

Lincoln's Love Affairs

By Ward Hill Lamon,
Lincoln's Friend and Biographer

And His Early Experiences as a Lawmaker

"It was a maxim with many politicians just to keep along even with the humor of the people, right or wrong," and this maxim Mr. Lincoln held then in very high estimation. But the "humor" of his constituents was not only intensely favorable to the new scheme of internal improvements. It was most decidedly their "humor" to have the capital at Springfield and to make a great man of the legislator who should take it there. Mr. Lincoln was doubtless thoroughly convinced that the popular view of all these matters was the right one, but even if he had been unhappily afflicted with individual scruples of his own he would have deemed it but simple duty to obey the almost unanimous voice of his constituency. He thought he never could serve them better than by giving them just what they wanted and that to collect the will of his people and register it by his own vote was the first and leading obligation of a representative. It happened that on this occasion the popular feeling fell in very pleasantly with his young dream of rivaling the fame of Clinton, and here also was a fine opportunity of repeating in a higher strain and on a loftier stage the ingenious arguments which in the very outset of his career had proved so hard for "Posey and Ewing" when he overthrew those worthies in the great debate respecting the improvement of the Sangamon river.

Wins Capital Removal.
"The internal improvement bill," says Mr. Wilson (one of the "Long Nine"), "and a bill to permanently locate the seat of the government of the state were the great measures of the session of 1836-37. Vandalia was then the seat of government and had been for a number of years. A new statehouse had just been built. Alton, Decatur, Peoria, Jacksonville, Illinois and Springfield were the points seeking the location if removed from Vandalia. The delegation from Sangamon were a unit, acting in concert in favor of the permanent location at Springfield. The bill was introduced at an early day in the session to locate by a joint vote of both houses of the legislature. The friends of the other points united to defeat the bill, as each point thought the postponement of the location to some future period would give strength to their location. The contest on this bill was long and severe. Its enemies laid it on the table twice, once on the table to the 4th day of July and once indefinitely postponed it. To take a bill from the table is always attended with difficulty, but when laid on the table to a day beyond the session or when indefinitely postponed it requires a vote of reconsideration, which always is an intense struggle. In these dark hours, when our bill to all appearances was beyond resurrection and all our opponents were jubilant over our defeat and when friends could see no hope, Mr. Lincoln never for one moment despaired, but, collecting his colleagues to his room for consultation, his practical common sense, his thorough knowledge of human nature, then made him an overmatch for his competitors and for any man that I have ever known.

"We surmounted all obstacles, passed the bill and by a joint vote of both houses located the seat of government of the state of Illinois at Springfield just before the adjournment of the legislature, which took place on the 4th day of March, 1837. The delegation acting during the whole session upon all questions as a unit gave them strength and influence that enabled them to carry through their measures and give efficient aid to their friends. The delegation was not only remarkable for their numbers, but for their length, most of them measuring six feet and over. It was said at the time that that delegation measured fifty-four feet high. Hence they were known as 'the Long Nine.'" So that during that session and for a number of years afterward all the bad laws passed at that session of the legislature were chargeable to the management and influence of 'the Long Nine.'

"He [Mr. Lincoln] was on the stump and in the halls of the legislature a ready debater, manifesting extraordinary ability in his peculiar manner of presenting his subject. He did not follow the beaten track of other speakers and thinkers, but appeared to comprehend the whole situation of the subject and take hold of its principles. He had a remarkable faculty for concentration, enabling him to present his subject in such a manner as nothing but conclusions were presented."

CHAPTER VIII. Beginning of Mr. Lincoln's Antislavery Record.

IT was at this session of the legislature, March 3, 1837, that Mr. Lincoln began that antislavery record upon which his fame through all time must chiefly rest. It was a very mild beginning, but even that required uncommon courage and candor in the day and generation in which it was done.

