincoln has done for all of us; I want to tell what he did for me. I was a private in one of the Western regiments that arrived first in Washington after the call for 75,000. We were marching through the city amid great crowds of cheering people, and then after going into camp were given leave to see the town.

"Like many other of our boys, the saloon or tavern was the first thing we hit. With my comrade I was just about to go into the door of one of these places, when a hand was laid upon my arm, and looking up, there was President Lincoln from his great height above me, a mere lad, regarding me with those kindly eyes and pleasant smile.

"I almost dropped with surprise and bashfulness, but he held out his hand, and as I took it he shook hands in strong Western fashion and said: 'I don't like to see our uniform going into these places.' That was all he said. He turned immediately and walked away; and we passed on. We would not have gone into that tavern for all the wealth of Washington City.

"And this is what Abraham Lincoln did then and there for me. He fixed me so that whenever I go near a saloon and in any way think of entering, his words and face come back to me. That experience has been a means of salvation to my life. Today I hate the saloon, and have hated it ever since I heard those words from that great man."

Who Killed Lincoln and McKinley?

Listen: It was the common murderer Government Licensed ALCOHOL! Hear me: The official trial records show that the plot to assassinate President Lincoln and his cabinet was hatched in Mrs. Surratt's Government-Licensed Saloon, fourteen miles south of Washington City; that there the assassins drank the liquor poison that inspired the plot; that all the conspirators with the possible exception of two—Mrs. Surratt and Dr. Mudd—were confirmed inebriates, and that Dr. Mudd frequented the bar of Mrs. Surratt; that Booth was a heavy drinker, and that he and the others designated to carry out the plot had just made the round of Washington's licensed saloons, where they drank the alcoholic poison that nerved his hand for that fatal shot, and made the rest too drunk to do their part successfully.

And remember that McKinley also was a victim of our Government's licensed liquid poison traffic. I have a picture of the saloon kept by the father of Czolgosz, where, in a rear room, the boy Czolgosz heard the vile speech of the anarchists who met there, and later he worked in the Stroh Brewery, East Cleveland, and when he went to Buffalo to assassinate McKinley he was harbored in John Nowak's Government Licensed Saloon. And remember that all over the world the chief instigator and incentive to crime is ALCOHOL!

2-6-1912

Was Lincoln a Local Optionist?

Clear Politics 2-8-1912

By WM. FORST CRISPIN.

To say that Abraham Lincoln believed in local option for any great evil, such as the liquor traffic, would be to assail his knowledge of law, both human and divine. It would be to say that he lacked reverence for the laws of both God and man. It would be to say he was sadly deficient in his knowledge of constitutional law and to deny that he possessed a clear perception of what is right and what is wrong.

But he had remarkable discernment, he had a clear preception of great moral questions. He was a most conscientious man. For him to grant an option, a legal right, to a wrong, would prove that his conscience was not robust. But his conduct on many occasions shows that his conscience was highly developed.

But besides all this, to say that Lincoln was a local optionist would be to flatly deny the facts of history. Let us see. History, where did Lincoln stand on the great evils with which he was called to deal? Did he favor local option for negro slavery? Or for the liquor traffic? Or for any other great evil? Does history anywhere record any evidence that he believed in granting an option or community right to any great wrong? Examine the records of his debates with Douglas and what do you find? Why, you find that he flatly rejected the idea that the people had any right to legalize a wrong in any community.

Lincoln Rejected "Squatter Sovereignty."

That is, he rejected local option or community option for negro slavery; and many of his speeches show that he could not be true to his own teaching and hold to local option for the liquor traffic. Major J. B. Merwin, a close friend of Lincoln, whom the latter often entrusted with his most important messages during the civil war, says that he first met Lincoln in the Illinois legislature when he went before that body in 1854 to explain the working of the Maine Prohibitory law. And Mr. Merwin, who is still living, says that he and Lincoln campaigned together in that state for State Prohibition, and Merwin testifies that he made record of many of Lincoln's notable utterances which he made in the speeches during the aforesaid campaign, wherein, among much else, Lincoln avowed himself a "political prohibitionist." In fact, the burden of Lincoln's speeches was PROHIBITION and an outcry AGAINST LICENSING THE BEVERAGE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Various "Sophistical Contrivances."

There are always people who exploit various "sophistical contrivances" and subterfuges to defend the wrong and to excuse themselves for doing what their own conscience condemns. And Lincoln, in his fight against slavery, met that class then as we meet them in our fight against the liquor traffic. Their purpose then as now was two-fold: first, to deceive the people; and second, to save their own guilty consciences. But Lincoln said to his co-workers:

"Let us be diverted by none of these sophistical contrivances wherewith we are so industriously plied and belabored—contrivances such as groping for some middle ground between the right and the wrong."

Now see how aptly that fits the case today. See how "industriously" the license-party people "belabor" us today with now this and now that "contrivance" to turn us from the plain path of duty—contrivances such as tax and license laws, regulation and segregation. And when these fail them they have ready other subterfuges such as "give us pure liquors," or (from a class) "give us wines and malt liquors, instead of strong drinks," or "allow no treating," or "compel the drinker to take out a license," or "give us a very high license," or "restrict the sale to certain hours," or "give us the Gothenberg system"; and when all these fail them, then they clamor for that old, old shuttlecock device of the devil, local or county option; and the Anti-Saloon League will exploit this old, worn-out fraud as a brand new invention discovered by them!

And when the bottom drops out of that rotton old local-option scheme, then they begin to ring the changes on another scheme, a 60-year-old fallacy—non-partisan State Prohibition—thus they will accept any old "sophistical contrivance" to save them from the real thing—Prohibition with a Prohibition Party in power that wants the law enforced.

All these non-partisan schemes are hell born, because they are such lying half truths that they deceive the very elect, and they form the mainstay of the licensed liquor traffic. They are un-American and they are devices of the liquor devil. And all enemies of the liquor traffic and all other great evils should avoid them as they would avoid an implacable foe; for none of them are Prohibition nor do they lead up to Prohibition, but instead they are each and all Prohibition's direct enemy. Their object and effect is to keep in power the two old rum-party hacks—the Republican and Democratic—which for fifty years have spawned the license liquor traffic and its retinue of curses all over our loved country. Is it not time our people should hurl from power these parties which form the bulwark of this liquor power infernal?—And now that all these satanic measures have so clearly

Aided and Abetted this "Legalized Outlaw,"

will our people be hoodooed and goldbricked any longer? Surely we are nearing the end of these fake cures for our Government's Licensed Drunkard Factories and Crime-Breeders. I cannot believe the enemies of this vile traffic can be deceived much longer.

Many of the churches, which heretofore affiliated with them, are now turning their backs upon the League. And some Good Templars have repudiated the League. And every student of the drink curse must know that, outside of the liquor traffic itself, there is no enemy of the Prohibition Party that equals the

about

Lincoln in His Debate With Douglas?

What does the record show? It shows that, among other things, Lincoln said: "Mr. Douglas contends that whatever community wants slaves has a right to have them." "So they have," said Lincoln, "IF SLAVERY IS NOT WRONG. BUT IF IT IS WRONG HE CAN NOT SAY THAT A PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO DO A WRONG." This places our martyred President squarely against local ontion or community option for ANY great evil. And since he regarded the liquor traffic as "a cancer in society, eating out its vitals, and all attempts to REGULATE the cancer must prove abortive," (see Rev. Dr. Crispin's "Lincoln the First American," p. 23) surely there is not the shade nor the shadow of a shade of doubt that he would have repudiated local option for this "legalized outlaw."

Then, too, he declared: "NOTHING MORALLY WRONG CAN BE POLITICALLY RIGHT." Thus assurance is made doubly sure. And to rivet and clinch and solder and weld the whole matter into such an impregnable and self-evident truth, so there can be no loophole for any fair-minded person to escape the conclusion that Lincoln was unalterably opposed to granting a legal right to any great evil, let us quote just one more of his noted utterances. He said:

"Whoever desires the prevention and spread of slavery and the nationalization of that institution, YIELDS ALL when he yields to ANY policy that either recognizes slavery as BEING RIGHT or being an indifferent thing. Nothing will make you SUCCESSFUL but setting up a policy which shall treat the thing as BEING WRONG." And since "local option" concedes a legal right to a great evil, under certain conditions, this latter statement leaves no room to doubt that Lincoln would have been unalterably opposed to granting an option to the liquor traffic as well as to the slave traffic.

We "YIELD ALL" when we recognize an evil thing as having any legal right, anywhere. So says Abraham Lincoln, the foremost American.

Akron, Ohio.

False Charges on Lincoln.

Clear Printing 2-22-1912

It is often charged by the liquor men that Lincoln, while young, kept a "grocery," or what was then called a "doggery," which meant a saloon. These charges are false and invented by liquor men to slander the name of the great emancipator. The one responsible for starting the charges and putting them in circulation was Senator Douglas, with whom Lincoln held his memorable debates.

Douglas charged that Lincoln was a heavy drinker while he was young, which charge seems to have not been denied at the time, so palpably false was it. Douglas also charged that Lincoln kept a "doggery," or a saloon, which charge Lincoln immediately denied in the following emphatic language:

"The Judge (meaning Judge Douglas) is woefully at fault about his friend Lincoln having been a grocery keeper, meaning a saloon keeper. He is mistaken; Lincoln never kept a grocery anywhere in the world."

To be sure Lincoln did confess to the "little folly," as he expressed it, of working for a few months in a still house.

Of course, Lincoln did engage in the mercantile business, and as was the custom of almost every merchant then, did keep liquors for sale. But that was away back in 1833, long before the awful sinfulness of the liquor traffic was looked upon as it is today. If Lincoln is to be condemned and classed as a liquorite because his firm sold liquors in the ordinary course of business, many of the best men that generation furnished must be put in the same class.

LESSONS IN LIFE OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN POINTED OUT

Perpetual Message of Great Emancipator Subject of Dr. W. H. Geistweit's Sermon

TIME IDEALIZES CHARACTER

No Question is Settled Until It Is Settled Right, Says Baptist Pastor

"The Perpetual Message of Abraham Lincoln" was the subject in the First Baptist church last evening. The pastor, Dr. W. H. Geistweit, took the occasion of the birthday of the great emancipator to point out some lessons which seemed to him of abiding value to the world. Intimating the striking conditons that brought Abraham Lincoln to the front, he declared that time seems to idealize the character of the man; that in the years to come the question of the reality of the personage will be as living as the questions concerning the great personages of Biblical history. The "perpetual messages," Dr. Geistweit said, were these:

"The first message to the world of young men is: that nothing can hinder any man from rising to the highest heights of character and service, if his blood is red, is clean, is pure. Abraham Lincoln declares to the world that there is only one real aristocracy—the aristocracy of character. There is no need here of speaking of his lowly beginnings; every school boy is familiar with them. The greatest thing in his life at the beginning was his mother. His manhood tribute to her character should be written over every home: 'All that I am I owe to my sainted mother.' Great men have usually had great mothers. Piety, goodness, honor, uprightness, tenderness, love—these things belong to the aristocracy of character—and there is no other.

Lincoln's Second Message

"The second message which is perpetual in its teaching is: no question is ever settled until it is settled right. Even Abraham Lincoln had to learn this in the midst of his great career. There was a time when he was willing to save the union at the expense of the great moral issue, which really precipitated the civil war—human slavery. He wrote to Horace Greeley: 'If I could save the union without freeing any slave I would, do it; if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would do that. Above all else, I would save the union.' But a greater power swept over his soul. The union of the states was purely a human issue; freedom was a divine issue, and God moved in that. It was not until the great battle of Antietam that he saw the mighty sweep of God's purpose, and Abraham Lincoln's vow carried him through the turbulent seas of suggested compromise. This is a message needed today. We are waging a bloodless battle against human slavery—a slavery that knows no color line, nor nationality, nor age. It is the battle against the enslavement of men by intoxicating drink. Now and then we hear it said that some of the great men of the past were in favor of intoxicating liquors.

"Not long ago a large saloon in this city sent out an advertisement suggesting that George Washington was a manufacturer of liquor; that he willed a distillery to others who came after him. Whether George Washington was in favor of liquor drinking or not, it argues no more for the honor of it than the willingness of Abraham Lincoln at one time in the great conflict to save the union at the expense of slavery argued the honor of slavery. Nothing is ever settled until it is settled right. It has been stated that Mr. Lincoln could not be quoted on the side of total abstinence. It is ignorance of history that puts Mr. Lincoln on the wrong side of this great moral issue. On the occasion of his notification of nomination to the presidency, he arose and called to a girl in another part of the house and engaged in some conversation not heard by his guests. Presidently the girl came in with a pitcher of water and some glasses. Mr. Lincoln gravely addressed the company, and said: 'We must pledge our mutual healths in the most healthy beverage which God has given to man—it is the only beverage I have ever used or allowed in my family, and I cannot conscientiously depart from it on the present occasion—it is pure Adams' ale from the spring.' The great issue which is now being fought will never be settled until it is settled right—and we know what that 'right' means.

"Arsenal of Argument"

"The third message is appealing: No man realizes himself until his moral nature is stirred. Lincoln had a long career as a small politician. He did little, said little, of great value. The Lincoln-Douglass debate transformed him. A moral issue swept his soul. He went to the depths of the slavery question. As another has said, he became a 'complete arsenal of argument,' and he swept the field clean of his opponents; for God came into his soul. He would rather tell the truth than win an election. His message to every man is: Moral issues determine human destiny. There are men all about us, living aimlessly, so far as moral issues are concerned. The gathering of gold is more important than the making of character. You cannot know yourself until God comes in and speaks to you.

"These are eternal principles upon which human character is builded. Abraham Lincoln lives; his life, his honesty, his fairness, his unselfishness, his greatness of soul, the prophet-president, the liberator—he lives! Long as the world stands, while the stars move in their courses, all men draw inspiration from his life; his name shall call them back to the path of duty, of love, of self-surrender to the good of others—which is the path of Jesus Christ, the path of God."

Feb 12 1912

How Lincoln Drank a Toast.

Lincoln would be in the forefront of the warfare on the liquor traffic. He promised his mother when a little boy that he would never touch intoxicants, and he kept that vow sacredly to the day of his death. He told one of his most intimate friends that a drop of liquor had never passed down his throat and that he did not know what the various kinds of drink tasted like. Few addresses can be found more eloquent than some of his temperance lectures. His friends in Springfield knew he never kept drink at his house and sent over a box of liquors for the reception of the committee of the republican party who were to notify him of his nomination for the presidency the first time. Looking at his wife and calling her "Mother," as he always did, he said: "We have never used or served such drinks and will not begin now," and sent the box back. And it is a matter of history that this moral giant had the courage officially to drink to the health of the party and the nation in cold, sparkling water from the well, making a beautiful tribute to it as he proposed the toast.—Christian Herald.

1916

FROM "A PILGRIMAGE" TO GENTRYVILLE, IND., WRITTEN BY LANNES MCCARTRIDGE, IN "NATIONAL REPUBLICAN" WASHINGTON D.C. 8-31-1918

When Lincoln was not working for the Jones store, he often went to it, always certain that he would find a group of his friends on hand. It is said that much drinking was indulged in at this community lounging place, a custom that was generally prevalent, but Lincoln was never known to participate in these social revels, not only because he had a distaste for whisky but was an abstainer from principle. The strongest "profanity" he was ever known to utter in his youth was "I jings," an expression which he took with him into Illinois and on to the White House.

* * *

LINCOLN DRANK "ADAM'S ALE"

Immediately after Mr. Lincoln's nomination for President at the Chicago convention, a committee, of which Governor Morgan, of New York, was chairman, visited him in Springfield, Ill., where he was officially informed of his nomination.

After this ceremony had passed, Mr. Lincoln remarked to the company that as an appropriate conclusion to an interview so important and interesting as that which had just transpired, he supposed good manners would require that he should treat the committee with something good to drink; and opening the door that led into the rear, he called out, "Mary! Mary!" A girl responded to the call, to whom Mr. Lincoln spoke a few words in an undertone, and, closing the door, returned again and conversed with his guests. In a few minutes the maiden entered, bearing a large waiter, containing several glass tumblers, and a large pitcher in the midst, and placed it upon the center-table. Mr. Lincoln arose, and gravely addressing the company, said: "Gentlemen, we must pledge our mutual health in the most healthy beverage that God has given to man—it is the only beverage I have ever used or allowed my family to use, and I cannot conscientiously depart from it on the present occasion. It is pure Adam's ale from the spring;" and, taking the tumbler, he touched it to his lips, and pledged them his highest respects in a cup of cold water. Of course, all his guests were constrained to admire his consistency, and to join in his example.

* * * * * *

1921

Lincoln Refused Champaign.

Though there are many remedies, so-called for sea sickness, yet medical science, we believe, refuses to put forth any of them either as preventitives or as cures. Prominent among the remedies which keep their promise neither to the ear nor to the hope are wine and spirits. An anecdote of President Lincoln, related in the Century, shows that he knew the uselessness of these remedies.

When he visited Gen. Grant at City Point, in 1864, he was met on his arrival by the General and his staff. When asked how he was, the President replied:

"I am not feeling very well. I got pretty badly shaken up on the bay coming down, and I am not altogether over yet."

"Let me send for a bottle of champagne for you, Mr. President." said a staff officer; "that is the best remedy I know of for sea sickness."

"No, no, my young friend," repied the President; "I've seen many a man in my time sea sick ashore from drinking that very article.'

That was the last time any one screwed up sufficient courage to offer him wine—Youth's Companion.—3-12-86.

J WRIGHT

Lincoln and Temperance

Editor Northwestern Christian Advocate.] 2/20-1918

I was much interested in reading the article by Abel M. White regarding Lincoln, and the following incident may be of interest to some of your people:

In 1911, I was in Springfield for quite a while interested in securing the passage of the injunction and abatement (which became a law July 1, 1915), and I met at the Leland Hotel a gentleman by the name of Thayer, at the head of the Thayer Dry Goods Company. He had been in a continuous business in Springfield at that time for seventy years, and was about ninety-four years of age, and died about two years later. I asked Mr. Thayer about the stories that had been circulated about Abraham Lincoln selling liquor or drinking liquor. He said, "I do not know what Mr. Lincoln did before he came to Springfield, but after he came to Springfield he was a total abstainer." He also said, "I was a member of a militia company in 1832, and Mr. Lincoln addressed our company on temperance." I had the pleasure of attending several of the Billy Sunday meetings held that year in Springfield, and sitting in front of me was a woman wearing a white ribbon, and I asked her a similar question to the one asked of Mr. Thayer, and she said: "When my husband was about twelve years of age he heard Mr. Lincoln speak on temperance, and he desired to sign the pledge, but he could not write his name, and Mr. Lincoln held the boy's hand and wrote the boy's name for him."

My father was born in 1800, and was the first man in his town to raise a building without the aid of intoxicating liquor, was one of the first to refuse to have intoxicating liquor served in the harvest field on the farm. That was about 1820, and I think you will appreciate that when Lincoln addressed a militia company in 1832 against intoxicating liquor it was certainly a radical step to take in those days.

In 1910, I went with a party of about twenty-three people starting from Chicago on September 30 and visiting St. Paul, Minneapolis, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles, Houston, New Orleans, Memphis, and back to Chicago. We were agitating against the social evil, and in New Orleans I visited the basement of the old state house and saw the auction block where slaves were sold, and back of this platform (block) was a room where the slaves were kept before they were sold, and I said to myself, and uttered a prayer, that as Lincoln helped to free the black race, I would help in this great contest against the social evil, and it has always been an inspiration to me whenever I have thought of that incident and have thought of Lincoln, because he in an earlier day saw slaves sold in New Orleans from the same auction block (I suppose).

What an inspiration to the world is the life of Abraham Lincoln, a man who loved God and showed his love by his love to his fellow man.

ARTHUR BURRAGE FARWELL,
President Chicago Law and Order League.

Abraham Lincoln, Total Abstainer

REV. FREDERICK B. ALLEN

Protestant Episcopal Rector and Secretary of the General Theological Library, Boston, in the *Boston Evening Transcript*

Times Herald March 13, 1913

AT this time when the subject of national prohibition is forced upon our consideration, it may be worth while to recall the devotion of Abraham Lincoln to the temperance cause.

A recent biography, called "The Latest Light on Abraham Lincoln," gives very significant quotations from his writings. The public has not realized the depth and intensity of his devotion to the cause of total abstinence. He more than once assured others that in all his life "he never drank or tasted a drop of alcoholic liquor of any kind!"

In 1847, while a member of Congress, when declining to partake of some rare wine provided by a host, he said that he meant no disrespect, but he had made a solemn promise to his mother, only a few days before her death. that he would never use, as a beverage, anything intoxicating, "and I consider that pledge," said he, "as binding today as it was the day I gave it."

In his early life he made temperance speeches throughout Illinois, and especially made a famous address on the 22d of February, 1842, which arraigned the liquor traffic and demanded the support of all good citizens for temperance reform.

After he became a member of Congress, he conducted a temperance meeting at Sangamon County, at which he pleaded with old and young to sign the following total abstinence pledge: "Whereas the use of intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, is productive of pauperism, degradation, and crime; believing it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage."

In 1908 the German-American Alliance, a liquor-favoring organization, desiring to connect the name of Lincoln with the liquor traffic, published a facsimile of a liquor license issued many years before in the name of Berry & Lincoln, to keep a tavern in New Salem. They omitted to state that Lincoln refused to approve getting this license, and immediately left the partnership with Berry on this very account.

During his presidency, Mr. Lincoln strongly objected to a section of the internal revenue measure, which taxed alcoholic liquors. "That tax," said he, "will tend to perpetuate the liquor traffic, and I cannot consent to aid in doing that." "But," said Secretary Chase, the author of that revenue law, "Mr. President, this is a war measure. It is only a temporary measure, for a present emergency, and cannot fasten the liquor traffic upon the nation, for it will be repealed as soon as the war is ended."

The President yielded to the entreaties of Mr. Chase and signed the bill, saying as he did so, "I would rather lose my right hand than to sign a document that will tend to perpetuate the liquor traffic, and as soon as the exigencies pass away I will turn my whole attention to the repeal of that document."

On the last day of Lincoln's life, Major Merwin, a distinguished temperance advocate, dined with the President at the White House, to confer with him respecting an important business matter. As he was about to depart, President Lincoln said to him, "Merwin, we have cleaned up with the help of the people a colossal job. Slavery is abolished. After reconstruction, the next great question will be the overthrow and the abolition of the liquor traffic, and you know, Merwin, that my head and heart and hand and purse will go into that work. In 1842—less than a quarter of a century ago—I predicted, under the influences of God's Spirit, that the time would come when there would be neither a slave nor a drunkard in the land. Thank God, I have lived to see one of those prophecies fulfilled. I hope to see the other realized."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Highland Democrat

TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION CRUSADER

Feb 24/1921

Penfield, N.Y.

By Chester A. Smith

Lincoln had a part in the two great moral reforms in American history: The abolition of slavery and the abolition of the liquor traffic. His part in the crusade against slavery, however, was so outstanding that it has overshadowed his part in the crusade against the liquor traffic. But it is a fitting time now to recall the fact that the Great Emancipator was not only a total abstainer, but an open and active crusader for temperance and prohibition.

The crusade against the liquor traffic which resulted in the 18th Amendment is not of recent origin. It goes back to the beginning of the Republic, when Dr. Benjamin Rush, Chairman of the Committee on Independence in the Continental Congress, published his book on "The Evil Effects of Alcohol" in 1785.

But for many years after that there was no organized movement for total abstinence or prohibition. Liquor drinking was common. In the West the serving of liquor was one of the most common methods of expressing frontier hospitality. A whiskey jug was kept in almost every home. Good whiskey could be purchased for fifteen cents a gallon. It was sold in grocery stores as well as in saloons. And drunkenness was very prevalent.

It was in such an atmosphere that the boy Lincoln grew up. Yet from the beginning he was a total abstainer. So impressed was he by the harm he saw resulting from liquor drinking that before he was nineteen years old he wrote a paper upon the evils of intemperance which a Baptist preacher liked so well that he had it published in an Ohio newspaper. That was the first published utterance Lincoln gave to the world.

When the Washingtonian temperance movement was organized in 1840, Lincoln supported it. On February 22, 1842, he delivered in the Presbyterian Church in Springfield before the local branch of the Society his famous temperance address. It was printed in full in the Sangamon County Weekly and is to be found in Nicholay & Hay's Life and several other books. In it he tells the harm of liquor drinking, relates the history of the temperance movement, pleads for its early triumph, and after comparing the temperance revolution with that political revolution which resulted in American independence, concludes with these words, which, like so many of his utterances, were prophetic: "And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunakrd on earth—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory."

After this address Lincoln kept up his campaigning in the cause of total abstinence, addressing many temperance meetings and persuading many people to sign the pledge. The pledge he used in most of his meetings was one he wrote himself and was as follows: "Whereas, the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation and crime, and believing it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage".

The next step in the temperance movement was the enactment of state prohibition laws. Maine began in 1846. Connecticut and Massachusetts following in 1852 and 1854. James B. Merwin, who had been active in the campaigns which brought those laws, conducted, at the request of the temperance people of Illinois, a similar campaign in that state. In that campaign Lincoln took part. He helped raise money for it, drew the prohibition law which was voted on at the election, made speeches in its behalf, and was, according to Merwin, the most effective speaker of the campaign. That was in 1855.

The first newspaper to suggest Lincoln as the nominee of the new Republican party for the Presidency was The Central Illinois Gazette, and the editor of the paper, William O. Stoddard, has said that it was because of Lincoln's well known temperance views that the suggestion was made.

After his nomination by the Chicago convention, when the committee from the convention came to Springfield to notify him of his nomination, Lincoln refused to permit liquor to be served at the ceremonies.

Later, when he became President, he banished liquor from the White House, an act which created a social revolution in the capitol.

It was with great reluctance that, as President, Lincoln signed the Revenue Bill of 1862, which put a federal tax upon the sale of liquor for the benefit of the Federal government, for he realized the grave danger of giving the liquor traffic the protection of federal law. He only did so, however, because of the pressing need for more revenue to conduct the war and upon the promise of the leading members of the Senate and House of Representatives that when the war was over that part of the law would be repealed.

In 1861, he had appointed Merwin, with whom he worked for prohibition in Illinois in 1855, to lecture on temperance and to do temperance work among the soldiers in the Union armies, and in 1862 he gave him a personal pass to facilitate his work. This pass is now the prized possession of Charles T. White, of Brooklyn, to whose courtesy I am indebted for the great privilege of having seen it a few weeks ago.

In 1863, addressing a delegation of the Sons of Temperance, which organization he had joined as a young man, Lincoln said: "When I was a young man—long ago, before the Sons of Temperance as an organization had an existence—I in an humble way made temperance speeches and I think I may say that to this day I have never by my example belied what I then said."

And as an evidence that the successful conclusion of the war had not caused Lincoln to forget his promise to have that part of the revenue law licensing the sale of liquor repealed, he said to Merwin on the afternoon of April 14, 1865: "Merwin, we have cleaned up, with the help of the people, a collosal job. Slavery is abolished. After reconstruction, the next great question will be the overthrow and abolition of the liquor traffic, and you know, Merwin, that my head and my heart and my hand and my purse will go into that work. In 1842—less than a quarter of a century ago—I predicted, under the influence of God's spirit, that the time would come when there would be neither a slave nor a drunkard in the land. I have lived to see, thank God, one of those prophecies fulfilled. I hope to see the other realized."

But Lincoln was not spared to live to see that other prophecy realized or to labor again to help bring it to pass. For on the night of that very day an assasin—a liquor drinker and a frequenter of saloons—took his life.

While Lincoln and the men in Blue, with the help of the patriotic people of the North, had been winning the Civil War, the liquor dealers had been organizing to perpetuate their traffic. The United States Brewers' Association was formed in 1862. After the war they were able to prevent the repeal of the law licensing the sale of liquor. All the temperance work done in the days before the war had to be done over again. The 18th Amendment is no happen-so; it is the result of another generation of temperance work.

Now with the spread of the temperance movement throughout the world it would seem that as the world has followed the leadership of America in matters of government, so it will follow her leadership on this great question. Lloyd George, for instance, speaking upon this subject a few months ago said: "If America sticks to her prohibition program, England will be dry in ten years."

Yes, Lincoln was right. It was nothing less than the influence of God's spirit which prompted him, nearly a hundred years ago, to prophesy the time when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth.

EDITORIAL

IT IS a cheering sign of patriotism that we are still celebrating the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, and we may take patriotism in its broadest meaning thus. When we exalt this great man we exalt almost everything that is great and good in a human life. Through our schools, public and private and churchly, the attention of the major part of our youthful population is directed in a special manner to the life and character of this great leader. This is in itself a mighty asset of both patriotism and religion.

HOW shall we best celebrate Lincoln's birthday?

A clew to this answer may be found in Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg address. We shall best honor Lincoln's memory by dedicating ourselves to the causes to which he dedicated himself.

Abraham Lincoln was conspicuous in his devotion to his country. He forgot himself and his own personal interests, utterly, in becoming the grand champion of the Union in the dark days when misguided men sought to rend it asunder.

The spirit of human fellowship and cooperation we find expressed to-day in the League of Nations, the Disarmament Conference, and in many other efforts for realizing international peace and progress, was only national in its scope sixty years ago. It is easy for us to imagine how enthusiastic Abraham Lincoln would be to-day, if he were alive, for the promotion of the best things in the relations of the nations. It was his great task to resist, and triumphantly to prevent, the dismembering of the United States of America. Most peaceable and tender in disposition, it became his dread duty to go down into the depths of the horrors of civil war. In the discharge of this duty he did not flinch, but went straight forward, calling upon the name of God. It was perfectly clear to him in those dark days that there should be but one nation, one government, one flag, within our territory. He could see in the existence of two nations only rivalries and jealousies and antagonisms through all the years. The peace of God prevailing within our vast territory could only be secured by preserving the Union as it was; and for this he counted all things but loss, counting not even his life dear unto himself.

Our assemblies, our orations, our flags, amount to very little unless we keep the spirit of Lincoln's patriotism and allow its impulses full play as we assume some personal share in the momentous national and international problems of our day.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was an advocate of law and order. To honor the laws was his political religion, and he urged this upon us as a part of our religion. We are to-day in the midst of what may well prove to be the final struggle with the drink evil. The promoters of this nefarious business know neither God nor man, nor laws nor rights nor justice. The whole abominable traffic is now under ban of the laws, national and state; and yet its promoters are making the most desperate efforts to nullify these laws and to trample them under foot.

There can be no doubt as to what Abraham Lincoln would say and do to-day. There is no doubt as to the stand that we shall take for law and order if we truly honor him.

THEN there is the cause of education. We are only in the early stages of a great campaign for thorough-going, popular education. How important it is to train children aright Abraham Lincoln well knew, for this was illustrated in his own case. When Lincoln was a boy there were only a few scattering temperance people in this country, and rarely was a temperance worker seen. But it happened that there was a man in Illinois called "Old Uncle John," who used to travel about the country holding temperance meetings in the log schoolhouses of those sparsely settled communities. Most of the people came out of curiosity, and but few showed any sympathy with him. One night when he made his plea for temperance and closed with an invitation to come forward and sign the pledge, there was only one who moved—a tall, ungainly boy who got to his feet and walked down the aisle. His clothes were poor and sadly outgrown; but when the boy stooped down and wrote the name, "Abraham Lincoln," on the pledge, a hush fell upon the rough men who were present.

It has been affirmed that the work of that night lives in history, for Lincoln always attributed much of his success in life to his temperance principles. At that time almost everybody drank whisky, and there were few who saw anything wrong in it. Years afterward "Old Uncle John" was entertained in the White House in Washington, and President Lincoln said to him, "I owe more to you than to almost any one of whom I can think. If I had not signed the pledge with you in the days of my youthful temptations, I should probably have gone the way of the majority of my early companions, who lived drunkards' lives and are now filling drunkards' graves."

What Uncle John did for Lincoln, Lincoln tried to do for many other boys. Seventy-six years ago Lincoln rode on horseback to South Fork Schoolhouse, in Sangamon County, Illinois, made a temperance speech, and invited everybody present to sign a total abstinence pledge. This pledge, signed, and advocated by Abraham Lincoln, has become the pledge of the Lincoln Legion to-day:

> "Whereas, the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is productive of poverty, degradation and crime, and believing that it is our duty to destroy that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage."

Two boys, Cleopas Breckenridge and Moses Martin, signed this pledge. They never forgot when Abraham Lincoln, with the pledge in one hand, placed the other lovingly on each lad's head as if in consecration, and solemnly pledged them to total abstinence.

"Now, sonny," he said, "keep that pledge and it will be the best act of your life."

Lincoln's personal desire for an education amounted to a passion. There was an educational awakening in this country in his day. The numbers of city superintendents of schools were increased from seventeen to fifty-three from 1850 to 1859. This shows not only the beginning of a great movement, but indicates the educational poverty of this country as well. Very few schools were graded. There were only sixty-four public high schools in the country, prior to 1850, and only one hundred and eight in 1859. In 1850 there were only eighty-two colleges and universities; but between that time and the outbreak of the Civil War, one hundred and five more institutions of this rank were established.

How Lincoln would have rejoiced in the educational progress thus far accomplished we can only imagine. But it is clear that he would have been in the fore-front of the champions of the American public school. He would be against all those who would divide and destroy it, as he was against those who sought to divide and destroy the Union.

WHEN we exalt Abraham Lincoln we are exalting patriotism, sobriety, education. We are making nation-wide acknowledgment of the excellence of honor and purity and fidelity and brotherly love.

General Grant said of Abraham Lincoln: "He was incontestably the greatest man I ever knew."

Edwin M. Stanton said: "He was the most perfect ruler of men the world has ever seen."

General Sherman said: "Of all the men I ever met, he seemed to possess more of the elements of greatness, combined with goodness, than any other."

It is with no reservations or misgivings that we join in the celebration of the life and work of Abraham Lincoln, a man whom our nation and the world delight to honor.

Evanston, Illinois, February 16, 1922

Abraham Lincoln's "First Temperance Lecture"

Stories of Abraham Lincoln's young manhood are numerous but one not often related is found in a new book, "Lincoln and Prohibition" by Charles T. White. He credits it to Robert H. Browne, who knew the Great Emancipator in Springfield.

The incident happened about 1836 at a gathering of the neighborhood and village, where they were building a new bridge. When the hard work was over there was a feast, merry-making, trials of strength, and other sports, including much liquor drinking, raw whisky was sold at fifteen cents a gallon, and on this occasion there was a barrel of it. In the feats of strength a large man named "Sam", the champion heavy-weight lifter, with difficulty raised six inches off a platform a pile of wood weighing one thousand pounds. The spectators, knowing Abraham Lincoln's prowess as an athlete, at once demanded that he also try lifting the pile of wood. Lincoln was reluctant to enter the exhibition, but finally assented, and lifted the load clear a foot from the platform "without any straining." Some of Sam's friends shouted, "Do it again; we didn't see it!" Mr. Lincoln, to satisfy these, stepped on the platform again, saying as he did so, "Sam, sit down on the top of the pile." With Sam on top of the pile, Lincoln raised the big load almost as easily as he did the first time.

Then the bung was knocked out of the barrel of whisky. Lincoln, being challenged again, took hold of it by the chimes, raised it from the ground, took a mouthful of liquor from the open bunghole, turned his head to the right, and spat it out on the ground over his shoulder. On releasing the barrel, he said in substance, just as he related it years afterward when invited to drink, as he often was:

"My friends, you will do well and the best you can with it, to empty this barrel of liquor on the ground, as I threw the little part of it out of my mouth. It is not on moral grounds alone that I am giving you this advice; but you are a strong, healthy and rugged people. It is as true as that you are so now, that you cannot remain so if you indulge your appetites in alcoholic drinks. You cannot retain your health and strength if you continue the habit, and when you lose them, neither you nor your children are likely to regain them. As a good friend, without counting the distress and wreckage of mind, let me advise that if you wish to remain healthy and strong, you will turn liquor away from your lips."

LINCOLN AND LIQUOR.

Recently what purported to be a quotation from one of Abraham Lincoln's speeches has been circulated by the liquor interests. Through this alleged quotation they have attempted to show that he was a foe of prohibition and a friend of intoxicants. John G. Nicolay and John Hay in their "Addresses and Letters of Abraham Lincoln" made an effort to present all of his speeches and letters. The "wet" sentiments attributed to Lincoln are nowhere found in these volumes, but unmistakable sentiments in opposition to the liquor traffic are found there.

On February 22, 1842, Lincoln made an address before the Washingtonian Temperance Society at Springfield. That was in the days when signing the pledge was a popular method of enlisting recruits for the temperance cause. Those who signed agreed to abstain from all forms of intoxicants. Lincoln made a long speech then, outlining the failures in temperance campaigns. These, he thought, were due to ignorant methods used. His theory, and he complimented the temperance society for using the same method, was briefly expressed in the quotation that honey catches more flies than gall. His idea was that the drunkards and tipplers should not be approached with a club as an argument, but that those who saved them should appeal to their hearts and their better natures. In this connection Lincoln said:

> Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage broken, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed; in it, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest; even the drammaker and dramseller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change, and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness. And what a noble ally this to the cause of political freedom; with such an aid its march can not fail to be on and on, till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition the sorrow-quenching draughts of perfect liberty. Happy day when mind, all conquering mind, shall live and move, the monarch of the world. Glorious consummation! Hail, fall of fury! Reign of reason, all hail! And when such victory shall be complete — when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth — how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both these revolutions that shall have ended in that victory! How nobly distinguished that people who shall have planted and nurtured to maturity both the political and moral freedom of their species!

