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CASTORIA
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Lincoln's Boyhood
 By
WARD HILL LAMON,
 His Friend, Partner and Bodyguard
 Lincoln's Birthplace

One New Salemite insists that Mr. Lincoln told this latter story, "with the literary men of New Salem. Besides Shakespeare and Burns, Mr. Kelso was likewise very fond of fishing and could catch his game when no other man could get a bite. Mr. Lincoln hated fishing with all his heart. But it is the testimony of the countryside from Petersburg to Island Grove that Kelso drew Lincoln after him by his talk; that they became exceedingly intimate; that they loitered away whole days together along the banks of the quiet streams; that Lincoln learned to love inordinately our "divine William" and "Scotia's Bard," whom his friend mouthed in his cups or expounded more soberly in the intervals of fixing bait and dropping line.

Finally he and Kelso boarded at the same place, and, with another merchant named Sincho, of tastes congenial and wits as keen as Kelso's, they were always found together, battling and arguing. Bill Green ventures the opinion that Lincoln's incessant reading of Shakespeare and Burns had much to do in giving to his mind the skeptical tendency so fully developed by the labors of his pen in 1834-35 and in social conversations during many years of his residence at Springfield. Like Ofutt, Kelso disappeared suddenly from New Salem and apparently from the recollection of men. Of Ofutt not a word was ever heard. To use the expressive language of Mr. Lincoln himself, he literally "petered out."

Mr. Lincoln was often annoyed by company. His quarters at the tavern embellishments" (embellishments), and therefore he is firmly convinced that Mr. Lincoln had a hand in originating it. The catalogue of literature in which he particularly delighted at New Salem is completed by the statement of Mr. Rutledge that he took great pleasure in "Jack Downing's Letters."

Mr. Lincoln still relished a popular song with a broad point or a palpable moral in it as much as he had ever enjoyed the vocal efforts of Dennis Hanks and his rollicking compeers of the Gentryville grocery. He even continued his own unhappy attempts, although with as little success as before and quite as much to the amusement of his friends. To the choice collection of miscellaneous ballads acquired in Indiana he now added several new favorites, like "Old Sukey Blue Skin," and some selections from the "Missouri Harmony," with variations by himself. He was also singularly fond of an Irish song "which tells how St. Patrick came to be born on the 17th day of March."

Shy of the Ladies. "You ask me," says Mr. Ellis, "if I remember the first time I saw Mr. Lincoln. Yes, I do. I was out collecting back tax for General James D. Henry. I went from the tavern down to Jacob Bales' old mill, and then I first saw Mr. Lincoln. He was sitting on a saw log talking to Jack and Rial Armstrong and a man by the name of Hohammer. I shook hands with the Armstrongs and Hohammer and was conversing with them a few minutes, when we were joined by my old friend and former townsman, George Warburton, pretty tight, as usual, and he soon asked me to tell him the old story about Ben Johnson and Mrs. Dale's blue dye, etc., which I did. And then Jack Armstrong said, 'Lincoln, tell Ellis the story about Governor J. Sichner, his city bred son and his nigger Bob,' which he did, with several others, by Jack's calling for them. I found out then that Lincoln was a cousin to Charley Hanks of Island Grove. I told him I knew three of the boys—Joe, Charley and John—and his uncle, old Billy Hanks, who lived up on the north fork of the Sangamon river, afterward near Decatur."

This interview took place shortly after the Black Hawk war, but it was not until the next year (1833), the period at which we have now arrived, that Lincoln and Ellis became intimate. At that time Ellis went there to keep a store and boarded at the same log tavern where Lincoln was, Lincoln, being engaged in no particular business, merely endeavoring to make a lawyer, a surveyor and a politician of himself, gave a great deal of his time to Ellis and Ellis's business.