The whole country was excited concerning the doctrines and the practices of the abolitionists. These agitators were as yet but few in numbers, but in New England, they comprised some of

the best citizens, and the leaders were persons of high character, of culture and social influence, while in the middle states they were for the most part confined to the Society of Friends, or Quakers. All were earnest, active and uncompromising in the propagation of their opinions, and, believing slavery to be the "sum of all villainies," with the utmost pertinacity they claimed the unrestricted right to disseminate their convictions in any manner they saw fit, regardless of all consequences. They paid not the slightest heed to the wishes or the opinions of their opponents. They denounced all compromises with an unsparring tongue and would allow no law of man to stand in their eyes above the law of God.

George Thompson, identified with emancipation in the British West Indies, had come and gone. For more than a year he addressed public meetings in New England, the central states and Ohio and contributed not a little to the growing excitement by his fierce denunciations of the slaveholding class in language with which his long agitation in England had made him familiar. He was denounced, insulted and mobbed, and even in Boston he was once posted as an "infamous foreign scoundrel," and an offer was made of \$100 to "snake him out" of a public meeting. In fact, Boston was not at all behind other cities and towns in its condemnation of the abolitionists. A great meeting in Faneuil hall, called by eighteen hundred leading citizens, Whigs and Democrats, condemned their proceedings in language as strong and significant as Richard Fletcher, Peleg Sprague and Harrison Gray Otis could write it. But Garrison still continued to publish the Liberator, filling it with all the uncompromising aggressiveness of his sect and distributing it throughout the southern states. It excited great alarm in the slaveholding communities, where its secret circulation, in the minds of the slaveholders, tended to incite the slaves to insurrections, assassinations and running away, but in the place where it was published it was looked upon with general contempt and disgust. When the mayor of Baltimore wrote to the mayor of Boston to have it suppressed, the latter (the eloquent Otis) replied "that his officers had ferreted out the paper and its editor, whose office was an obscure hole, his only visible auxiliary a negro boy, his supporters a few insignificant persons of all colors."

At the close of the year 1835 President Jackson had called the attention of congress to the doings of these people in language corresponding to the natural wrath with which he viewed the character of their proceedings. "I must also," said he, "invite your attention to the painful excitement in the south by attempts to circulate through the mails inflammatory appeals addressed to the passions of slaves in prints and various sorts of publications calculated to stimulate them to insurrection and to produce all the horrors of civil war. It is fortunate for the country that the good sense, the generous feeling and deep rooted attachment of the people of the non-slaveholding states to the Union and their fellow citizens of the same blood in the south have given so strong and impressive a tone to the sentiments entertained against the proceedings of the misguided persons who have engaged in these unconstitutional and wicked attempts and especially against the emissaries from foreign parts who have dared to interfere in this matter as to authorize the hope that these attempts will no longer be persisted in. . . . I would therefore call the special attention of congress to the subject and respectfully suggest the propriety of passing such a law as will prohibit under severe penalties the circulation in the southern states through the mail of incendiary publications intended to instigate the slaves to insurrection."

Henry Clay on Abolitionists.
Mr. Clay said the sole purpose of the abolitionists was to array one portion of the Union against the other. "With that in view, in all their leading prints and publications the alleged horrors of slavery are depicted in the most glowing and exaggerated colors to excite the imaginations and stimulate the rage of the people of the free states against the people of the slaveholding states. . . . Why are the slave states wantonly and cruelly assailed? Why does the abolition press teem with publications tending to excite hatred and animosity on the part of the free states against the slave states? . . . Why is congress petitioned? Is its purpose to appeal to our understanding and actuate our humanity? And do they expect to accomplish that purpose by holding us up to the scorn and contempt and detestation of the people of the free states and the whole civilized world? . . . Union on the one side will beget union on the other. . . . One section will stand in menacing hostile array against another; the collision of opinion will be quickly followed by the clash of arms."