In the course of the civil war the Sons of Temperance addressed a letter to Lincoln regarding intemperance in the army. In his reply, Lincoln said: "If I were better known than I am, you would not need to be told that in the advocacy of temperance you have a friend and sympathizer in me. When I was a young man — long ago — before the Sons of Temperance as an organization had an existence — I, in a humble way, made temperance speeches, and I think I may say to this day I have never, by example, belied what I then said." It may be argued that there is a difference between temperance and prohibition, and that while Lincoln was for temperance he would not had he lived, have favored federal prohibition. This is a mere matter of conjecture, however, and there can be no doubt that Lincoln deplored the use of liquor. He advocated signing the pledge that the signer would become a total abstainer. If such were his views it is hard to understand how any one can twist them into another meaning now.

DRY TALK, WET DRINK FLAYED BY NESTOS

Spirit of Lincoln Would Enforce Law, North Dakota Governor Tells Republican Club.

St. Paul Pioneer Press 2-12-23

By George N. Briggs.

Drawing inspiration from the life of Lincoln to say that there are too many public officials who talk "dry" and "drink wet," Governor R. A. Nestos of North Dakota, principal speaker at the twenty-ninth annual banquet of the Lincoln Republican club, held Monday night in The Saint Paul, took a verbal poke at vacillating servants of the people whose practices, he said, do not square with their professions of principle.

This slap at law enforcement followed a barrage of bouquets that passed between Governor Nestos, Governor Preus, Mayor Nelson, Speaker W. I. Nolan and 250 members of the Lincoln club and their friends.

Verbal Bouquets for All.

The banqueters took time out to cheer Mayor Nelson, to applaud wildly when Speaker Nolan congratulated St. Paul on having found such a good mayor, to shout for Governor Preus who concluded a brief address with a plea for President Harding and to hail Governor Nestos as "the man who brought North Dakota back from chaos to common sense."

Both Governor Preus and Speaker Nolan spoke words of cheer for the Republican party, each in his way averring that "despite recent reverses" the party which once had Lincoln for its leader will survive and point the way.

At the speakers' table were the Governor and Mrs. Preus, Speaker Nolan and Mrs. Nolan, Mayor Nelson and Mrs. Nelson, Governor Nestos, Associate Justice Oscar Hallam, Judge John B. Sanborn, Senator James D. Denegre, Rev. John W. Holland, and Dr. George O. Orr, president of the Lincoln club.

Volstead Ghost Paraded.

Governor Nestos found excuse for dragging in the Volstead amendment by quoting from a statement made by Lincoln to a delegation representing the Sons of Temperance: "When I was a young man, I, in my humble way, made temperance speeches, and I think that to this day I have never, by my example, belied what I then said."

"If our public officials today could but truly say the same thing," said the North Dakota governor by way of comment, "how much better would not the conditions be in the public life of our states and of our nation! If public officials assumed that attitude, and in their private lives sought at all times to honor and uphold the constitution and to obey laws of the states and nation, we would not, as now is so frequently the case in these days of the Volstead Act, find public servants who talk 'dry' and 'drink wet.'"

Pursuing this line of thought, Governor Nestos asserted that "even the conscientious public official who is guided by principle, who lives his life consistently and who honestly tries to serve the people, will very often feel his inability to solve the problems of life as he feels they ought to be solved, and, with Lincoln, he will frequently have occasion to petition the Supreme Being for the strength and wisdom for the task and say, as Lincoln did, 'without the assistance of God I cannot succeed—with it I cannot fail.'"

Urged to Enforce Law.

In this language, Governor Nestos called on the public and its officials to enforce the law: "May we not today, as private citizens or public servants, solemnly resolve that in our work we shall ever seek to analyze carefully the problems before us, ascertain the purposes to be attained and then, with unswerving fidelity and moral courage hold true to the course that leads to the goal, no matter what the forces may be that seek to deflect us from our course!

"May we be willing at all times to subordinate expediency to principles, the temporary to the permanent, and to be ever guided by what is just and right! When those who hold public office are governed by these principles, it will mean increased efficiency and the elimination of waste in every department of government, because only by such a course can the administrative work square with the ideals of public service."

Able to See End of Road.

After calling attention to the things that Lincoln was not, Governor Nestos said: "If we were to ask what was the chief characteristic of Lincoln which contributed those elements of mind, character and official action that determined his place in history, I believe we would be constrained to say that his chief claim to fame consisted in his ability to see the end of the road; the goal to be attained; the ultimate object to be accomplished, and to make all the intermediate acts and incidents contribute to the desired achievement. An honest and unselfish purpose, an ability to see and think clearly, a determination to avoid any act by which selfish, personal or factional ends might be served other than the public good, with courage to resist all forces that threatened to deflect him from his course—that was Lincoln."

Governor Nestos briefly reviewed the crises in Lincoln's life, and then asked the question: "What lessons may we, who are public officials today, learn from the life and labors of Abraham Lincoln and from the ideals which actuated him in his private and public life?

"As we view the record of the executives and legislators of our cities, states and nation," Governor Nestos continued, "do we find that they see or try to see the goal to be reached or, if they do see it, do they always labor with fidelity and singleness of purpose for its attainment and the realization of the highest ideals of public service? Are we not rather constrained to confess that altogether too frequently they fail either to see the goal to be reached or else are too weak, indifferent or selfish to pursue the course that leads straight toward the attainment of that goal?

Swayed by Expediency.

"How prone the public official sometimes is to steer by the weathervane rather than by the compass, to be controlled by expediency rather than by principle, to let the desire for momentary victory deflect him from the purposes he knows are morally right and that ultimately must prevail!"

Governor Nestos deplored the fact that "politics is the first consideration in so many cases and the thought of victory at the polls, of service of self or friends, and the reward of political henchmen seem to claim the greater share of their energy and administrative or legislative activity."

"Being controlled by policy rather than by principle," said Governor Nestos, "such an official, ever seeking to serve his selfish interest will appeal to passion, prejudice, class hatred and the innate selfishness of man in the effort to serve his ends. No respect for constitution, no obedience to laws and ordinances is permitted to stand in his way. Instead of saying with Lincoln that 'to the support of the constitution and laws let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor' and that 'in a democracy there is no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet,' these self-serving disciples of expediency will not hesitate to use any argument or resort to any means that will serve their personal, factional or party purpose, even though it be subversive of the constitution itself and destructive of the happiness and prosperity of the people."

Renew Allegiance to Ideal.

Concluding his address, Governor Nestos said: "If you, the members of this club and of the Republican party, followers of the beloved and immortal Lincoln, will resolve today that not only individually but as a party you will renew your allegiance to the ideals of Lincoln and seek in private life and public service ever to be guided by the principles that ruled his life, then this day shall have been of great value to you and through you, to all the citizens of your state and country."

Christian Science Monitor

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1925

Lincoln and Liquor

By William E. Barton, Author of "The Life of Abraham Lincoln," etc.

I COUNT that day lost whose low descending sun brings to me no inquiry as to Abraham Lincoln's habits and opinions with regard to the use of liquor. The opponents of the Volstead Law, or some of them, have created out of whole cloth a declaration which Lincoln is alleged to have made concerning the dangers of prohibition and the rights of personal liberty. On the other hand, some of the friends of prohibition have attributed to him sentiments which he is not known to have uttered.

I, being a lifelong total abstainer, and now a prohibitionist, regret deeply to discover any attempt, on the part of those with whom I am in agreement in these matters, to exaggerate or invent utterances of Lincoln on this or any other subject, or to accept as genuine any except those that can certainly be proved. We ought to leave all invention and approach to falsehood to those who oppose our high ideals.

The truth, as established by the most rigid tests, ought to be good enough for us. Nor have I any sympathy with the effort to establish, as genuine utterances of Lincoln, the merely possibly genuine ones. We have no moral right to say to those who oppose us, "We think Lincoln said this, and you can not prove that he did not say it." I cannot prove that he did not say that two and two are five, but I doubt it.

Within the past few weeks my mail has been unusually filled with requests of this character, and I deem it well to go somewhat into detail in a general article on Lincoln's attitude toward liquor.

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First, then, the community in which he was born was a whisky-drinking community. Practically everybody drank. Knob Creek, where he spent the major part of his boyhood in Kentucky, emptied, a little way below his father's house, into the Rolling Fork, which even then had distilleries, and which later became famous for its whisky. The Eighteenth Amendment made the Rolling Fork a wailing place, and the ruins of the distilleries are still landmarks there.

When Thomas Lincoln sold his property in Kentucky and converted it into medium of exchange, he took whisky, loaded it onto a flatboat, floated it down the Rolling Fork, and down the main stream of Salt River and a little way down the Ohio to the mouth of Anderson's Creek, which was the landing for the new home in Indiana. Whisky had a less fluctuating value than the wildcat currency of the time.

Furthermore, when the Little Pigeon church was organized in Indiana, and Thomas Lincoln joined by letter, and his wife, Abraham Lincoln's stepmother, "by experience," subscriptions for the church building were receivable in "manufactured corn." No raising of a house, even of a meeting house, was attempted without liquor.

Thomas Lincoln was neither a total abstainer nor a drunkard. He was, for his time, a very moderate drinker. I could easily name neighbors, and even relatives, of Lincoln of whom this could not be said. For instance, Thomas Lincoln's eldest brother, Mordecai, perished in "the deep snow" of 1830-31, partly from exposure and partly from what he drank to keep the weather out. And Thomas Lincoln's uncle Thomas, brother of Capt. Abraham Lincoln, the Kentucky pioneer, had a tragic domestic experience growing out of his ownership of a still.

I do not think it can be proved that Abraham Lincoln was a lifelong total abstainer, but he appears never to have liked liquor, and he came to believe that its use was productive of great harm. He was a temperate man, who became practically a total abstainer. He neither drank liquor nor chewed nor smoked tobacco. That was his established personal habit.

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He was accustomed to tell a story about himself. After his one term in Congress, he made an earnest and unsuccessful attempt to secure a position in Washington as Commissioner of the Land Office, and, having returned to Springfield from Washington, made a special journey back again in the futile attempt to secure the appointment. But he lost it, because, while he was a Whig, and had done his best to secure both the nomination and the election of Zachary Taylor, the strength of the Whig Party in Illinois lay in the northern part, and a Chicago man, Justin Butterfield, wanted the place and had the backing of Daniel Webster.

While Lincoln was on his way east on this errand, traveling by stagecoach toward Indianapolis, he rode with two men who offered him, in succession, whisky, smoking tobacco and a chew. He declined them all, and when they got out at Indianapolis the more talkative of his companions told him that he had discovered that a man who had no vices seldom had any virtues.

When Lincoln was nominated and the committee went down from Chicago to Washington to convey to him official information of his nomination, his Springfield neighbors offered to supply him with wine for the occasion. Lincoln declined, and the liquid portion of the refreshments consisted simply of water.

So much for Lincoln's personal habits. Now for his expressed opinions.

His first important and authenticated utterance bearing on this subject, though general in its nature, was his address in Springfield, Ill., before the Young Men's Lyceum, Jan. 27, 1837. It was his first important public address in that city, and he prepared it with great care, and doubtless saw it through the press of the Sangamo Journal, edited by his friend, Simeon Francis. Speaking of the perpetuity of American institutions, he said:

> Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well-wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution, never to violate in the least particular, the laws of the country, and never to tolerate their violation in others. As the patriots of '76 did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and laws let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor—let every man remember that to violate the law is to trample on the blood of his fathers, and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty.
>
> Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in schools, in seminaries and in colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling-books and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls and enforced in courts of justice. And in short, let it become the political religion of the Nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay of all sexes and tongues and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars.

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This is sometimes inaccurately quoted; but as here given its text is that which Nicolay and Hay approved for their Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg edition, Volume 1, page 43. I have no doubt that, if compared with the files of the Journal in the library of the Illinois State Historical Society, his secretaries will be found to have followed Lincoln's own copy with strict literalness.

To be sure, Lincoln was not speaking particularly of liquor, but no one can doubt what he would have said to those who hold that if a law is passed which one does not like or approve, one is at liberty to disobey it.

Lincoln's own attitude on the Fugitive Slave Law is in point: he did not like it, but he believed that so long as the Constitution recognized slavery, a fugitive slave law was a necessary part of the legislation to make the Constitution effective, and that the South was entitled to such legislation till the time, for which he hoped, when slavery itself should be made illegal. He did not approve the violation of the Fugitive Slave Law, much as he disliked it.

But five years later Lincoln delivered an address in Springfield in which he definitely did speak of the sale and use of liquor. This was his address before the Washingtonian Society, Feb. 22, 1842. Here again we have Lincoln's own printing of his speech:

> Of our political revolution of '76 we are all justly proud. It has given us a degree of political freedom far exceeding that of any other nation of the earth . . .
>
> Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we find a stronger bondage broken, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed; in it, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest; even the dram-maker and the

dram-seller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change, and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness And what a noble ally this to the cause of political freedom; and with such an aid its march cannot fail to be on and on till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition the sorrow-quenching draughts of perfect liberty. Happy day when—all appetities controlled, all poisons subdued, all matter subjected—mind, all-conquering mind, shall live and move, the monarch of the world. Glorious consummation! Hail, fall of fury! Reign of reason, all hail!

And when the victory shall be complete,—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on earth,—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory. How nobly distinguished that people who shall have nurtured to maturity both the political and moral freedom of their species.

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This is uncompromising. Lincoln had been speaking of the sacrifices which had secured the political freedom of America, and he counted those sacrifices worth while. But he believed that two achievements remained—one to make all men politically free, and the other to liberate humanity from the bondage of strong drink. That deliverance, he maintained, could be accomplished without bloodshed, and even the liquor dealers would be the better for it. He wanted America to lead in that revolution which should banish both slavery and drunkenness.

Inasmuch as Lincoln indubitably said such things, it seems a pity to invent others which can add no weight to these utterances. And that is why I do not like such stories as are told of his having delivered prohibition speeches in 1858 with the Rev. James B. Merwin. That Mr. Merwin himself delivered such addresses is beyond doubt; that Lincoln joined him in a prohibition crusade in that year is not only unproved but wholly opposed to all probability.

It ought not to be necessary for me to give reasons for this opinion, but I must do so. This is the part of my article which will bring protesting letters, demanding whether I mean to imply that that good and pious man, the Rev. James B. Merwin, was a deliberate falsifier. I do not mean to imply anything except what I say, but I am saying what I mean.

First, the local newspapers in the towns which Mr. Merwin visited in that year tell of his lectures, and not one of them tells of Lincoln's being with him and making addresses on the same theme. Lincoln was then, next to Stephen A. Douglas, the most prominent man in Illinois. He could not visit even the city of Chicago without the daily papers noticing it, and his coming to any down-state town was an event of note. Had he delivered a temperance address in Smithville, in company with Mr. Merwin, the Smithville Bugle would by no means have failed to blow a blast that all Smithville would have heard, and all Illinois, for that matter.

Secondly, the watch which was presented to Mr. Merwin that fall, and in which someone, at some time, caused to be engraved the statement that it was presented by Abraham Lincoln, could have been engraved by any jeweler to whom Mr. Merwin took it, then or later. A good friend of mine who has written a book on this subject affirms that the watch is good evidence, because the newspaper confirms the account of the presentation, *except for the participation in the exercises of Abraham Lincoln.* Precisely, and the exception is the one thing that interests us, and exactly the thing that could not by any possibility have been omitted if it had occurred.

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Thirdly, Lincoln in 1858 was wholly concerned with his debates with Douglas and the getting of his court work into shape, to be gone from his office from July to November. He had no time for such a campaign.

Fourthly, the question of the prohibition of the liquor traffic was not an issue in the senatorial campaign of 1858 in Illinois, and Lincoln believed that the moral aspects of the slavery question were then paramount. He had too good sense to confuse the issues.

Fifthly, Lincoln made some fifty political speeches in that year, besides his debates with Douglas, and many of them are in print in local papers. If he had been stumping the State on prohibition, he could hardly have failed to say something about it in some of these speeches.

Sixthly, Abraham Lincoln needed every vote he could get, and especially needed the German vote. The Irish vote was Democratic, almost to a man; and the Irish were engaged in railroad building and were capable of being loaded into wagons and transported to two or three polling places on the same day. As an actual fact, this was done.

The Germans were naturally Democratic, except that they did not love slavery. Their having left Germany as a result of the revolution of 1848 was Lincoln's basis of hope for their vote, and mainly he got it. He left no stone unturned to secure that vote. He secretly bought and owned a German newspaper, and personally sent copies of "our new German newspaper," with letters in his own hand, to prominent Germans in Illinois. I have myself seen the contract, in his own handwriting, under which he made this purchase, and he owned the paper till after his election as President. I have also seen and handled some of those letters.

Now the Germans were not as a rule drunkards, but they were almost to a man beer drinkers, and Lincoln could have driven that whole vote from him by one prohibition speech in 1848, that would have accomplished nothing for prohibition and have lost him his largest single block of votes. Lincoln was an honest man, but he was an astute politician. He held the German vote.

But there is one thing that ought to be remembered, and I think it significant, perhaps, in part, because, like this story of the German newspaper, I discovered it.

On Jan. 23, 1853, while the Illinois Legislature was in session, the Rev. James Smith, Lincoln's pastor, delivered a sermon on "The Bottle, Its Evils and Its Remedy." The text was Habakkuk 2:15. Dr. Smith took the ground that it was not fair to condemn the saloon keeper for making men drunkards so long as the State accepted his license money and derived a profit from his sales. He called on the Legislature, then in session, to pass a law forbidding all sale of intoxicating liquor excepting for medical, mechanical and sacramental use.

Such sermons were common enough forty years later, but rare enough in 1853. That sermon was heard with profound interest, and thirty-nine men who heard the sermon and called themselves "Friends of Temperance" joined in a letter thanking Dr. Smith and requesting a copy of his sermon for publication. It was published, with Abraham Lincoln's name in the list of those who asked for its printing.

Now let it be said and admitted that not all of those thirty-nine men may have approved of every position taken by Dr. Smith. But they certainly were in hearty accord with his main position, and Abraham Lincoln was one of those men.

So I do not spend much time arguing about the possible and the improbable in the utterances of Abraham Lincoln on the liquor question. The indubitable truth is good enough for me, and ought to be good enough for all friends of temperance and righteousness and the sanctity of law.

Christian Science Monitor

1925

"Lincoln and Liquor"

To the Editor of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

Referring to the interesting collection of "Lincoln and Liquor" correspondence recently published in the MONITOR, permit me to supplement the letter of "Prohibitionist" with some direct data regarding the Lincoln-Grant-whisky story. As your readers will remember, this story is to the effect that Lincoln asked some temperance people, who remonstrated because of General Grant's alleged fondness for liquor, what brand of whisky he drank, and added that he would send a supply of it to each of his generals.

The testimony of D. Homer Bates is that Lincoln, in his presence, denied that he ever made such a statement. Where and how did the story originate?

In 1922 it was my privilege to run this yarn to the nest of its incubation in the works of a popular humorist of the sixties: "Private Miles O'Reilly" (Charles G. Halpine). Perhaps I cannot do better than to quote the following memorandum from the Congressional Library:

Memorandum

From the Supt. of the Reading Room, June 26, 1922.

To the Librarian of Congress:

Referring to letter from Mr. Samuel Wilson, Editor, "The American Issue," 207 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

We have a copy of "The Life and Adventures, Songs, Services and Speeches of Private Miles O'Reilly (Charles Graham Halpine) New York 1864."

It contains an account (41 pages) of "the Miles O'Reilly banquet" at Delmonico's but there seems to be in that account no reference to the Grant Whiskey story. But the book contains a story of an alleged visit of Miles at the White House on Thanksgiving Day 1863 in the course of which appears the following:

"Colonel Hay, please touch the bell," said Mr. Lincoln, "and let Burgdorf, my messenger, send us up the decanters and things. I have some French wines sent me from Paris by Secretary of Legation Pennington, whose tongue is so completely occupied in the business of tasting vintages that he has never had time to teach it French, though a resident of Paris many years. If you prefer whiskey, I have some than can be relied upon—a present from Mr. Leslie Combs. I call it 'Grant's Particular,' and Halleck is about issuing an order that all his generals shall drink it."

"With the news we have today from Chattanooga," said General Halleck, gaily, "I think the country will indorse the order to which Mr. Lincoln has referred. For my own part, I'll take some of that whiskey—just enough to drown a mosquito, Kelton—and, with the President's permission, our first toast will be, the health of Ulysses Grant, the river-horse of the Mississippi!" (p. 168-9)

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) F. W. Ashley,

Superintendent of the Reading Room.

Apparently, this Lincoln-Grant-whisky story, instead of being based on a serious remark, has not even the basis of an original quip by Lincoln, the whole business being the joke of a joker, the burlesque sentiment and words being placed in Lincoln's mouth by a popular humorist in a burlesque story of an imaginary event. As history, therefore, this story is absolutely valueless.

SAMUEL WILSON,

Assistant Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of New Jersey.

Newark, N. J.

Christian Science Monitor 1925

Letters to the Editor

Brief communications are welcomed, but the editor must remain sole judge of their suitability, and he does not undertake to hold himself or this newspaper responsible for the facts or opinions presented. Anonymous letters are destroyed unread.

C. Christian Science Monitor

"Lincoln and Liquor"

To the Editor of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

The extended article in the MONITOR by Dr. William E. Barton on "Lincoln and Liquor," supplemented later by letters from Samuel Wilson and some others, covers the subject under discussion adequately with the exception of the credibility of the Rev. James B. Merwin.

As pointed out by Mr. Wilson, Dr. Barton erred in that he ascribed to Mr. Merwin certain leading statements connecting Lincoln with a temperance campaign in 1858. Merwin confines himself to the 1855 campaign, not the famous Lincoln-Douglas debate campaign of 1858.

I would not have written my little book, "Lincoln and Prohibition," in the absence of the Merwin documents, which he reviewed with me the year preceding his passing on and which I purchased from his estate.

Merwin was secretary of the Illinois State Maine Law Alliance, organized in 1854. A temperance wave extended from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi Valley that year. Myron Holley Clarke was elected Governor of New York as a prohibitionist, supported by Horace Greeley and the emerging Republican Party. Prohibition as such was not a political issue in Illinois that year.

William B. Ogden, called "the first citizen of Chicago," president of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, an ardent dry, with a horror of whisky-drinking locomotive engineers, was one of the leaders of the dry movement, and raised much of the money for the campaign. Merwin went to Springfield for the express purpose of seeing Lincoln, who thereafter for six months furnished the intelligence for and directed the strategy of the drive. A drastic prohibition law was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor on Lincoln's birthday, 1855. Merwin, the one man above all others in a position to know, says that Lincoln, as counsel for the drys, wrote the law; that on Lincoln's suggestion he took it to Lincoln's lawyer friends for their perusal; and that Benjamin S. Edwards, a prominent Democrat, and Judge Stephen Logan, formerly Lincoln's law partner, went over it and made minor changes, after which it was passed, after prolonged and exciting debate.

The law carried a referendum clause, under which it went to the voters at a special election in June of the same year, when it was rejected by about 14,000 votes. Merwin says the wets stole the election. John Locke Scripps' newspaper, the Chicago Press, virtually says the same thing. Scripps was one of Lincoln's closest friends, his biographer in 1860, and postmaster of Chicago in the Lincoln Administration.

Henry B. Rankin, Lincoln historian, still living in Springfield, says that Lincoln wrote the dry law of 1855, collaborating with Edwards and Logan.

A. J. Baber, banker, of Paris, Ill., not a dry, wrote John G. Woolley in 1914 that Lincoln, in the early summer of 1855, walked from Paris six miles into the country to a schoolhouse to make a temperance speech. He adds:

> Politics never entered the question until Stephen A. Douglas came out in a great speech in the northwestern part of the State and told the people to bury "Maine-Lawism" and "Abolitionism" all in one grave. Then the Democrats knew what to do. They went in with a whoop against prohibition, while the Whigs and Republicans were mostly for prohibition.

Merwin retained the confidence of Lincoln. Soon after Lincoln became President, Merwin, who had been ordained a Congregational minister in Adrian, Mich., went to Washington. Merwin says that at Lincoln's suggestion he tried to obtain appointment as a major of volunteers. In this effort he had the support of Lincoln, Gen. Winfield Scott, commander of the army; Maj.-Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, Maj.-Gen. John A. Dix, all of whom wrote indorsements, which indorsements are in my possession.

Secretary Stanton objected to the appointment of a man who was a preacher, and who was also physically handicapped, as major. Merwin was sponsored by Senators Sumner and Wilson of Massachusetts, Senator Browning of Illinois, Senator Chandler of Michigan, Senator Grimes of Iowa, Governor Buckingham of Connecticut, Governor Yates of Illinois, Postmaster John Locke Scripps of Chicago, and many [illegible]

Lincoln, apparently determined to install Merwin as a temperance worker in the army, with his own hands made him a pass, reading:

> Surgeon General will send Mr. Merwin wherever he may think the public service may require. A. LINCOLN.

The pass had to be written to fit a daugerreotype case, indicating that it must have had Lincoln's personal attention. Merwin made a fine record as a worker among the wounded troops on transports and in the hospitals. Later he became editor of the American Journal of Education, in St. Louis. He received a pension as an army chaplain.

Merwin's documents speak powerfully for themselves. He was, and remains, a credible witness.

Brooklyn, N. Y. CHARLES T. WHITE.

Christian Science Monitor 1925

Letters to the Editor

Brief communications are welcomed, but the editor must remain sole judge of their suitability, and he does not undertake to hold himself or this newspaper responsible for the facts or opinions presented. Anonymous letters are destroyed unread.

"Lincoln and Liquor"

To the Editor of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

I have just read with great interest the recent article in the MONITOR by William E. Barton, entitled, "Lincoln and Liquor." This is a subject that I have studied for many years, and I beg leave to comment upon one or two of Mr. Barton's statements that appear to need correction—for instance:

In discussing the question of Lincoln's association with the Maine law campaign in Illinois, Mr. Barton bases his argument from firstly to sixthly upon an assumption that the campaign was in the year 1858, when Lincoln was in the heat of his political campaign against Douglas and, of course, could not and would not, under the circumstances, have taken an active part in the prohibition law campaign; and the logic is good, were the premise correct.

Unfortunately, however, for this historian's conclusion, he is astray three years in his date, for the campaign was in the year 1855, not 1858, which fact is fatal to all of his reasons for repudiating the direct testimony of Mr. Merwin. The Maine law bill passed the Illinois Legislature Feb. 9, 1855, was signed Feb. 12, 1855, and was submitted to a referendum vote and defeated June 4, 1855, the vote being 93,102 to 70,010. There was no political or other reason in 1855 to embarrass Mr. Lincoln in making or preventing him from making the campaign that Mr. Merwin, who was corresponding secretary of the Illinois State Maine Law Alliance, says he made, and for which there is corroborative proof.

Indeed, there is well-authenticated evidence that Lincoln wrote the first draft of the law, which was completed in collaboration with Judge S. T. Logan and B. S. Edwards, all Springfield lawyers.

Mr. Barton says, "I do not think it can be proved that Abraham Lincoln was a lifelong total abstainer," but he gives no legitimate reason for such a statement, whereas history is full of evidence to prove the fact of Lincoln's lifelong and serious devotion to abstinence and prohibition.

At the age of seventeen, he prepared an essay on temperance, which, according to his biographer, W. H. Herndon, was printed in an Ohio newspaper. On Sept. 29, 1863, he, as President, received a delegation of the Sons of Temperance, to whom he is reported as saying: "When I was a young man—long before the Sons of Temperance as an organization had an existence—I, in a humble way, made temperance speeches, and I think I may say that to this day I have never, by my example, belied what I then said."

Leonard Swett, a Chicago lawyer and intimate friend of Lincoln's, says in his "Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln": "He told me not more than a year before he was elected President that he had never tasted liquor in his life." "What!" I said, "do you mean to say you never tasted it?" "Yes, I never tasted it." Ward Lamon, Lincoln's old law partner, gives interesting testimony as to Lincoln's total abstinence ideas, saying: "For many years he was an ardent agitator against the use of intoxicating beverages, and made speeches far and near in favor of total abstinence."

United States Senator Shelby M. Cullom of Illinois, who knew him intimately, as reported in the Chicago Record Herald of May 16, 1908, says: "Lincoln never drank, smoked, chewed tobacco or swore. He was a man of the most simple habits. I recall distinctly when the Committee of Citizens, including myself, called at Lincoln's house, after he was nominated for President, to talk over with him the arrangements for receiving the Committee of Notification, Lincoln said: 'Boys, I have never had a drop of liquor in my life, and I don't want to begin now.'"

This was confirmed by Lincoln himself in a letter written June 11, 1860, to J. Mason Haight, a facsimile of which is in my possession, and in which he said: "Having kept house sixteen years, and never having put the 'cup' to the lips of my friends then, my judgment was that I should not, in my new position, change my habit in this respect."

The Hon. John Hay and William O. Stoddard, President Lincoln's private secretaries, and William H. Crook, executive clerk at the White House, have given like testimony to Lincoln's total abstinence practice and ideals.

I think it is due to the enlightened constituency of the MONITOR that the above facts be printed to supplement the very fine paper of Mr. Barton. SAMUEL WILSON.

New York, N. Y.

To the Editor of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

For the last sixty-five years the friends of the saloon have circulated a story about Abraham Lincoln, to the effect that, certain temperance people having called on him and objected to General Grant's being in command of Union troops because he drank whisky, Lincoln is said to have replied: "I wish somebody would tell me the brand of whisky Grant drinks; I should like to send several barrels to some of my other generals."

I never doubted the truth of this story, but there has just come off the press a book, entitled "Lincoln's Stories Told by Him in the Military Office of the War Department, by One of the Listeners, David Homer Bates, Cipher Operator and Author of 'Lincoln in the Telegraph Office.'" Mr. Bates was a telegraph operator for the War Department during the Civil War, where Mr. Lincoln spent a good deal of time, and heard the stories from Lincoln's own lips.

On page fifty of this book it is stated that one day when Lincoln was in the telegraph office somebody made reference to this remark about Grant's drinking. Lincoln promptly denied that he had ever made it, adding that he presumed the originator of the story must have had in thought the historic remark of King George, who, when told that General Wolfe was mad, said he wished Wolfe would bite some of his other generals.

Chicago, Ill. PROHIBITIONIST.

Veteran's Story of How Lincoln Stopped "Spree"

An old Michigan veteran told this incident of how, when he and his comrades were given leave to see the city of Washington, they made a bee line for the saloon. But just as they were entering the door a hand was laid on his arm and, looking up, he saw President Lincoln from his great height regarding him with kindly eyes and pleasant smile. He said: "I almost dropped with surprise and bashfulness, but he held out his hand and, as I took it, he shook hands in strong western fashion and said: 'I don't like to see our uniform going into these places.' That was all he said. He turned immediately and walked away; and we passed on. We would not have gone into that saloon for all the wealth of Washington city."

TWO REVOLTS, SOUGHT BY LINCOLN, REALIZED

Prayed That Slavery and Liquor Be Outlawed, Gen. Miles Said.

ASKED LAW OBSERVANCE

Wash. Post — 2/13/25

Chicago, Feb. 12 (By A. P.).—America might be the scene of two revolutions — one against slavery, and one against drunkenness—has been fulfilled, Gen. Nelson A. Miles, retired, civil war veteran and Indian fighter, told the Press Club of Chicago today.

"In his speech at Springfield, Ills., February 22, 1843, Lincoln said the 'grandest revolutions the world has ever seen' would be those that would leave 'neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth,'" Gen. Miles declared. "Lincoln added, 'How proud will be the title of that land which may truly claim to be the cradle of both revolutions!'

"At the age of 28 years Lincoln added a wise political philosophy in the following language: 'Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well-wisher of his posterity, swear by the blood of the revolution never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country and never to tolerate their violation by others.'"

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 12 (By A. P.). — Irritation over words he couldn't understand was the driving impulse that gave Abraham Lincoln an education, Dr. John H. Finley, of New York city, declared today at a Lincoln commemoration in the Sangamon county crcuit court room which houses the legislature in which Lincoln served as a member.

Dr. Finley, in recounting an interview which Lincoln gave Dr. J. C. Gulliver, former president of Knox college, in Galesburg, Ill., stated that Lincoln was quoted as saying:

"As to education the newspapers are correct—I never went to school more than twelve months in my life. But I can say this, that among my earliest recollections I remember how, when a child, I used to get irritated when anybody talked to me in a way I could not understand. I don't think I ever got angry at anything else in my life. I can remember going to my little bedroom, after hearing the neighbors talk of an evening with my father, and spending no small part of the night walking up and down, and trying to make out the exact meaning of some of their, to me, dark sayings."

QUOTES LINCOLN ON DRINK.

N.Y. Times 2/13/25

General Miles Says Emancipator Prayed for Revolt Against Abuse.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12 (Associated Press).—Abraham Lincoln's prayer that America might be the scene of two revolutions, one against slavery and one against drunkenness, has been fulfilled, General Nelson A. Miles, retired, Civil War veteran and Indian fighter, told the Press Club of Chicago today.

"In his speech at Springfield, Ill., Feb. 22, 1843, Lincoln said 'the grandest revolutions the world has ever seen' would be those that would leave 'neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth.'" General Miles declared. "Lincoln added, 'how proud will be the title of that land which may truly claim to be the cradle of both revolutions!'

"At the age of 28 years Lincoln added a wise political philosophy in the following language:

" 'Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well-wisher of his posterity swear by the blood of the Revolution never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country and never to tolerate their violation by others.' "

Seek Lincoln's Stand on Rum

Drys and Wets Both Claim Great Emancipator Favored Their Cause.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—With George Washington more or less firmly established as a convivial soul, prohibitionists and anti-prohibitionists now have turned their attention to determining where Abraham Lincoln stood on the Great American question.

"Lincoln was an abstainer and a prohibitionist," the board of temperance, prohibition and public morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church announces in observation of the 117th anniversary of the birth of the liberator of slaves.

"The fact that Lincoln fought the Murphy Statewide prohibition bill in the Illinois Legislature in 1840 and that he is on record as voting against it indicates that he was not a prohibitionist," G. C. Hinkley, secretary of the association against the prohibition amendment, replied.

The Methodist board has quoted Lincoln as saying to Chaplain James B. Merwin on the day of his assassination:

"Merwin, with the help of the people we have cleaned up a colossal job. Slavery is abolished. After reconstruction the next great question will be the overthrow and abolition of the liquor traffic, and you know, Merwin, that my head and my heart and my hand and my purse will go into that work. Less than a quarter of a century ago I predicted that the time would come when there would be neither a slave nor a drunkard in the land. I have lived to see, thank God, one of these prophesies fulfilled. I hope to see the other realized."

Show Tavern License.

But as Exhibit A, the antiprohibitionists present a facsimile copy of an official document purporting to show that on March 6, 1833, Abraham Lincoln, William F. Berry and John Bowling Green were duly licensed to conduct a tavern in New Salem, Sangamon county, Ill., and to sell intoxicating liquors in accordance with the scale of prices fixed by the State.

Apparently undisturbed, the Methodist organization again quotes Lincoln as saying, according to Merwin:

"The real issue in this controversy, the one pressing upon every mind that gives the subject careful consideration, is that legalizing the manufacture, sale and use of intoxicating beverages is a wrong—as all history and every development of the traffic proves it to be—a moral, social and political wrong."

Said He Was Bartender.

In reply to this, those who believe Lincoln was a "wet" declared that during one of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates Douglas chided his opponent upon the "fact that during his earlier years he had worked in a distillery and had sold liquor over the bar."

And as a climax the antiprohibitionists have quoted a paragraph from Herndon's "Life of Lincoln."

"In my judgment," Lincoln was reported to have said, "such of us as have [illegible] fallen victims have been s[illegible]e from the absence of appe[illegible]an from any mental and moral superiority over those who have. In[illegible] I believe [illegible] we take habitual [illegible]kards as a class their heads and [illegible]s will bear an advantageous com[illegible]n with those of any other class."

LIQUOR WAR AFTER SLAVERY CONTEST, SEEN BY LINCOLN

John R. Mahoney Tells What Emancipator Prophesied to Him in 1864.

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE HAS ENFORCEMENT FETE

Wash. D.C. Post

Andrews, Bishop Freeman, Dr. Lewis and Rear Admiral Billard Other Speakers.

Feb 13-1926

Lincoln saw that the liquor fight would follow the slavery contest, according to John R. Mahoney, at the Citizens' committee's celebration of the emancipator's 117th anniversary with a law enforcement and observance dinner at City club last night.