"He also used to assist me in the store," says this new friend, "on busy days, but he always disliked to wait on the ladies. He preferred trading with the men and boys, as he used to say. I also remember that he used to sleep in the store, on the counter, when they had too much company at the tavern. "I well remember how he was dressed. He wore flax and tow linen pantaloons—I thought about five inches too short in the legs—and frequently he had but one suspender; no vest or coat. He wore a calico shirt, such as he had in the Black Hawk war; coarse brogans, tan color; blue yarn socks and straw hat, old style and without a band. "Mr. Lincoln was in those days a very shy man of ladies. On one occasion while he boarded at this tavern there came a family, consisting of an old lady and her son and three stylish daughters, from the state of Virginia and stopped there for two or three weeks, and during their stay I do not remember of Mr. Lincoln ever eating at the same table with them. I then thought it was on account of his awkward appearance and his wearing apparel."

Ofutt "Petered Out." There lived at New Salem at this time and for some years afterward a festive gentleman named Kelso, a schoolteacher, a merchant or a vagabond, according to the run of his somewhat variable luck. When other people got drunk at New Salem it was the usual custom to insult and fight and tramp each other's toes and pull each other's noses, but when Kelso got drunk he established the rustic custom of drinking with elaborate decorations. Kelso, Burns and William

Calhoun was the type of a perfect gentleman, brave, courteous, able and cultivated. He was a Democrat then and a Democrat when he died. At the time we speak of he was one of the most popular men in the state of Illinois and was one of the foremost chiefs of the political party which invariably carried the county and the district in which Mr. Lincoln lived. He knew Lincoln and admired him. He was well assured that Lincoln knew nothing of surveying, but he was equally certain that he could soon acquire it. He wanted a deputy with common sense and common honesty. He chose Lincoln because nobody else possessed these qualities in a more eminent degree. He hunted him up, gave him a book, told him to study it and said that as soon as he was ready he should have as much work as he could do.

Abe Becomes a Surveyor. Lincoln took the book and retired to the country—that is, he went out to Minter Graham's for about six weeks, in which time, by the aid of that good master, he became an expert surveyor and was duly appointed Calhoun's deputy. Of course he made some money, merely his pay for work, but it is a remarkable fact that, with his vast knowledge of the lands in Sangamon and adjacent counties, he never made a single speculation on his own account.

It was not long until he acquired a considerable private business. The accuracy of his surveys were seldom, if ever, questioned. Disputes regarding "corners" and "lines" were frequently submitted to his arbitration, and the decision was invariably accepted as final. It often happened that his business kept him away from New Salem and his other studies for weeks at a time, but all this while he was gathering friends against the day of election.

In after years—from 1844 onward—it was his good or bad fortune frequently to meet Calhoun on the stump, but he never forgot his benefaction to him and always regarded him as the ablest and best man with whom he ever had crossed steel. To the day of Calhoun's death they were warmly attached to each other. In the times when it was most fashionable and profitable to denounce Calhoun, when even Douglas turned to revile his old friend and coadjutor, Mr. Lincoln was never known to breathe a word of censure on his personal character.

On the 7th of May, 1833, Mr. Lincoln was appointed postmaster at New Salem. His political opinions were not extreme, and the Jackson administration could find no man who was at the same time more orthodox and equally competent to perform the duties of the office. He was not able to rent a room, for the business is said to have been carried on in his hat; but, from the evidence before us, we imagine that he kept the office in Mr. Hill's store, Mr. Hill's partner, McNamar, having been absent since 1832. He held the place until late in 1836, when New Salem partially disappeared, and the office was removed to Petersburg. For a little while before his own appointment he is said to have acted as deputy postmaster under Mr. Hill.

The mail arrived duly once a week, and the labors of distributing and delivering it were by no means great. But Mr. Lincoln was determined that the dignity of the place should not suffer while he was the incumbent. He therefore made up for the lack of real business by deciphering the letters of the uneducated portion of the community and by reading the newspapers aloud to the assembled inhabitants in front of Hill's store.