Mr. Everett, then (1836) the governor of Massachusetts, informed the legislature, for the admonition of these unsparring agitators against the peace of the south, that "everything that tends to disturb the relations created by this great [the constitution] is at war

with its spirit, and whatever by direct and necessary operation is calculated to excite an insurrection among the slaves has been held by highly respectable legal authority an offense against the peace of this commonwealth which may be prosecuted as a misdemeanor at common law." It was proposed in the legislature to pass an act defining the offense with more certainty and attaching to it a severer penalty. The abolitionists asked to be heard before the committee, and Rev.

S. J. May, Ellis Gray Loring, Professor Charles Follen, Samuel E. Sewell and others of equal ability and character spoke in their behalf. They objected to the passage of such an act in the strongest terms and derided the value of a Union which could not protect its citizens in one of their most cherished rights. During the hearing several bitter altercations took place between them and the chairman.

In New York Governor Marcy called upon the legislature "to do what may be done consistently with the great principles of civil liberty to put an end to the evils which the abolitionists are bringing upon us and the whole country." The "character" and the "interests" of the state were equally at stake, and both would be sacrificed unless these furious and cruel fanatics were effectually suppressed.

In May, 1836, the federal house of representatives resolved by overwhelming votes that congress had no right to interfere with slavery in the states or in the District of Columbia and that henceforth all abolition petitions should be laid on the table without being printed or referred. And one day later than the date of Mr. Lincoln's protest Mr. Van Buren declared in his inaugural that no bill abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia or meddling with it in the states where it existed should ever receive his signature. "There was no other form," says Benton, "at that time in which slavery agitation could manifest itself or place it could find a point to operate, the ordinance of 1787 and the compromise of 1820 having closed up the territories against it. Danger to slave property in the states either by direct action or indirectly through the District of Columbia were the only points of expressed apprehension."

Abolition agitators fared little better in the Twenty-fifth congress than in the Twenty-fourth. At the extra session in September of 1837 Mr. Slade of Vermont introduced two petitions for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, but after a furious debate and stormy scene they were disposed of by the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That all petitions, memorials and papers touching the abolition of slavery or the buying, selling or transferring of slaves in any state, district or territory of the United States be laid on the table without being debated, printed, read or referred and that no further action whatever shall be had thereon.

Few Abolitionists in Illinois.
In Illinois at the time we speak of (March, 1837) an abolitionist was rarely seen and scarcely ever heard of. In many parts of the state such a person would have been treated as a criminal. It is true there were a few Covenanters, with whom hatred of slavery in any form and wherever found was an essential part of their religion. Up to 1824 they had steadily refused to vote or in any other way to acknowledge the state government, regarding it as "an heathen and unbaptized institution" because the constitution failed to recognize "Jesus Christ as the head of the government and the Holy Scriptures as the only rule of faith and practice." It was only when it was proposed to introduce slavery into Illinois by an alteration of that "heathen" constitution that the Covenanters consented to take part in public affairs. The movement which drew them out proved to be a long and unusually bitter campaign, lasting full eighteen months and ending in the fall of 1824 with a popular majority of several thousand against calling a convention for the purpose of making Illinois a slave state. Many of the antislavery leaders in this contest, conspicuous among whom was Governor Coles, were



gentlemen from slave states who had emancipated their slaves before removal and were opposed to slavery not upon religious or moral grounds, but because they believed it would be a material injury to the new country. Practically no other view of the question was discussed, and a person who should have undertaken to discuss it from the "man and brother" standpoint of more modern times would have been set down as a lunatic. A clear majority of the people were against the introduction of slavery into their own state, but that majority were fully agreed with their brethren of the minority that those who went about to interfere with slavery in the most distant manner in the places where it already existed were deserving of the severest punishment as the common enemies of society. It was in those days a mortal offense to call a man an abolitionist, for abolitionist was synonymous with thief. Between a band of men who stole horses and a band of men who stole negroes the popular mind made small distinctions in the degree of guilt. They were regarded as robbers, disturbers of the peace, the