Mr. Mahoney, 78 years old, a member of tho oldest temperance society in the country, the Order of Rechabites, organized in 1849, met Lincoln in 1864 and told him of the society's aim, elimination of the saloon. Lincoln patted Mahoney's head and told him to stick to his pledge. "Then," said Mr. Mahoney, to the 400 diners, "Lincoln added 'the next great question for decision in our country will be the liquor question.'"

Speech by Andrews.

Brig. Gen. Lincoln C. Andrews, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, read his speech, announcing that government must maintain respect for its laws, but he did not follow his prepared address in its entirety, neglecting to mention that "Beating the law is almost a national sport in America." Later, after stating that citizens can help law enforcement by developing a public opinion which will popularize it, he omitted to add "so the hostess need no longer feel apologetic for not serving cocktails."

The Rt. Rev. James E. Freeman, Episcopal bishop of Washington, holding Lincoln's Bible in his hand, reaffirmed the official stand of the Episcopal Church for law observance.

Youth today is as good as it ever was, according to William Mather Lewis, president of George Washington university, "and we are facing an adult problem, not one of youth," he said.

President Coolidge's message, read by Representative J. W. Summers, stated that "Lincoln was the hope of our country fulfilled."

Cites Immigration Question.

Assistant Secretary of Labor W. W. Husband expressed belief that the liquor problem might be solved in time as was the immigration question and Rear Admiral Frederick C. Billard, coast guard commandant, said that liquor smuggling on the north Atlantic seaboard had been cut down to a fifth of what it was. Andrew Wilson suggested that ships with liquor on board bo dealt with under piracy laws as vessels such as formerly carried slaves.

Among other speakers were Colin H. Livingstone, toastmaster; Mrs. Emma S. Shelton, William Tyler Page, Mrs. Anthony Wayne Cook, Mrs. Cabot Stevens, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture R. W. Dunlap, Assistant Attorney General John Marshall, Representative A. W. Barkley, of Kentucky; Dr. Frank Ballou, Gratz Dunkum, Dr. Thomas A. Groover and John B. Larner. Letters from Senator W. L. James, of Washington, and Mrs. John D. Sherman, were read and regrets of Secretary of War Davis, Secretary of the Navy Wilbur and Secretary of State Kellogg announced.

Mrs. Wayne B. Wheeler sang a song, dedicated to her, called "The Call to the Colors." She was accompanied by Mrs. Chester W. Adair at the piano. The Rev. Earle Wilfley pronounced the invocation. The American's Creed was read and "America" sung at the close of the celebration.

Pictorial Review

February, 1927

What Lincoln Really Said

JUST what was Lincoln's attitude on the subject of liquor? Was he in favor of its use? Or was he against it? These questions are so frequently asked that Dr. William R. Barton, the well-known biographer of Abraham Lincoln, in an article recently published in the *Christian Science Monitor* settles the matter once and for all by quoting as follows from a speech made by Lincoln on February 22, 1842, and afterward printed by him:

> Of our political revolution of '76 we are all justly proud. It has given us a degree of political freedom far exceeding that of any other nation of the earth. . . .
>
> Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we find a stronger bondage broken, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed; in it, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it, no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest; even the dram-maker and the dram-seller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change, and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness.
>
> And what a noble ally this to the cause of political freedom! And with such an aid its march can not fail to be on and on till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition the sorrow-quenching drafts of perfect liberty. Happy day when—all appetites controlled, all poisons subdued, all matter subjected—mind, all-conquering mind, shall live and move, the monarch of the world. Glorious consummation! Hail, fall of fury! Reign of reason, all hail!
>
> And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on earth—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory! How nobly distinguished that people who shall have nurtured to maturity both the political and moral freedom of their species!

Like most of Lincoln's utterances, this speech admits of little misconstruction, and, as Dr. Barton said in his article, it "is uncompromising."

imes
, 1927

LINCOLN'S DRY VIEWS

To the Editor of The New York Times:

Some of your readers who did, and some who did not, read in your yesterday's issue the letter from Mr. King on "Lincoln and Prohibition" may be interested to read what Lamon said on this subject in his Life of Lincoln, published in 1872. On page 480 Lamon says:

"For many years he was an ardent agitator against the use of intoxicating beverages, and made speeches, far and near, in favor of total abstinence. Some of them unprinted, and of one he was not a little proud, He abstained himself, not so much upon principle, as because of total lack of appetite. He had no taste for spirituous liquors and, when he took them it was a punishment to him, not an indulgence. But he disliked sumptuary laws and would not prescribe by statute what other men should eat or drink. When the temperance men ran to the Legislature to invoke the power of the State, his voice—the most eloquent among them—was silent. He did not oppose them, but quietly withdrew from the cause and left others to manage it."

C. E. S.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 10, 1927.

Highland Democrat 2-11-28

Lincoln, Temperance and Prohibition Crusader

The following article was read in the First M. E. Sunday school last Sunday morning, February 5, 1928, by Otto C. Wasserchied, Jr., a member of the Young Men's Bible Class:

Abraham Lincoln, Temperance and Prohibition Crusader

The fame of Abraham Lincoln is growing greater with the years.

Publications about him now number 2,700.

He has long held second place only to Washington in the affections of the American people. He is today, as he has been for many years, the inspiration of every new generation of American boys.

His fame is not confined to America. Twenty-six biographies of him have been written. The story of his life has been translated into French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Yiddish, Greek, Turkish, Japanese, Chinese and Hawaiian. In England the magnificient statue erected to him in the heart of London is but typical of his place in the hearts of Englishmen. His name is one of the holy names of South America. And in China today his famous definition of democracy, a government of the people, for the people and by the people, is the battle cry of those who are trying to bring democracy in that vast and populous country.

The young people of the Sunday schools of America have a right to take pride in the fact that this boy of the log cabin is influencing the world, because the Bible, the book we study in our Sunday schools, was one of the great influences for good in his life.

The young people of the Sunday schools of America have a right to be proud of the fact, also, that Lincoln did not smoke, did not swear, and that he was not only a total abstainer but an ardent crusader for temperance and prohibition.

As a young man he used to make temperance speeches. When he grew older he became an out and out advocate of prohibition.

In the early days in America liquor drinking was very widespread. It was indulged in by all classes of people. Lincoln as a young man saw the harm that liquor drinking did. That was the reason he began early in life to make temperance speeches.

Later he decided that it was wrong to give any one the privilege of selling intoxicating liquor. So he advocated the passage of a law in his state of Illinois prohibiting the selling of intoxicating liquor. In fact, he drafted the prohibition law that was submitted to the people of Illinois in 1855, made speeches advocating its passage, and spent a good deal of time and money trying to persuade the people that they ought to vote for it.

Prohibition was not the popular side to take in Illinois in those days, however. The prohibition law Lincoln advocated was not passed. But Lincoln was not afraid to be on the unpopular side if he believed he was right.

When he was nominated for president and the committee came to notify him of his nomination, he refused to have any liquor served to the people who were present at the ceremonies.

Later when he became president he did not have liquor served in the White House.

During the Civil War he sent temperance lecturers to lecture to the Union soldiers. Just before his death he said to one of those temperance lecturers, Major Merwin, who was one of his friends: "Merwin, with the help of the people, we have cleaned up a colossal job. Slavery is abolished. After reconstruction, the next great question will be the overthrow and abolition of the liquor traffic; and you know, Merwin, that my head and my heart and my hand and my purse will go into that work. Less than a quarter of a century ago I predicted that the time would come when there would be neither a slave nor a drunkard in the land. I have lived to see, thank God, one of those prophecies fulfilled. I hope to see the other realized."

Lincoln was referring in that statement to the prophecy he made in his famous temperance speech which he delivered on February 22, 1842, in the Second Presbyterian church in Springfield, Illinois, before the Washington Temperance Society.

President Lincoln did not live to see the overthrow and abolition of the liquor traffic as he had seen the overthrow of slavery.

But the young people of the Sunday schools of America now can help make it possible that Lincoln's prophecy, that there shall not be a drunkard in the land, come to pass.

We can absolutely abstain from the use of intoxicating liquor, as Lincoln always abstained from it.

We can obey the law, as Lincoln always obeyed the law.

We can be for prohibition and give our moral support to it, as Lincoln was for prohibition and gave his moral support to it.

And when we become old enough to vote we can vote for men who will obey the prohibition law and enforce it.

Then, finally, the whole world will follow our example and will abolish the liquor traffic just as we in America have abolished it.

LINCOLN ANSWER MEETS RITCHIE'S DRY LAW ATTACK

Denial of States' Duty to Enforce Statute Rallies Defenders at Institute

By RICHARD L. STROUT
SPECIAL TO THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — The same answer with which Abraham Lincoln demolished a states' rights argument in Civil War days met, with telling effect, the contention of Gov. Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland that a state is not legally or morally responsible for enforcing the Constitution, concurrently with the Federal Government, in the matter of prohibition.

The clash occurred in a debate on enforcement before the Institute of Public Affairs, in which Mr. Ritchie and Stanley High, editor of the Christian Herald, participated. The debate preceded a day's discussion of the wet and dry issue, heated at times, in which Dr. James M. Doran, Prohibition Commissioner, gave the Administration's own view of the duty of a state under the Eighteenth Amendment.

Harking back to phrases almost forgotten since the states' rights controversy of the sixties, Mr. Ritchie affirmed the liberty of individual states to refrain from enacting supplementary legislation to enforce the dry law. Specifically he denied that the oath of a governor or other state official to "support" the Constitution, commits him to "enforce" specific provisions of the Constitution.

Lincoln's Words Recalled

And to this argument Mr. High, reverting likewise to the phrases heard in the days preceding the Civil War, recalled the words of Lincoln spoken in reproach rather than anger, when the same doctrine of states' rights was once before invoked:

"Can you, if you swear to support the Constitution and believe the Constitution establishes a right, clear your oath, without giving it support? Do you support the Constitution if, knowing or believing there is a right established under it which needs specific legislation, you withhold that legislation? Do you not violate and disregard your oath?"

Mr. High was not the only one to quote Lincoln. As though to emphasize the relation of the present argument with that of earlier days, the Maryland Governor himself, as modern proponent of the states' rights doctrine, employed a Biblical phrase used by the former President.

To express the serious view which he took of the present situation, Mr. Ritchie, in his peroration, declared "a house divided against itself cannot stand," and he added, "Neither our social nor our federal system can stand the strain."

BOSTON MASS. C. S. MONITOR
AUGUST 15 1929

LINCOLN AND LIQUOR

To the Editor of the Herald:

At the recent hearing at the State House on the question of the repeal of the Baby Volstead Act one of the wets characterized all on the opposite side as "fanatics." As we are about to celebrate the one hundred and twenty-first birthday of the one who is conceded to be the greatest of all Americans is it not well to ask what were the sentiments of Lincoln on this great question that continues to agitate the public mind? Let him speak for himself:

"The liquor traffic has defenders but no defence.

"The real issue in this controversy, the one pressing upon every mind that gives the subject careful consideration, is that legalizing the manufacture, sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is wrong—as all history and every development of the traffic proves it to be—a moral, social and political wrong."

"The saloon has proved itself to be the greatest foe, the most blighting curse of our modern civilization, and this is why I am a practical prohibitionist."

To those who disobey laws of which they do not approve Lincoln says:

"Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution, never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country, and never tolerate their violation by others. As the patriots of our Seventy-six did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and laws let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor—let every man remember that to violate the law is to trample on the blood of his father and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty."

"Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in the schools, in the seminaries and in colleges; let it be written in primers, in spelling books and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls and enforced in courts of justice and in short, let it become the political religion of the nation and let the old and young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay of all our sexes and tongues and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars."

These extracts are taken from speeches that Lincoln made in Illinois in 1837, '54 and '55. His last statement on this subject was made to Maj. Merwin on the date of his assassination:

"Slavery is abolished. After reconstruction the next great question will be the overthrow and the abolition of the liquor traffic and you know, Merwin, that my head and heart and hand and purse will go into that work."

From these utterances it would really seem that Lincoln was a forerunner of that great army of "fanatics" who are determined that the Eighteenth Amendment of the Constitution shall be maintained and enforced.

A. EDWARD KELSEY.

Amesbury, Feb. 11. 1930

Where Lincoln Stood

TUJUNGA, Feb. 7.—[To the Editor of The Times:] There is one side of Lincoln's character well known to some of us, but which has never been sufficiently emphasized and that was his advocacy of the temperance reform. Lincoln was outspoken and uncompromising in his stand against strong drink.

As long ago as February 22, 1842, in an address given at Springfield, Ill., speaking of the two great movements, one for the abolition of human slavery and one for the abolition of intoxicating drink, he said: "And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both these revolutions that shall have ended in that victory."

We should never forget, nor allow our children to forget that Lincoln stood foursquare against the alcoholic liquor traffic.

MAE GUTHRIE TONGIER.

Feb 12-1930
Los Angeles Times

LINCOLN TOLERANCE URGED IN DRY ISSUE

Phil. Public Ledger 2/13/15

Rep. Fort Sees Time to Take Matter Out of Fanatics' Hands.

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 12.—(AP)—Speaking at a Lincoln Day dinner here tonight, Representative Franklin L. Fort, of New Jersey, recommended adoption in the prohibition controversy of the tolerant spirit of the Civil War President.

"The time has come for the matter to be taken out of the hands of fanatics on either side," he said, "just as Lincoln solved the slavery problem by stressing its economic rather than its moral side.

"There are millions of otherwise loyal and law-abiding citizens who, through resentment at the challenge of their conduct as immoral, refuse to acquiesce to the Prohibition Law."

The Journal-Gazette, February 12, 1931

Abe Lincoln Forced Preacher to Pay for Destroying Whisky

MATTOON, Ill., Feb. 11.—(AP)—Here's another Lincoln anecdote:

Clarence W. Bell, a descendant of the Emancipator, described Lincoln's first law case at a memorial meeting tonight.

Uncle Joe Hall, Bell related, went to camp meeting hereabouts. He left a pint of whisky outside the church under the seat of his wagon. The preacher found the bottle, brought it inside the meeting house and broke it before the congregation. Uncle Joe sued for damages.

"Abe took the case," Bell said, "and the preacher was forced to pay 14 cents damages for the whisky and two cents for the bottle. This was Lincoln's first law case."

About Lincoln

Decatur Herald

LINCOLN LIKED SANDWICHES AND BEER

2/13/31

(By United Press.)

CHICAGO, Feb. 13 — Abraham Lincoln—a kindly young lawyer who ate sandwiches and drank beer but never got drunk or used profanity—was recalled Thursday by the silver-haired old man who drove the President's carriage in his youth.

The reminiscences of Lincoln were told by John Comstock, 83, who, when 11 years old gave up his career as a jockey to drive for Lincoln during the months immediately preceding Lincoln's nomination for president.

Lincoln was a country lawyer at Springfield, and Comstock drove for him to county seats where cases were being heard.

'I got 25 cents a day and my bed and board," Comstock said.

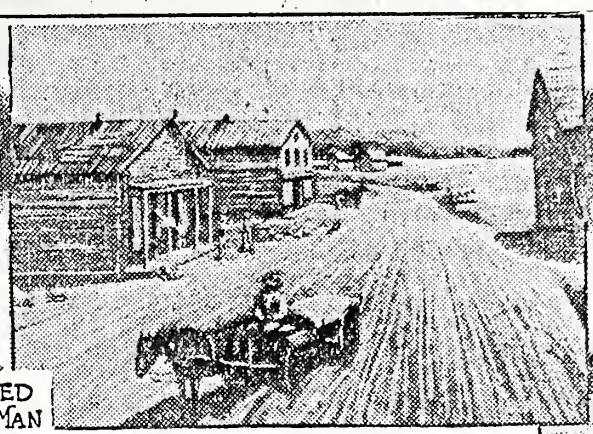
Decatur Herald

2/13/31

Abraham Lincoln—'The Jolly Host'

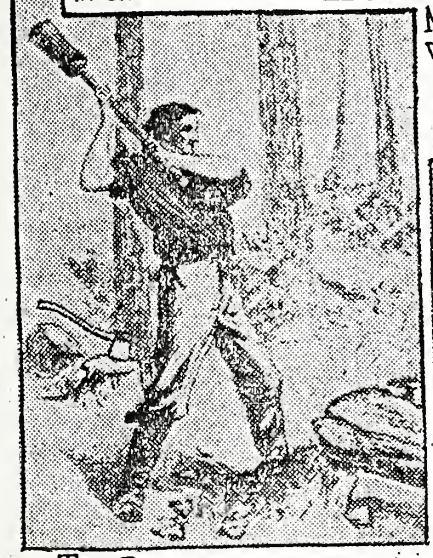
Yellowed Document at Springfield, Ill., Is Clue to Little Known Phase of Civil War President's Many-Sided Career—New Salem Scene of Pilgrimage on 122nd Anniversary

AS HE APPEARED WHEN A YOUNG MAN

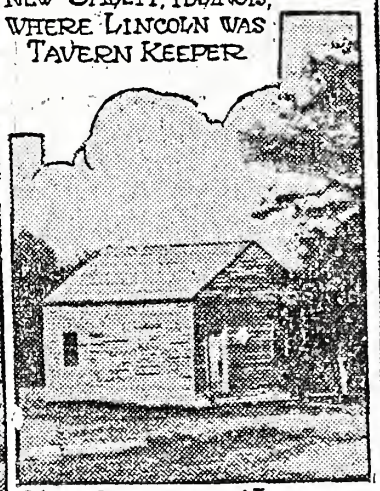


NEW SALEM, ILLINOIS, WHERE LINCOLN WAS TAVERN KEEPER

THE PICTURE THAT MADE HIM PRESIDENT



THE RAIL SPLITTER



THE BERRY *and* LINCOLN STORE, NEW SALEM, ILL.

RIVER BOATMAN

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 19—A little known document lies in the files of the County Clerk of Sangamon Co. here. It reads:

"Springfield, Wednesday, March 1, 1833.

"Ordered that William F. Berry, in the name of Berry and Lincoln, have a license to keep a tavern in New Salem .. .. "

That yellowed piece of paper is one of the few records of an interesting phase of the career of Abraham Lincoln, whose 122nd anniversary is being observed with ceremonies at many of the Lincoln shrines in this vicinity, including the restored village of New Salem.

The document broadens the career of one of America's foremost presidents to include that of tavern keeper, for the Lincoln of "Berry and Lincoln" was Honest Abe. And that incident contributed much to the justification of the title.

As one of the settlers of the little prairie town of New Salem, Lincoln became associated with Berry in general merchandising. New Salem failed to prosper and no doubt there was talk of the "depression" then upon the keeping of a tavern. They as now.

So Berry and Lincoln entered were allowed under their license, these rates:

"Breakfast, dinner or supper, 25 cents; lodging per night 12 1-2 c; feed 12 1-2 cents; breakfast, dinner or supper for stage passengers 37 1-2 cents."

Whether or not these prices were too low to permit a profit, it was not long until Lincoln sold his interest in the enterprise to Berry, and when Berry died a short time later, bankrupt, Lincoln assumed and paid their obligations.

The tavern-keeping marked almost the end of the trail of hunt and seek for a career that finally led him to the White House. Prior to the New Salem experience, Lincoln had been a farm hand, rail-splitter, river boatman, grocery clerk and student. When he left the struggling prairie village, he entered law and politics, a new career that took him to the highest honors in America.

Lincoln tavern-keeping experiences have been overshadowed by his great accomplishment in governmental administration. But many of his admirers like to think of the great man in his temporary role of the jolly host, greeting his guests at the tavern door, lighting their way to their rooms or guiding them to tables heaped high with the plain fare of the prairie pantry.

Among the places that are visited by thousands of persons is the Lincoln and Berry store in New Salem, which has been restored to its appearance in its noted [illegible]

WOOSTER OHIO RECORD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1931.

ST. LOUIS MO. TIMES
MAR. 6, 1931 M17

Voice of the People

Readers are invited to make use of these columns; but they are urged to keep their letters within reasonable space and to use but one side of the paper on which they write. Names should be signed, although initials and pen names may be used for publication. The Times assumes no parenthood for individual opinions here expressed.

None for Intemperance.

To the Editor: Writers in this column of late have been quoting extensively from Abraham Lincoln in an effort to make it appear that he was in favor of prohibition. All of these quotations, however, (in respect they are akin to the great bulk of prohibition arguments) were altogether beside the real issues in the case. His remarks on respect for law and obedience to the constitution are quite foreign to the question, and his observations on the subject of temperance, while profoundly true and sound in every respect, have no bearing on the case at bar.

The fact, which is very generally and indeed almost uniformly lost sight of by prohibitionists, is that intemperance is not a question at issue at all. Upon this subject the advocates and opponents of prohibition are, albeit unwittingly, in complete and harmonious accord. No one advocates or champions intemperance. The only question at issue upon this point is whether or not prohibition is a proper method of abating this universally deprecated evil. GEORGE NORTON.

St. Louis, March 4.

ELIMINATE NAME OF LINCOLN

Federal Council Pastors Cut Out His Famous Pledge

Some Eagle apr 17, 1931

Clipping from some Chicago paper dated about October 24, 1912.

Abraham Lincoln's name will not be used in the temperance campaign now being planned at the sessions of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ of America. By a vote of 104 to 45 the ministers yesterday decided to send back to the revision committee that part of the report made by the committee on temperance which contained his name.

The cause of the elimination of the name of Lincoln is out of deference to the churches from the south, where, it is said, Lincoln is by no means the hero that he is in the north, and because, as a young man, the liberator worked in a grocery store where liquor was sold.

"Lincoln Pledge" Challenged.

The committee on temperance included Lincoln's name in its report because of a pledge which he is said to have taken at the age of 8 years at his mother's knee. Later as a young man, he repeated the pledge and urged others to abstain from intoxicating liquors. This pledge was to have been used to influence others to keep away from those liquors today.

The "Lincoln pledge" as it was called, was challenged by the Rev. W. H. Mathews of Grand Forks, N. D., formerly pastor of Central Park Presbyterian church of Chicago. He was fearful of a split in the harmony of the meeting, because of the expected attitude of the south.

The report including Lincoln's name was prepared under the direction of the Rev. Rufus W. Miller, Bishop Luther B. Wilson, head of the Anti-Saloon league and others prominent in temper-

QUAINT TEMPERANCE CHART ILLUSTRATED LECTURES OF 80'S

Originated by Rev. Samuel W. Hanks—Predecessor of Gough — Relative of Abraham Lincoln — Pictures Descent of Inebriate to City of Destruction

Prohibition is not a new problem. Until the millennium, like the poor, we shall have the liquor problem with us always. But the approach to the problem today differs from that of earlier times. The days of the temperance lecturer who went about from town to town and city to city is with us no more. We no longer have temperance schools and temperance societies, such as existed in the time of Father Mathew. The approach today is through legislation and law rather than through moral appeal and education.

One of the earliest temperance lecturers in the country, preceding even the noted John Gough, was a resident of this city, and from his lecture trips has been handed down an interesting picture of the descent of man from the stage of respectable citizenship to the dark land of destruction. The picture chart, originated by Rev. Samuel W. Hanks and entitled "Black Valley Raidroad," traveled all over the country with him and was used to illustrate his lecture. Of no convenient size to carry about, the chart, with descriptive border, was twenty-two inches wide and fifteen inches high. Copies of it, of which there were many prints, are in the possession of Mr. Hanks' daughter, Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hitchcock, of Harvard street.

Minutely worked out, and suggestive of old illustrations of Dante's Inferno, the chart tells in parable many phases of the ride from Sippingtown through Topersville, Rowdyville, Quarreltown and other places to the city of Destruction, over the Black Valley Railroad.

On the left of the picture at the top are shown trains starting from the Black Valley station. In the foreground is a heavily loaded train, drawn by an engine with the piston rod working in a decanter. Twined around the smokestack is a serpent and the cowcatcher is represented by a dragon's head and wings. In the Black Valley batlike creatures, with forked tails fly through an atmosphere flashed by chains of lightning and clouded by smoke poured from a mountain top.

The side of one car is cut off to show the interior of a licensed saloon where men and women are drinking. From the saloon the conductors are throwing out travelers whose money is gone, striking them down with a bottle. In front, Fountainland stage men are ringing bells, swinging flags and offering a free ride and a home in the land of the Crystal river and the Tree of Life. On the right, friends are helping into ambulances the disabled, wounded and dying who

(Continued on page 4)

QUAINT TEMPERANCE CHART ILLUSTRATED LECTURES OF 80'S

(Continued from page 1)

have been thrown out along the track. Beyond resolute men are trying of their own strength to get free from the coils of the serpents.

Of Kin with Lincoln

Mr. Hanks' strong character, sincerity of purpose and originality are sufficient to arouse interest in him, but if more is wanted there is an appeal in his kinship with President Lincoln, whom he is said to have been very like in both appearance and type of manhood. Of him Rev. Andrew Peabody, professor at Harvard, said, "so like the president that either might have sat for the other's portrait, and who had the simplicity, frankness, large hearted brotherliness, and stubborn tenacity of upright purpose, together with the quaintness of speech and manner, which characterized his illustrious kinsman."

Others than Dr. Peabody have commented on the remarkable resemblance between Mr. Hanks and President Lincoln. In an address given in 1928 at the American Seamen's Friend Society, of which Mr. Hanks was at one time district secretary, Rev. Merritt A. Farren spoke of the Hanks characteristics in the two men saying, "a person coming into the building and seeing a large picture of Father Hanks, as he was called, invariably exclaimed, 'Oh, you have a fine picture of Abraham Lincoln.'"

For those who believe best what they have seen with their own eyes, in a little book, written by Mrs. Hitchcock in 1899, are shown side by side in similar attitude, photographs of the two men. There is striking similarity between the faces. The same broad, high forehead, the same high cheek bones are there, the large nose and ears, and the same kindly, sad eyes.

The book written by Mrs. Hitchcock is in itself an interesting story, for in it she successfully refutes arguments of the birth of Lincoln out of wedlock, as well as a like charge made against his mother. The proof of her contention is substantiated by copies of facsimiles of the marriage bond and the marriage certificate of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Shipley Hanks, and by the signed testimony of a 98-years old man who attended the wedding.

As told in the preface of the book, written by Ida M. Tarbell, Mrs. Hitchcock discovered through land records that Joseph Hanks, father of Nancy, bequeathed property to his youngest daughter, Nancy, and in the allowing of the will is proof of her parentcy.

Cost of Running Railroad

Mrs. Hitchcock also possesses a financial and statistical report of the Black Valley Railroad, published by her father. From these it appears that the annual receipts from the railroad were $725,725,000, being $110,000,000 more than the receipts of all other railroads together. The author estimates that at the time, if divided among families of five persons to each family and put to interest ten years, it would give every family a house worth $1,000, also that, if expended in furniture, clothing, shoes, hats and food, it would start up every branch of business into active operation, and give constant and profitable employment to every man and woman. The popularity of the Black Valley Railroad is shown from the fact that three editions were printed in an incredibly short time.

Biographical Sketch

Rev. Stedman Wright Hanks was born September 11, 1811. He was graduated from Amherst College in 1837. Records from the college give the following sketch of his life: "Rev. Stedman Wright Hanks was fitted for college at the Ellington, Connecticut, High School and was for one year a member of Yale College. In September, 1834, he joined the sophomore class at Amherst. After graduation he spent one year each at Union and Yale Theological Seminaries and was a resident licentiate at Andover until his ordination March 29, 1840, as pastor of the John Street Congregational church, Lowell, Mass. He continued in that relation until 1852. In that year he became district secretary of the American Seamen's Friend Society and held that office until the Boston Seamen's Friend Society resumed its independence. He was then appointed corresponding secretary of the latter organization and resided in Cambridge, Mass., until his death from acute bronchitis, August 23, 1889, at his summer home at Clifton Heights, Mass."

The record continues, "With the Loan Libraries furnished by the Seamen's Friend Society for the use of sailors, Mr. Hanks was concerned from the beginning, and it was largely due to him that they have become so numerous and so valuable. He was deeply interested in temperance and pursued his original methods with the happiest results. He was recognized as a leader in this great reform. He was a man esteemed and beloved, a pleasant companion, a prudent counselor, a faithful friend. On sea and land his name will be preserved with honor. He was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1856. He was author of the well known 'Black Valley Railroad,' an allegorical representation of intemperance, 'Light of the Ocean,' 'Sailor Boy,' 'Mutineerers of the Bounty,' and other works."

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BLACK VALLEY RAILROAD.

GREAT CENTRAL FAST ROUTE: 600,000 THROUGH TRAVELLERS: ANNUAL INCOME $735,000: 500,000 EMPLOYEES.

TICKETS SOLD AT ALL LIQUOR SHOPS.

SIPPINGTON
MEDICINEVILLE
TIPPLETON
TOPERSVILLE
DRUNKARDS CURVE
ROWDYVILLE
QUARRELTON
RIOTVILLE
BEGGARSTOWN
BRUTELAND
WOELAND
CRIMELAND
GAMBLERSVILLE
FIGHTINGTON
PITFALL
VAMPIRELAND
ROBBERS DEN
MURDERVALE
PRISONTON

DELIRIUMTON
DEMONLAND
HORNETSNEST
SCREECHINGTON
HORRORLAND
SERPENTSLAND
DRAGONLAND
MANIACVILLE
IDIOT FLATTS
BLACK VALLEY
GREAT DESERT
CLOUDLAND
THUNDERLAND
STORMLAND
TORNADO FORCE
FLOOD CROSSING
GREAT GULF
BURNING BRIDGE
DESTRUCTION

J.H. HUFFORD'S SONS LITH BOSTON

Express from **DRUNKARDS' CURVE**, all taking in being done above that Station, and principally of respectable people. Travellers for all places below that are *thrown out without stopping the trains.*

☞ No accidents by collisions, as only **DOWN** trains run over the Road. ☜

Parties wishing to leave the Road can return free by the **FOUNTAINLAND STAGES.** Below Drunkards' Curve, *Ambulances* will be used for the wounded and dying outcasts.

KEY TO THE PICTURE. On the left at the top, trains are starting for the *Black Valley*. In the foreground is a heavily loaded train, drawn by an infernal engine, which is fed with *Grain*, the *Piston-rod* working in a *Decanter*. From the Saloon Conductors are throwing out travellers whose money is gone, striking them down with a *Bottle*. In front, the *Fountainland-Stage* men are swinging flags, ringing bells, and offering a free ride to, and a *home* in the land of the *Crystal River* and of the *Tree of Life*. On the right, friends are helping into *Ambulances* the disabled, wounded and dying who have been thrown out along the track of the road. Beyond, resolute men are trying in their own strength, to get free from the coils of serpents. Farther on, cars are falling from a trembling bridge. Beyond that is *Prisonton, Deliriumton, Demonland*, the *Great Black Valley* and the lower end of the road, from which the only telegram that ever comes is, "*Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright; at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder.*"

Published by S. W. Hanks, Congregational House, Boston.
National Temperance Society and Publication House, 58 Reade St., New York.
Chromotype.

LINCOLN'S START IN LIFE DUE TO WHISKY

Given Job as Postmaster Because Saloonkeeper Was Too Busy To Handle Letters

Boston Globe 2-12-33

WEST SALEM, Ill, Feb 11 (A. P.)—Here on the wooded banks of the Sangamon River, where Abraham Lincoln started the public career that carried him to immortality, the Great Emancipator will be honored on the anniversary of his birth tomorrow.

It was 100 years ago that the women of old West Salem, then a teeming mill town, rebelled because the local postmaster permitted their anxiously awaited mail to remain untouched while he dispensed whisky to thirsty men. They circulated petitions for his removal. Lincoln was given the job, a cornerstone of his temple of statesmanship.

Descendants of these hardy pioneer women tomorrow will attend the unveiling of a bust of old West Salem's most famous postmaster by Carl B. Chandler, noted Lincoln authority, at the Old Salem State Park. The bust was sculptured by Madeline Masters Stone, who completed the work shortly before her death. Mrs Stone was the sister of Edgar Lee Masters, author of "Lincoln, the Man," a book which most West Salem folk label a slander on the emancipator.

Postoffice a Saloon

That Lincoln should have been given his start in public life because of liquor is a strange quirk of circumstance but that is the story confirmed in West Salem. In 1833, old West Salem had a postmaster named Samuel Hill, who ran the Postoffice in connection with a saloon. The story telling and whisky were good in those days and letters addressed to women were unimportant to the hard living farmers. Notwithstanding the fact that Lincoln was not an "administration man," the women opened a campaign for removal of Postmaster Hill. A petition was started and so many signed for the likeable, hard-working Lincoln that he was given the position.

Lincoln and his tall, commodious hat became an ambulatory postoffice. At any time of the day, no matter the whims of weather, Lincoln went out of his way to carry the mail. Instead of leaving it at the Postoffice, he delivered it personally, regardless of distance, when he knew someone was waiting for it. By agreement with his customers, he was permitted to open and read all newspapers and periodicals.

Walking and Reading

It was a picture the pioneers of that day often drew—of the tall, gangling postmaster walking over the countryside, reading intently as he covered the miles.

America knows what followed Lincoln's modest step into public life. Popular with all, he became assistant county surveyor and then State Representative, sweeping every obstacle before him in his march to greatness.

In the march of American progress, old West Salem in later years became a deserted village, but today architects are at work to reconstruct it as it stood when Lincoln trod its streets. Out of the past of dim recollection of staunch pioneers, they are rebuilding log houses and huts as of the Lincoln era. Soon, they hope to present an exact reproduction of the old West Salem of Lincoln's postmaster days.

Defenders of those principles for which Abraham Lincoln stood.

In our state-wide campaign to return the Bible to the public school, we have secured the signatures of thousands of voters in various California cties. These names are recorded in their respective precincts. With ten precincts in a ward and a captain over each precinct and a major over each ward we will be able to effectively champion Christian American principles.

Our League meetings held from week to week in the various precincts are proving a great help.

The meetings are opened by singing the last verse of "America" as Our Country's Prayer, and the reading of a portion of scripture, after which we conduct a free discussion of the Bible in the shcool, the Lincoln Dry Amendment and other vital issues.

On the following page is submitted a specially prepared precinct map of one of Santa Monica's seven wards. This system we are planning to carry out on a large scale and the co-operation of friends in other sections of the state are solicited.

You should avail yourself of the opportunity of attending these meetings when held in your community.

We Lincolnites stand for the retention of the 18th Amendment, which has proven a mighty blessing to our nation and has been enforced far more effectively than its enemies would have us believe, and in case of its repeal, we stress the immediate adoption of the "Lincoln Dry Amendment" as the 22nd Amendment to our Federal Constitution.

Lincoln Dry Amendment

"After one year from the ratification of this article, the manufacture, sale or transportation of liquors containing more than ½ of 1% alcohol within, the importation, thereof into or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited".

It was the brewers themselves who, in 1862, designated liquors containing more than ½ of 1% alcohol as intoxicating in their defense against the soft drink trade and President Lincoln accepted their ratio. This nation reached its peak of prosperity in 1928-29 during a dry Republican administration and the world depression which followed had nothing to do with prohibition. Times would have been worse had we had 4% beer. After two years of a wet Democratic rule when bootlegging will flourish as never before and the President's beer revenue ridiculously low, Dry Republican candidates will again be popular in "34" and "36". Beware of designing Drys who will be proposing a Constitutional Party, Federal Party, or any other high sounding alignment, promising to lead the Dry forces to victory. It was these office crazed individuals who led the Dry forces in the desertion of the Republican party, the one-likely-to-win Dry party.

Mr. Hooved would have stood by the "noble experiment", had the moral forces supported him. The recent state prohibition elections reveal the weakened condition of the Dry organizations under their present leadership.

Our cause is just, and with loyal hearts and a Mighty God to lead on, we can soon expect the liquor element the world over held in check by legislation restricting beverages containing more than ½ of 1% alcohol. When our representative circulates the announcement for the League meeting in your community would you kindly contribute to the cause a dime or quarter, or any amount you can spare. Where a number help a little no one feels a special burden and the victory is hastened. A strict account of all money taken in will be kept.

Committee—
E. F. RUDEEN, Chairman
M. W. ANSCHUTZ
DON FALLIS
E. R. MAC GLASHAN

THE
ATLANTIC MONTHLY

VOLUME 153 NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 1934

LINCOLN AND LIQUOR

BY WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND

THE name of Abraham Lincoln has become a synonym for conservative, farsighted statesmanship, keen sagacity in practical politics, and rugged personal integrity. Vital problems of government which deeply agitate the public mind, especially if moral issues are thought to be involved, hardly ever fail to evoke the query, 'What would Lincoln do?' In recent months this question has frequently been asked as the various states have voted on the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Members of the House of Representatives discussed it pointedly during the debate on the beer bill at the Special Session of Congress.

With federal prohibition eliminated, power to regulate the liquor traffic is again vested in the several states. Wets and drys are already recruiting their ranks for bitter legislative battles, and both sides, mindful of the magic of his name, claim Lincoln.

Would he favor state-wide prohibition, or would he endorse the view of those who contend that temperance is a personal matter which cannot be enforced by legislation? Was Lincoln a total abstainer, a prohibitionist, and a lecturer against the evils of strong drink, or was he a user of liquor, a saloon keeper in his early manhood, and a foe of reform who denounced prohibition as 'a species of intemperance within itself'?