One of Lincoln's Jokes. But his easy good nature was sometimes imposed upon by inconsiderate acquaintances, and Mr. Hill relates one of the devices by which he sought to stop the abuse. "One Elmore Johnson, an ignorant, but ostentatious, proud man, used to go to Lincoln's postoffice every day—sometimes three or four times a day, if in town—and inquire 'Anything for me?' This bored Lincoln, yet it amused him. Lincoln fixed a plan—wrote a letter to Johnson as coming from a negro in Kentucky, saying many good things about opossum, dances, corn shuckings, etc.; 'John's, come and see me, and old master won't kick you out of the kitchen any more!' Elmore took it out, opened it, couldn't read a word; pretended to read it, went away and got some friends to read it. They read it correctly. He thought the reader was fooling him and went to others, with the same result. At last he said he would get Lincoln to read it, and presented it to Lincoln. It was almost too much for Lincoln, but he read it. The man never asked afterward, 'Anything here for me?'"

It was in the latter part of 1834 that Mr. Lincoln's personal property was sold under the hammer and by due process of law to meet the judgment obtained by Van Bergen on the note assigned to him by Radford. Everything he had was taken, but it was the surveyor's instruments which hurt him most to part with, for by their use he was making a tolerable living and building up a respectable business. This time, however, rescue came from an unexpected quarter.

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 Bears the Signature of **Dr. H. Fitcher**
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\$4.00 To \$8.00 GAIN PER ACRE.
 That's what a Spreader will do if used as it should be.
 If you have 125 loads of manure to spread and you are going to plant 25 acres of corn or wheat, or have a 25 acre meadow we will tell you how you can increase the value of your crop this year from \$4.00 to \$8.00 per acre or more than enough to pay for a spreader. We have a 48-page book entitled "Practical Experience With Barnyard Manures," which explains the whole situation. Our Plan is not a theory. It is an actual fact, backed up by actual experiments extending over a period of 18 years. To give you an idea of what this book contains, we show results of experiments made with various crops where 5 loads of manure were spread per acre by the old method, and 5 loads by the new method, on corn ground. The latter shows a gain of \$4.50 per acre. On another field and in another state, it shows a gain of \$5.50 per acre, and on a clover and timothy meadow, a gain of \$8.00 per acre. This book will be sent free to anyone writing us. It is worth \$100.00 to you, but it won't cost you a cent. If it doesn't do you any good, it won't do you any harm. Write us now and let us mail it to you. It is brimming full of valuable information.

The Smith Great Western Endless Apron Manure Spreader
 Spreads all kinds of manure, straw stack bottoms and commercial fertilizer regardless of their condition. Spreads as much in a day as 15 men can by hand. Spreads the largest load in 2 to 4 minutes. Makes the same amount of manure go three times as far and produce better results; makes all manure fine and immediately available for plant life. Non-Bunchable Rake forms a hopper, holds all hard chunks in contact with beater until thoroughly pulverized. Endless Apron is one continuous apron, (not a 1/2 apron) therefore always ready to load. You don't have to drive a certain distance to pull it back into position after each load or wind it back by hand; it is a great advantage in making long hauls. There is no Gearing about our Endless Apron to break and cause trouble, it is always up out of the way of obstructions as it does not extend below axle. Spreads evenly from start to finish and cleans out perfectly clean. Hood and End Gate keeps manure away from beater while loading; prevents choking of beater and throwing out a bunch when starting and acts as wind shield when spreading. It has a graduating lever and can be regulated while in motion to spread thick or thin, 3 to 25 loads per acre. Light Draft because the load is nearly equal.

