

Lincoln's Love Affairs

By Ward Hill Lamson, Lincoln's Friend and Bodyguard

CHAPTER XIII. Marriage to Mary Todd and His Advice to Speed.

MR. HERNDON devoutly believes that Mr. Lincoln's insanity grew out of a most extraordinary complication of feelings—aversion to the marriage proposed, a counter attachment to Miss Edwards and a new access of unpeppable tenderness for the memory of Ann Rutledge—the old love struggling with a new one, and each sending to his heart a sacrificial pang as he thought of his solemn engagement to marry a third person. In this opinion Mr. Speed appears to concur, as shown by his letter below. At all events, Mr. Lincoln's derangement was nearly if not quite complete. "We had to remove razors from his room," says Speed, "take away all knives and other dangerous things. It was terrible." And now Speed determined to do for him what Bowlin Greene had done on a similar occasion at New Salem. Having sold out his store on the 1st of January, 1841, he took Mr. Lincoln with him to his home in Kentucky and kept him there during most of the summer and fall, or until he seemed sufficiently restored to be given his liberty again at Springfield, when he was brought back to his old quarters. During this period "he was at times very melancholy" and, by his own admission, "almost contemplated self destruction." It was about this time that he wrote some gloomy lines under the head of "Suicide," which were published in the Sangamon Journal. Mr. Herndon remembered something about them, but when he went to look for them in the office file of the Journal he found them neatly cut out, "supposed to have been done," says he, "by Lincoln." Speed's mother was much pained by the "deep depression" of her guest and gave him a Bible, advising him to read it, to adopt its precepts and pray for its promises. He acknowledged this attempted service after he became president by sending her a photograph of himself, with this inscription: "To my very good friend, Mrs. Lucy G. Speed, from whose plous hands I received an Oxford Bible twenty years ago." But Mrs. Speed's medicine, the best ever offered for a mind diseased, was of no avail in this case. Among other things, he told Speed, referring probably to his inclination to commit suicide, "that he had done nothing to make any human being remember that he had lived and that to connect his name with the events transpiring in his day and generation and so impress himself upon them as to link his name with something that would redound to the interest of his fellow man was what he desired to live for." Of this conversation he pointedly reminded Speed at the time or just before the time he issued the emancipation proclamation.



JAMES H. MATHENY.

You may "rightly" understand that "important" in the winter of 1840 and 1841 he was unhappy about his engagement to his wife, not being entirely satisfied that his heart was going with his hand. How much he suffered then on that account none knows so well as myself—he disclosed his whole heart to me.

In the summer of 1841 I became engaged to my wife. He was here on a visit when I told her, and strange to say, something of the same feeling which I regarded as so foolish in him took possession of me and kept me very unhappy from the time of my engagement until I was married.

This will explain the deep interest he manifested in his letters on my account. If you use the letters (and some of them are perfect gems) do it carefully, so as not to wound the feelings of Mrs. Lincoln. One thing is plainly discernible—if I had not been married and happy—far more happy than I ever expected to be—would not have married.

I have craved a name which I do not wish published. If I have failed to do it anywhere, strike it out when you come to it. That is the word.

I think you for your lecture. It is all new to me, but so true to my appreciation of Lincoln's character that, independent of my knowledge of you, I would almost swear to it.

Lincoln wrote a letter (a long one, which he read to me) to Dr. Drake of Cincinnati descriptive of his case. Its date would be in December, 1840, or early in January, 1841. I think he must have informed Dr. D. of his early love for Miss Rutledge, as there was a part of the letter which he would not read.

It would be worth much to you if you could procure the original. Charles D. Drake of St. Louis may have his father's papers. The date which I give you will aid in the search.

I remember Dr. Drake's reply, which was that he would not undertake to prescribe for him without a personal interview. I would advise you to make some effort to get the letter. J. F. SPEED.

The first of the papers from Mr. Lincoln's pen is a letter of advice and consolation to his friend, for whom he apprehends the terrible things through which, by the help of that friend, he has himself just passed.

My Dear Speed—Feeling as you know I do, the deepest solicitude for the success of the enterprise you are engaged in, I adopt this as the last method I can invent to aid you in case (which God forbid) you shall need my aid. I do not think that I am going to say on paper because I can say it better in that way than I could by word of mouth, but were I to say it orally before we part most likely you would forget it at the very time when it might do you some good. As I think it reasonable that you will feel very badly some time between this and the final consummation of your purpose, it is intended that you shall read this just at such a time. Why I say it is reasonable that you will feel very badly yet is because of three special causes added to the general one which I shall mention.

The general cause is that you are naturally of a nervous temperament, and this I say from what I have seen of you personally and what you have told me concerning your mother at various times and concerning your brother William at the time his wife died. The first special cause is your exposure to bad weather on your journey, which my experience clearly proves to be very severe on defective nerves. The second is the absence of all business and conversation with friends, which might divert your mind, give it occasional rest from the intensity of thought which will sometimes wear the sweetest idea threadbare and turn it to the bitterness of death.

The third is the rapid and near approach of that crisis on which all your thoughts and feelings concentrate.