Recent research among old newspaper files, musty court records, archives of the Illinois Legislature almost a century old, and the priceless though little-known Herndon-Lamon manuscripts, clarifies for the first time this highly controversial subject, and sheds new light upon Lincoln's personal habits, his attitude toward the liquor problem of his own day, and the environment and association which doubtless influenced his views and actions.

I

The Kentucky of Abraham Lincoln's childhood was a brawling, whiskey-drinking, horse-racing, card-playing region that amazed early travelers to the Western country. 'They are nearly

all natives of Virginia,' observed the Frenchman, M. Michaux. 'With them a passion for gaming and spirituous liquors is carried to excess, which frequently terminates in quarrels degrading to human nature. If a traveler happens to pass by, his horse is appreciated, if he stops he is presented with a glass of whiskey.' The Englishman, Timothy Flint, noted in his journal: 'Fights are characterized by the most savage ferocity. Goughing, or putting out the antagonist's eyes by thrusting the thumbs in the sockets, is a part of the *modus operandi*. Kicking and biting are also ordinary means used in combat. I have seen several fingers that have been mutilated, also several noses and ears which have been bitten off by this canine mode of fighting.' And Flint's fellow countryman, F. Cumming, wrote back to London: 'They fight for the most trifling provocations, or even sometimes without any, but merely to try each others prowess, which they are fond of vaunting of.'

Lincoln's father, easy-going, lethargic Thomas, was not a teetotaler; occasionally he worked at a stillhouse that adjoined his farm, but he used liquor very moderately, and, for his day, was counted a temperate man. The time-stained store ledgers of Bleakley and Montgomery at Elizabethtown, Kentucky, contain occasional items such as 'Thomas Lincoln — one pint of whiskey — 21c,' but they are few and far between when compared to similar entries for other customers.

So much cannot be said for the uncle of Abraham's father, who was also named Thomas. This kinsman, frequently mentioned by Abraham in his correspondence of later years, owned a flourishing stillhouse on South Elkhorn Creek up in the Bluegrass section near Lexington. In 1810 his wife, Elizabeth, sued him for the recovery of certain property under a separation agreement, which recited 'that the said Elizabeth hath come to a final determination to reside with her husband no longer.' Her bill of complaint alleged that 'the said Thomas hath been very abusive to his said wife, & has twice kicked her with his feet & once thrown a chair at her & gives her very repeatedly the most abusive language.'

The response that Thomas filed is in contrite but somewhat guarded terms. It alleges that 'the said Lincoln with truth can say that whatever of his conduct towards her that may have savoured of either injustice or cruelty, has proceeded either from a deranged mind or casual intemperance & intoxication, and while he with the deepest remorse laments & acknowledges these errors of his own life, it has been the misfortune of his wife to have her errors also.' In further defense, he states that on one occasion his wife 'actually approached to strike him with a chair & was about to strike him, when he repeled the blow by striking her.'

When the case came to trial on December 13, 1810, one of Mrs. Lincoln's witnesses, Peter Warfield, admitted that she was 'in the habit of frequent intoxication' and that he had 'frequently seen her in that state,' but expressed the opinion that it was 'generally believed in the neighborhood that Mrs. Lincoln's intemperance proceeded from the bad conduct of her husband.'

Evidently the infuriated Thomas, after adjournment of court, laid violent hands upon the truthful Peter, because Warfield next morning filed a suit against Lincoln for assault and battery, stating that on the previous day 'Thomas Lincoln did with feet and fists commit an assault upon the said plaintiff & him the said Pltff. then & there did beat, wound & evily treat so that his life was despaired of greatly.'

In after years, when Abraham Lin-

coln lounged about the courthouse at Lexington on visits to his wife's home town and, as he wrote Jesse Lincoln, 'heard the older people speak of Uncle Thomas and his family,' and perhaps read the dust-laden records in the clerk's office, it must have been apparent to him that mutual indulgence to excess in the mellow juice of Kentucky corn had been a vital factor in the marital unhappiness of Thomas and Elizabeth Lincoln.

Abraham's Uncle Mordecai, his father's older brother, whom he says 'he often saw,' was a heavy drinker, and so was his son, 'young Mord.' The elder Mordecai moved to Hancock County, Illinois, and on a bleak December day in 1830, the winter of 'the deep snow,' Uncle Mord dismounted from his horse, lay down in a snowdrift to sleep off his liquor, and never awoke.

Abraham Lincoln had no recollection of his birthplace, the rude cabin by the Sinking Spring on Nolin Creek. When he was two years old his father moved across Muldraugh's Hill to a fertile little farm in the bottom lands of Knob Creek. Here the closest neighbor of the Lincolns was Caleb Hazel, Abraham's second school-teacher, who kept an 'ordinary,' and on one occasion was indicted in the Hardin Circuit Court for 'retailing spirituous liquors by the small without a license.' Peter Atherton, the Knob Creek ferryman, sold whiskey also, and shortly after the Lincolns moved to that vicinity was indicted for the same offense. Every mill site, crossroads, and other public place had its 'ordinary' or 'groggery' where peach brandy, applejack, and corn whiskey could be had at low cost.

Liquor drinking was by no means uncommon among the clergy. William Downs, pastor of the Little Mount Separate Baptist Church where the Lincolns worshiped, probably the first preacher Abraham ever heard, who baptized Thomas Lincoln in Knob Creek, was addicted to the use of liquor and at one time was summoned before the congregation to answer a charge of being intoxicated. David Elkin, another pastor of the same church, who, according to tradition, preached the funeral of Lincoln's mother, is said to have had his reputation 'sullied in later years from too free use of strong drink.'

So that Abraham Lincoln during his childhood, whether he rode to mill or played about the ferry or went to school or attended church, was brought into intimate contact with liquor, and with those who drank it regularly and, frequently, to excess.

Moreover, corn whiskey was one of the chief mediums of exchange. Even at Lexington, the 'Athens of the West,' church subscriptions were acceptable 'in good merchantable whiskey.' And it is not surprising that, when Thomas Lincoln left Kentucky to stake out a claim in the wilderness of Indiana, the rude raft that he launched in the swift, shallow waters of Rolling Fork carried 400 gallons of distilled spirits.

II

Social life in Southern Indiana at the time the Lincolns moved into what Dennis Hanks, Lincoln's cousin and boyhood companion, called 'that darn little half-faced camp' was much the same as on Knob Creek in Kentucky. Amusements were rough and boisterous, alcoholic beverages potent and plentiful. The most popular form of entertainment was the 'frolic.' A traveler wrote: 'They seldom do anything without having one. Thus they have husking, reaping, log-rolling frolics, etc. Among the females they have picking, sewing and quilting frolics.' And on these festive occasions the men usually took their whiskey straight,

while the women sweetened it to a toddy, or drank it in the form of stiff eggnogs.

Even at religious services liquor seems to have had a proper place. Before the log church on Pigeon Creek was built, the little congregation met the preacher at a neighbor's cabin on Sunday morning. Here there was always a bottle of whiskey, pitcher of water, sugar and glasses, and a basket of apples or turnips, and sometimes a cake or batch of fried apple pies. When the refreshments had been consumed, the shepherd of the flock took the floor, threw off his coat, opened his shirt collar, read his text, and then 'preached and pounded' until the sweat produced by his exertions and the exhilarating effects of the toddy rolled down his flushed jowls in great drops. The services were then concluded by singing such hymns as, using the grotesque spelling of Dennis Hanks, 'O, when shall I see jesus and Rain with him aBove,' and 'how teageous and tasteless the hours when jesus No Longer I see.' But one of the worshipers remembered that at 'old Mr. Linkern's house' the Sunday morning 'treat' was only 'a plate of potatoes, washed and pared very nicely. They took off a potato and ate them like apples.'

Whiskey was sold at the crossroads, which later became Gentryville, and young Lincoln and his stepbrother, John D. Johnston, Dennis Hanks, and Nat Grigsby loafed a good deal around Gentry's store, where Abe was extremely fond of telling his droll stories. 'Sometimes we spent a little time at Grog,' Dennis Hanks naïvely recalled in 1865. And Nat Grigsby says, 'Abe drank his dram, as well as all others did, preachers and Christians included.' But he stresses the fact that 'Lincoln was a temperate drinker.'

William Wood, a Kentuckian and a thrifty early settler of Indiana, was a near neighbor of the Lincolns, and the trusted friend and adviser of Abraham's youth and early manhood. According to Wood, 'Abe once drank, as all people did here at that time.' Wood was a temperance man and took a paper devoted to that cause which Lincoln frequently read. One day Abe wrote a 'piece on temperance' which made such an impression on Wood that he gave it to Aaron Farmer, a Baptist preacher, who had it printed in a temperance paper published in Ohio. No copy of this article has ever been discovered, but apparently young Lincoln's views were not opposed to the manufacture of whiskey. In the autumn of 1829 he wrote a contract for his stepbrother, who agreed to operate a distillery for John Dutton on what is now the Fredonia and Princeton Highway, four miles southwest of Huntingburg, Indiana; and here Lincoln worked among the mash tubs and copper worms the last winter that he spent in the Hoosier State.

Doubtless Lincoln's indulgence in alcoholic beverages during the Indiana years was extremely casual, but the tall, loose-jointed youth in coonskin cap and skimpy buckskin breeches found the evenings at Gentry's store none the less entertaining because of bibulous company, and when the hour grew late and the storekeeper finally dismissed the loungers by snuffing his candles, and the boys of the neighborhood started home, Abe's voice, if not the most melodious, was certainly one of the loudest in singing, as Dennis Hanks wrote, 'the turpen [turbaned] turk that Scorns the world and Struts aBout with his whiskers Curld for No other man But himself to See,' and 'Hail Collumbia Happy Land if you aint Drunk I will Be Damned.' Dennis further recalled that 'Abe youst to try to sing pore old Ned, But he Never could sing Much.'

III

At New Salem, a straggling village of some fifteen log cabins, perched high upon a wooded bluff of the Sangamon River in Illinois, Lincoln started out in life for himself in the summer of 1831. His first job was keeping a store for Denton Offutt, a brisk, boastful, venturesome trader, who had purchased a raftload of goods in St. Louis. As in all country stores, whiskey was as much a part of the stock as coffee, tea, and sugar. The best evidence that liquor was not sold by the drink at the Offutt establishment is that the convivial element did not congregate there, but gathered across the road at a 'grocery,' where the sportive Offutt himself spent much of his time.

The deviltry of the 'Clary Grove Boys' added a spice and zest to New Salem atmosphere that Gentryville never had. Wild, reckless, warmhearted, impulsive, this swaggering set of picturesque young rowdies, descendants of Kentuckians who had brought their racing stock and gamecocks to the frontier country, were equally ready for fight or frolic. Devoted to rough sports involving feats of physical strength, hostile to strangers whose courage was yet untested, they stood aloof from Lincoln until one sunny afternoon under the giant oak near Offutt's store when the tall, sinewy clerk conquered their chief and champion wrestler, Jack Armstrong. Thereafter, as one of them declared, 'Abe was king. His word was law.' He umpired their cockfights, wrestling matches, and foot races, and his decisions were accepted without a murmur.

Strangely enough, Lincoln never drank any liquor at New Salem. The evidence is uncontradicted and conclusive on this point. 'I have seen him,' says R. B. Rutledge, 'frequently take a barrel of whiskey by the chimes and lift it up to his face as if to drink out of the bunghole, but I never saw him taste or drink any kind of spirituous liquors.' And yet, though he neither drank nor brawled, Lincoln never rebuked his roistering companions, nor attempted to reform them in any way, except, perchance, by force of his personal example.

While he was stretched out reading on the counter, his head propped up with bolts of cotton and calico, a drunken fight would frequently start in the village street and Lincoln would run out, 'pitch in,' grab the aggressor by the 'nap of the neck and seat of the britches,' and toss him '10 or 12 feet easily.' This, an eyewitness dryly observes, usually 'ended the fuss,' and Lincoln calmly returned to his book. Although Dr. John Allen, the genial physician of New Salem, organized a Temperance Society, there is no evidence that Lincoln was a member, but tradition has it that years later he publicly acknowledged that Dr. Allen had greatly influenced his ideas on sobriety.

IV

In the spring of 1832, Denton Offutt failed in business and left the country. Out of a job, Lincoln announced himself as a candidate for the Legislature, and then enlisted as a militiaman in the Black Hawk War, which was over in ninety days. Defeated in the August election, he again embarked in the mercantile business, this time with a young drunkard named William F. Berry. Of course, the firm of Berry and Lincoln did not prosper. The junior partner spent most of his time with a book, and the senior partner with a bottle, until the following spring when Lincoln sold his interest to Berry.

It has hardly ever been denied that Berry and Lincoln sold liquor in quantity at their store. But a fierce con-

troversy has raged for years as to whether they sold liquor over the counter by the drink. Under the law of Illinois at that time, all persons who desired to sell spirituous liquors in quantities less than one quart, or beer, ale, or cider in quantities less than two gallons, were required to take out a tavern license, give a bond, and pay a fee 'not exceeding $12.00.' Stores that sold liquor under such license were called 'groceries,' and the term 'grocery' was synonymous with 'saloon.' The records show that on March 6, 1833, the County Commissioner's Court of Sangamon County 'ordered that William F. Berry, in the name of Berry & Lincoln, have a license to keep a tavern in New Salem,' and fixed the prices to be charged for liquor as follows: —

French brandy, per ½ pt.	25c
Peach brandy, per ½ pt.	18¾
Apple brandy, per ½ pt.	12
Holland gin, per ½ pt.	18¾
Domestic gin, per ½ pt.	12½
Wine, per ½ pt.	25
Rum, per ½ pt.	18¾
Whiskey, per ½ pt.	12½

The bond is signed 'Abraham Lincoln, Wm. F. Berry,' with Lincoln's old friend, Squire Bowling Green, as surety. Apparently Berry subscribed his partner's name to the document, since an examination of the original shows that it is not in Lincoln's handwriting. There is no doubt that Berry operated a 'grocery' under this license after Lincoln retired from the firm and became the village postmaster on May 7, 1833, but the recollections of old residents of New Salem are not in accord as to whether the store became a 'grocery' before Lincoln sold his share in it.

When William H. Herndon, after Lincoln's death, began interviewing his late law partner's early friends and associates, he wrote to George Spears, who lived for many years near New Salem, about the kind of store Berry and Lincoln had kept. On November 3, 1866, Spears replied that he had made inquiries of the Potters, Armstrongs, and others, but that he could 'arrive at no dates. Old Mrs. Potter affirms that Lincoln did sell liquor in a grocery. I can't say whether he did or not. At that time, I had no idea of his ever being president, therefore I did not notice his course as close as I should if I had.'

Nine days later W. McNeely wrote Herndon: 'Father asks me to say that he never was in Lincoln's House, but then understood it to be a common grocery — whiskey shop — by the drink.'

But in the Herndon-Lamon manuscripts there is a definite statement to the contrary from James Davis: 'Lincoln & Berry broke. Berry afterwards kept a doggery — a whiskey saloon, as I do now or did. Am a Democrat — never agreed in politics with Abe — he was an honest man. Give the Devil his dues: He never sold whiskey by the dram in New Salem. I was in town every week for years — know, I think, all about it. I always drank my dram and drank at Berry's often, I ought to know.'

And Harvey Ross says, 'I am sure that no liquor was sold by the drink in their store while Mr. Lincoln had an interest in it. I had occasion to be in the store very often while I was carrying the mail.'

On August 21, 1858, Judge Douglas, opening the first joint debate at Ottawa, Illinois, referred to the many points of sympathy between him and Lincoln when they 'first got acquainted.' Said he: 'We were both comparatively boys and both struggling with poverty in a strange land. I was a schoolteacher in the town of Winchester, and

he a flourishing *grocery keeper* in the town of New Salem.'

In reply to this sly thrust, which Douglas did not repeat during the campaign, Lincoln said: 'The judge is woefully at fault about his early friend Lincoln being a grocery keeper. I don't know as it would have been a great sin if I had been; but he is mistaken. Lincoln never kept a grocery anywhere in the world.'

'It is true,' he added drolly, 'that Lincoln did work the latter part of one winter in a little stillhouse, up at the head of a hollow.' And the big crowd roared with laughter.

In view of Lincoln's emphatic denial and the positive statements of James Davis and Harvey Ross, the weight of the evidence is decidedly against the contention that Lincoln sold liquor over the counter at New Salem. But, whether he did or not, the Berry and Lincoln partnership was his last business venture. Again his thoughts turned to politics.

V

The following year (1834) Lincoln was elected to the Legislature, and thereafter reëlected for three consecutive terms. The session of 1838–1839 felt strongly the effect of the numerous temperance societies that were springing up all over the country. Petitions poured in expressing deep hostility to the 'liquor traffic.' Realizing that prohibition at this time was impossible, the foes of liquor confined their efforts to more strenuous regulatory laws. A high license fee, a heavy bond, an increase in the minimum quantity which could be sold without a license, and a provision which later came to be known as 'local option,' were the chief objectives.

On February 26, 1839, John J. Hardin, the temperance leader in the House, presented such a bill, which failed of passage by a tie vote, 39 to 39, Lincoln voting against the measure. On the following day a similar bill, including a local-option provision which had been approved by the Senate, was received by the House and was passed, 43 to 27, and again Lincoln is recorded as voting in the negative.

The new liquor law was hailed as a victory for the temperance forces, but the liberal element was not ready to concede defeat. Hardly had the special session of 1839–1840 opened when a bill from the committee on the judiciary was introduced to repeal it. This bill reduced the maximum license fee from $300 to $150. A license was required only for the sale of liquor in quantities less than one quart instead of one gallon. The local-option clause was omitted. A representative from Vermilion County moved to amend the act by inserting a local-option provision, such as the existing law contained. This amendment was lost by a tie vote, 39 to 39, Lincoln voting against it. On January 13, 1840, when the bill came up for its third reading, a local-option amendment was again offered, but voted down, 42 to 36, Lincoln still voting in the negative. On January 27, the bill was passed by a vote of 52 to 29, Lincoln voting in favor of the measure. Although this act passed the House by a decisive vote, the temperance forces succeeded in blocking its passage in the Senate, and it failed to become a law.

When the 1840–1841 session convened, the temperance leaders immediately assumed the offensive in an effort further to restrict the sale of liquor. To that end, Attorney-General Kitchell promptly addressed the Legislature and recommended that 'all persons be prohibited from retailing intoxicating liquors in less quantity than one quart in any situation, or under any circumstances whatsoever.' This he said

would eliminate 'the great evil resulting from congregated masses at tippling shops.'

On December 19, 1840, as the House was considering a new bill which had been presented by a select committee, the House *Journal* recites that 'Mr. Murphy, of Cook, moved to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert as follows: "That after the passage of this act, no person shall be licensed to sell vinous or spirituous liquors in this State."'

For a few moments the members seemed dazed at the unexpectedness with which the question of state-wide prohibition had been squarely thrust upon them. But Lincoln was equal to the emergency, and the House *Journal* records that 'Mr. Lincoln moved to lay the proposed amendment on the table,' which was hastily done by an overwhelming vote of 75 to 8.

For many years, and particularly after the adoption of the Eighteenth Amendment, the report was circulated at various times that Lincoln on this occasion, the very page of the *Journal* being frequently cited, made certain emphatic remarks against prohibition, including the declaration that 'prohibition will work great injury to the cause of temperance. It is a species of intemperance within itself, for it goes beyond the bounds of reason, in that it attempts to control a man's appetite by legislation.' But neither the House *Journal* nor the Springfield newspapers, which published abstracts of the debates and legislative proceedings for December 19, 1840, show that Lincoln made any remarks whatever in support of his motion, nor is the statement attributed to him to be found in any of the several editions of his writings and works.

On the contrary, there seems to be satisfactory evidence that this statement was fabricated for the purpose of influencing Negro voters during a heated campaign to close the saloons in Atlanta, in the fall of 1887. Handbills were circulated among the colored population bearing a picture of Abraham Lincoln striking the shackles from a kneeling Negro, followed by the spurious statement against prohibition, and a stirring exhortation: 'Colored voters, he appeals to you to protect the liberty he has bestowed upon you. Will you go back on his advice! Look to your rights! Read and act! Vote for the sale!'

Still, it cannot be denied that Lincoln's record in the Illinois House of Representatives shows that he voted consistently with the liberal element on liquor legislation. He voted against a bill offered by the temperance forces when his vote would have passed the measure. He voted against a similar bill that had passed the Senate. He voted twice against local-option amendments, once when his vote would have carried the amendment. He voted for an act reducing the restrictions placed upon liquor sellers, and it would have become a law had not the temperance advocates defeated it in the Senate. And he voted in favor of his own motion which killed a state-wide prohibition amendment.

VI

In spite of Lincoln's apparent attitude toward the enforcement of temperance by law, it cannot be doubted that he firmly believed in temperance as a rule of personal deportment. In less than a year after he had voted against prohibition, Lincoln was an active member of the Springfield Chapter of the Washington Society, a temperance movement originated by six reformed drunkards at Baltimore that swept across the country with the fervor and zeal of a crusade. Article 2

of the Constitution adopted by the Springfield organization declared that the 'sole object' of the Society was 'to advance the cause of temperance, and especially direct its efforts to the redemption of our fellow men, who have been degraded by the use of intoxicating liquor.'

On February 22, 1842, following a spectacular parade of the Sangamo Guards, Lincoln delivered a Washington's Birthday address before the Society and an assemblage that crowded the Second Presbyterian Church. He began his speech by congratulating the friends of temperance upon the rapid strides which the cause had made in recent years. This great success was due to new advocates and a new 'system of tactics.' The old champions of the cause 'for the most part have been preachers, lawyers and hired agents.' The 'new class of champions,' to whom 'success is greatly, perhaps chiefly owing,' were themselves reformed drunkards. When 'a redeemed specimen of long-lost humanity' appeals to his former associates, 'there is a logic and an eloquence in it that few with human feelings can resist.' Nobody can doubt his sincerity or question his motives.

Lincoln expressed the opinion that former methods of reform had been injudicious. 'Too much denunciation against dram sellers and dram drinkers was indulged in,' said he. 'This I think was both impolitic and unjust. It was impolitic because it is not much in the nature of man to be driven to anything; still less to be driven about that which is exclusively his own business; and least of all where such driving is to be submitted to at the expense of pecuniary interest or burning appetite.'

'Persuasion, kind unassuming persuasion,' said Lincoln, is the best way to influence human conduct. Gain a man's friendship first and then it is not difficult to appeal successfully to his reason. 'On the contrary,' he observed, 'assume to dictate to his judgment, or to command his action, or to mark him as one to be shunned and despised, and he will retreat within himself' — all efforts to reform him will be in vain. The Washingtonians knew that 'their old friends and companions' were not 'demons, nor even the worst of men.' Far from it. 'Generally they are kind, generous and charitable, even beyond the example of their more staid and sober neighbors.'

It was no longer an open question as to 'whether or not the world would be vastly benefited by a total and final banishment from it of all intoxicating drinks,' Lincoln declared. 'Three-fourths of mankind confess the affirmative with their tongues, and I believe all the rest acknowledge it in their hearts.' This being so, the speaker urged that everybody lend a hand in providing 'moral support and influence' for those who were struggling to resist the craving for drink. No person, however sober and reputable, should regard himself too good to join what some people called 'a reformed drunkard's society.'

'In my judgment,' said Lincoln, 'such of us as have never fallen victims have been spared more by the absence of appetite than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have.'

In conclusion he expressed the hope that the day would come 'when there should be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth,' and paid a brief, glowing tribute to Washington.

Such was Lincoln's first temperance address. The Washingtonians were satisfied with it and had it printed. The newspapers gave it favorable mention. But caustic comment came from other quarters. His criticism of

the old reformers and his exhortation to fellowship with the fallen rankled in the breasts of the bigots. 'I was at the door of the church as the people passed out,' says Herndon, 'and heard them discussing the speech. Many of them were open in the expression of their displeasure. "It is a shame," I heard one man say, "that he should be permitted to abuse us so in the house of the Lord."'

VII

The Washington's Birthday address, although the only one now preserved, was not Lincoln's last temperance speech. The recently discovered minutes of the Board of Visitors of the Sangamon Temperance Union note that he spoke before the Springfield Juvenile Society in 1846 and made 'an excellent address at Langston's' in 1847, long after the hysteria of the Washingtonian movement had subsided.

However, Lincoln did not allow his personal views on the liquor question to interfere with the performance of professional duties. The court records show that with impartial zeal he appeared as counsel for saloon keepers and for temperance crusaders who destroyed the property of saloon keepers.

In 1846, at the December term of the McLean Circuit Court, 8 Illinois Reports 93, Lincoln represented Rowell Munsell, who kept bar in the Bloomington Hotel at Bloomington, Illinois, in a suit against Wm. H. Temple over the validity of his liquor license. In 1853 he defended Patrick Sullivan, who was convicted at the October term of the Macon Circuit Court for selling liquor without a license. The fine was only ten dollars, which was less than the costs of an appeal, but Lincoln took the case to the Supreme Court, 15 Illinois Reports 233, and strenuously contended that the existing laws of the state did not prohibit the sale of intoxicants without a license. The wholesale grocers at Springfield sold large quantities of liquor to saloon keepers in central Illinois, and were vitally interested in the outcome of this litigation. Since the proceeding was obviously a test case, it is not improbable that Lincoln actually represented Jacob Bunn, who was one of his regular clients, a close personal friend, and a large wholesale grocer.

In May 1854, Lincoln represented nine women who were indicted for 'riot' in the Dewitt Circuit Court. According to the *Decatur Gazette*, a man named Tanner had opened a 'doggery' in the Town of Marion, 'much to the annoyance of the fair sex,' who called upon and requested him to 'desist his traffic of liquor.' The request being refused, the women, 'in a quiet and respectful manner, took the liquor and turned it out upon the ground.' At the trial more than a hundred ladies were present to witness Lincoln's defense 'of the fair daughters of Adam.' The jury having imposed the insignificant fine of two dollars, the editor of the *Gazette* felt that Lincoln and his clients had won a victory, and exclaimed, 'Huzzah for the Marion ladies!'

In this same month Pearl and Pearl filed a suit in the Tazewell Circuit Court against Alexander Graham and twenty other men for trespass, claiming that they had entered complainants' dwelling and destroyed certain liquors and other property. The response filed by the defendants is in Lincoln's handwriting, and alleges that 'the supposed dwelling house in said declaration mentioned was a common, disorderly and ill-governed house, within which, by the permission and procurement of the plaintiffs, drunkenness, idleness, quarreling, profane swearing, obscenity and

other offensive acts and noises were then and there practiced and encouraged to the great injury and annoyance of the peaceful citizens of the neighborhood.' A year later, May 4, 1855, the defendants were tried, and fifteen of them were acquitted, six were found guilty, and damages were assessed at fifty dollars.

In a similar case over in McLean County, Lincoln was not so successful. His clients, Ephraim Platt and A. B. Davidson, were fined six hundred dollars, according to the *Bloomington Pantagraph*, for 'destroying certain barrels of spiritual comfort' belonging to the firm of Reynolds and Fuller.

VIII

This saloon raiding and the heated trials that followed reflected in some degree the persistent agitation of the liquor question, which finally induced the Illinois Legislature, on February 10, 1855, to pass a state-wide prohibition bill, known as the 'Maine Liquor Law.' Under this enactment no liquor could be sold for beverage purposes in Illinois, but the measure, in order to become effective, had to be approved by the people at an election which was called for June 4, 1855. During this interval the fight for votes was extremely bitter and vituperative.

The prohibition contest came at an exceedingly inopportune time for Lincoln, who was doing his utmost to arouse public sentiment against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. The antislavery men were sharply divided by the liquor question. Young Billy Herndon, Lincoln's law partner, then Mayor of Springfield, though intemperate himself, was ardently in favor of prohibition. So was Judge Logan, Lincoln's former law partner, who had been in active charge of the bill when it passed the House. So was his intimate friend, Simeon Francis, editor of the *Illinois Journal*.

On the other hand, the ninety thousand Germans in the state were solidly against the Maine Law, and they were as much opposed to the extension of slavery as they were to prohibition. Their leaders, like Lieutenant Governor Gustave Koerner and Dr. Theodore Canisius, were staunch Lincoln men. Thus caught on the horns of a dilemma, Lincoln, with his usual astuteness, took no part in the prohibition contest that raged so fiercely about him. In spite of comparatively recent efforts to prove him not only an open champion of the Maine Law but actually the author of the Illinois measure, there is no authentic evidence that Lincoln either said or did anything whatever that might have offended any group or faction of the antislavery element who opposed prohibition. And we have the unequivocal testimony of Ward Hill Lamon, his law partner at Danville, of James Gourley, his next-door neighbor for many years, and of his son, Robert Lincoln, that he did not do so.

The poll books show that on June 4, when the Maine Law was rejected by the people, Lincoln cast his vote, but how he voted does not appear. If he voted for it, he again did not allow personal opinion to interfere with his law practice, because an order book of the Sangamon Circuit Court recites that on June 12, eight days after the election, the case of George Organ and Benjamin Kessler, jointly indicted for selling whiskey without a license, was called, and the firm of Lincoln and Herndon is noted on the docket as counsel for the defendants.

It is little wonder that the prohibition movement was defeated. As one looks back upon it, the large vote that it received is surprising. In 1855, the consumption of intoxicants in Illinois

had not greatly decreased in proportion to the population since pioneer days, in spite of the fact that the growing temperance sentiment had reduced individual excesses. The clergy had become outspoken against the use of liquor, but the members of the legal profession showed no such hostility. The Springfield lawyers usually prepared their briefs in the Supreme Court Library at the State House, and one of them relates that 'with but few exceptions they drank their toddy,' making frequent visits to a jug of good whiskey which Colonel Warren, the clerk of the court, 'usually hid from sight, but which was never so cleverly concealed that the wise ones could not find it.'

Out on the circuit, tippling shops and taprooms clustered about the courthouses, and when a court was established in Christian County the two buildings first erected were the courthouse and a saloon.

IX

Yet Lincoln himself very rarely drank liquor. 'Not so much,' says his old friend Judge Joseph Gillespie, 'as it seemed to me, from principle, as from a want of appetite.' And John Hay, Lincoln's private secretary, reflects the same opinion in speaking of him after he became President. 'He drank little or no wine,' Hay declares; 'not that he remained always on principle a total abstainer, as he was during a part of his early life in the fervor of the Washingtonian reform, but he never cared for wine or liquors.'

'I am entitled to little credit for not drinking,' Lincoln told Herndon, 'because I hate the stuff; it is unpleasant and always leaves me flabby and undone.'

Ward Hill Lamon, whom Lincoln set down in his own handwriting as 'entirely reliable and trustworthy — my particular friend,' on July 4, 1889, replied to a letter written him by Miss Kate Fields: 'You ask my recollection of Mr. Lincoln's views on the question of temperance and prohibition. I look upon him as one of the safest temperance men I ever knew. He was neither what might be called a "drinking man," a total abstainer, nor a prohibitionist.'

And Lamon left a statement which was found among his papers after his death that 'none of his nearest associates ever saw Mr. Lincoln voluntarily call for a drink,' but they had seen him 'take whiskey with a little sugar in it to avoid the appearance of discountenancing it to his friends. If he could have avoided it without giving offense he would have gladly done so.'

Lincoln Dubois, son of Jesse K. Dubois, one of Lincoln's closest political and personal friends, in his unpublished reminiscences, corroborates Lamon: 'He decidedly was not what would be called a drinking man, but made no fuss about it at all; took it when offered, but seldom drank it.' And Herndon wrote Jesse Weik that 'Lincoln did sometimes take a horn when he thought it would do him good.'

But the occasions on which Lincoln took 'whiskey with a little sugar in it' must have been very infrequent, because several of his associates agree with Judge Logan, who says, 'I never in my life saw Lincoln taste liquor.' Henry C. Whitney, who was on the circuit with Lincoln more than Logan, though not so much as Lamon, recalls an incident when he and Lincoln and several other lawyers drove out to the residence of Reason Hooten near Danville, where several varieties of homemade wine were passed around. 'A mere sip of each affected Lincoln,' relates Whitney, 'and he said comically, "Fellers, I am getting drunk!" That was the nearest approach to inebriety I ever saw him.'

Men with whom Lincoln came in contact were not always able to appreciate his failure to indulge in the habits that gave them pleasure, and he was fond of telling a story on himself which illustrated this fact. One morning in 1849, Lincoln left Randell's tavern in Springfield for Washington. The only other passenger in the stagecoach was a well-dressed, affable Kentuckian who was on his way home from Missouri. The two men immediately fell into conversation, and after a while the Kentuckian took a chew of tobacco and handed the plug to Lincoln, who politely said that he did not chew. Later on, as the clumsy vehicle jolted and swayed over the rough, dusty road and conversation lagged, the stranger pulled a leather case from his pocket and offered his companion a cigar. Lincoln thanked him, but said that he never smoked. Finally, as lunch time approached, the traveler produced a flask from his satchel. 'Well, my friend,' he remarked, 'seeing you don't smoke or chew, perhaps you will take a little of this French brandy. It's a prime article and a good appetizer besides.' But Lincoln again declined this highest and best demonstration of Kentucky hospitality. In the afternoon, at the junction, as the gentleman from the Bluegrass State was about to take another stage for Louisville, he shook hands cordially.

'See here,' he said smilingly, 'you are a clever but peculiar companion. I may never see you again and I do not want to offend you, but I want to say this: My experience has taught me that a man who has no vices has damned few virtues. Good day.'

X

The fact that Lincoln was an exceedingly temperate man made it difficult for his friends to understand his fondness for the society of certain men whose habits were notoriously bad. Whitney complained that Lincoln would play billiards by the hour with George Lawrence, 'a worthless, drunken fellow who turned lawyer late in life.' Judge David Davis, who presided over the 8th Judicial Circuit, accounted for Lincoln's association with a few 'low and vulgar' men by the fact that 'he loved sharp, witty things, loved jokes, etc.,' and expressed the opinion that 'Lincoln used these men merely to whistle off sadness, gloom and unhappiness.' But Davis was sure that Lincoln 'hated drunkenness.'

Still, as Dubois says, he 'made no fuss' about drinking. 'I never heard him disclaim against the use of tobacco or other stimulants,' recalls Judge Gillespie. Certainly Lincoln's presence caused no restraint among the jolly circuit riders who regularly gathered after supper in Judge Davis's room at the best tavern in the town where court was being held. Indeed, he was the outstanding favorite of all that gay, versatile group. A bucket of beer stood on the hearth, a pitcher of whiskey on the table, and hour after hour would swiftly pass in song and story, while Judge Davis's fat sides shook as Lincoln related some humorous anecdote in his droll, inimitable way.

'Now, Hill, let's have some music,' someone would exclaim, and Lamon, with his rich barytone and Virginia accent, would sing 'The Blue-Tailed Fly,' or 'Cousin Sally Downard,' or some other ballad of equal interest but less propriety.

Nothing could better illustrate Lincoln's very marked disinclination to criticize the conduct of his associates than an incident which occurred between him and his law partner on his last day in Springfield. It was late afternoon. All day crowds had filled the lobby of the Chenery House, where

Lincoln, as President-elect, was receiving visitors. Herndon waited down the street in the frowzy old law office. Presently Lincoln came in. The lines of his rugged face were deep with care and fatigue. For a little while they discussed unfinished legal business and went hastily over the books of the firm. Then Lincoln threw himself down on the battered, rickety lounge, and for a few minutes lay with his face toward the ceiling without speaking. Suddenly he blurted out: —

'Billy, there is one thing I have for some time wanted you to tell me, but I reckon I ought to apologize for my nerve and curiosity in asking it even now.'

'What is it?' asked Herndon.

'I want you to tell me,' said Lincoln, 'how many times you have been drunk.'

Herndon, though somewhat abashed by the bluntness of this inquiry, told him as best he could; but when he had finished, Lincoln, instead of delivering the anticipated lecture, merely said that on several occasions efforts had been secretly made to have him drop the junior partner from the firm because of his intemperate habits, but that he had always declared his intention to stand by Herndon in spite of his shortcomings.

Then, as though anxious to change the subject, Lincoln began to talk of the early days of his practice, recalling the humorous features of various lawsuits on the circuit. Thus his reminiscences ran on until dusk crept through the grimy little windows and it was time to go home. As he gathered a bundle of books and papers under his arm and started out, he spoke of the old sign, 'Lincoln & Herndon,' which hung on rusty hinges over the door at the foot of the steps. 'Let it hang there undisturbed,' he said in a lowered voice. 'Give our clients to understand that the election of a President makes no change in the firm of Lincoln & Herndon. If I live, I am coming back sometime, and then we will go on practising law as if nothing had happened.'

He lingered for a moment, as if to take a last look at the old quarters, then passed forever through the door into the hallway and down the narrow stairs.

LINCOLN AND LIQUOR.