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 Write just these words on a postal card or in a letter—"Send me your book 'Practical Experience With Barnyard Manures' and catalogue." They will be mailed to you free. Do it now before you haul your manure or prepare for any crop.
Smith Manufacturing Co., 162 Harrison St., Chicago

Better times were made not long ago when 1,000 pigeons were tossed at Templecombe to race to London. Assisted by a southwest wind, they traveled so rapidly that many of them had reached their cotes some time before their owners even thought of looking for them. One bird actually covered 108 miles in 94 minutes, maintaining through the long journey a speed of nearly 69 miles an hour; another did equally well by traveling to Chelsea at the average rate of 2,018 yards a minute; while one bird out of every ten exceeded 60 miles an hour. A very remarkable journey, which illustrates the endurance and courage of a pigeon, was made some time ago by a bird called Silver Queen, belonging to a member of the Homing club of South Pittsburg. On August 7, 1900, this bird, with several others, was liberated from the roof of the Brown Palace hotel, Denver, in the presence of a large gathering of persons interested. The pigeons when released made several circles in the air; then all of them flew eastward. They were first

heard of four days later, when a letter dated August 11 reached the Pittsburg club from Henry Homeyer, of Zickrick county, South Dakota, saying that a carrier pigeon had arrived at his place that afternoon just after the last of several terrific hailstorms had cleared away. Mr. Homeyer fed and watered the bird, which, afterward identified as Silver Queen, resumed its flight as though quite refreshed. Three weeks more passed, and as no further news of any one of the five birds was received they were given up as lost. But on September 6 Albert Greb, of Pittsburg, the owner of Silver Queen, while in his loft early in the morning was astonished to see his bird perch on the window sill. She had thus accomplished a flight of 1,700 miles within a period of 30 days, during which she passed through many most severe storms of hail, rain and wind. Take THE GAZETTE for all the local news.

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PHYSICIANS
 R. A. CATHEY, M. D., PHYSICIAN and Surgeon. Rooms 14, Bank Building. Office Hours: 10 to 12 a. m., 2 to 4 p. m. Residence: cor. 5th and Adams Sts. Telephone at office and residence. Corvallis, Oregon.

House Decorating.
 FOR PAINTING AND PAPERING SEE W. E. Paul, Ind. 488. 141f

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 MARBLE AND GRANITE MONUMENTS; curbing made to order; cleaning and repairing done neatly; save agent's commission. Shop North Main St., Frank Vanhoosen, Prop. 921f

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 J. F. YATES, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office up stairs in Zierolf Building. Only set of abstracts in Benton County.
 E. R. BRYSON ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office in Post Office Building, Corvallis, Oregon.

WANTED
 WANTED 500 SUBSCRIBERS TO THE GAZETTE and Weekly Oregonian at \$2.55 per year.

BANKING.
 THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF Corvallis, Oregon, transacts a general conservative banking business. Loans money on approved security. Drafts bought and sold and money transferred to the principal cities of the United States, Europe and foreign countries.

HELP WANTED.
 A MIDDLE AGED LADY TO DO house work on a farm near Corvallis, Ore., and assist in caring for three children. She can arrange if she desires to assist in caring for chickens and other duties in farm work commonly done by ladies. If the lady has a husband, son, or other male relative, who is a good worker in farm work, he can have work at least part of the time. In answering send references. Address: P. O. Box 344, 371f Corvallis, Oregon.

Postmaster Robbed.
 G. W. Forts, Postmaster at River-town, Ia., nearly lost his life and was robbed of all his comfort, according to his letter, which says: "For 20 years I had chronic liver complaint, which led to such a severe case of jaundice that even my finger nails turned yellow; when my doctor prescribed Electric Bitters; which cured me and have kept me well for eleven years." Sure cure for Biliousness, Neuralgia, Weakness and all Stomach, Liver, Kidney and Bladder derangement. A wonderful Tonic. At Allen & Woodward Drug store 50c.

A Happy Mother
 Will see that her baby is properly cared for—to do this a good purgative is necessary. Many babies suffer from worms and their mothers don't know it—if your baby is feverish and doesn't sleep at nights, it is troubled with worms. White's Cream Vermifuge will clean out these worms in a mild pleasant way. Once tried always used. Give it a trial. Price 25 cents. Sold by Graham & Wortham.