murderers or arson, murder, poisoning, rape, and in addition to all this traitors to the government under which they lived and enemies to the Union which gave us as a people liberty and strength. In testimony of these sentiments Illinois enacted a "black code" of most preposterous and cruel severity—a code that would have been a disgrace to a slave state and was simply an infamy in a free one. It borrowed the provisions of the most

polluting laws known among men for exiling, selling, beating, bedeviling and torturing negroes, whether bond or free. Under this law Governor Coles, the leader of the antislavery party, who had emancipated his slaves and settled them around him in his new home, but had neglected to file a bond with the condition that his freedmen should behave well and never become a charge upon the public, was fined \$200 in each case, and so late as 1852 the writer of these pages very narrowly escaped the same penalty for the same offense.

(To be Continued)
Probably Not Fatal.

There was a shooting affair in Independence a few days ago in which the father and brother of Mrs. Willard Ireland of this city were victims. The affair is described by the Telegram as follows:

"E. M. Young, a well-known hoggrower of this place, shot and seriously wounded Asa Taylor, a liveryman, and shot and injured J. R. Taylor, the Marshal, who is the father of Asa Taylor. The quarrel between Young and Asa Taylor was the result of a conversation over the telephone between the two, regarding the former's dog license. Marshal Taylor had placed Young's dog in the pound, and during the conversation over the phone, Young called the Marshal names, and when Young and Asa Taylor met on the street late Saturday afternoon, the former was taken to task for what he had said concerning the Marshal. Then Young struck Taylor, and one blow followed another until Young drew a 38-caliber pistol and shot Taylor in the shoulder. Marshal Taylor appeared and ordered both men to stop, when he was shot in the arm by Young. Neither the Marshal nor his son was armed.

The affair has created no little excitement, since all of the principals are well known here. Marshal Taylor's wound is not serious, although the bullet has not been located, and he is able to be on the street today. Asa Taylor's wounds, although not thought to be fatal, are very serious.

Young is out on bonds, having been arrested by Constable Moran.
Mrs. W. Ireland has returned from Independence, and says the victims of the unfortunate affair are recovering.

OAC Endowment.

In commenting favorably on the new endowment by congress of the Oregon Agricultural College and other colleges of the sort, the Portland Journal says editorially:

"The colleges of agricultural and mechanical arts are the intensely practical phase of education, wherein the brain and hand are brought into harmony and provision made for bringing into utilization the measureless resources of the continent. The scientific treatment of soils, the scientific way of taking ores and minerals from the ground, the scientific plan of utilizing electric power, the scientific plan of construction wherein all the building materials of earth are involved, the practical and scientific as applied to forests, fields and mines—in short, the application of science to everything found on, in or under the soil, and the adapting of it to man's use—all this is the broad, useful scope of these colleges of science. They are modernized education, promoted first for evolving self-sustaining citizens, and second for bringing into actual use in the country the crude materials stored during the ages for the comfort and happiness of mankind.

So sweeping has been the stride made by these schools that in many instances the great busy workshops and laboratories of the East exceed the graduates of these colleges by entire classes and put them into service in the marvelous industries in which our country leads the world, and in securing which the scientific colleges are a more than inconsiderable factor.

The act of congress in doubling the endowment of these colleges makes for a better and richer country, and builds for a broader and brighter citizenship by spending money for promoting the noble arts of peace.

In none of these nationally endowed schools will the added maintenance be more welcome than in the excellent Oregon institution at Corvallis where an enrollment of more than 800 young people makes the increased allowance of urgent need and emphatically deserved."

STRAW STOCKS.