What were LINCOLN'S habits in regard to the use of liquor? What were his views on the liquor problem? In The Atlantic Monthly Mr. WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND answers clearly these questions. His information is derived from original sources, printed and manuscript. He begins by painting LINCOLN'S environment and associations. Kentucky was a jovial, rough, racing and gambling and fighting region. LINCOLN'S father, THOMAS, was a moderate drinker. THOMAS'S uncle THOMAS kept a stillhouse. Twice when drunk he kicked his wife. He assaulted a witness who testified that Mrs. THOMAS was frequently intoxicated but justified her on the ground that she had learned the art from her husband. ABRAHAM'S uncle MORDECAI perished while trying to cool off his liquor in a snowdrift.

LINCOLN'S school teacher was indicted for selling liquor at retail without a license. WILLIAM DOWNS, "probably "the first preacher ABRAHAM ever "heard," was a good deal of a soak and was called before his congregation on a charge of being drunk. Whisky-drinking was common everywhere. Whisky was a prime medium of exchange. Church subscriptions were acceptable in "good merchantable whisky." In Southern Indiana dram-drinking was almost universal. LINCOLN loafed around the crossroads store, told stories, took his dram, but was "a temperate drinker." He worked in a distillery in his last Winter in the State. Going home when the crossroads store shut up, he would join in singing the ditty mentioned by DENNIS HANKS:

> Hail Collumbia happy Land if you aint Drunk I will Be Damned.

Moving on to Illinois, LINCOLN kept store for DENTON OFFUTT. It sold whisky, but not by the drink. In New Salem LINCOLN never took a drink. In 1832 he went into business with WILLIAM F. BERRY, "a young drunkard." Next Spring LINCOLN sold out to BERRY. Liquor was sold at the store, but never by the drink until after LINCOLN got out. As a member of the Illinois Legislature he voted against a liquor bill imposing a higher license fee. It was lost by a tie vote. The next day a similar bill with a local option provision, approved by the Senate, was passed by the House. Again LINCOLN voted no. In the next session a bill to repeal the previous act was introduced, lowering the license fee and the quantity of liquor for the sale of which a license was required. LINCOLN voted twice against a local option amendment and finally for the bill, which passed the House but was lost in the Senate. In the session of 1840-41 an amendment to strike out all but the enacting clause of a new liquor bill and forbidding all liquor licenses was laid on the table on Mr. LINCOLN'S motion.

The well-known "quotation" declaring prohibition "a species of intemperance within itself" was invented in Atlanta in 1887. Whatever his views about temperance to be attained by statute, LINCOLN was a member of the Washington Society, a firm believer in and worker for temperance. He advocated persuasion; discouraged denunciation of "dram-sellers and dram-drinkers." In his opinion it was not mental or moral superiority, but "mere absence of appetite," that had kept the sober from the course of the drunken. As a lawyer he served as counsel to saloon keepers or the raiders and Carry Nations of the period with equal zeal. He took no part in the unsuccessful attempt to impose "the Maine Liquor Law" upon Illinois. He didn't wish to offend the German and other anti-prohibition elements which he was rallying against repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

The Springfield lawyers took a swig at the whisky jug when they were preparing their briefs. Liquor shops clustered thick around every court house, but LINCOLN seldom drank liquor or wine. "It always leaves me flabby and undone," he told HERNDON. He sometimes took "whisky with a little "sugar in it to avoid the appearance "of discountenancing it to his friends." HENRY C. WHITNEY, who rode the circuit with him,

> recalls an incident when he and LINCOLN and several other lawyers drove out to the residence of REASON HOOTEN, where several varieties of home-made wine were passed around. "A mere sip of each affected LINCOLN," relates WHITNEY, "and he said comically, 'Fellers, I am getting drunk!'"

As WARD LAMON put it, LINCOLN was neither "a drinking man, a total abstainer nor a prohibitionist." Who but a prig won't like him more because he would play billiards by the hour with "a worthless drunken fellow who turned lawyer late in life"? He didn't smoke. He seldom drank. But he sat a good fellow among the other circuit-riding good fellows. The room was cloudy with smoke. "A bucket of beer "stood on the hearth, a pitcher of "whisky on the table, and hour after "hour would swiftly pass in song and "story." Somebody calls for "some music":

> LAMON with his rich baritone and Virginia accent would sing "The Blue-Tailed Fly" or "Cousin Sally Downard" or some other ballad of equal interest but less propriety.

a lie."

NOTES ON LINCOLN

It was wild country in which Abraham Lincoln was reared. Kentucky in his childhood was a "brawling, whisky-drinking, horse-racing, card-playing region," says William H. Townsend in the February Atlantic. They were nearly all natives of Virginia. Fights were frequent and brutal, with gouging (putting out the eyes of men when they were down), kicking and biting off ears and noses were common.

Even the clergy were dram-drinkers, and good whisky paid quarterage. Abe early developed a talent for telling droll stories, and was a moderate drinker.

When his father moved to Indiana his indulgence in liquors was "extremely casual." Then came New Salem on the Sangamon River in Illinois, where Lincoln's first start for himself was clerking in Offutt's store. There came Jack Armstrong, a champion wrestler. Lincoln did no drinking after leaving Indiana. But there was opposition to drinking. Speaking publicly, Lincoln said:

> "In my judgment such of us who have never fallen victims [of the drinking habit] have been spared more by the absence of appetite than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have."

Concluding that speech, he said he hoped the day would come when there should be "neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth."

2/13/34

LINCOLN MS. REVEALS BAN ON BOOTLEGGER

Phila. Enq. 2-11-34

A Lincoln manuscript showing that the Great Emancipator refused to grant amnesty to a Civil War bootlegger when such action interfered with the military authorities is in possession of the Rosenbach Company.

The manuscript is a letter from James G. McAdam pleading with the President to restore his friend, James McCrea, to a military post from which he had been banished for "selling a bottle of whisky to a hostler engaged in the army" and delivering a keg of whisky to the butcher of the army."

At the bottom of the letter President Lincoln wrote the following refusal:

"McCrea was banished from Beaufort by the Military authorities, and I am now called on to send him back, without the consent of those authorities, which I cannot consent to do.

"They and not I must judge whether his presence is injurious. If the Gen. in command then Gen. Saxton I believe—consents, then I am quite willing for Mr. McCrea to return—not without."

The letter is dated June 10, 1864 and signed "A. Lincoln."

LINCOLN'S WHISKY TALE JUST A MYTH

Story of President's Approval of Grant's Drinking Cited in Eleanor Jarrett's Case

IS DENIED BY HISTORIANS

BY LAWRENCE PERRY

When General Grant's name was brought into the controversy between a prominent young lady swimmer and the American Olympic Commitee, the average American citizen was inclined to let the record stand as read.

And the record is that among the many sympathetic cable despatches received by Mrs. Eleanor Holm Jarrett was one reminding her of the fabled occasion in the Civil War when someone complained to President Lincoln that Grant was overly addicted to whisky.

Taking his cue from the fact that the great Federal soldier was accomplishing definite results, Mr. Lincoln is quoted as retorting he would like to know what brand of whisky Grant was drinking so he might send a barrel of it to other Union leaders.

Now modern historians question that such an incident as the one above quoted ever occurred. No less an authority than Lloyd Lewis, author of "Myths After Lincoln," "Sherman, Fighting Prophet," and other historical works of wide public acceptance, takes occasion to explode a bomb beneath the bibulous legend.

"Eleanor's angry defenders," he says, "would have done her more service if they had wired her there is no good evidence that Lincoln ever made the crack about Grant and the whisky barrel—the gag being an ancient one, told of George III and Admiral Nelson, for instance—and that Grant never drank as much as his wet admirers now like to believe; also, that when in a position comparable to that of an athlete representing the United States abroad (Grant's world tour shortly after retirement from the White House), he was a model of dignified, temperate self-respect."

Mr. Lewis is by no means the first historian to proclaim the fallacy of the Lincoln-Grant yarn. Nor will he be the last, for of all legends that seem destined to survive the attacks of scholar and commentator, the good story concerning historical personages has an assured immortality.

LINCOLN LORE

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LINCOLN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIQUOR

During the season in which national prohibition was in force there was much controversy as to the attitude Lincoln would have taken with respect to the use and sale of intoxicants. Since the old order has been restored there has been a tendency to call the business partnership into which Abraham Lincoln entered with a certain William Berry, a saloon enterprise and Lincoln, himself, a barkeeper.

There has been circulated widely during the past few months a broadside which presents an enlargement of "The Abraham Lincoln Saloon License." A picture of Lincoln appears on this broadside advertisement with other data which would allow the casual observer to conclude that documentary evidence is now available to prove Lincoln's connection with the business. The many attempts made to emphasize the New Salem store incident, out of all due respect to its importance, has brought a number of inquiries to the Lincoln National Life Foundation about Lincoln's attitude towards liquor.

It is a fact that a license to operate a tavern was taken out in the name of Berry and Lincoln, March 6, 1833, and a bond for three hundred dollars as required by law was signed by Abraham Lincoln, (genuiness of signature questioned by some students) William F. Berry and Bowling Green. The license to operate this tavern, however, although issued in the firm's name of Berry and Lincoln was evidently issued to William F. Berry, as a copy of the license which appears below clearly states.

"Ordered that William F. Berry in the name of Berry and Lincoln have license to keep a tavern in New Salem to continue 12 months from this date and that they pay one dollar in addition to six dollars heretofore paid as per treasury receipt . . ."

During the Lincoln-Douglas debates at Ottawa on August 21, 1858, Douglas said that when he first became acquainted with his opponent, Lincoln was a "flourishing grocery-keeper in the town of Salem." Lincoln replied "The Judge is woefully at fault about his friend Lincoln being a 'grocery keeper'. I don't know that it would be a great sin, if I had been; but he is mistaken. Lincoln never kept a grocery anywhere in the world."

This clear unqualified statement that he was never engaged in dispensing liquor through distributing mediums known as groceries should for all time settle Lincoln's actual relation to any Berry-Lincoln firm so called, as far as his interest in the liquor license is concerned. It is known that within a short time after the license was issued to Berry, Lincoln sold his interest in the firm.

Temperance Address

There were two subjects on which Abraham Lincoln approached the roll of a reformer, slavery and liquor. You cannot read his references to either one without feeling that he was deeply moved by the injustice and sorrow which grew out of both institutions. While a young man in Springfield, Illinois he joined the Washington Temperance Society and became one of the leading exponents of total abstinence. One of his lectures given at Springfield on February 22, 1842, has been preserved and a few excerpts from it follow:

"In my judgment such of us as have never fallen victims have been spared more by the absence of appetite than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have . . .

"Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed; in it, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it, no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest; even the dram-maker and dram-seller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change, and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness. And what a noble ally this to the cause of political freedom; with such an aid its march cannot fail to be on and on, till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition the sorrow-quenching draughts of perfect liberty. Happy day when—all appetites controlled, all poisons subdued, all matter subjected—mind, all conquering mind, shall live and move, the monarch of the world. Glorious consummation! Hail, fall of fury! Reign of reason, all hail!

"And when the victory shall be complete,—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth,—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory. How nobly distinguished that people who shall have planted and nurtured to maturity both the political and moral freedom of their species."

Presidential Nominee

The incident which emphasizes Lincoln's temperate habits better than any other at the time he was nominated for the presidency was the serving of cold water to the members of the notification committee upon their visit to Springfield. He received a letter from a friend asking about the incident to which he made this reply:

"Having kept house sixteen years, and having never held the "cup" to the lips of my friends then, my judgment was that I should not, in my new position, change my habit in this respect. What actually occurred upon the occasion of the committee visiting me, I think it would be better for others to say."

Sons of Temperance

On September 29, 1863, Abraham Lincoln received members of an organization known as Sons of Temperance and in reply to their appeal for the advancement of the cause of temperance in the army said in part:

"When I was a young man—long ago—before the Sons of Temperance as an organization had an existence—I, in a humble way, made temperance speeches, and I think I may say that to this day I have never, by my example, belied what I then said."

This statement verifies in his own words that he had himself throughout life followed the course of total abstsinence which he advocated more than twenty years before. He also made one other statement to the visiting delegation which was borrowed from his temperance speech of long ago.

"I think that the reasonable men of the world have long since agreed that intemperance is one of the greatest, if not the very greatest, of all evils among mankind. That is not a matter of dispute, I believe. That the disease exists, and that it is a very great one, is agreed upon by all."

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HIDDEN LINCOLN TREASURES

There are rich treasures of Lincolniana hidden away in obscure places which perseverance on the part of interested searchers will eventually bring to light. Although there may exist a probability that certain Lincoln documents or curios may have been lost, one should refuse to entertain such a supposition if he is really anxious to recover the cherished prizes. Nothing short of positive evidence of the complete destruction of a valuable item, once known to exist, should deter one from anticipation that some day it will be found.

The Bixby Letter

The most valuable lost treasure among the writings of Lincoln is the letter forwarded to the Widow Bixby on November 21, 1864 and delivered to her on Thanksgiving Day. The letter was copied by a Boston newspaper and published in full the next morning. The original letter has completely disappeared and no trace of it has been discovered since it reached the widow's hands. That such a priceless letter would have been destroyed does not seem probable. The value of the original Bixby letter would approach six figures. One should not let suppositions which hold that Lincoln did not write the letter and that the facsimiles now extant are faked, prevent a thorough and constant search for the famous letter. Who can discover its hiding place?

Printed Article on Temperance

One of the most familiar stories about Lincoln's early efforts as a writer is told by William Woods, friend of the boy during the Indiana years. Mr. Woods said that Abraham wrote an article on temperance so superior to the usual discussions on that subject that it was given to Mr. Aaron Farmer, a Baptist minister, who sent it to a temperance paper in Ohio. Mr. Wood further said that he saw the article in print in the paper (name unknown) in 1827 or 1828. If the original manuscript cannot be found, will not someone cite the name and date of the paper which printed the article?

First Political Monograph

Judge Pitcher, a lawyer living at Mount Vernon, Indiana, read an article that Lincoln, as a boy, wrote on the American form of government, the perpetuation of the Union, and the sacredness of the Constitution. His reaction to the article was "The world can't beat it". It is said Judge Pitcher had this article published in a newspaper, and one man recalls having seen it in print. The paper in which it appeared is not known and the date it was published is likewise obscure. To what papers did Judge Pitcher subscribe, and when and where is the speech most likely to have been printed?

Note to Parson Elkin

Lincoln's mother died in Indiana when Abraham was approaching his tenth year. There is a persistent story that the boy wrote a note to David Elkin, the minister of the church in Kentucky to which Nancy Hanks Lincoln belonged, telling Elkin of her death and asking him to come to Indiana and preach the funeral sermon. Descendents of David Elkin in Kentucky claim to have seen the letter which they say was preserved. Where is it now?

Pigeon Church Account Book

Lincoln as a boy is said to have been at one time a sexton of the Pigeon Church in Spencer County, Indiana. His father was a trustee of the church and often served as moderator at its meetings. Reverend Obenshaim, a Methodist clergyman, claimed to have found in the loft of the old Pigeon Church an account book in which Abraham Lincoln had entered the purchase price of a broom and some candles. A Reverend French who later preached at the church is said to have had a book answering this description. Can the descendents of Reverend French be found? (This book is not to be confused with the Pigeon Church Record Book now in possession of the church.)

Lost Pages of Lincoln's Copy Book

On September 8, 1865 Abraham Lincoln's stepmother showed William Herndon a copy book made by Abraham Lincoln. Apparently it was distributed page by page to different individuals. The Lincoln National Life Foundation is anxious to secure copies of all pages now preserved. We hope to supply photostats of the now extant pages to those who are in possession of single pages of the book. This notice refers to both the figure book and the selection of writings. May we hear from those owning separate pages?

Little Mount Baptist Church Record Book

When the Lincolns lived on Knob Creek in Kentucky they belonged to the Little Mount Baptist Church. There is some evidence that the record book of this organization was in possession of one of the early members of the church who later lived in Louisville, Kentucky. This would be a valuable source book, indeed, to reveal the religious atmosphere in which Abraham Lincoln lived as a small child. Can this book be found?

Missouri Democrat

It is said that Lincoln gave to E. L. Baker on May 17, 1860 a copy of the Missouri Democrat in which he had marked passages showing Seward's attitude toward certain slavery questions and then had written on the margin of the paper, "I agree with Seward in his 'Irrepressible conflict' but do not endorse his 'Higher Law' doctrine. Make no contracts that will bind me." Is this newspaper still extant?

Lost Through Obscurity

There are a large number of letters and manuscripts written by Abraham Lincoln which are now in private hands, the contents of which are unknown to historians and biographers of Lincoln. Many erroneous statements referring to him might be corrected if the contents were known. The Lincoln National Life Foundation has been keeping a register of Lincoln documents now in private hands and would be pleased to record any original Lincoln manuscript now in a private collection.

Lincoln and Liquor

His Assassination Was Made Possible by Drink, Two Biographies Reveal

From a Bulletin of the American Businessmen's Research Foundation.

Certain facts, now for the first time clearly revealed in two recent authoritative biographies, confirm the part which beverage alcohol played in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in Ford's theater, Washington, on Good Friday, Apr. 16, 1865.

Lincoln, himself a lifelong abstainer and from young manhood an opponent of liquor, was, in his fateful death, struck down by a drink crazed assassin chiefly by reason of the fact that his personal aide, for the instant off guard, was refreshing himself at a near-by bar with a glass of his favorite intoxicant.

These facts are detailed in complementary fashion in the two volumes, "The Man Who Killed Lincoln," by Phllip Van Doran Stern, and "The War Years," by Carl Sandburg.

In the striking story of John Wllkes Booth, Philip Van Doran Stern writes:

"It was four minutes after 10. . . . Booth decided he needed a drink . . . managed to slip . . . into Peter Taltavul's barroom. . . . 'What'll it be?' 'Same as usual . . . brandy . . . and a glass of water.' . . . Booth finished two glasses. . . . Seven minutes after . . . he filled his glass again . . . put some money . . . on the wet bar . . . left the saloon."

Of John F. Parker, the president's personal bodyguard, Sandberg writes:

"Parker was one of four officers detailed from the police force of the city to guard the president. . . . Thirty-five years old. . . . Joining the city's police force in '61. . . . In '63 tried on charges of conduct unbecoming an officer through five drunken weeks of residence in a house of prostitution. This was the man who some time later, in a way never understood, had 'been detailed for duty at the executive mansion by order of Mrs. Lincoln.'

"On the night of Apr. 16, 1865, John F. Parker takes his place at the rear of the box close to an entrance. Either between acts or at some time when the play was not lively enough to suit him, or because of an urge for a pony of whisky, John F. Parker leaves his seat, goes outside and down the street for a little whiff of liquor."

While Parker was momentarily forgetting his duty, the assassin entered. The rest is history.

THE LINCOLN OF EARLY YEARS.

An earlier Lincoln, "nothing more than any practicing attorney," and a man who gave some rather startling advice, was pictured by Campbell Crossan. The time was 1853, when Crossan was foreman of track laying on what then was the Great Western railroad between Springfield and Decatur, Ill.

"Mr. Lincoln was attorney for the road, and I think he was one of the directors." Mr. Crossan said. "I was taken sick and was coming in to Springfield on a Saturday night to rest for a few days. I was sitting on the tool box and was feeling pretty bad when Lincoln came up to me and said: 'What's the matter with you?' I told him I was sick and was going to Springfield to see a doctor. He said 'Young man, take a rest, but you do not need to see a doctor. They are like lawyers, all they do is to put on a very knowing look, give you something that will neither do you any good nor any harm, charge you a good fee, and nature performs the cure. What you want to do is to drink as little as possible of Sangamon river water. You go to a country store and get some good whisky, and when you want a drink of water, take a drink of whisky. It will kill the germs and malaria." Kas City Times 2-12-41

Washington and Lincoln on Liquor

To the Editor: In February we celebrate the birthdays of two of our most illustrious citizens—Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. Not only are they honored for their wisdom and noble characters, but also for their advice and foresight. Minneapolis Journal 2/12/43

Lincoln, whose birthday we celebrate Feb. 12, said: "The liquor traffic is a cancer in society, eating out its vitals and threatening desiruction, and all attempts to regulate it will not only prove abortive, but aggravate the evil. If the prohibition of slavery is good for the black man, the prohibition of the liquor traffic is equally good and constitutional for the white man.

"There must be no more attempts to regulate the cancer (liquor traffic); it must be eradicated; for until this be done, all classes must continue exposed, to become the victims of strong drink. The most effectual remedy would be the passage of a law altogether abolishing the liquor traffic. After reconstruction, the next great question will be the overthrow of the liquor traffic," (April 13, 1865).

Lincoln said further: "Law must protect and conserve right things, and punish wrong things, and if there is any evil in the land that threatens society or individuals more than another, it is the liquor traffic. Under the license system the saloons multiply drunkards."

George Washington said of the liquor problem: "Rum is injurious to the morals of the people. If I could have my wish, it would not be to diminish but to annihilate the use of it in the United States."

He also said: "Liquor is the source of all evil and the ruin of half the workmen of the country."

—Leila E. Porter.

Minneapolis.

Lincoln Cited As Foe of Liquor

Editor, Democrat and Chronicle:

Everybody thinks of Lincoln as the Great Emancipator of the slaves. May I call the attention of your readers to the fact that Lincoln longed to emancipate people from the clutches of liquor.

In Springfield, Ill., he said in 1842, "Whether or not the world would be vastly benefited by a total and final banishment from it of all intoxicating drinks seems to me not now an open question. Three-fourths of mankind confirm the affirmative with their tongues, and I believe the rest acknowledge it in their hearts."

Compare this which he said in 1842 with his letter during the Civil War period to Major Merwin, who was closely associated with him during the years of the Civil War. "Merwin, we have cleaned up with the help of the people a colossal job. Slavery is abolished. After reconstruction the next great question will be the abolition of the liquor traffic and you know, Merwin, that my head and heart and hand and purse will go into that work. In 1842—less than a quarter of a century ago—I predicted under the influence of God's spirit, that the time would come when there would be neither a slave nor a drunkard in the land. Thank God, I have lived to see one of these prophecies fulfilled."

We are led to think that if Lincoln had lived he would have tackled the liquor question. We need today some great leader with courage who will be willing to work against the enslavement of people through liquor. Hosea was disturbed by the condition in his time and said: "They feed upon the sins of my people, and they set their hearts on their iniquity."

In other words some people made their living through the sins of others. Does that not apply to the liquor interests now? They feed upon the sins of people, and they set their heart on their iniquity. The aim of the dealers is to get more people to drink more —although they try to make it apparent that they believe in moderation. But aren't they glamorizing liquor more and more and trying to make people feel that "they don't belong" unless they drink? Can't we get young people to realize that "It is smarter not to drink" because of all the scientific evidence of the effects of liquor?

SCIENTIFIC THINKER.

Rochester Democrat
2-12-50

LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor
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LINCOLN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALCOHOLICS

The editor of Lincoln Lore has an acquaintance on the Pacific Coast whose business through the years had suffered greatly because of his intemperance. Recently upon arriving in the city where he resides a message from him was received urging that I pay him a visit. Upon meeting him the remarkable change in his appearance and mental vigor was immediately observed and he enthusiastically related that for several months he had been a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. As a student of Lincoln he had come to the conclusion that the basic elements in this comparatively recent organization, whose principles he had embraced, were clearly set forth in the remarkable temperance lecture which the Illinois lawyer had made one hundred years ago.

The observations of this regenerated man were supplemented by another speaker which appeared on the same program with me at the famous Los Angeles Breakfast Club on the morning of February 7. He likewise had been a victim of overindulgence and his recital persuaded me that to shake off the demon which had controlled him he had also followed the pattern advocated by Lincoln a full century before. I came to the conclusion after reading the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* that the movement was virtually a revival of the old Washington Temperance Society whose members were known as the Washingtonians.

On the evening of April 2, 1840 a public address was delivered in Baltimore on the subject of "social tippling." One citizen who heard the lecture was instrumental in having the group of tipplers with whom he was associated, consisting of two blacksmiths, a carpenter, a coachmaker, a silversmith and a tailor, pledge themselves to total abstinence. This group formed the nucleus for an organization named for the father of the country, certainly not for the city bearing his name—which then, and especially now if the statistics on the per capita consumption of liquor can be relied upon—would be a misnomer indeed.

One point of difference in the two organizations was in the qualification for membership. The Washingtonians required all who joined to sign a pledge of total abstinence, while Alcoholics Anonymous appeals to those who have passed from the early stages of social drinking into the human catastrophe bracket. However, the psychology used in the treatment of the unfortunates in both groups is almost identical.

Although Abraham Lincoln was always a teetotaler, being in sympathy with the Washingtonians' method of procedure, he joined the organization and gave several lectures supporting the movement. The most important speech extant which he made on the subject of intemperance was delivered on February 22, 1842 before the Springfield (Ill.) Washington Temperance Society, held in the First Presbyterian Church. How Lincoln's attitude towards alcoholics coincides with the modern technique, in this new crusade to rehabilitate men and women who have been ostracized by society, can best be revealed by the following excerpts from his address of 1842:

"When one, who has long been known as a victim of intemperance, brusts the fetters that have bound him, and appears before his neighbors clothed, and in his right mind,' a redeemed specimen of long lost humanity, and stands up with tears of joy trembling in eyes, to tell of the miseries once endured, now to be endured no more forever; of his once naked and starving children, now clad and fed comfortably; of a wife, long weighted down with woe, weeping, and a broken heart, now restored to health, happiness and renewed affection; and how easily it all is done, once it is resolved to be done; however simple his language, there is a logic, and an eloquence in it, that few, with human feelings, can resist. . . . Nor can his sincerity in any way be doubted; or his sympathy for those he would persuade to imitate his example, be denied. . . . When the conduct of men is designed to be influenced, persuasion, kind, unassuming persuasion, should ever be adopted. . . . Those whom they desire to convince and persuade, are their old friends and companions. They know they are not demons, nor ever the worst of men. They know that generally, they are kind, generous, and charitable, even beyond the example of their more staid and sober neighbors.

"By the Washingtonians, this system of consigning the habitual drunkard to hopeless ruin, is repudiated. They adopt a more enlarged philanthropy. They go for present as well as future good. They labor for all now living, as well as all hereafter to live.—They teach hope to all—despair to none. As applying to their cause, they deny the doctrine of unpardonable sin. As in Christianity it is taught, so in this they teach, that 'While the lamp holds out to burn, The vilest siner may return.' And, what is a matter of the most profound gratuation, they, by experiment, and example upon example, prove the maxim to be no less true in the one case than in the chief of sinners, now the chief apostles of the cause.

"But if it be true, as I have insisted, that those who have suffered by intemperance personally, and have reformed, are the most powerful and efficient instruments to push the reformation to ultimate success, it does not follow, that those who have not suffered, have no part left them to perform. Whether or not the world would be vastly benefitted by a total and final banishment from it of all intoxicating drinks, seems to me not now to be an open question. Three-fourths of mankind confess the affirmative with their tongues, and, I believe, all the rest acknowledge it in their hearts.

"Turn now, to the temperance revolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage broken; a viler slavery manumitted; a greater tyrant deposed. In it, more of want supplied, more decease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest. Even the dram maker and dram seller, will have glided into other occupations so gradually, as never to have felt the shock of change; and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness.

"And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that Land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions, that shall have ended in that victory. How nobly distinguished that People, who shall have planted, and nurtured to maturnity, both the political and moral freedom of their species."

Pottsville Republican, Pennsylvania
February 12, 1958

Lincoln Defended Candidate Accused as Secret Drinker

WASHINGTON (UP) — The Library of Congress toasted Lincoln on his birthday today by releasing an unpublished draft of a letter he wrote on blending politics and whisky.

Abe allowed he wasn't against it.

The library released the letter in announcing its receipt as a gift along with two others and a Lincoln family Bible.

David Mearns, library manuscript division chief and Lincoln expert, said the letters and Bible were a gift to the library's Lincoln papers collection — largest in the world — by Lincoln's great grandson Lincoln Isham of Dorset, Vt.

Lincoln wrote the politics-and-liquor letter in 1854 to Richard James Oglesby, an Illinois politician, in support of Rep. Richard Yates who lived in Oglesby's district.

"I understand his enemies are getting up a charge against him that while he passes for a temperate man he is in the habit of drinking secretly — and that they calculate on proving an instance of the charge by you," Lincoln wrote. He said there apparently was a misunderstanding.

"Thousands and thousands of us. . .have known Yates for more than 20 years," he said. "I have never seen him drink liquor, nor act, or speak as if he had been drinking nor smelled it on his breath."

Anyway, Lincoln said his vote didn't "depend absolutely upon the question of whether a candidate does or does not taste liquor."

A library spokesman noted Yates lost the election.

But he said records show Yates went on to become governor of Illinois a few years later and was tipsy when he took the oath of office.

Pittsburgh Press
February 12, 1958

Lincoln Letter Tells Views On Liquor

Abe Defended Congressional Candidate Who Had Been Accused Of Imbibing

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (UP)—The Library of Congress toasted Lincoln on his birthday today by releasing an unpublished draft of a letter he wrote on blending politics and whisky.

Abe allowed he wasn't against it.

The library released the letter in announcing its receipt as a gift along with two others and a Lincoln family Bible.

In one of the other letters, Lincoln promised to go to church at least once—on the Sunday he wrote it. The third was a brief note introducing an unidentified person with "acquaintance with Southern localities" to a couple of Yankee generals.

Gift Of Grandson

The library also announced receipt of a Lincoln Bible that apparently had "received little handling." The Bible was given to Lincoln by an admirer and passed on to Lincoln's granddaughter Mary.

David Mearns, library manuscript division chief and Lincoln expert, said the letters and Bible were a gift to the library's Lincoln papers collection—largest in the world—by Lincoln's great grandson, Lincoln Isham of Dorset, Vt.

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Defended Candidate

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A library spokesman noted Yates lost the election. But he said records show Yates went on to become governor of Illinois a few years later and was tipsy when he took the oath of office.

Still later he was elected to the U. S. Senate from which he sent word to the people of Illinois that his imbibing never interferred with his official duties.

AGED 106 YEARS

Lincoln's Whisky Found in 'Time' Box

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI) — An ancient bottle of whisky presented to Abraham Lincoln more than a century ago was found recently when authorities opened the cornerstone of the Illinois capitol.

Secretary of State Paul Powell picked up the flask, swished the whisky about, and said:

"Too bad Abe is not here now to drink some of it."

THE BOTTLE of whisky was distilled some 106 years ago by P. L. Howlett, whose grandson, Lester Howlett of Phoenix, Ariz., was on hand when the tar-encrusted cornerstone "time box" was opened.

The flask bore an inscription which said: "This whisky was presented to Abraham Lincoln on Sept. 20, 1860, as an emblem of his administration. It is pure and will grow better as it grows older."

Another bottle of whisky—this one unmarked—was also found in the box. But Powell declined to hold it up for photographers.

"I DON'T want the WCTU (Women's Christian Temperance Union) to see me pulling this bottle of liquor out," he said.

Authorities opened the box in a search for blueprints of the capitol building, which they hope to restore to historical accuracy. However, someone neglected to put the blueprints in the box when it was sealed in 1868.

Other contents of the box included a previously unavailable photograph of the building, a book of specifications used in building the capitol, a few coins and histories of Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, masonry, the United States and Illinois.

New York and Illinois newspapers were used as packing.

Abraham Lincoln on Alcoholism

It is interesting to note that over one hundred years ago, these words of insight and compassion were spoken by President Abraham Lincoln:

In my judgment each of us who has never fallen victims (to alcoholism) has been spared more by the absence of appetite than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have. Indeed, I believe if we take habitual drunkards as a class, their heads and their hearts will bear an advantageous comparison with those of any other class.

There seems ever to have been a proneness in the brilliant and warm-blooded to fall into the vice; the demon of intemperance ever seems to have delighted in sucking the blood of genius and generosity.

The victims should be pitied and compassioned, just as are the heirs of consumption and other hereditary diseases. Their failing should be treated as a misfortune, and not as a crime, or even a disgrace.

Lincoln Lore

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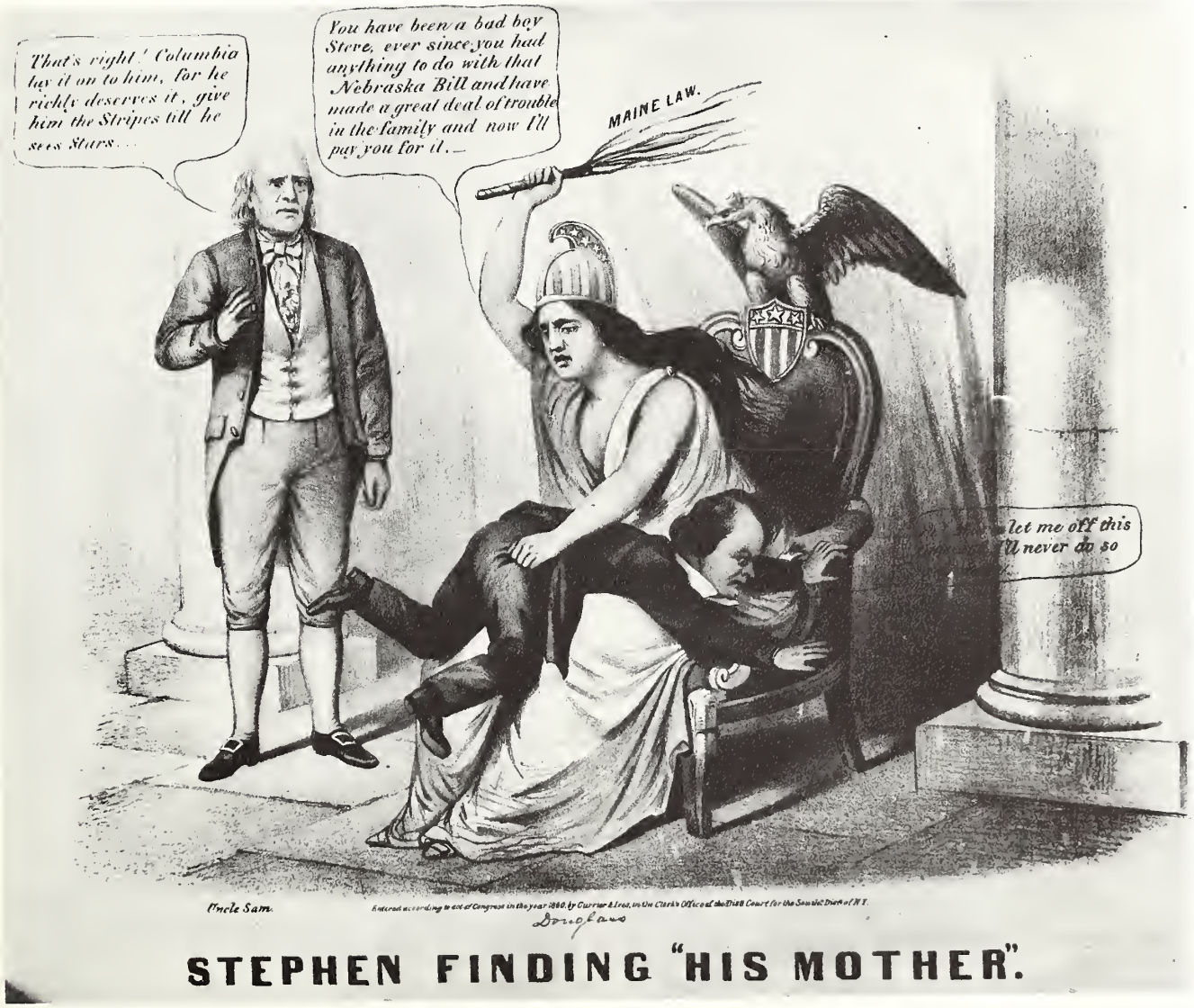
LINCOLN, DOUGLAS AND THE "MAINE LAW"

Editor's Note: I am heavily indebted to Michael Fitzgibbon Holt's *Forging a Majority: The Formation of the Republican Party in Pittsburgh, 1848-1860* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1969) for the interpretation of the origins of the Republican Party discussed below. I also owe a debt to Eric Foner's *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men: The Ideology of the Republican Party before the Civil War* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1970). William H. Townsend's *Lincoln and Liquor* (New York: The Press of the Pioneers, 1934) supplied many of the specificities of Lincoln's relationship to the temperance crusade. Clifford S. Griffin's *Their Brothers' Keeper: Moral Stewardship in the United States, 1800-1865* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1960) and Stephen Hess and Milton Kaplan's *The Ungentlemanly Art: A History of American Political Cartoons* (New York: Macmillan, 1968) were helpful for the impact of the Maine Law and the use of cartoons, respectively. Other more specific items of indebtedness are noted in the text.

The following is, of course, a highly speculative matter of interpretation, but I know of no other treatment of the document in question.

M. E. N., Jr.

Anyone who has looked at the political cartoons generated by the campaign of 1860 knows from the haunting presence of the anonymous black faces in those cartoons (otherwise remarkable for the almost photographic likenesses of politicians) that there was more to sectional conflict than disputes over the relative benefits of pro-



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

tective tariffs and homestead legislation. Political cartoons can betray with forceful impact issues and controversies slighted or forgotten by historians who examine conventional campaign documents like formal party platforms. The problem, of course, is to interpret the picture correctly, and it is an especially difficult problem when the cartoon utilizes puns or veiled references to now-forgotten scandals and headlines of the day. Both the virtue and the difficulty of using political cartoons are well illustrated by the Currier and Ives political cartoon pictured on the front of this bulletin.

Nathaniel Currier and James Merritt Ives employed artists to draw cartoons critical of all candidates in a presidential contest. In some cases, the same artist drew cartoons both for and against a candidate; Louis Maurer, for example, did both pro- and anti-Lincoln cartoons even though he apparently voted for Lincoln in 1860. The cartoons were printed in large numbers to sell at bulk rates to interested parties (no doubt to local political headquarters); the cartoons could also be purchased singly. American cartoonists did not go in for caricature, but instead drew scrupulously accurate facial likenesses and depended for humor on the improbable physical situation the candidates were involved in — in this case, Stephen Douglas's being whipped by his "marm," Columbia, the female personification of the United States.

A cartoon like this one, recently added to the Library and Museum's collection, serves to remind us of forgotten controversies and headlines, but requires considerable exegesis for that very reason: the issue is forgotten or obscure today. The caption is a case in point. The situation was suggested by the improbable explanations offered for Douglas's behavior in the 1860 campaign. As a carry-over from colonial political ideals, Americans in the nineteenth century held that the office should seek the man rather than the man the office. American presidential candidates did not take to the stump for themselves or for their party before 1860. Stephen Douglas broke precedent in campaigning vigorously for his election to the presidency in 1860. The shock to contemporary American assumptions about seemly political behavior is documented in the cartoon below and in the lame excuse offered by some Democrats that Douglas was giving speeches on the way to visit his mother's home. From this controversy stemmed the situation in the recently acquired cartoon as well.

Having found "his mother," Douglas was administered a whipping, according to this cartoon, but not, apparently, just because he had breached political decorum by seeking the office actively. It is the "Maine Law" with which Columbia administers the lashing. Again, the issue seems obscure.

In 1851, Maine passed the first state-wide prohibition law forbidding the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages. It was an important event, symbolizing a radical turn in American sentiments about the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Contrary to popular opinion, America has not had a long anti-liquor heritage. To say "teetotalism" is "puritanical," for instance, is a misnomer, for the New England Puritans drank substantial quantities of wine and rum. Hoping to live simply in the world but not of it, they held an ideal of moderation in alcoholic consumption. Moderation (in everything) was the ideal of the eighteenth-century in America, and such "enlightened" American thinkers as Benjamin Franklin thought that one should not drink to excess or impair that faculty which separated man from the animals, reason.

"TAKING THE STUMP" OR STEPHEN IN SEARCH OF HIS MOTHER.

From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

It would be more proper to call teetotalism "Victorian," for prohibition sentiment dates from the nineteenth century, in particular, from the enthusiastic revivals of America's Second Great Awakening. The crucial move in this change of sentiment was the identification of the consumption of alcohol as a *sin*. By the 1830's, an ever-increasing number of Americans thought that drinking held back the millennium, and that the person who aspired to a virtuous life must say "no" to any profferred drink.

The Maine Law also signalled a move from moral suasion to legal coercion as the way to encourage the defeat of the sin of drunkenness. It split the anti-liquor movement (already split between old-fashioned advocates of temperance and advocates of total abstinence), and it also had cataclysmic effects on American political parties. The "Maine Law Agitation," as it was sometimes called, spread immediately to Vermont, which passed a prohibition measure in 1852 endorsed by an 1853 referendum. The legislatures of Michigan and Wisconsin produced prohibition measures in 1853; these too were endorsed by referenda.

Significantly, when the Maine Law agitation hit Illinois in the early 1850's, Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas could be found on different sides of the question. That is not to say that Lincoln was a Maine Law man (though some have claimed he was) or that Douglas was a drunkard (though some have claimed he was). But Lincoln, who was by all reports abstinent in his personal drinking habits, did, in 1853, place his name with that of thirty-eight other Springfield citizens requesting the publication of a sermon by the Reverend James Smith entitled "*A Discourse on the Bottle — Its Evils, and the Remedy; or, A Vindication of the Liquor-Seller, and the Liquor Drinker, from Certain Aspersions Cast upon Them by Many*," delivered before a convention of the Maine Law Alliance in Springfield. One should not jump to the conclusion from the title that the *Discourse* justified liquor sellers and drinkers. On the contrary, it attacked them, but it pointed to the legislature which gave the liquor seller the legal authority to traffic in spirits and the people of whom they were the servants as the ultimate culprits responsible for the drunkard. The letter was non-committal in regard to the substance of the lecture, and, perhaps significantly, referred to "temperance" rather than total abstinence or prohibition:

Rev. James Smith, D. D.: Springfield, January 24, 1853.

Sir:—The undersigned having listened with great satisfaction to the discourse, on the subject of temperance, delivered by you on last evening, and believing, that, if published and circulated among the people, it would be productive of good; would respectfully request a copy thereof for publication. Very Respectfully, Your friends:

Simeon Francis,	R. F. Ruth,	G. Jayne,
Thomas Lewis,	J. B. McCandless,	J. C. Planck,
John Irwin,	C. Birchall,	John E. Denny,
A. Camp,	J. B. Fosselman,	W. M. Cowgill,
E. G. Johns,	Henry M. Brown,	D. E. Ruckel,
John Williams,	Thomas Moffett,	Thomas M. Taylor,
John T. Stuart,	B. S. Edwards,	John A. Chesnut,
A. Maxwell,	Thomas Alsop,	Mat. Stacy,
H. Vanhoff,	W. B. Cowgill,	H. S. Thomas,
D. Spear,	M. Greenleaf,	B. B. Brown,
Reuben Coon,	James W. Barret,	William F. Aitkin,
Henry Yeakle,	P. Wright,	Allen Francis,
E. B. Pease,	S. Grubb, sr.,	A. Lincoln.

[Roy Basler, ed., *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, II (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1953), 188.]

Though it is impossible to prove conclusively from available evidence whether Lincoln was a prohibitionist or not, it is certain that he was at least a temperance advocate. In fact, the signing of the letter to James

Smith culminated more than ten years' interest in the temperance movement for Lincoln. As early as 1842, he had addressed a meeting of The Washington Society, a temperance organization founded by reformed drunkards and committed to persuading people to take a pledge to abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages. Lincoln condemned attacks on drunkards as mentally or morally inferior and endorsed temperance advocated by *"persuasion*, kind, unassuming persuasion":

> Whether or not the world would be vastly benefitted by a total and final banishment from it of all intoxicating drinks, seems to me not *now* to be an open question. Three-fourths of mankind confess the affirmative with their *tongues*, and, I believe, all the rest acknowledge it in their *hearts*.
>
> Ought *any*, then, to refuse their aid in doing what the good of the *whole* demands? Shall he, who cannot do *much*, be, for that reason, excused if he do *nothing?* "But," says one, "what good can I do by signing the pledge? I never drink even without signing." This question has already been asked and answered more than millions of times. Let it be answered once more. For the man to suddenly, or in any other way, to break off from the use of drams, who has indulged in them for a long course of years, and until his appetite for them has become ten or a hundred fold stronger, and more craving, than any natural appetite can be, requires a most powerful moral effort. In such an undertaking, he needs every moral support and influence, that can possibly be brought to his aid, and thrown around him. And not only so; but every moral prop, should be taken *from* whatever argument might rise in his mind to lure him to his backsliding. When he casts his eyes around him, he should be able to see, all that he respects, all that he admires, and all that [he?] loves, kindly and anxiously pointing him onward; and none beckoning him back, to his former miserable "wallowing in the mire."
>
> But it is said by some, that men will *think* and *act* for themselves; that none will disuse spirits or any thing else, merely because his neighbors do; and that *moral influence* is not that powerful engine contended for. Let us examine this. Let me ask the man who would maintain this position most stiffly, what compensation he will accept to go to church some Sunday and sit during the sermon with his wife's bonnet upon his head? Not a trifle, I'll venture. And why not? There would be nothing irreligious in it: nothing immoral, nothing uncomfortable. Then why not? Is it not because there would be something egregiously unfashionable in it? Then it is the influence of *fashion;* and what is the influence of fashion, but the influence that *other* people's actions have [on our own?] actions, the strong inclination each of us feels to do as we see all our neighbors do? Nor is the influence of fashion confined to any particular thing or class of things. It is just as strong on one subject as another. Let us make it as unfashionable to withhold our names from the temperance pledge as for husbands to wear their wives bonnets to church, and instances will be just as rare in the one case as the other.
>
> "But," say some, "we are no drunkards; and we shall not acknowledge ourselves such by joining a reformed drunkard's society, whatever our influence might be." Surely no Christian will adhere to this objection. If they believe, as they profess, that Omnipotence condescended to take on himself the form of sinful man, and, as such, to die an ignominious death for their sakes, surely they will not refuse submission to the infinitely lesser condescension, for the temporal, and perhaps eternal salvation, of a large, erring, and unfortunate class of their own fellow creatures. Nor is the condescension very great.
>
> In my judgment, such of us as have never fallen victims, have been spared more from the absence of appetite, than from any mental or moral superiority over those who have. Indeed, I believe, if we take habitual drunkards as a class, their heads and their hearts will bear an advantageous comparison with those of any other class. There seems ever to have been a proneness in the brilliant, and the warm-blooded, to fall into this vice. The demon of intemperance ever seems to have delighted in sucking the blood of genius and of generosity. What one of us but can call to mind some dear relative, more promising in youth than all his fellows, who has fallen a sacrifice to his rapacity? He ever seems to have gone forth, like the Egyptian angel of death, commissioned to slay if not the first, the fairest born of every family. Shall he now be arrested in his desolating career? In that arrest, all can give aid that will; and who shall be excused that *can*, and will not? Far around as human breath has ever blown, he keeps our fathers, our brothers, our sons, and our friends, prostrate in the chains of moral death. To all the living every where, we cry, "come sound the moral resurrection trump, that these may rise and stand up, an exceeding great army"—"Come from the four winds, O breath! and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."
>
> If the relative grandeur of revolutions shall be estimated by the great amount of human misery they alleviate, and the small amount they inflict, then, indeed, will this be the grandest the world shall ever have seen. Of our political revolution of '76, we all are justly proud. It has given us a degree of political freedom, far exceeding that of any other of the nations of the earth. In it the world has found a solution of that long mooted problem, as to the capability of man to govern himself. In it was the germ which has vegetated, and still is to grow and expand into the universal liberty of mankind.
>
> But with all these glorious results, past, present, and to come, it had its evils too. It breathed forth famine, swam in blood and rode on fire; and long, long after, the orphan's cry, and the widow's wail, continued to break the sad silence that ensued. These were the price, the inevitable price, paid for the blessings it bought.
>
> Turn now, to the temperance revolution. In *it*, we shall find a stronger bondage broken; a viler slavery, manumitted; a greater tyrant deposed. In *it*, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By *it* no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By *it*, none wounded in feeling, none insured in interest. Even the dram-maker, and the dram seller, will have glided into other occupations *so* gradually, as never to have felt the shock of change; and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness.
>
> And what a noble ally this, to the cause of political freedom. With such an aid, its march cannot fail to be on and on, till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition, the sorrow quenching draughts of perfect liberty. Happy day, when, all appetites controled, all passions subdued, all matters subjected, *mind*, all conquering *mind*, shall live and move the monarch of the world. Glorious consummation! Hail fall of Fury! Reign of Reason, all hail!
>
> And when the victory shall be complete — when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth — how proud the title of that *Land*, which may truly claim to be the birth-place and the cradle of both those revolutions, that shall have ended in that victory. How nobly distinguished that People, who shall have planted, and nurtured to maturity, both the political and moral freedom of their species.
>
> [Roy Basler, ed., *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, I (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1953), 276, 277, 278-279.]

I say the Smith letter culminated Lincoln's association with temperance agitation advisedly, because after 1853 he was rather conspicuously silent on the issue. When a Maine Law referendum campaign was being vigorously waged in Illinois in 1855, Lincoln was thinking about a Senate seat and apparently took no active part in the prohibition campaign.

Lincoln's silence may have been dictated by the political volatility of the prohibition issue, for volatile it was. In fact, some historians now think that the roots of the Republican Party are to be found not simply in the slavery extension issue but in a whole complex of issues that disrupted the old parties, including slavery extension, prohibition, and nativism. For example, Stephen Douglas, admittedly hardly a reliable witness where Republican intentions are concerned, said in 1855 that the new political movement brought into being by the Kansas-Nebraska Act was "a crucible into which poured Abolitionism, Maine liquor law-ism, and what was left

of northern Whiggism, and then the Protestant feeling against the Catholic and the native feeling against the foreigner." Douglas, incidentally, opposed all the movements he mentioned, opposed the Illinois prohibition law, and, according to his biographers, was himself given to rather frequent and heavy comsumption of strong drink. Douglas was not alone in viewing the origins of the Republican Party this way; a Connecticut political observer in 1854, for example, commented on the "political revolution . . . growing out of the excitement in relation to the Kansas-Nebraska outrage, and the Maine Law question."

The State of Indiana provides an interesting example. According to Emma Lou Thornbrough's, *Indiana in the Civil War Era, 1850-1880* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1966), the 1852 state elections saw temperance advocates demanding a Maine Law and urging voters not to vote for candidates of either party who were on record against such legislation. The state legislature in 1853 responded feebly with a local option law allowing each township to decide each year whether to prohibit liquor sales or not. This was declared unconstitutional by the Indiana Supreme Court, and in 1854 prohibition advocates increased their efforts. Significantly, the Democratic Party's state convention responded with a platform plank condemning prohibition legislation. Democrats left their party on account of this plank as well as the Kansas-Nebraska bill, so that — again as Thornbrough points out — disaffected Democrats complained about *two* things: "Democrats Arouse! Those who aspire to be our leaders have betrayed us . . . they have attempted to bind and sell us to the slave driver of the South, and the rum seller of the North." These same groups later merged with Whigs and Know-Nothings to form the Republican Party. Thus some people certainly voted Republican because they identified the Democrats with liquor, whatever they may have thought of the slavery issue.

The anti-Democratic coalition called the People's Party (many of whom would later become Republicans) which gained control of the state legislature in Indiana in the 1854 elections, passed a prohibition law, also struck down by the Indiana Supreme Court in 1855. The same was true in other states as well. Anti-liquor Republicans attempted to pass a prohibition law in Wisconsin in 1855, which was amended by the State Senate to exempt cider, wine, and beer and then vetoed by the Democratic governor. Anti-Nebraska forces in Iowa behind their governor James W. Grimes, an anti-slavery temperance Whig who would become a Republican, also passed a Maine Law, repealed in 1856.

If anti-Democratic forces were so frequently against liquor, then the obvious question is, why did Lincoln become more silent on the temperance issue in the late 1850's? The answer, to make a long story short, is that in most states of the Old Northwest, Republicans quickly hushed up the temperance issue in order to gain the German vote, which could often be attracted to platforms opposing the extension of slavery but which most often opposed prohibition of alcoholic beverages. In Illinois, according to James M. Bergquist in "People and Politics in Transition: The Illinois Germans, 1850-60" (in Frederick C. Luebke, ed., *Ethnic Voters and the Election of Lincoln* [Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1971]), Republicans in the mid-1850's figured it was more important to accommodate the Germans, who otherwise would return to their traditional Democratic voting habits, than the temperance advocates, who would hardly be likely to turn to the anti-prohibition Democratic Party.

With this elaborate background of mid-century political events, the cartoon under discussion takes on considerably more meaning and significance. Obviously the cartoon attests to the fact that prohibition sentiment was not a dead matter for some people even by 1860. Perhaps in localities where the German community was insignificant in number, such a cartoon could have been used to rally prohibitionists against Douglas. About the specific uses of specific cartoons and their volume of distribution in particular areas we at present know very little. But the existence of the cartoon should stand as a warning to historians who would place exclusive emphasis on the slavery issue in the politics of the 1850's and the campaign of 1860.

An interesting postscript to this discussion is suggested by still another Currier and Ives cartoon not in the possession of the Lincoln Library and Museum. Apparently the printers saved some time and money by publishing the same cartoon with the lash carrying the label not of "Maine Law" but of "News from Maine." In 1860, the national election day was not necessarily election day for the states. Pennsylvania and Indiana, two crucial states for the Republicans, voted in October for state offices. Maine was the first state in the Union to vote; their state elections were held in September. Attention out of proportion to the electoral vote was focused on Maine for this reason. Lincoln expressed his concern in a letter to his vice-presidential running mate Hannibal Hamlin on September 4, 1860:

> Springfield, Illinois, September 4, 1860.
>
> My dear Sir: I am annoyed some by a letter from a friend in Chicago, in which the following passage occurs: "Hamlin has written Colfax that two members of Congress will, he fears, be lost in Maine—the first and sixth districts; and that Washburne's majority for governor will not exceed six thousand."
>
> I had heard something like this six weeks ago, but had been assured since that it was not so. Your secretary of state,—Mr. Smith, I think,—whom you introduced to me by letter, gave this assurance; more recently, Mr. Fessenden, our candidate for Congress in one of those districts, wrote a relative here that his election was sure by at least five thousand, and that Washburne's majority would be from 14,000 to 17,000; and still later, Mr. Fogg, of New Hampshire, now at New York serving on a national committee, wrote me that we were having a desperate fight in Maine, which would end in a splendid victory for us.
>
> Such a result as you seem to have predicted in Maine, in your letter to Colfax, would, I fear, put us on the down-hill track, lose us the State elections in Pennsylvania and Indiana, and probably ruin us on the main turn in November.
>
> You must not allow it. Yours very truly, A. Lincoln. [From Roy P. Basler, ed., *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*, IV (New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1953), 110.]

Hamlin denied Lincoln's charge, and Maine belied the prediction in the election. The total vote in Maine was the largest ever cast, and all of the Republican congressional candidates won. Thus did the state of Maine administer its lashing to Stephen Douglas.

STEPHEN FINDING "HIS MOTHER".

From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Lincoln Lore

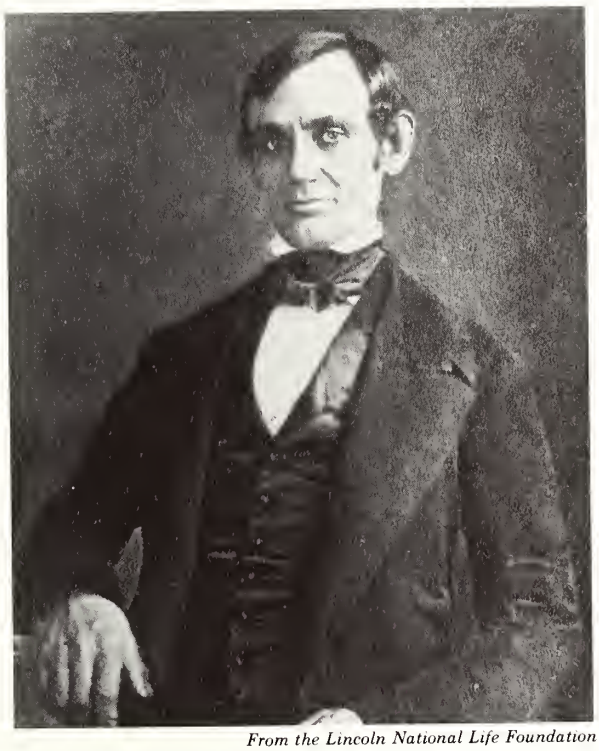
Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation...Mark E. Neely, Jr., Editor. Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801.

July, 1974 Number 1637

A NEW VOLUME OF LINCOLN'S WORKS

The unsung heroes of the historical profession are the persons who patiently gather and meticulously annotate the papers of important Americans. The collected works of Henry Clay, Jefferson Davis, Andrew Johnson, John C. Calhoun, Daniel Webster, Ulysses S. Grant, the Adams family, and Woodrow Wilson are currently in the process of being issued in series of bound volumes which will be available in every sizable public library for everyone who has an interest in American history. This inestimably valuable service will mean greater scholarship in greater quantity, for these collections save the student from long trips (and expensive lodging) and from looking up the many names, titles, and organizations mentioned in correspondence. The standards for these volumes are high. Texts are accurate. Routine materials devoid of content are often calendared to save the effort of wading through meaningless scraps and perfunctory verbiage. The footnotes explaining the circumstances of the correspondence are often so elaborate and informative that they constitute a source fully as important as biographies.

Roy P. Basler did much to set these high editorial standards. His eight-volume edition of *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln* published by Rutgers University Press in 1953 was a model for later editions of the papers of America's public figures. After twenty-one years, however, a sufficient number of Lincoln manuscripts have come to light to require a supplemental volume to this landmark series. *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln: Supplement 1832-1865*, edited by Roy P. Basler again but published by the Greenwood Press in Westport, Connecticut, is a must for even the smallest and most rudimentary Lincoln collection. Every student of history — indeed, every American citizen — is once again in Mr. Basler's debt.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Congressman-elect Abraham Lincoln

It is a tribute to the thoroughness of Mr. Basler's original efforts and to the fame of Abraham Lincoln that the *Supplement* publishes for the most part only the shards and fragments of Lincoln's voluminous correspondence. Commonly as many as four items appear on a page of the book — an indication that most of the items, especially after 1860, are one- and two-line endorsements written on the backs of letters seeking Lincoln's authority and consent for appointments to government jobs. As Lincoln himself expressed it in one of the letters published in the *Supplement*, this correspondence deals for the most part with the "same everlasting subject — that of filling offices."

This is not the sort of material that will drastically alter Lincoln's historical reputation, but it is far from useless, especially because Mr. Basler's careful job of annotation explains a myriad of historical events involving many historic personalities. This is the sort of book that will be mined by many historians for many years to come; the *Supplement* will be cited in footnote after footnote. It would be downright Faustian to attempt to weigh its impact on future Lincoln scholarship. This review will confine itself to suggesting just a few of the ways in which the *Supplement* can help the Lincoln student.

The pre-Civil War materials stem mostly from the period of Lincoln's single term in the House of Representatives in Washington and from the confusing politics of the 1850's. Anyone who is of the mind that Abraham Lincoln became an opponent of the Mexican War because he forgot the simple patriotism of his Western constituents and was dazzled by the Eastern Whig greats will have to cope with the material in the *Supplement*. True, Lincoln was, he said, "a good deal flattered by" invitations to speak in places like Boston that were far from his Springfield constituents. Nevertheless, Lincoln was just as "desirous of advising my constituents of the settlement of the claims at an early day" when the claims affected his home base. The latter phrase appears in a letter written to the second auditor of the Treasury Department (a typical example, incidentally, of those pieces of information that are hard to find but which Mr. Basler so generously supplies) concerning the back pay of a soldier in the Illinois Volunteers. Lincoln cooperated even with Democrat Stephen Douglas in seeking a promotion to brevet lieutenant colonel for Brevet Major Backenstos of the Illinois Mounted Rifles for gallant conduct at the Battle of Chapultepec. Lincoln was not neglecting the interests of his constituents even when those constituents were veterans of the war he opposed.

Lincoln's theory of representation would hardly have allowed him to do otherwise. In a letter of recommendation written for one George H. Holtzman, a resident of the District of Columbia, Lincoln said, "I can not recommend him *as an Illinoian;* because applicants now resident here [Illinois] would have just cause to complain of me." He went on to recommend Holtzman as otherwise a worthy candidate; Lincoln proved himself scrupulously faithful to his constituency. The event recalls a little-quoted letter to Elihu Washburne from Volume II of *The Collected Works:*

> The objection of your friend at Winnebago rather astonishes me. For a Senator to be the impartial representative of his whole State, is so plain a duty, that I pledge myself to the observance of it without hesitation; but not without some mortification that any one should suspect me of an inclination to the contrary. I was eight years a representative of Sangamon county in the Legislature; and, although, in a conflict of interests between that and other counties, it perhaps would have been my duty to stick to Old

Sangamon; yet it is not within my recollection that the Northern members ever wanted my vote for any interest of theirs, without getting it. . . . Again, I was a member of Congress one term. . . . Now I think I might appeal to Mr. Turner and yourself, whether you did not always have my feeble service for the asking. In the case of conflict, I might without blame, have prefered my own District. As a Senator, I should claim no right, as I should feel no inclination, to give the central portion of the state any preference over the North, or any other portion of it.

Lincoln was cooperative and not a narrow-minded provincial bounded by the horizons of his constituents, but he recognized his first duty to be service as a deputy of the direct interests of his immediate constituency.

Lincoln's concept of representation as a makeshift for direct democracy rather than as an improvement on and buffer against democracy was also good politics. Basler's *Supplement* confirms again that Lincoln was a skilled practitioner of the political arts. He knew that judges shared his political universe and were not independent arbiters of justice. In discussing an Illinois judiciary bill in 1841, Lincoln put it plainly to John T. Stuart: "The five new Judges will of course be Locos, and they, being a majority, that tribunal necessarily becomes a Loco concern." Lincoln used that fiercely partisan language of political friends and political enemies and that cool calculation and timing which have never ceased to puzzle, shock, and amaze the American people. The *Supplement* prints this example, a letter written in 1845 to Benjamin F. James, editor of the *Tazewell Whig* in Tremont, Illinois:

Yours of the 4th., informing me of Hardin's communication and letter, is received. . . . the certainty that he intends to run for congress . . . [is no] matter of surprise to me. . . . Now as to the probable result of a contest with him. To succeed, I must have 17 votes in convention. To secure these, I think I may safely claim — Sangamon 8 — Menard 2 — Logan 1, making 11, so that, if you and other friends can secure Dr. Boal's entire senatorial district — that is — Tazewell 4 — Woodford 1 and Marshall 1, it just covers the case. . . . Some of Baker's particular friends in Cass, and who are now my friends, think I could carry that county; but I do not think there is any chance for it. Upon the whole, it is my intention to give him the trial, unless clouds should rise, which are not yet discernable. This determination you need not however, as yet, announce in your paper — at least not as coming from me. . . . It is desireable that a sharp look-out should be kept, and every whig met with from those counties, talked to, and initiated. . . . More than this, I want you to watch, and whenever you see a "moccasan track" as indian fighters say, notify me of it. . . . I fear I shall be of a great deal of trouble to you in this matter; but rest assured, that I *will* be grateful when I can. . . . This letter is, of course, confidential; tho I should have no objection to it's being seen by a few friends, in your discretion, being *sure* first that they are friends.

For readers interested in Lincoln the man, the glimpses are rare enough. The *Supplement*, however, does reveal one very rare instance of Lincoln's sense of the artificiality of the political world, his sense of isolation as a man with hundreds of political "friends" but few personal ones. On his birthday in 1849, Lincoln wrote privately to David Davis, "Out of more than than [*sic*] three hundred letters received this session, yours is the second one manifesting the least interest for me personally."

A less revealing personal trait is confirmed by the *Supplement*, Lincoln's personal distaste for alcohol but his toleration of occasional weakness on this score among others. To Richard J. Oglesby in 1854 when Illinois politics were rent with slavery, nativist, and temperance agitations, Lincoln wrote, "Other things being equal, I would much prefer a temperate man, to an intemperate one; still I do not make my vote depend absolutely upon the question of whether a candidate does or does not *taste* liquor." Nine years later, Lincoln expressed the same sort of conviction in the case of Captain John N. Riedenbach of the 158th N.Y. Vols., "dismissed from the service, on the Charge of 'Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.'" Lincoln saw "evidence [of] . . . a good deal of boisterous misconduct, during a single case of intoxication," but he inclined "to think he does not habitually get in that condition." Lincoln, therefore, had no objection to Riedenbach's being reappointed to the service.

Lincoln's theory of representation did not prevent him from cooperating with other representatives on projects of broad scope, and it did not prevent him from cultivating contacts outside his district which would be useful should he ever have the chance to represent an area larger than a congressional district. To Thomas J. Henderson of Stark County Lincoln wrote in 1847 of his "intention to snatch a moment now and then, to send documents to some friends *out* of my district." Lincoln also showed a willingness to follow the people's will, even if it should lead to the advantage of the Democrats. Thus he wrote Ebenezer T. Miller from Washington in 1849:

Your letter in relation to the Post-office at Jacksonville, is received. I do not know, as yet, whether Mr. Happy will be removed, nor if he shall, whether I shall be permitted to name the person to fill the vacancy. If, however, this responsibility shall fall upon me, I shall have no motive in the exercise of it, other than to oblige the good and intelligent people of Jacksonville, and vicinity. And if, with all the lights before me, when the time comes, their perference shall seem to be for you, I shall be most happy to gratify both them and you.

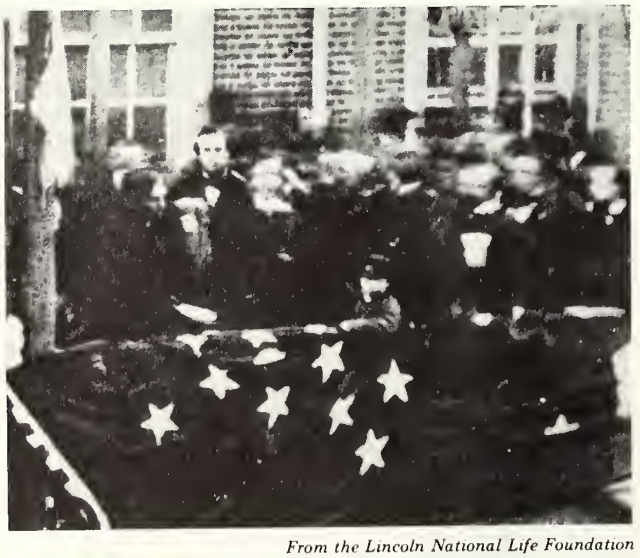
Miller was a Democrat.

Such political flexibility and skill helped to thrust Lincoln to considerable prominence in the politics of the 1850's. There is a very interesting remark in one letter written to Richard Yates in 1855 and published in the *Supplement;* Lincoln was speculating on his chances for election as United States Senator by Anti-Nebraska forces in the Illinois legislature.

The Bissell movement of which you speak, I have had my eye upon, ever since before the commencement of the session; and it is now perhaps as dangerous a card as we have to play against. There is no danger, as I think, of the A[nti]. N[ebraska]. men uniting on him, but the danger is that the Nebraska men, failing to do better, will turn onto him *en masse,* and then a few A.N. men, wanting a pretext only, will join on him, pretending to believe him an A.N. man. He can not get a single *sincere* Anti Nebraska vote. At least, so I think.

William Bissell soon became the first Republican governor of Illinois. Although he was a former Democrat with whom Lincoln had tangled upon occasion in his early years in the Illinois legislature, Lincoln had considerable influence with the Bissell administration and even drafted some of the Governor's messages. A hasty check of the citations of Bissell's name in the index to the original *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln* revealed no unfavorable remarks about Bissell after their pre-1850 disagreements. Lincoln's political acumen allowed him to cooperate with and influence men with whom he was not particularly in agreement.

Most of the items in the *Supplement* date from the Civil War, and most of the Civil War items are endorsements. Endorsements do not make particularly delightful reading, and one suspects that some scorn attaches to them. They contain only a sentence or two of Abraham Lincoln's words,



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Lincoln in Philadelphia, February, 1861

and they deal with matters that might be variously characterized as mundane or sordid, to wit, patronage and the granting of favors. Yet endorsements are not without their value. Governments are inevitably governments of men as well as laws, even in America, and patronage and favors are therefore the nuts and bolts of day-to-day political machinery. Note, for example, how important a knowledge of political appointments is to William Dusinberre's refreshing interpretation of Abraham Lincoln's presidency in *Civil War Issues in Philadelphia, 1856-1865* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1965):

> The situation in Philadelphia presents a useful point of departure for interpreting the career of Lincoln, who has sometimes been portrayed as conservative and opportunistic in his antislavery policy. When Lincoln, in the debates with Douglas in 1858, was attacking popular sovereignty on the grounds that territorial slavery should be conclusively prohibited, Philadelphia's Peoples Party upheld popular sovereignty as its rallying point against Buchanan. In February, 1861, Lincoln's Philadelphia speech favoring Negro rights contrasted remarkably with the prevailing local tone. The new President appointed the most radical of the city's important Republicans as head of the custom house. His decision to supply Fort Sumter was more decisively unionist than was editorial opinion in Philadelphia at the moment. William White's speech at the Democratic meeting in 1862 makes the President's well-known letter to Horace Greeley appear as an astute move to disarm the growing opposition, while preparing the grounds for emancipation. After the proclamation was finally issued, the *Ledger's* opposition, the *Inquirer's* hesitation to declare itself, and Mayor Henry's later silence, all showed how far Lincoln's action was beyond the expectation of most local residents. In 1863 the President appointed a Massachusetts general, who felt deep sympathy for Negro soldiers, to command in Philadelphia, and only later replaced this officer with a man whose views corresponded more closely to the local temper.

Readers of *Lincoln Lore* No. 1633 will recall how helpful it would be to have an endorsement or two suggesting the channels through which Alvin Hovey's replacement of Henry Carrington as commander of the military district including Indiana flowed.

Of particular interest to *Lincoln Lore's* readers too is one of the *Supplement's* few letters dating from the Civil War period. Professor Joseph George, Jr., of Villanova University called to the editor's attention a Lincoln letter which he had discovered in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, a letter which establishes conclusively the influence on Lincoln of Charles Janeway Stillé's pamphlet *How A Free People Conduct a Long War.* Professor George discussed the letter and the pamphlet in an article entitled "Charles J. Stillé, 'Angel of Consolation,'" in *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography,* LXXXV, pp. 303-315. Professor George also contacted Mr. Basler, and the letter appears in Basler's *Supplement.* This is Lincoln's letter to Charles J. Stillé on December 31, 1862:

> Your letter of the 27th and pamphlet were duly received, and for which please accept my sincere thanks. The pamphlet is far the best production upon the subject it treats which I have seen. The reading, and re-reading of it has afforded me great pleasure, and I believe also some profit. May I express the hope that you will not allow your pen to rest.

Interestingly enough, the mention of "re-reading" the pamphlet suggests that Orville H. Browning's recollection that Lincoln read the entire pamphlet aloud to him is not as unlikely to be true as it sounds.

The items from the Civil War period show, among other things, Lincoln's loyalty to his old friends. Lincoln had had a political falling out with Joshua Speed by 1860, though a letter in the *Supplement* shows that Speed's wife was more favorable towards Lincoln's views than her husband. As early as September 4, 1861, however, Lincoln recommended that Simon Cameron grant one of Joshua's requests. The Speed family appears with regularity in the *Supplement.*

Despite the traces of past friendships on Lincoln's Civil War appointments, it is also clear from the correspondence in the *Supplement* that Lincoln's political views had left the past far behind. There are several pieces of correspondence having to do with Negro soldiers, including a very exceptional letter which Mr. Basler chooses as the *Supplement's* frontispiece. This letter to Charles Sumner is little more than an endorsement, but it is very important:

> The bearer of this is the widow of Major Booth, who fell at Fort Pillow. She makes a point, which I think very worthy of consideration which is, widows and children *in fact,* of colored soldiers who fall in our service, be placed in law, the same as if their marriages were legal, so that they can have the benefit of the provisions made the widows & orphans of white soldiers. Please see & hear Mrs. Booth.

In fact, there are several interesting references in the *Supplement* to ethnic and religious groups, all of which tend to confirm Lincoln's tolerant attitudes. In 1861, Lincoln wrote to Secretary of War Simon Cameron in regard to the religious interests of the army personnel at Governor's Island, New York: "A catholic priest attends, & if the Govt. pays the Protestant anything, it is thought, as much might be done for the Catholic." Lincoln ordered Edwin M. Stanton to appoint Cheme M. Levy as an Assistant Quarter-Master because, as Lincoln put it, "I believe we have not yet appointed a Hebrew." Indeed, the most fascinating minor character to appear in the *Supplement* is one Isachar Zacharie, a Jewish doctor whose "peculiar profession," as Lincoln described it, was to operate on the corns and bunions of America's foot-weary army. Zacharie was also a conduit of information on conditions in the South, which apparently he gained from conversations with Jewish Southerners. There are half a dozen passes and letters of introduction for Dr. Zacharie in the *Supplement.*

Let the reader not be deceived: not all the endorsements and fragments from the Civil War period are as interesting as these. Some deal with subjects as lowly and mundane as the appointment of a Superintendent of Life Boats on the Coast of Long Island, just the sort of petty concern that the idea of presidential patronage always conjures up in an American's mind.

Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that this review has suggested something of the range of uses to which Mr. Basler's wonderful *Supplement* may be put by the Lincoln student. It is worth repeating that the book is a *must* for Lincoln students and that we all owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Basler. And it will detract nothing from his already secure fame to add that, in a sense, the *Supplement* is really a cooperative effort. As the discovery of Professor George reveals, Lincoln students found things and called them to Mr. Basler's attention. Many of the items that are reprinted in the *Supplement* are in the hands of private collectors, and they too must be complimented for their generosity. Various Lincoln institutions and universities throughout the country contributed their parts as well. It is certainly to be hoped that this spirit of cooperation among Lincoln students will continue.