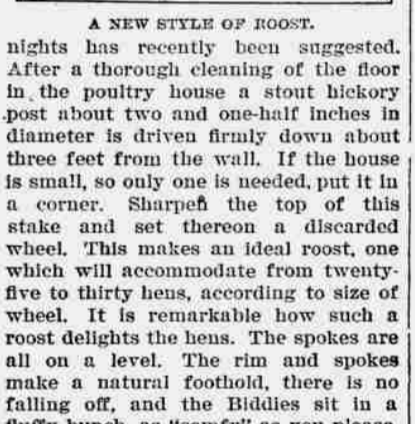
The Waste of Soil Material on Western Farms.

A good German farmer was talking about growing wheat at an Illinois institute. In his odd, pointed way he said in regard to tillage on wheat land, "We are lazy too much in working land for wheat." Many are "lazy too much" in making the most out of the straw. In this corn section, where there is no end of cornstalks, it may not often be advisable to try and feed straw to stock. It can be fed, however, with proper grain to good advantage. But there is no business sense in letting great piles of straw lie and rot down, almost a total loss, when the land is hungry for the humus this straw would make if it was worked into manure or otherwise got into the soil evenly. There is no sense in burning straw, and still that is not much worse than letting it rot down in great stacks. It may be best sometimes to burn stubbles when insects are taking crops as the lesser of two evils. But otherwise do not burn straw or vegetable matter in any form. Get it back into your soil. The land it grew on needs it. And don't sell straw for a mere song. Nearly all this land is short of humus now and getting more so. Better crops would be the result of rotting the straw evenly in the soil instead of in huge piles. Lay cement floors in all stables. Draw in the straw and use it freely for bedding. Take it out saturated with liquid manure which now goes to waste, liquid worth, pound for pound, much more than the solid manure. Get twice as many loads of manure in a winter and worth about twice as much per load if you want to attain the highest success and are not "lazy too much."—Practical Farmer.

WHEEL ROOST.

Novel Plan for Securing Warmth and Comfort to Hens.

The coolest and most practical device imaginable for furnishing warmth and comfort to the hens during winter



A NEW STYLE OF ROOST.

nights has recently been suggested. After a thorough cleaning of the floor in the poultry house a stout hickory post about two and one-half inches in diameter is driven firmly down about three feet from the wall. If the house is small, so only one is needed, put it in a corner. Sharpen the top of this stake and set thereon a discarded wheel. This makes an ideal roost, one which will accommodate from twenty-five to thirty hens, according to size of wheel. It is remarkable how such a roost delights the hens. The spokes are all on a level. The rim and spokes make a natural foothold, there is no falling off, and the Biddies sit in a fluffy bunch, as "comfy" as you please.

But the roost is only part of the plan. If the wheel is placed in a corner the two walls will furnish two sides of the proposed "bedroom." Set a post of 1 by 2 inch strip four feet from each of the side walls. Nail other strips from the top of this post (which should be two feet higher than the wheel) to the side walls. From these strips hang a curtain made of either canvas, muslin, coarse burlap or old carpet, according to convenience, which can be rolled or put up in the daytime out of the way. Over the top make either a board covering or one of the curtain material. In this way the hens are comfortable even in a cold house. In many respects burlap is the best curtain material, as it admits air, yet is draft proof.

The wheel should not be more than thirty inches from the floor. The "hop up" box will prove a convenience. The wheel is also very easily cleaned. Take it outside and after placing it on a bunch of straw fire it for a brief space, or it can be readily sprayed first on one side and then the other.

The advantages of this scheme, as described in Iowa Homestead, are evident. The old way of fastening the roosts makes it difficult to successfully fight lice and mites. It is also a great economizer of room. The floor space thus saved can be kept clean for scratching purposes.