From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Joshua and Fanny Speed

wqad.com /news/sns-ap-il--lincoln-liquorreceipts,0,105009.story

WQAD

Liquor receipts reflect Lincoln nomination celebration

By Associated Press

3:03 AM CDT, May 15, 2010

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Abraham Lincoln's nomination for president 150 years ago this month called for lots of toasts.

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum has obtained receipts from the Chicago hotel that housed the Republican nominee's campaign, among others.

Lincoln didn't drink. But the campaign operatives in Chicago ran up a bill at the Tremont House for five days of $321.50.

Of that, $125 was for lodging. The rest went from brandy, whiskey wine and cigars.

A chronicler of the 1860 convention noted that "torrents of liquor were poured down the hoarse throats of the multitude."

The documents obtained from a collector with private funds also includes a Springfield hotel receipt for the delegation that arrived to tell Lincoln of his victory.

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On the Net: www.presidentlincoln.org

Declares Lincoln Wanted That Drink When He Hoisted Barrel

Abraham Lincoln lifted the historical barrel of whisky above his head and drank from the bunghole for two reasons, namely, he wanted to win a bet and he wanted a "good" drink of good liquor.

So declared Miss R. Elizabeth Thompson, who has been a visitor at the home of Mrs. William Warnes, 4110 South Maplewood avenue. Miss Thompson's home is near Decatur and she is a granddaughter of the late Jacob Perryman, a close friend of the civil war President.

"Drinking from the bunghole of a barrel full of whisky was one of the railsplitter's favorite stunts," Miss Thompson said, quoting her ancestor.

But He Was Careful.

"Lincoln believed nothing would keep fevers and la grippe away quite as well as good Bourbon. He considered it as a medicine, but was careful not to induige to heavily. However, he was a good patient and always took his tonic regularly and without coaxing."

Lincoln, according to Miss Thompson, had a love affair that is not recorded in any of the many books on his life.

That romance grew out of two frozen feet. Lincoln, according to the Perryman story, heard that a Samuel Lathers on the east side of the Sangamon river near Decatur had some new books. Abe started to the Lather's home, about five miles away, on foot. The ice on the river had begun to get rubbery as the warm sun of early February sparkled on it. He could save several miles by going across on the ice. All went well until he neared the opposite shore, where the ice swayed and dumped Lincoln in the frigid waters of the Sangamon.

He clawed and swam ashore and hurried on to the Lathers' home, where he was given dry clothes, and his frozen feet rubbed in ice and snow. Bessie, Lathers' 17 year old daughter, liked Abe and Abe liked Bessie. For three weeks he stayed in the home. His feet peeled and his large toes threatened to drop off, but they were saved by the girl who kept them moist with warm tallow.

Bessie disliked lawyers, according to this story. When Abe told her he liked her a lot and wanted to call on her, she asked him to forsake his law aspirations.

They parted, with Abe promising her if he ever decided to relinquish his plans he would call on her again. He never did.

"Some folks," Miss Thompson said, "seem to believe that Lincoln was a stale sort of a youth who never enjoyed himself like other boys. But, according to my grandfather, he and Lincoln did about everything that Boy Scouts do today. Of course, there was no official organization of the Boy Scouts of America at that time, but he and Lincoln made cabins, built fires with sticks, erected wigwams, went on hikes and competed in contests.

Against "Shouting" Methodists.

"Grandfather Perryman always contended that this outdoor activity made Lincoln strong—strong enough to take his favorite drink from a barrel of whisky hoisted above his head; strong enough to educate himself and rise from the poorest of poorest to the President of the United States!"

According to the Perryman story, Lincoln believed the Bible and obeyed its precepts, but refused to unite with any church because he did not believe in shouting. The "shouting Methodists," as he called them were in charge of the majority of the central Illinois Protestant churches.

TO SERVE WINE AT BANQUET

Vain Protest in Connection With Lincoln Centenary.

SPRINGFELD, Ill., Jan. 23.—Considerable feeling has been caused by the fact that wine will be served at the Lincoln centenary banquet in this city February 12, at which addresses will be delivered by Ambassadors Jusserand and Bryce, Robert T. Lincoln, William J. Bryan, Senator J. P. Dolliver, Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, Senator Shelby M. Cullon, General John W. Noble and others. Despite protests by the local option law-enforcement league and the Woman's Christian Temperance union, who declared that Abraham Lincoln refused to permit wine to be served when he was notified of his presidential nomination and that to serve it at his centennial celebration would be "an insult to his memory," the committee empowered to decide this question tonight met and ignored the protests.

Lincoln Tippled and Swore, but Was Man of God, Rector Says

In spite of his disinclination to formal organized religion, Abraham Lincoln, in his soul and in his actions, was one of the most religious men of all times, the Rev. Frederick C. Grant, rector of Trinity Episcopal church, declared yesterday, speaking on "Lincoln's Religion" at a meeting of the Daughters of 1812 at the Chicago Historical society.

"True," Dr. Grant admitted, "they say that Mr. Lincoln swore, but who didn't in those days, especially if he was connected with politics or the army?

"They say that he drank a bit, but they forgot to mention that he didn't do it nearly so much as his contemporaries.

"They say that he wasn't a regular attendant at church. Authorities, however, show that he was found in his pew nearly every Sunday at the Presbyterian church in Springfield, and that he continued the habit when he went to Washington."

The real essentials of Lincoln's religion, according to Dr. Grant, were his faith in God, his belief in prayer, and his habitual reading of the Bible.

"But more than that," the rector concluded, "he showed his religion and his faith in what he did. Judged by those standards Lincoln was one of the most sincerely religious men of all times."

The Rev. W. J. Libberton, a 79 year old representative of the Grand Army of the Republic, told personal reminiscences of the martyred President, and paid a tribute to pioneer Illinois days when he said, "President Lincoln was not a miracle. He was a product of his time."

The Rev. William E. Barton of Oak Park, speaking yesterday noon before the Chicago Association of Commerce luncheon at the Hotel La Salle, said Lincoln never lived in Chicago, " it "the city had a marked influence upon his career."

"Chicago," said Dr. Barton, "widened the circle of his political friends and it markedly touched his expandi life.

"So far as we know his first visit was July 5, 1847, at the river and harbor convention, which really put both Chicago and Lincoln on the map. His first formal address in the city was Oct. 6, 1848."

VIEWS ON MANY TOPICS

BY READERS OF THE DAILY NEWS.

(Readers who wish to contribute to "Views on Many Topics" must send their names and addresses to The Daily News with their letters, not necessarily for publication. Anonymous contributions will not be considered.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S HABITS.

When his time and environment are considered it would not be surprising to hear that Abraham Lincoln used profane language and drank liquor as a young man. The best evidence, however, is that he neither swore nor drank. Yet the Rev. Frederick C. Grant in connection with the recent celebration of the birthday of our great president said: "They say that Lincoln swore," and "they say that he drank a bit." It seems strange that Dr. Grant should have marred a fine tribute by lugging in these slurs.

Henry B. Rankin, who was a law student in Mr. Lincoln's office, is one of the few survivors of those who give personal testimony about him. In his book just off the press entitled "Intimate Character Sketches of Abraham Lincoln," he throws a side light on the new charge of profanity. Herndon was Lincoln's law partner, a gifted man but a victim of drink and notoriously profane. Mr. Rankin said he never swore when he was in the presence of ladies or of Lincoln."

Hon. Shelby M. Cullom, governor and United States senator, and an intimate friend of Lincoln, said: "Lincoln never drank, smoked or chewed tobacco, or swore."

We have the testimony of Lincoln's family, his intimate friends, his secretaries and others that he did not drink liquor.

Some years ago the liquor men published a pamphlet containing rumors and inventions of men who claimed that they drank liquor with Lincoln.

The best authority, after all, is his own statement, made many times that he never drank liquor. On one occasion he said to his intimate friend, Leonard Swett: "I never tasted liquor in my life." He was an active worker in the Washingtonian temperance movement. He took the pledge of total abstinence and gave it to many others.

While in the white house in answer to a delegation of the Sons of Temperance, he said: "When I was a young man I, in a humble way, made temperance speeches, and I think I may say that to this day I have never by my example belied what I then said."

A recent and in many respects valuable publication is "Lincoln," by Nathaniel Wright Stephenson. He says as to Lincoln: "He seldom if ever drank whisky. Sobriety was already the rule of his life," and again he said: "Though he had not continued a total abstainer as in the early days at Springfield he very seldom drank wine."

We have already shown that these statements are incorrect. Henry B. Rankin in his "Personal Recollections of Abraham Lincoln," as well as in his last book, confirms all the statements that Lincoln was a lifelong total abstainer and also a lifelong enemy of the liquor traffic.

DUNCAN C. MILNER.

Chicago.

WHISKY IS FOUND IN LINCOLN HOME

INDIANPOLIS, May 20.—(U.P.) —Laborers remodeling an ancient house where Abraham Lincoln once stopped, discovered a half pint of whisky cached in the wall. H. C. Williams, owner of the property, said the bottle apparently was left there when the house was built 120 years ago.

LINCOLN AND TEMPERANCE

Leonard Swift tells us that Lincoln told him not moer than a year before he was elected presidentthat he had never tasted liquor in his life " said Sweet," Do you mean to say that you have never tasted it ? yes repleid Lincoln # I never tasted it . When we take into consideration the habit of the times this is the most remarkable testimony to Lincolns princille the stability of his caharacted and the iron quality of his will power. Mr . C.C. Coffin a most distinguished journalisy of the day, who accompanied the notification committee from the Chicago Convention to S Springfoeld at the time of Lincolns forst nomination , for the presidency of the U.S. related in his nerwpaper an incident that had orrured on that occasion. He said that after the excannge of formalities Lincoln Said,Mrs Lincoln will be pleased to see you ge gentlemen you woll fin d her in the other room you must be thirsty after your long ride you will find a pitcher of water in the library . The newspaper men crossed the hall and entered the libraryn there were misseleanous books on the shelvs two globe cellestial and terrestriakl in the room and a plain table with writing material upon i t . a pitcher of cold water and glasses ,b but no wine of liquor. Therre was humor in the invitation ton take a glass of water which was explained by Mr Coffin by a citizen of Springfield he said that when it wa known that the committee was coming several of the citizens called upon Mr Lincoln,and informed hin that some entertainment must be provided. yes that is so what ought to be done just let me know and I will attend to it he state Oh you will supply the needed liquors said his friends . gentlemen said Mr Lincoln, I thatnk you for your good intentions,but must respectfully decline your kind offer I have no liquors in my house . and have never been in the habit of entertaining my friends in tha way . I cannot permit my friends to do for me what I will not myself do I shall provide cold water nothing else.

Youth Temperance Evangel.

Lincoln as an Abstainer*

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, throughout his life, boy and man, always stood for temperance. Far back in his Indiana boyhood, the first essay he ever wrote was on the subject of Temperance. A local Baptist preacher was so struck with its merit that he secured it from the boy, and sent it to Ohio, where it is said to have appeared in a newspaper.

Soon after coming to Springfield to practice law, he joined the Sons of Temperance, and, as we shall see in the next chapters, frequently made temperance speeches of very effective character.

The story is told by Judge Weldon that he was once in the room with Stephen A. Douglas when Lincoln entered. Douglas, desiring to show his hospitality, in accordance with the customs of the times, brought out a bottle of whiskey and some glasses, and invited his callers to take a drink with him. Lincoln respectfully declined, on the ground that he had always been a temperance man, and felt that he was too old to change.

. . .

Leonard Swett tells us that Lincoln told him not more than a year before he was elected President, that he had never tasted liquor in his life. "What!" said Swett, "do you mean to say that you never tasted it?" "Yes," replied Lincoln, "I never tasted it." When we take into consideration the habits of the time, this is a most remarkable testimony to Lincoln's temperance principles, the stability of his character, and the iron quality of his will-power.

Mr. C. C. Coffin, a most distinguished journalist of the day, who accompanied the notification committee from the Chicago Convention to Springfield, at the time of Lincoln's first nomination for the presidency of the United States, related in his newspaper an incident that occurred on that occasion. He says that, after the exchange of formalities, Lincoln said:

"Mrs. Lincoln will be pleased to see you, gentlemen. You will find her in the other room. You must be thirsty after your long ride. You will find a pitcher of water in the library."

The newspaper man crossed the hall and entered the library. There were miscellaneous books on the shelves, two globes, celestial and terrestrial, in the corners of the room, and a plain table, with writing materials upon it, a pitcher of cold water, and glasses, and no wines or liquors. There was humor in the invitation to take a glass of water, which was explained to Mr. Coffin by a citizen of Springfield, who said that, when it was known that the committee was coming, several citizens called upon Mr. Lincoln and informed him that some entertainment must be provided.

"Yes, that is so. What ought to be done? Just let me know and I will attend to it," he said.

"Oh, we will supply the needful liquors," said his friends.

"Gentlemen," said Mr. Lincoln, "I thank you for your kind attention, but must respectfully decline your offer. I have no liquors in my house, and have never been in the habit of entertaining my friends in that way. I cannot permit my friends to do for me what I will not myself do. I shall provide cold water—nothing else."

The Hon. John Hay, the present Secretary of State, and one of Lincoln's secretaries and biographers, has declared that Lincoln was a man of extremely temperate habits, and that he made no use of either whiskey or tobacco during all the years of his association with him.

Mr. John G. Nicolay, his private secretary, and a joint biographer with Secretary Hay, says: "During all the five years of my service as his private secretary, I never saw him drink a glass of whiskey, and I never knew or heard of his taking one."

From all this it will be seen that Abraham Lincoln, in his heroic struggle against poverty and hard conditions, in his victory over the vicious habits and customs of the day in which he lived, in the fidelity to principle, and in the cleanliness and purity of his personal habits of life, stands out before us as an ideal leader of the new army of total abstainers to which his name has been given.

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*From *The Lincoln Legion*, by Rev. L. A. Banks, D.D. Pages 256. Price $1. The Mershon Company, New York, publishers.

Christian Herald

RUM HELD FACTOR IN LINCOLN'S RISE

Old West Salem Folk Recall How He Replaced Liquor-Dispensing Postmaster

[By the Associated Press]

West Salem, Ill., Feb. 11—Here on the wooded banks of the Sangamon river, where Abraham Lincoln started the public career that carried him to immortality, the Great Emancipator will be honored on the anniversary of his birth tomorrow.

It was one hundred years ago that the women of old West Salem, then a teeming mill town, rebelled because the local postmaster permitted their anxiously awaited mail to remain untouched while he dispensed whisky to thirsty men. They circulated petitions for his removal. Lincoln was given the job, a cornerstone of his temple of statesmanship.

Liquor Gave Him Start

Descendants of these hardy pioneer women tomorrow will attend the unveiling of a bust of old West Salem's most famous postmaster by Carl B. Chandler, noted Lincoln authority, at the old Salem State Park. The bust was sculptured by Madeline Masters Stone, who completed the work shortly before her death. Mrs. Stone was the sister of Edgar Lee Masters, author of "Lincoln the Man," a book which most West Salem folk label a slander on the Emancipator.

That Lincoln should have been given his start in public life because of liquor is a strange quirk of circumstance, but that is the story confirmed in West Salem. In 1833 old West Salem had a postmaster named Samuel Hill, who ran the postoffice in connection with a saloon. The story telling and whisky were good in those days and letters addressed to women were unimportant to the hard living rail splitters. Notwithstanding the fact that Lincoln was not an "administration man," the women opened a campaign for removal of Postmaster Hill. A petition was started and so many signed for the likeable, hard-working Lincoln that he was appointed for the position.

An Ambulatory Postoffice

Lincoln and his tall, commodious hat became an ambulatory postoffice. At any time of the day, no matter the whims of weather, Lincoln went out of his way to carry the mail. Instead of leaving it at the postoffice, he delivered it personally regardless of distance when he knew some one was waiting for it. By agreement with his customers he was permitted to open and read all newspapers and periodicals. It was a picture that the pioneers of that day often drew—of the tall, gangling postmaster walking over the countryside, reading intently as he covered the miles.

America knows what followed Lincoln's modest step into public life. Popular with all, he became assistant county surveyor and then State Representative, sweeping every obstacle before him in his march to greatness.

In the march of American progress old West Salem in years became a deserted village, but today architects are at work to reconstruct it as it stood when Lincoln trod its streets. Out of the past of dim recollection of stanch pioneers, they are rebuilding log houses and huts as of the Lincoln era. Soon they hope to present an exact reproduction of the old West Salem of the Lincoln's postmaster days.

WAS LINCOLN AN ABSTAINER?

L.A. Times 4/18/31

BY CHARLES C. ROOSA, M. D.

My attention has been drawn to a clipping from the Buffalo Courier-Express, which after reading I forwarded to my friend, James S. King of Springfield, Ill. The item carried by the Courier-Express stated on the authority of John Comstock, 83, who as a boy drove Abraham Lincoln to county seats where cases were being heard, that in his young days Abraham Lincol. drank beer with his lunches.

Mr. King submitted the matter to Mr. Paul M. Angle and his reply is conclusive and confirms what I have read in some of the lives of Lincoln, especially in regard to water being served to the notification committee. Mr. Angle has given me permission to publish this letter:

"Dear Mr. King:

"I think it beyond question that Abraham Lincoln, during his mature life at least, was a total abstainer so far as liquor was concerned. On this point the statement of Stephen T. Logan, his second law partner, should be conclusive, even if it were not supported, as it happens to be, with an abundance of similar testimony. Logan said: 'I never in my life saw Lincoln taste liquor. In going around the circuit with him I sometimes got and took a little after having got wet in a storm or swam a creek, or something of that sort, but he didn't even take it then. I never saw him taste liquor in his life, of all the times that we were traveling togther.

"It is true that wine was kept in the Lincoln home, but as to Lincoln's personal use of it the following letter, which has only recently come to light, is explicit. It refers to Lincoln's reception of the committee which officially notified him of his nomination, upon which occasion he served them water rather than wine.

'Springfield, Ill.,
'June 11, 1860.

'J. Mason Haight, Esq.

'My dear Sir:

'I think it would be improper for me to write or say anything to, or for, the public of which you inquire. I, therefore, wish the letter I do write to be held as strictly confidential. Having kept house sixteen years, and having never held the cup to the lips of my friends then, my j lgment was I should not in m. new position change my habit in this respect. What actually occurred upon the occasion of the committee visiting me I think it would be better for others to say.

'Yours respectfully,
'A. LINCOLN.'

"Of course what I have here written applies only to Lincoln's personal habits. In the light of existing evidence, it seems impossible to determine what his attitude toward prohibition by law would have been.

"Very truly yours,
"PAUL M. ANGLE."

LINCOLN SIGNED DRINK TAX BILL UNDER PROTEST

Determination to Repeal Measure Recalled in W. C. T. U. Statement

Special to The Christian Science Monitor

EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 10—Lincoln's anniversary is an appropriate time to recall that he was opposed to a federal tax on liquor, observes the National W. C. T. U. in a statement today.

Before the Emancipator reluctantly signed a bill for such a tax as a war measure, the W. C. T. U. relates, he said:

"I would rather lose my right hand than sign a document that will tend to perpetuate the liquor traffic; and as soon as the exigencies shall pass away I will turn my whole attention to the repeal of that document."

The discussion for and against taxing liquor for federal income in 1862 was as strenuous as the wet and dry argument today," the W. C. T. U. continues. "This was shown," it says, "in the Congressional Record for May, 1862, when the Senate debated the bill. Mr. Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, urged the passage of the bill on the grounds of war necessity. Temperance forces, including certain senators, opposed it on the ground that it would make liquor too important.

"Worry over the financial condition of the country finally induced the President to sign the act with the remark recorded above. He knew whereof he spoke. The liquor traffic, feeling it was indispensable to the Government's finances, thereupon organized and became a controlling factor in American politics.

"Incidentally it imposed a burden on the country far greater in money than that it paid in taxes. That's exactly what would happen again under the proposal to take the taxes off the rich and impose them on the families of liquor-drinking workmen."

LINCOLN ON THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC

A Rarely Quoted Pronouncement by Lincoln Against the Liquor Traffic

In a biographical sketch of Rev. J. M. Berry, who died in 1855, Mr. Lincoln is credited with the following:

> In the course of a powerful argument upon the evils of the use of, and traffic in, ardent spirits, . . . the speaker turned, and pointing his bony fingers toward Mr. Berry, who was standing near him, said, *"There* is the man who years ago, was instrumental in convincing me of the evils of trafficking in and using ardent spirits; I am glad that I ever saw him; I am glad that I ever heard his testimony on this terrible subject."

[Rev. John V. Stephens, D.D., Lane Seminary, bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, quotes the above from a book entitled, "Brief Biographical Sketches of Some of the Early Ministers of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church." The book was issued from the press, being published by the "Cumberland Presbyterian Board of Publication," Nashville, Tenn., in the year 1874. The author was the Rev. Richard Beard, D.D., the first professor in the theological school of that church, which formed a union with the mother church, the Presbyterian church in the U. S. A., in 1906. The book is out of print, but a copy is in possession of Dr. Stephens. The quotation is from page 211.]

"The Beginning of Luck."

"The greatest 'luck' that ever befell me, sir," said a fine old farmer on the train, "happened to me when I was only ten years old. I was born and raised in Illinois, in the days when about everybody drank whisky or cider or brandy. There were few of our neighbors who did not get drunk more or less frequently. But the winter I was ten years old it was announced in the neighborhood that there was to be a temperance meeting in our schoolhouse, and all the children were invited to come with their parents and hear the speaker.

"I went. It was the year 1840. The speaker spoke to a full house about letting all intoxicating drinks wholly alone. When he came to close he took from his pocket some printed cards, pledging their signers never to drink alcoholic beverages. He said they were called 'Washingtonian Pledges.'

"He then began passing them around through the audience, stopping here and there, pleading, persuading, for very few of the older folks seemed to be inclined to join him. By and by he came to where I sat, and looked down from his great height with deep, sad eyes at me.

"'And now, my little friend, you see that I have signed this card and pledge; and will you not sign your name with mine, that we will with God's help keep away from all intoxicating drinks?' He looked at me tenderly, invitingly, anxiously, and asked me if I understood what it meant, and if I would not so join him in the pledge.

"I took the proffered pencil and card, and wrote my name beside his. When I had finished he took the card and pencil in his left hand, and putting his great right hand gently on my head, said: 'May God bless you, my lad! May you keep this pledge forever! And never will you be sorry you took it.'

"I kept it. When I grew to be about twenty I went out on the Great Trail across the continent, and opened a tavern. It was known as the 'Temperance Tavern,' and had the curious distinction of being the only one of the kind on the trail. Folks were always surprised, and usually mad, at finding that they would have to go without drinks for another day. Often they used to advise me to buy a barrel of whisky and get a barrel of water and mix them, and make 'big money' out of it. But I always told them that I did not use liquor myself, neither would I place it in the way of others.

"Soon the war broke out, and I enlisted. I went all through the war, seeing how drink wrecked thousands, but never breaking my pledge. The more I saw and the more I kept it, the easier it was to keep.

"After the war was over I married and settled in Illinois. Great blessings and prosperity have come to me. A large family of temperate sons and daughters are in comfort about me. There is scarcely a day that I do not recall the man in the schoolhouse, more than sixty years ago, who led me to sign the total abstinence pledge—me a lad of but ten years in a country school—and then put his hand upon my head and blessed me for so doing.

"That man was Abraham Lincoln! To the pledge he was so eager to get the lad to take do I attribute the beginning of all the fortunes I now count blessed. And that is why I say that the greatest 'luck' that ever befell me happened when I took the total abstinence pledge at the age of ten.

"Great was Abraham Lincoln! But to me he was never greater than when he stopped to persuade a tow-headed lad in a country school to sign with him a temperance pledge."—*Epworth Herald.*

Clip 10

Illiteracy in the South.

Of the colored population in South Carolina ten years of age and over, 64 per cent can not read or write. In Georgia, 67 per cent; in Alabama, 69 per cent; and in Louisiana, 72 per cent,—are in the same deplorable condition. Here is Africa in America sure enough. One of the very best ways to help decrease those per cents, and avoid the dangers which they indicate to society, is to increase the collections of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society.

Twelve Hundred Conversions.

During the last thirteen years Claflin University has had 1,200 conversions, and almost without exception the graduates have gone out as Christian men and women. Two years ago they had 113 conversions.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE EMANCIPATOR OF THE NEGRO.

[These facts and incidents are for use in celebrating Lincoln's birthday, February 12th, by Sunday-schools and Epworth Leagues, or by the pastor in his sermon on the Sunday preceding.]

Lincoln and Temperance.

Mr. Lincoln was always a temperance man. He had the moral courage to say "No," and decline when invited to drink intoxicating liquors.

He never used either liquor or tobacco in any form. He is said to have often preached the following "sermon," as he called it, to his boys:

"Do nt drink, do n't smoke, do n't chew, do n't swear, do n't gamble, do n't lie, do n't cheat. Love your fellow-men and love God. Love truth, love virtue, and be happy."

While a member of the Legislature, Lincoln delivered an address on temperance, February 22, 1842, before the Washingtonian Temperance Society, of Springfield, Ill., in which he made this remarkable prophecy, saying: "When the victory shall be complete, when there shall be *neither a slave nor a drunkard* on the earth, how proud the title of that land which may claim to be the birthplace and cradle of those resolutions that shall have ended in that victory!"

Immediately after the Republican Convention which nominated him for the Presidency adjourned, a committee visited Mr. Lincoln in Springfield, Ill., to inform him officially of his nomination. After this ceremony had passed, Mr. Lincoln remarked that, as an appropriate conclusion to an interview so important and interesting, he supposed good manners would require that he should furnish the committee something to drink; and, opening a door, he called out, "Mary! Mary!" A girl responded to the call, to whom Mr. Lincoln spoke a few words in an undertone. In a few minutes the maid entered, bearing a large waiter, containing several glass tumblers and a large pitcher, and placed it upon the center-table.

Mr. Lincoln arose, and gravely addressing the company, said: "Gentlemen, we must pledge our mutual healths in the most healthy beverage which God has given to man. It is the only beverage I have ever used or allowed in my family, and I can not conscientiously depart from it on the present occasion; it is pure Adam's ale from the spring;" and, taking a tumbler, he touched it to his lips, and pledged them his highest respects in a cup of *cold water*.

"Honest Abe."

It was while employed in Offutt's store, in New Salem, Ill., that Lincoln began to be called "Honest Abe." He

LINCOLN'S TEMPERANCE PROPHECY.

Of our political revolution of 1776 we are all justly proud. It has given us a degree of political freedom far exceeding that of any other nations of the earth. In it the world has found a solution of the long-mooted problem as to the capability of man to govern himself. In it was the germ which has vegetated, and still is to grow and expand into the universal liberty of mankind.

But with all these glorious results, past, present, and to come, it had its evils, too. It breathed forth famine, swam in blood, and rode in fire; and long, long after, the orphan's cry and the widow's wail continued to break the sad silence that ensued. These were the price, the inevitable price, paid for the blessings it bought.

Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage broken, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed—in it, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it, no orphans starving, no widows weeping; by it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest. Even the dram-maker and dram-seller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change, and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness. And what a noble ally this to the cause of political freedom! With such an aid, its march can not fail to be on and on, till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition the sorrow-quenching draughts of perfect liberty! Happy day, when, all appetites controlled, all passions subdued, all matter subjugated, mind—all-conquering mind—shall live and move, the monarch of the world! Glorious consummation! Hail, fall of fury! Reign of reason, all hail!

And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that LAND which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory! How nobly distinguished that people who shall have planted and nurtured to maturity both the political and moral freedom of their species!—Lincoln's Washington's Birthday Address, delivered Feb. 22, 1842.

was judge, arbitrator, referee, umpire, authority in all disputes, games, and matches of man-flesh and horse-flesh; a peacemaker in all quarrels; everybody's friend; the best-natured, the most sensible, the best-informed, the most modest and unassuming, the kindest, gentlest, roughest, strongest, best young fellow in all the region round about.

Lincoln could not rest for an instant under the consciousness that he had, even unwittingly, defrauded anybody. On one occasion he sold a woman a little bill of goods, amounting to two dollars six and a quarter cents. He received the money, and the woman went away. On adding the items of the bill again, to make himself sure of correctness, he found that he had taken six and a quarter cents too much. It was night, but he closed and locked the store, and started on foot for the house of his defrauded customer, two miles away, and delivered to her the sum due her. Then he returned home satisfied.

Mr. Lincoln and the Drummer-boy.

Among a large number of persons waiting in the room to speak with Mr. Lincoln, on a certain day in November, 1864, was a small, pale, delicate-looking boy about thirteen years old. The President saw him standing, looking feeble and faint, and said: "Come here, my boy, and tell me what you want." The boy advanced, placed his hand on the arm of the President's chair, and, with bowed head and timid accents, said:

"Mr. President, I have been a drummer in a regiment for two years, and my colonel got angry with me, and turned me off. I was taken sick, and have been a long time in hospital. This is the first time I have been out, and I came to see if you could not do something for me."

The President looked at him kindly and tenderly, and asked him where he lived. "I have no home," answered the boy. "Where is your father?" "He died in the army," was the reply.

Story of toast drank in water.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S TOAST.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 10.—To the Editor of the State Journal: When you are publishing so many good things about Mr. Lincoln, permit me to add the following:

At the formal notification of his nomination for the presidency, after the ceremony, Mr. Lincoln remarked to the company, that as an appropriate conclusion to an interview so important and interesting as that which had just transpired, he supposed good manners would require that he should treat the committee with something to drink. Opening a door that led into a room in the rear, he called out, "Mary, Mary." A girl responded to the call, to whom Mr. Lincoln spoke a few words in an undertone, and closing the door, returned to converse with his guests. In a few minutes the maiden entered, bearing a large waiter, containing several glass tumblers and a large pitcher in the midst, and placed it upon the center table. Mr. Lincoln arose and gravely addressed the company, saying: "Gentlemen, we must pledge our mutual healths in the most healthy beverage which God has given to man. It is the only beverage I have ever used or allowed in my family and I can not conscientiously depart from it on the present occasion. It is pure Adam's ale from the spring." Taking a tumbler, he touched it to his lips and pledged them his highest respect in a cup of cold water. Of course all his guests were constrained to admire his consistency and to join in his example. JOHN H. CARPENTER.

NO WINE AT HIS TABLE.

It was a great day in Springfield when Lincoln was nominated for the Presidency. The bells rang all day, and when a telegram was received from Chicago that a committee from the convention would arrive in Springfield the next afternoon formally to notify Mr. Lincoln of his nomination, to put it mildly, the town went wild. A great many Springfield people had been at Chicago during the convention, and when they began to arrive each one added to the excitement by telling his story of the great contest. I was then a clerk in my brother's store and was alone when Mr. Lincoln came in. His face was long and he wore an air of extreme depression. He dropped into a chair and looked like a man who had not a friend on earth.

"Can I do anything for you?" I asked.

"I don't know," Mr. Lincoln replied.

"Do you want anything?"

"I don't know."

"What is the trouble, anyway, Mr. Lincoln?" I asked anxiously.

I recall that Mr. Lincoln went on to unfold the difficulty he was in. It seemed that Mrs. Lincoln had considered it the proper thing to prepare a supper at their house for the notification committee, and that she had insisted there should be wine at the table. In that I suppose Mrs. Lincoln was entirely correct, judging from the usual custom of the times, but Mr. Lincoln objected to the wine.

"Do you want to have it?" I remember asking him.

"I have never had wine in my house and I don't want to commence now if I can help it."

Mr. Lincoln added that he realized there were many things he had never done and did not want to do which his new position would require of him, but he did not want wine the first thing.

I told him that he need not and ought not to have a supper at his house anyway that night. The committee of Springfield citizens already had prepared an elaborate dinner for the visitors at the Chenery House, then the leading hotel of Springfield; we were going to have wine and brandy and whisky and water, and the committee ought to be well enough entertained at the dinner before going to call on him to require anything to eat or drink at his house.

He was much pleased at this arrangement, which seemed to take a load off his mind. He then asked what was expected of him during the visit of the committee. I advised him to be waiting at the house and to be much surprised when the committee called. He answered that that would be a lie, for, while he might be excited by the visit of the committee, he would not be surprised.

The plans of the committee were carried out, and there was a big dinner at the Chenery House before the visit to the Lincoln homestead. I still can see in my mind how pleased Mr. Lincoln was when he found out that he need not have wine that night.

Mr. Lincoln had a remarkable power of attracting people to him. Our Springfield society in the early days was, perhaps, the gayest in the State. There were many Kentucky people in the city, and there was much wealth and fashion with us. Only the other day I met a gentleman from St. Louis who was still enthusiastic over a party he attended at the home of Ninian W. Edwards, brother-in-law of Mrs. Lincoln, before the war. We then had a population of only 7,000 or 8,000, and it required all the good people in the town for these events. There were generally card tables up-stairs, while the young people danced in the parlors below. Euchre was the great game at the card tables, and Lincoln was not long at the parties before he was at the card tables, playing euchre. He kept at this until the young people gathered around him and demanded some stories. I still recall how vexed the young men were because the young women preferred hearing Mr. Lincoln tell his stories to dancing. As late as 1860 I recall that a beautiful young woman from the South who was visiting Springfield attended one of these parties where Mr. Lincoln was. She had come from the South with the idea that Mr. Lincoln was a full-fledged devil with horns. She had not been long at the party before she sought an introduction to him, and for the rest of the evening she remained near him. I don't know whether her opinion of him was changed or not, but her experience shows in the most striking way his power of attraction. He had a happy faculty of winning people.

During the campaign of 1860 I saw a good deal of Mr. Lincoln. He kept himself well posted on what was going on throughout the country, and had affairs well gauged before the time for election came.

JOHN W. BUNN.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LINCOLN AND LIQUOR

To the editor of The Courier and Press:

I hope you will kindly publish the enclosed article. I don't think too much can be said in honor of our great hero, Abraham Lincoln. Really great people are always humble perhaps because so many of them have risen from the lower ranks of life and have reached their greatness after many disappointments and hard struggles.

Abraham Lincoln is a good example of a great man; and yet who among the background conscious people today would have thought of entertaining him, before he reached his high political position. And who, to go still farther among his class, would condescend to associate socially with a mere carpenter.

Yet the greatest man of all time was a carpenter of Nazareth.

The article is from "Christian Herald" and at this time with wide open saloons, taverns, etc., is a time to honor those who were opposed to liquor.—Louise H. Rumpf.

The article follows:

Lincoln

The wets love to tell us that Lincoln was once a bartender. They lie. They base their statement on the evidence of a license issued to William F. Berry in the name of Berry and Lincoln, to keep a tavern in the home town of New Salem.

But the license reads: "Ordered that William F. Berry, in the name of Berry and Lincoln, have license to keep a tavern."

Lincoln never did much at the tavern. He never stood behind its bar, nor before it. Almost immediately after the granting of the license, he sold out to Berry.

As a young man in Springfield he joined the Washington Society and became a leading advocate of total abstinence. He was a reformer noted for his antagonism to two great evils: booze and slavery.

In 1863 he said to the Sons of Temperance: "When I was a young man, I, in a humble way made temperance speeches. And I think I may say to this day that I have never, by my example believed what I then said."

This makes good temperance copy for February, the month in which total abstainer Abraham Lincoln was born.

Lincoln and Temperance

IN EARLY YOUTH, LINCOLN, in boyish speeches, flayed the scourge of drink. Later, when he was thirty-three, this is what he said:

"The world would be vastly benefited by a total and final banishment from it of all intoxicating drinks."

He did not lose his reason merely because his convictions were intense:

"Too much denunciation against dram-sellers and dram-drinkers was indulged in. It is not much in the nature of man to be driven to anything."

Observe, LINCOLN was pleading for "entreaty and persuasion" toward temperance as against "the thundering tones of anathema and denunciation." The same belief in the vast harm of drink, *tempered*, however, by the power to see all sides of man's complex nature, existed at the height of his development. Thus we find him in 1863:

"Intemperance is one of the greatest, if not the very greatest, of all evils among mankind."

He added:

"The mode of cure is one about which there may be differences of opinion."

Why is forgery deemed necessary to the prohibition cause? The brewers circulate a statement against prohibition falsely attributed to LINCOLN. Along come the prohibitionists with another, recommending prohibition, also forged. Both desire his assistance; neither can find anything of his extreme enough to suit. If he lived to-day he would favor no license where public sentiment was strong enough to make that policy succeed, and he would certainly oppose anything resembling national prohibition. The other day we were approached by a man brimful of ardor. "LINCOLN," said he, "was a hypocrite. He was a temporizer and coward. In '65 he had a vast army at command. Why did he not use it to put down drink?" That man does more harm to the temperance cause than any other being in the town where he resides. In a book by D. C. BAKER, published last year, is this statement:

"Mr. LINCOLN is quoted as saying: 'If the prohibition of slavery is good for the black man, the prohibition of the liquor traffic is equally good and constitutional for the white man.'"

Yes, he is "quoted" as saying it, but he never did say it. The prohibitionists attribute this speech to April 13, 1865, the last day of LINCOLN'S life, so it ought to be possible for them to name the letter, or document, or speech, in which the words occurred. Actually, they were invented, just as that stupid proposition about fooling the people was invented also.

ABE LINCOLN WAS ADVOCATE OF TEMPERANCE

Once helped to beat prohibition bill that was before Illinois legislature

By J. A. DANIELSON

(Member of hoard of directors of Church Temperance Society of Protestant Episcopal Chureh, New York.)

Perhaps there is no man, dead or alive, in whose judgment on matters of government and politics there is more genuine confidence than in Abraham Lincoln. With the passing of the years, ever greater importance is attached to what he said and did.

Owing to this great interest in Lincoln, a mass of mythology has grown up around his name. Stories, based upon this prejudice or that, now spring up in quick succession. There have heen more books published about him in the last decade than in any previous period of 25 years. In short, interest in Lincoln is not ahating with the passing of time, hut is everywhere growing stronger and stronger.

In view of this situation, what could be more natural than that the forces wielding political or moral influence in our country should attempt to enlist Lincoln on their side? This has been true in a peculiar sense with the opposing sides of the prohihition controversy—or should I say feud? Students of Lincoln have found sufficient material somewhere during the last decade for about a score of books, setting forth that this great American was a prohibitionist, first, last and all the time. On the other hand, to anti-prohihitionists Lincoln's attitude on this question is an open hook and they are equally convinced that he was opposed to the principal of government embodied in the prohihition law.

Matter of Temperance

One important point has heen lost sight of hy these writers. They have failed to explain that there is a difference in the meaning of the word temperance, as used in Lincoln's time and now. The temperance advocate of that day was one who favored habitual moderation, and he rarely was confused with the prohibitionist, as is often the case today. That Lincoln was a strong advocate of temperance is conceded by all, hut how far heyond that he actually went does not seem to be so easily determined. The other Presidents of the United States have also been supporters of temperance; still it may not be said that a one of them has advocated the prohibition theory and in the ease of Abraham Lincoln it should not be impossible to determine his attitude.

After a very careful investigation of the matter, it seems that the idea that Lincoln was a prohibitionist is of comparatively recent and of undetermined origin. When Davidson and Stuve wrote the History of Illinois, published in 1873, that idea had evidently not been horn. Its authors had not heard that Lincoln was in any manner inclined to that theory, nor that he was connected with the Illinois prohibition referendum campaign of 1855, a point now much discussed. The contention that Lincoln drafted that measure should find a reply in the History of Illinois, which states specifically that the proposed law was the work of a B. S. Edwards, "an eminent lawyer," who was also its principal champion during the campaign. And thus, on every point where it is contended that Lincoln went beyond the advocacy of true temperance, a denial may be found in official documents, or in accepted histories and biographies.

While a member of the Illinois legislature, Lincoln voted against such proposals on several occasions, one of the most notahle of which was his opposition to the Murphy state-wide prohibition proposal of 1840. This hill, if passed, would have been the first prohihition law to be adopted by any state in the union and Lincoln was instrumental in its defeat. Prior to that time in Decemher, 1839, he was on record for his opposition to a local option measure, which was defeated hy one vote.

To what extent Lincoln used liquor—if at all—is of minor importance. Still much ado is made over the question whether wine or other liquor ever penetrated as far as to his dinner tahle. Among his unbiased hiographers there is slight difference of opinion as to his habits during the years he resided in Springfield. It is generally granted that he partook of no strong drink during that time. Perhaps his law partner, Mr. Herndon, drank all that the business could stand, but as to the years he lived in the White House there is difference of opinion. It is at least interesting that there is no record of liquor heing taken off the hill of fare at the President's dinner-table until Mrs. Lucy Wehb Hayes, wife of President Rutherford B. Hayes, reigned there—fifteen years after the Lincolns had occupied that famous mansion.

I do not believe there is to he found anywhere an instance where Lincoln praises liquor, hut neither is there to be found an instance of his advocating the prohibition plan as the remedy for its misuse, which was common also in his day. The merits or demerits of liquor he held immaterial and refused to debate. He might have liked to see all the liquor wiped off the face of the earth, but it is difficult to conceive of Lincoln as approving of poison liquor or padlock. His approach to the prohlem was on a higher plane than that. He appealed to the intelligence of the individual who was intemperate in his habits, throwing into his entreaties the great power of his love and personality. We might think this over: We are now living under such a law as would incriminate Lincoln were he to return and repeat what he said to the Washingtonian Temperance Society in 1842, and declare as he did then, that the question of whether to drink or not to drink is "exclusively one's own husiness." By "temperance" it is plain that Lincoln did not mean total ahstinence. He could not now, therefore, deliver his eloquent and masterful exhortations for true temperance without teaching disobedience to the eighteenth amendment.

Lincoln's policy in matters of this nature seems to have heen always against the application of force. He admonished against dealing unkindly "if you would win a man to your cause," and we need go no further than to his great address to the Washingtonians to get a good glimpse of his political philosophy, when he declared that the cause of true temperance must be won through measures that do not fail to take human nature into consideration, summing up with this precious advice:

"When the conduct of men is designed to be influenced, persuasion—kind, unassuming persuasion—should always be adopted."

RREED

DEN HEUTIGEN STAATSMÄNNERN IN DAS STAMMBUCH:

Als Abraham Lincoln,nach seiner Wahl zum Präsi=
denten der Vereinigten Staaten,der Sitte gemäss
die ihn beglückwünschenden Gäste bewirtete,
füllte er eigenhändig die Gläser aus einem gro=
ssen Kruge.Dann sagte er:
"Meine Herren!Trinken wir auf eine gesegnete
Tätigkeit des Parlamentes mit dem gesündesten
aller Getränke,das Gott geschaffen hat!
Ich habe nie einen Tropfen berauschenden Getränks
gekostet und auch keinem meiner Familienmit=
glieder davon zu kosten erlaubt;ich will auch
in meiner gegenwärtigen Stellung nicht anders
handeln."
Damit erhob er sein Glas klaren Wassers und
trank auf das Wohl seiner Gäste,die ihm=ebenfalls
mit klarem Wasser=Bescheid gaben.

Translation of small card:
Today's statesmen in the Album:
When Abraham Lincoln, after his election to the Presidency of the United States, was showing hospitality to his well-wishing friends in accordance with the normal custom, he filled, with his own hand, the glasses from a large jug. Then he said: "Gentlemen, we drink to a blessed reality of parliament with the most healthful of all drinks that God has given us. I have never tasted a drop of intoxicating beverages nor have I allowed any member of my family to taste such a beverage; I don't want to, in my present situation, do anything else.

Therewith he raised his glass of clear water and drank to the health of his guests who - also with clear water - did the same.

LR/jcd

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S TEMPERANCE.

In June, 1889, when Colonel Ward H. Lamon, Abraham Lincoln's old friend and biographer, was an inmate of Garfield Hospital, I wrote to him with the view of settling a mooted question, as I had been publicly denounced for quoting the martyr President in my address on the Intemperance of Prohibition. Colonel Lamon has since passed over the range and his reply to my inquiry is now published for the first time:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 4, 1889.

I have the honor of receiving your favor of the 30th ultimo., and in reply I have to say: You ask my recollection of Mr. Lincoln's views on the questions of temperance and prohibition.

I looked upon him as one of the safest temperance men I ever knew. He seemed on this subject as he was on most others—unique in profession as well as in practice. He was neither what might be called a "drinking man," a total abstainer nor a Prohibitionist.

My acquaintance with him commenced in 1847. He was then, as afterward, a politician. He mixed much and well with the people. Believed what the people believed to be right, was right. Society in Illinois at that early day was as crude as the country was uncultivated. People there were tenacious of their natural as well as their acquired rights, and this state of things existed until Lincoln left the State to assume the duties of President at Washington.

The people of Illinois firmly believed it was one of their inalien-

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able rights to manufacture, sell and drink whisky, as it was the *sacred* right of the Southern man to rear, work and *wollop* his own nigger. And woe be unto him who attempted to interfere with these rights—as the sequel afterward showed, when Mr. L. and his friends tried to prevent the Southern man from "wollopping his own nigger" in the Territories.

I was present at several temperance lectures delivered by Mr. Lincoln in Illinois (I have now in my possession the manuscript of some of them). He made temperance speeches as he made other speeches. He was always ready to make a speech whenever called on to do so, and cared very little about what subject he addressed the people upon. He was always happy when discussing questions before the people and always deferred to the audience's choice of subjects.

I recollect many years ago at Danville, Illinois, Mr. L. happened in at a temperance meeting, the "Old Washington Society," I think, and was called upon to make a speech. He got through it well, after which he and the other members of the bar who were present were invited to an entertainment at the house of Dr. Scott. Wine and cake were handed around. Mrs. S., in handing Mr. Lincoln a glass of "home-made" wine, said: "I hope you are not a teetotaler, Mr. Lincoln, if you are a temperance lecturer." "By no means, my dear Madam," he replied, "for I do assure you"—with a humorous smile—"I am very fond of my *Todd*," a play upon his wife's maiden name.

"I by no means oppose the use of wine. I only regret that it is not in more universal use. I firmly believe if our people were to habitually drink wine, there would be little drunkenness in the country."

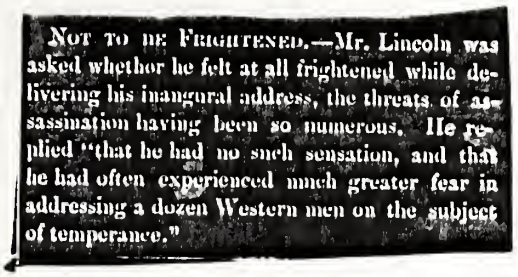
I recollect his making this remark, during the conversation, which afterward became general, Judge David Davis, Honorable Leonard Sweet and others present, joining in the discussion:

"I am an apostle of temperance only to the extent of coercing moderate indulgences and prohibiting excesses by all the moral influences I can bring to bear

"I hope the day may not be far distant, when wine instead of whisky will become our National drink."

With the highest respect I have the honor to be Miss Field's humble servant. WARD H. LAMON.

For holding the opinion of Abraham Lincoln, I am reviled and falsely interpreted by men and women who show their cowardice in attacking a woman and denying the truth about a great apostle of personal liberty.



NOT TO BE FRIGHTENED.—Mr. Lincoln was asked whether he felt at all frightened while delivering his inangural address, the threats of assassination having been so numerous. He replied "that he had no such sensation, and that he had often experienced much greater fear in addressing a dozen Western men on the subject of temperance."

Anon.

Where Lincoln Stood

TUJUNGA, Feb. 7.—[To the Editor of The Times:] There is one side of Lincoln's character well known to some of us, but which has never been sufficiently emphasized and that was his advocacy of the temperance reform. Lincoln was outspoken and uncompromising in his stand against strong drink.

As long ago as February 22, 1842, in an address given at Springfield, Ill., speaking of the two great movements, one for the abolition of human slavery and one for the abolition of intoxicating drink, he said: "And when the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both these revolutions that shall have ended in that victory."

We should never forget, nor allow our children to forget that Lincoln stood foursquare against the alcoholic liquor traffic.

MAE GUTHRIE TONGIER.

Lincoln's Temperance Pledge

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, when offered wine at a great banquet, publicly refused, and stated that he had been fifty years an abstainer. To the friend who persuaded him to sign the pledge, he said: "I owe more to you than to almost any one else of whom I can think; for if I had not signed the pledge with you in my years of youthful temptation, I might have gone the way that the majority of my old comrades have gone, which ends in a drunkard's life and a drunkard's grave."

"LINCOLN AND LIQUOR"

The letter printed on this page lately under the heading "Lincoln and Liquor" does not state accurately the opinions of Abraham Lincoln on the prohibition problem. As a very young man, not yet of age, in 1837, Lincoln did call upon "every American never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country." This was in a long rhetorical passage which nobody would ever attribute to the author of the Gettysburg Address. The other quotations indorsing prohibition outright are not to be found in the 1837 address or in the Washington Society Address of 1842. In the latter, however, he did expatiate at length on the unwise "tactics" of the "old-school champions of temperance."

But the citation of the alleged statement on the day of the assassination, that after reconstruction the next great question would be the overthrow and abolition of the liquor traffic, is entirely without warrant. It rests upon the testimony of Maj. J. B. Merwin, a professional temperance lecturer, who came to Illinois in 1854 or 1855. The letter containing his statement was written in 1910, some fifty-five years after the event, when he was 75 years old, or several years older, according to some authorities. He claimed that Lincoln stumped the State with him for six months in 1855 in behalf of a State Prohibition law.

There is not a shred of evidence that Lincoln did anything of the kind. Not a newspaper and not a single personal letter mentions any such tour. Yet Lincoln at the time was speaking often, he was a candidate for Senator, and such a stumping trip could not have escaped notice. Merwin became a Civil War chaplain. He says he dined with Lincoln on the day of the assassination. Robert T. Lincoln says he did not. The men who have most carefully investigated this story are Dr. William E. Barton and the late Senator Beveridge. Each repudiates it emphatically.

Lincoln made an authentic statement on this subject when he had reached his full stature as a statesman. In September, 1863, replying to an address of the Sons of Temperance for promoting temperance in the army, he said:

> I think that the reasonable men of the world have long since agreed that intemperance is one of the greatest, if not the very greatest of all the evils of mankind. That is not a matter in dispute. That the disease exists, and that it is a very great one, is agreed upon by all. The mode of the cure is one about which there may be differences of opinion.

LINCOLN NO DRINKER.

J. W. Bricker, 2134 Reservoir St., Los Angeles, Calif., says that when he was a boy in 1860 drinking was so prevalent that boys were sent to saloons and would carry homo jug-fulls of whisky, without any to-do about it, and thinks we have progressed wonderfully since those days, even now when the bootleggers seem to be in control.

He noticed recently where someone had said that Lincoln was a hard drinker. He thinks the easiest way to disprove that is to quote some of Lincoln's own writings. Lincoln, in an address delivered Feb. 22, 1842, on speaking of the American Revolution, says:

"Turn now to the temperance revolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage broken; a viler slavery manumitted; a greater tyrant deposed. In it more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it no orphans starving, no widows weeping."

Again he says, "And when the victory shall be complete; when there shall be neither a slave nor drunkard on the earth, how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory."

LINCOLN'S RADICAL VIEWS ON THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Lincoln was a total abstainer and an active temperance worker. His motto was to try to "pluck a thistle and plant a flower wherever a flower would grow." Lincoln thought that there could be no more noxious "thistle" than the liquor traffic; and so we find him opposing that great evil. He said, in 1853: "The most effectual remedy would be the passage of a law altogether abolishing the liquor traffic. There must be no more attempts to regulate the cancer; it must be eradicated."

His temperance principles were shown again when the committee called upon him to notify him of the nomination for President. It had been considered proper, and even necessary, to serve wine on such an occasion, and accordingly friends brought in wine and wine-glasses. Lincoln thanked them for their good intentions, but ordered the wine removed and water substituted, saying: "We will drink to the fortunes of our party in the best beverage ever brewed for man." And the morning before his assassination, April 14, 1865, he is said to have declared: "After reconstruction, the next great question will be the overthrow of the liquor traffic."

In 1846 Lincoln spoke on temperance at a log school-house near Springfield, Ill. He wrote and took to the meeting the following pledge, inviting the people to sign it:—

"Whereas, the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation and crime; and believing that it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage." Sacred Heart Review

LINCOLN AS A TEMPERANCE MAN.

Leonard Swett tells us that Lincoln told him not more than a year before he was elected President that he had never tasted liquor in his life. "What!" said Swett, "do you mean to say that you never tasted it?" "Yes," replied Lincoln, "I never tasted it." When we take into consideration the habits of the times, this is a most remarkable testimony of Lincoln's temperance principles, the stability of his character, and the iron quality of his will power.

C. C. Coffin, a most distinguished journalist of the day, who accompanied the notification committee from the Chicago convention to Springfield at the time of Lincoln's first nomination for the Presidency of the United States, related, in his newspaper, an incident that occurred on that occasion. He says that after the exchange of formalities, Lincoln said:

"Mrs. Lincoln will be pleased to see you, gentlemen. You will find her in the other room. You must be thirsty after your long ride. You will find a pitcher of water in the library."

The newspaper men crossed the hall and entered the library. There were miscellaneous books on the shelves, two globes, celestial and terrestrial, in the corners of the room, and a plain table, with writing materials upon it, a pitcher of cold water and glasses, and no wines or liquors. There was humor in the invitation to take a glass of water, which was explained to Mr. Coffin by a citizen of Springfield, who said that, when it was known that the committee was coming, several citizens called upon Mr. Lincoln and informed him that some entertainment must be provided.

"Yes, that is so. What ought to be done? Just let me know, and I will attend to it," he said.

"Oh, we will supply the needed liquors," said his friends.

"Gentlemen," said Mr. Lincoln, "I thank you for your kind attention, but must respectfully decline your offer. I have no liquors in my house, and have never been in the habit of entertaining my friends in that way. I cannot permit my friends to do for me what I will not myself do. I shall provide cold water—nothing else."—*The Pioneer*.

Our Dry Presidents

REFUTING FORMER GOVERNOR N.T. Ross

. William Judso

SINCE the enactment of the eighteenth amendment, we have had two Presidential elections. At neither of these elections was prohibition a partizan question. It has been injected into partizan politics as a major issue for the first time in 1928.

Calvin Coolidge has been a friend to law enforcement. He has been called the "silent President," but what President has spoken his mind more clearly upon great national questions than Calvin Coolidge? No one has even accused him of being a "wet." Leaders in both political camps know it would not be true.

Former Governor Nellie Taylor Ross of Wyoming, vice-president of the National Democratic Committee, and calling herself a "dry," has stated in an address, to which much publicity was given, that there has never been a dry in the White House. Though a dry, she seemed to get a thrill out of her statement. Despite her dry proclivities, she favors the election of Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, who is a wet, and the candidate who has injected prohibition as a major partizan issue into the political campaign. It is not our purpose to attack Governor Smith, but rather to show that Mrs. Ross is absolutely incorrect when she states that no dry ever sat in the White House.

OUR country has had two Presidents who were dry through principle and not by law. This was many years prior to the enactment of the eighteenth amendment.

President Lincoln had a great mother in Nancy Hanks. She died when he was nine years of age. Mr. Lincoln signed a pledge when he was a lad. His mother exacted certain promises from her boy when she lay sick unto death. It is generally supposed that the pledge he signed was the one his mother requested him to sign in the death chamber. The promise he made then, he kept to his death. When he had grown to manhood, during the course of an address he read a pledge he had written:

> Whereas, the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation, and crime; and, believing it our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we, therefore, pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

Mr. Lincoln was always a firm exponent of total abstinence. The influence of Nancy Hanks, through the agency of the pledge she had persuaded her son to take when a boy, continues to live through the

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Lincoln's earnest words as an advocate of temperance are found in reply to an address from the Sons of Temperance, Sept. 29, 1863, while he was serving as the President of the United States:

> When I was a young man long ago, before the Sons of Temperance, as an organization, had an existence, I, in a humble way, made temperance speeches, and I think I may say that to this day, I have never, by my example, belied what I then said. . . . I think that the reasonable men of the world have long since agreed that intemperance is one of the greatest, if not the very greatest, of all evils among mankind. That is not a matter of dispute. I believe that the disease exists, and that it is a very great one is agreed upon by all. The mode of cure is one about which there may be differences of opinion. You have suggested, that in an army—our army—drunkenness is a great evil, and one which, while it exists to a very great extent, we cannot expect to overcome so entirely as to have such successes in our armies, as we might have without it.

According to Mr. Lincoln's own words, he practised what he preached, by abstaining from the use of intoxicating liquors.

BLAKESLEE

LINCOLN LIKED HIS BEER, OLD COACHMAN RECALLS

CHICAGO. Feb. 12 (U.P.).—Abraham Lincoln—a kindly young lawyer who ate sandwiches and drank beer but never got drunk or used profanity—was recalled today by the silver-haired old man who drove the President's carriage in his youth, John Comstock, 83.

When 11 years old Comstock gave up his career as a jockey to drive for Lincoln.

"I got 25 cents a day," Comstock said, "and my bed and board."

Lincoln was a country lawyer at Springfield, Ill., and Comstock drove for him to county seats where cases were being heard

"I took him to his office at the same time each day. He ate supper at 4 in the afternoon and then had some sandwiches and beer at 6. But, of course, he never got drunk, though he kept wine in his house. I never heard him swear."

Rainey Has Letters Showing Lincoln Drank, Didn't Like It

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—Speaker Rainey said today that hitherto unpublished letters of Abraham Lincoln, showing that the Civil War President took a drink of liquor whenever the social graces demanded it, were being offered for sale to the government for historical purposes.

Rainey, who represents in Congress the same Illinois district that Lincoln did, also showed reporters two notebooks of Lincoln's, one containing clippings of the Lincoln-Stephen A. Douglas debates in Illinois, and the other clippings relating to slavery with his personal notations. One notebook was leather bound with a clasp. The other was bound in cloth.

After the Christmas holidays, he said he would take the notebooks, valued at between $40,000 and $50,000, to the White House for President Rooseveit's inspection.

These books and letters, Rainey said, were a part of the Wirtz collection which was purchased by G. A. Baker & Co. of Chicago. They were turned over to him by Emanuel Hertz of Chicago.

Most of the collection was obtained from James A. Herndon, the law partner of Lincoln. Some of the letters were those of Linco' o Ann Rutledge.

"The letters show that Lincoln took a drink of liquor whenever he wanted it, or felt that he had to do it at social functions," Rainey said. "They show that he did not like it, but that he did not let it stand in the way when social functions demanded it."

Lincoln at a Saloon Door

SOME years ago, at a Lincoln meeting among the old soldiers of a Michigan city, one of the battle-worn veterans gave the following testimony: "We have heard what Lincoln has done for all of us; I want to tell what he did for me. I was a private in one of the Western regiments that arrived first in Washington after the call for 75,000. We were marching through the city amid great crowds of cheering people, and then, after going into camp, were given leave to see the town.

"Like many other of our boys, tbe saloon or tavern was the first thing we hit. With my comrade I was just about to go into the door of one of these places when a hand was laid upon my arm, and looking up, there was President Lincoln from his great height above me, a mere lad, regarding me with those kindly eyes and pleasant smile.

"I almost dropped with surprise and bashfulness, but he held out his hand, and as I took it he shook hands in strong Western fashion, and said, 'I don't like to see our uniform going into these places.' That was all he said. He turned immediately and walked away; and we passed on. We would not have gone into that tavern for all the wealth of Washington city.

"And tbis is what Abraham Lincoln did then and there for me. He fixed me so that wbenever I go near a saloon and in any way think of entering, his words and face come back to me. That experience has been a means of salvation to my life. Today I hate the saloon, and have hated it ever since I heard those words from tbat great man." — JOHN TALMADGE BERGEN, D. D., in *Interior*.

Economics of the Drink Traffic.

D. D. Thompson,

Assistant Editor *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, Chicago.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, in a temperance address delivered at Springfield, Ill., on Washington's birthday, Feb. 22, 1842, referring to the successful conclusion of the temperance revolution, said: "When the victory shall be complete—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on the earth—how proud the title of that land which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those revolutions that shall have ended in that victory." That prophecy of the overthrow of slavery

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intemperance was fulfilled so far as slavery in United States is concerned when Mr. Lincoln self signed the emancipation proclamation. It be the work of the American people in the ntieth century to fulfill the second part of the phecy. They will fulfill it. The struggle will be g and hard, but it will be successful. What has n done for temperance in the past is but the bening. The severest battles are yet to be fought. he struggle against the liquor traffic will be efly economic, as was that against slavery. It s for the preservation and extension of slavery as operty that the civil war was begun. It is, indeed, r the protection and increase of property that, hatever may be the apparent cause, most wars are ue. It will be over the liquor traffice as property—s a source of private profit and public revenue—that he final conflict will come. * *

Dark as is the prospect before us, it is by no means hopeless. The liquor problem is being studied in new aspects. Most thoughtful men and women realize that the labor problem is to be the great problem of the twentieth century. The liquor problem is a phase of the labor problem. The solution of the liquor problem will not entirely solve the labor problem, but it will go far toward doing so, and the latter cannot be solved before the other has been. Workingmen as a class do not appreciate how closely these two questions are related, and how important the destruction of the liquor traffic is to their welfare. * * * * * The complaint in times of financial depression has usually been that the country was suffering from overproduction. This was apparently correct, but as a matter of fact the country was suffering from underconsumption. Hon. Thomas B. Reed, late speaker of the House of Representatives, in a speech delivered in February, 1894, said: "The more a man wants of consumable wealth the more his wages are likely to be. This question of wages is all important as bearing upon the question of consumption. All production depends upon consumption." It is in the relation of the liquor traffic to consumption that the working people of this and other countries are so deeply interested.

It is estimated that if the more than $1,000,000,000 alone spent for liquor by those whose power of production and consumption of commercial products is reduced by drink, were spent for useful articles of food, clothing, etc., it would require nearly half a million more men in the factories to meet the demand for manufactured goods, and about 650,000 more men outside the factories to produce the raw materi-

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The handling, transportation, and sale of these ould give employment to as many more. mand for such a large number of employes almost entirely remove the serious competiwhich labor suffers from the excess of the unemyed. * *

The solution of the liquor problem is largely in the power of the workingmen of the country. That they will solve it by their votes as they solved the slavery question, there can be no doubt.

Much educational work must be done before they will realize the wisdom, as well as necessity, of abolishing the saloon. This will require patience and time. The work of education should begin with the children. There will be no final conquest over the liquor traffic until there has been trained at least a generation of voters who will look upon its abolition as an irrepressible issue. It may require the education of several generations. * * * * Our churches should begin at once the regular and systematic education in temperance of the children in Sunday-schools, Epworth Leagues, Junior Leagues, and other young people's organizations. Whatever be the character of the instruction given, ultimate prohibition of the traffic should be the object. The traffic will, in time, furnish the occasion for prohibition, as the slaveholder furnished the occasion for abolition.

The temperance education of children should, and will also, be prosecuted in the public schools. The basis of such education may be different from that in Sunday-schools, but its effect will be the same. Thanks to the noble efforts of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, instruction is now given children in the public schools as to the physically injurious nature of alcohol. This important work should be, and will be in course of time, supplemented by instruction as to the value and absolute necessity of sobriety to secure position and advancement in business. Business men are not only refusing to sign bonds themselves, but they are requiring employes of all classes to give bonds. One of the questions asked concerning every applicant for a bond is: "Is he of sober and correct habits?" It is a matter of pure business with the bond company, and if it be ascertained that the applicant, whether millionaire or cash-girl, be the victim of occasional drunkenness, or in the habit of daily drinking, he is liable to be rejected, and he certainly will be if the position is an important one requiring self-control. In some establishments no one using intoxicating liquors is employed. The restriction, if not absolute prohibition of the use of liquor by employes, is sure to increase.

The prophecy of the fall of slavery made by Abraham Lincoln in 1843 was fulfilled in less than twenty-one years. Men of that day would have deemed such a fulfillment in so short a period an impossibility. Many persons regard the fulfillment of the second part of Lincoln's prophecy an impossibility; yet the liquor traffic may be as near its end as was slavery in 1842. Let us, in our warfare against the saloon, adopt the sentiment with which Lincoln closed his famous Cooper Institute speech: "Let us have faith that right is might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

LINCOLN AND LIQUOR.

What were LINCOLN'S habits in regard to the use of liquor? What were his views on the liquor problem? In The Atlantic Monthly Mr. WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND answers clearly these questions. His information is derived from original sources, printed and manuscript. He begins by painting LINCOLN'S environment and associations. Kentucky was a jovial, rough, racing and gambling and fighting region. LINCOLN'S father, THOMAS, was a moderate drinker. THOMAS'S uncle THOMAS kept a stillhouse. Twice when drunk he kicked his wife. He assaulted a witness who testified that Mrs. THOMAS was frequently intoxicated but justified her on the ground that she had learned the art from her husband. ABRAHAM'S uncle MORDECAI perished while trying to cool off his liquor in a snowdrift.

LINCOLN'S school teacher was indicted for selling liquor at retail without a license. WILLIAM DOWNS, "probably "the first preacher ABRAHAM ever "heard," was a good deal of a soak and was called before his congregation on a charge of being drunk. Whisky-drinking was common everywhere. Whisky was a prime medium of exchange. Church subscriptions were acceptable in "good merchantable whisky." In Southern Indiana dram-drinking wa almost universal. LINCOLN loafed around the crossroads store, told stories, took his dram, but was "a temperate drinker." He worked in a distillery in his last Winter in the State. Going home when the crossroads store shut up, he would join in singing the ditty mentioned by DENNIS HANKS:

> Hail Columbia happy Land if you aint Drunk I will Be Damned.

Moving on to Illinois, LINCOLN kept store for DENTON OFFUTT. It sold whisky, but not by the drink. In New Salem LINCOLN never took a drink. In 1832 he went into business with WILLIAM F. BERRY, "a young drunkard." Next Spring LINCOLN sold out to BERRY. Liquor was sold at the store, but never by the drink until after LINCOLN got out. As a member of the Illinois Legislature he voted against a liquor bill imposing a higher license fee. It was lost by a tie vote. The next day a similar bill with a local option provision, approved by the Senate, was passed by the House. Again LINCOLN voted no. In the next session a bill to repeal the previous act was introduced, lowering the license fee and the quantity of liquor for the sale of which a license was required. LINCOLN voted twice against a local option amendment and finally for the bill, which passed the House but was lost in the Senate. In the session of 1840-41 an amendment to strike out all but the enacting clause of a new liquor bill and forbidding all liquor licenses was laid on the table on Mr. LINCOLN'S motion.

The well-known "quotation" declaring prohibition "a species of intemperance within itself" was invented in Atlanta in 1887. Whatever his views about temperance to be attained by statute, LINCOLN was a member of the Washington Society, a firm believer in and worker for temperance. He advocated persuasion; discouraged denunciation of "dram-sellers and dram-drinkers." In his opinion it was not mental or moral superiority, but "mere absence of appetite," that had kept the sober from the course of the drunken. As a lawyer he served as counsel to saloon keepers or the raiders and Carry Nations of the period with equal zeal. He took no part in the unsuccessful attempt to impose "the Maine Liquor Law" upon Illinois. He didn't wish to offend the German and other anti-prohibition elements which he was rallying against repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

The Springfield lawyers took a swig at the whisky jug when they were preparing their briefs. Liquor shops clustered thick around every court house, but LINCOLN seldom drank liquor or wine. "It always leaves me flabby and undone," he told HERNDON. He sometimes took "whisky with a little "sugar in it to avoid the appearance "of discountenancing it to his friends." HENRY C. WHITNEY, who rode the circuit with him,

> recalls an incident when he and LINCOLN and several other lawyers drove out to the residence of REASON HOOTEN, where several varieties of home-made wine were passed around. "A mere sip of each affected LINCOLN," relates WHITNEY, "and he said comically, 'Fellers, I am getting drunk!'"

As WARD LAMON put it, LINCOLN was neither "a drinking man, a total abstainer nor a prohibitionist." Who but a prig won't like him more because he would play billiards by the hour with "a worthless drunken fellow who turned lawyer late in life"? He didn't smoke. He seldom drank. But he sat a good fellow among the other circuit-riding good fellows. The room was cloudy with smoke. "A bucket of beer "stood on the hearth, a pitcher of "whisky on the table, and hour after "hour would swiftly pass in song and "story." Somebody calls for "some music":

> LAMON with his rich baritone and Virginia accent would sing "The Blue-Tailed Fly" or "Cousin Sally Downard" or some other ballad of equal interest but less propriety.

LINCOLN'S PROMISE TO HIS MOTHER.

While drinking whisky was the fashion all about him Abraham Lincoln never forgot his dead mother's request to close his lips against intoxicants.

Once when he was a member of Congress, a friend criticised him for his seeming rudeness in declining to test the rare wines provided by their host, urging as reason for reproof, "There is certainly no danger of a man of your habits becoming addicted to its use."

"I mean no disrespect," John answered Mr. Lincoln, "but I promissd my precious mother only a few days before she died that I would never use anything intoxicating as a beverage, and I consider that promise as binding as it was the day I gave it."

"Their is great difference between a child surrounded by a rough class of drinkers; and a man in a home of refinement." insisted the friend.

"But a promise is a promise forever John, and when made to a mother it is doubly binding," replied Mr. Lincoln.—[Exchange.

He Watched Lincoln Write His Name

ONCE upon a time, when your great-grandfather was a little boy, there was a boy named Cleophas Breckenridge, who lived in what was then called "the Far West." His father and mother had built a log cabin, miles from any neighbors, and his father had begun cutting down the trees on every side and clearing ground for fields. By and by some other families had come and built other log cabins, not far away; and in these families there were other boys, with whom Cleophas could play when he was not busy helping his father.

After a while, all the fathers had met together and decided to build a schoolhouse so that their children could have an education; and they had finished the log schoolhouse and had begun to look for a teacher, but as yet the school had not opened.

Then one day the boy from the nearest house came rushing over to the Breckenridge cabin. "Hey, Cleophas!" he called. "There's going to be a meeting at the new schoolhouse this afternoon; want to go?"

Of course Cleophas wanted to go; his mother said he might leave his work, and away the boys went, across the fields and through the woods.

When they came in sight of the schoolhouse, they saw what seemed to them a great crowd of men sitting around on stumps and on logs which had been left over when the schoolhouse was built. Among these people they noticed a tall young man who seemed to be a stranger. One of the neighbors told the boys that his name was Abraham Lincoln, and that he was going to make the speech at the meeting. That did not mean anything to Cleophas and his friend, however, for they had no idea that one day this tall stranger would be president of the United States and that his name would be honored all over the world.

Nevertheless, they listened closely to his address. He talked to the people about the harm and unhappiness caused by alcoholic drinks, and reminded them that the drinker is not the only one who is injured by liquor, but other people suffer too. He told them how easily a man may learn to want liquor more than anything else, and so buys it with money which should be used to support his family, until they become so poor that friends and neighbors have to give them food and clothing. Then he told them why it was better not to drink any kind of alcoholic liquor at all, and described the better health, the more comfortable homes and the greater happiness which people might have if they refused to drink.

Finally, Mr. Lincoln took from his pocket a folded piece of paper, and explained that it was a pledge, a promise not to drink any kind of alcoholic liquor.

He said that he had signed such a pledge himself, and that thousands of other people had done so. Then he invited all the people at the meeting to sign it, and he read it aloud so that every one would understand just what it was:

> *"Whereas, the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation and crime, and believing that it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage."*

He then placed the paper on top of a broad stump, which was to serve as a desk, and many people came up and signed their names. Cleophas went near and stood watching, wishing he could sign it too. Suddenly Mr. Lincoln stepped over to him.

"Sonny, don't you want your name on this pledge?" he asked.

"Yes, sir," Cleophas answered, shyly.

"You understand what it means,—that you promise never to drink whisky or any other intoxicating liquor?"

"Yes, sir," replied Cleophas.

"Very well, then, you may sign right here," said Mr. Lincoln.

"I can't, sir. I have never gone to school and I don't know how to write my name," explained Cleophas, a little ashamed.

"Well, that's all right, I can write it for you," said Mr. Lincoln, kindly. "If you stand right here and watch me do it, it will be just as good as if you wrote it yourself."

So Cleophas watched while Mr. Lincoln wrote his name out clearly, "Cleophas Breckenridge," below the other names. Then, placing his hand on the boy's head, Mr. Lincoln said, "Now, Sonny, you keep that pledge, and this will be the best act of your life."

As long as he lived, Cleophas kept his pledge faithfully, and never once was he sorry that he had promised not to drink alcoholic liquors.

Note:—This story is a revision of the story entitled, "The Boy Who Saw Abraham Lincoln," which was written for reproduction by pupils of the fourth grade in the W. C. T. U. prize essay contest of 1926-27. It may be told or read to children, who are to re-tell or write it in their own words, and to illustrate it with cut-out pictures or original drawings. They need not be required to memorize the pledge which Mr. Lincoln signed for Cleophas, but it should be written on the blackboard and used in their reproductions of the story. It should be discussed and explained carefully, and it may be used as the basis of a lesson on the economic effects of alcohol, "pauperism, degradation and crime."

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It will be a matter of interest to many, North as well as South, to know that Mr. Lincoln had looked very favorably upon a proposal that had been made for the excavation and completion of the Panama Canal by means of the labor of the freedmen. Those close to the President at the time were aware of the fact that he favored the plan and it was for the purpose of securing the views of Horace Greeley, of the New York Tribune, and other moulders of public thought, to the plan, that he called Major Merwin to the White House on the fatal Friday, April 14, 1865, the day that he was assassinated. After the President had explained this matter freely, to Mr. Merwin, recalling again those stirring times ten years before, when he had campaigned in Illinois with him he said: "AFTER RECONSTRUCTION THE NEXT GREAT QUESTION WILL BE THE OVERTHROW OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC." That evening Mr. Merwin was on his way to New York, and the following morning as he stepped from the train in that city he heard the terrible news of the assassination, at Ford's Theatre, the night before. It is unquestionably true that no man alive knew Mr. Lincoln in his public or private life more intimately than did Major Merwin.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S MILITARY ORDER

"The Surgeon General will send Mr. Merwin wherever he thinks the public service may require."

June 24, 1862. A. LINCOLN.