In Oregon.
Legumes, root crops, cucumbers, squashes, pumpkins and cabbages—in fact, most all garden products except melons—do well here. Tomatoes yield abundantly, but owing to cool nights are hard to ripen on the vines. Corn is grown for table use and could be grown for silage, but clover hay at present constitutes the roughage. Most all fruits, except peaches and apricots, thrive here. All berries, plums, prunes, apples, pears and cherries do exceedingly well. Trees overbear and as they are not cared for have the appearance of being short lived. There are no potato bugs on the coast and no apple worms in Beaver valley. There are aphids, cabbage worms, cut worms, but no worse than other places. Dairying is in its infancy here, but owing to the abundance of clover and pure running water it is destined to become a leading industry. The same can be said of poultry raising. Swine are healthy and free from disease.—L. G. in Orange Judd Farmer.

FARM GARDEN

LOOKING TO CELERY.

Sowing Plants From Seed For an Early Crop.
The seed for the early supply should be sown broadcast about Feb. 15 in a moderately heated hotbed or in shallow boxes filled with good garden loam lightly pressed down. Cover the seed with soil about one-eighth inch deep and press the same down firmly. Set the boxes (if these are used) in the house near a sunny window where the temperature averages about 70 degrees



GOLDEN SELF BLANCHING CELERY.

and water freely. A single hotbed sash three feet wide and six feet long is large enough to start 20,000 plants. After the second or third leaves have appeared the plant should be transplanted in other boxes or put in moderately heated hotbed or a cold frame that may be covered cold nights, says a writer in American Agriculturist.

Set the plants about an inch apart in the row and three inches between rows, and should the first two or three days after transplanting be very bright and warm a little shading during the middle of the day will be advisable.

After the plants have made a growth of five to six inches they should be set out of doors in a well manured and thoroughly prepared soil. In the home garden, where space is generally limited, the young plants can be set in well prepared rows five or six inches apart in the row between some early crop, such as early peas, spinach or radishes.

Seed Sowing.
From the middle of February forward is a good time for sowing the various early vegetables, to be followed by succeeding sowings every week or ten days. From the point of view of the market gardener who grows vegetable plants for sale, this method of making regular sowings is of great importance in the management of his house and frames. For instance, the early cabbage may now be sown and may be occupying the available shelving, to be eventually moved to the frames, thus allowing space for the following crop. All greenhouses seem to be overtaxed at this season of the year, but no one seems to have the utilization of space better planned than the market gardener.

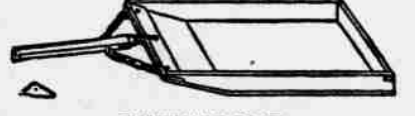
Short Rotation of Crops.
Every farmer realizes the value of a short rotation of crops in maintaining the fertility of the soil. Yet it is not at all uncommon to seed to timothy and clover and mow the field for three or four consecutive years till every vestige of clover has disappeared and nearly all the value of the clover plant as a renovator of the soil is lost, says a writer in Ohio Farmer. I believe sowing timothy with the clover is all right. I always practice it. Then I am quite sure of a catch, and I get more and better hay. There are also other advantages which space forbids I should enumerate here. I believe, though, that the meadow should be mowed but once and never more than twice before plowing.

Farm Brevities.
The cow that you think the most of may be the very one you ought to get rid of. Find out about that. Test all your cows. Don't be satisfied with once. Keep at it till you know. Then do something about it.

If you do not own a good saddle horse, get one. The landscape looks fairer and the outlook in life much more cheerful from the back of a horse after a half hour's ride than from any other point of view. It is not necessary that you should keep a horse exclusively for riding. He may be used for other purposes, only look out for one that is gaited for the saddle as well. The farmer is entitled to the best that is going.—Farm Journal.

Handy Boat For General Use.

The plank boat illustrated herewith is made for general farm work and is used in winter to draw manure from the yard and stable to the field. It is constructed of four ten inch crooked maple planks two and a half inches thick, with an 8 by 2 1/2 inch frame



HOMEMADE BOAT.

pinned and bolted on sides. It has an iron clasp made of old wagon tire, bent and bolted or clinched, nailed across the top of the back end and top of the sides, as indicated, to hold them firmly in place. The front end has a 2 by 8 inch piece bolted on top.—Orange Judd Farmer.