If from all these causes you shall escape and go through triumphantly into another "twinge of the soul," I shall be most happily, but most egregiously, deceived. If, on the contrary, you shall, as I expect you will at some time, be agonized and distressed, let me, who have some reason to speak with judgment on such a subject, beseech you to ascribe it to the causes I have mentioned and not to some false and ruinous suggestion of the devil. "But," you will say, "do not your causes apply to every one engaged in a like undertaking?" By no means. The peculiar causes to a greater or less extent, perhaps do apply in all cases, but the general one—nervous debility, which is the key and conductor of all the particular ones, and without which they would be utterly harmless, though it does pertain to you—does not pertain to one in a thousand. It is out of this that the painful difference between you and the mass of the world springs.

I know what the painful point with you is at all times when you are unhappy—it is an apprehension that you do not love her as you should. What nonsense! How came you to court her? Was it because you thought she deserved it and that you had given her reason to expect it? If it was that why did not the same reason make you court Ann Todd and at least twenty others of whom you can think and to whom it would apply with greater force than to her? Did you court her for her wealth? Why, you know she had none! But you say you reasoned yourself into it. What do you mean by that?

Was it not that you thought yourself unable to reason yourself out of it? Did you not think and partly form the purpose of courting her the first time you ever saw or heard of her? What had reason to do with it at that early stage? There was nothing at that time for reason to work upon. Whether she was moral, amiable, sensible or even of good character you did not nor could then know, except perhaps you might infer the last from the company you found her in.

All you then did or could know of her was her personal appearance and her merit and these, if they impress at all, impress the heart and not the head. Say candidly, were not those heavenly black eyes the whole basis of all your early reasoning on the subject? After you had seen her once and the residence did you not go and take me all the way to Lexington and back for no other purpose but to get to see her again—on my return on that evening to take a trip for that evening object.

What earthly consideration would you take to find her scolding and despising you and driving herself up to another? But of this you have no apprehension, and that you cannot bring it home to your feelings.

I shall be so anxious about you that I shall want you to write by every mail. Your friend, LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 3, 1842. Dear Speed—Your letter of the 25th of January came to hand today. You well know that I do not feel my own sorrows much more keenly than I do yours, when I know of them, and yet I assure you I was not much hurt by what you wrote of your excessively bad feeling at the time you wrote. Not that I am less capable of sympathizing with you now than ever, not that I am less your friend than ever, but that you are not as yet that your present anxiety and distress about her health and her life must and will forever banish those horrid doubts which I know you sometimes felt as to the truth of her once disliking her. If they can once and forever be removed (and I almost feel a presentiment that the Almighty has sent your present affliction expressly for that object), surely nothing can come in their stead to fill their place. I have no doubt, however, that the death scenes of those we love are surely painful enough, but these we are prepared for and expect to see; they happen to all, and all know that they must happen. Painful as they are, they are not an unlooked for sorrow. Should she, as you fear, be destined to an early grave, it is indeed a great consolation to know that she is so well prepared to meet it. Her religion, which you once disliking so much, I will venture you now prize most highly. I will hope your melancholy bodings as to her early death are not well founded. I even hope that ere this reaches you she will have returned with improved health and improved mind. You will have met her and forgotten the sorrows of the past in the enjoyment of the present. I would say more if I could, but it seems that I have said enough. It really appears to me that you are not as yet rejoiced, and not sorrow, at this indubitable evidence of your young affection for her.

Why, Speed, if you did not love her, although you might not love her, you would most certainly be resigned to it. Perhaps this point is no longer a question with you and my pertinacious dwelling upon it is a rude intrusion upon your feelings. You know the hell I have suffered upon that point and how tender I am upon it. You know I do not mean wrong. I have been quite clear of hypo since you left, even better than I was along in the fall. I have seen many a man who is cheerful and so I said nothing to her about what we spoke of.

Old Uncle Billy Herndon is dead, and it is said this evening that Uncle Ben Ferguson will not live long. I believe in all the news and enough, at that, unless it were better.

Write me immediately on the receipt of this. Your friend as ever, LINCOLN.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 13, 1842. Dear Speed—Yours of the 1st inst. came to hand three or four days ago. When this shall reach you you will have been Fanny's husband several days. You know my desire to see you is so constant, that I will never cease while I know how to do anything.

But you will always hereafter be on ground which I have never occupied, and consequently if advice were needed I might advise wrong. I do fondly hope, however, that you will never again need any comfort from abroad. But, should I be mistaken in this, should excessive pleasure still be accompanied with a painful counterpart at times, still let me urge you, as I have ever done, to remember in the depth and even agony of despondency that very shortly you are to feel well again. I am convinced that you are capable of loving. Your ever being happy in her presence and your intense anxiety about her health, if there were nothing else, would be an answer to my letter in my mind. I incline to think it probable that your nerves will fall you occasionally for awhile, but once you get them firmly graded now that trouble is over forever.

I think if I were you, in case my mind were not exactly right, I would avoid being idle. I would immediately engage in some business or go to making preparations for it, which would be the same thing as saying that you are to be very calm or even with sufficient composure not to excite alarm in any present, you are safe beyond question and in two or three months, to say the most, will be the happiest of men.

I would desire you to give my particular respects to Fanny, but perhaps you will not wish her to know you have received this lest she should desire to see it. Make her write me an answer to my letter, or here I shall not care to see it. Write me whenever you have leisure. Yours forever, A. LINCOLN.

P. S.—I have been quite a man since you left.

Springfield, Feb. 2, 1842. Dear Speed—Yours of the 16th inst., announcing that Miss Fanny and you are no more vain, but one flesh," reached me this morning. I have no way of telling how much happiness I wish you both, though I believe you both can conceive it. I feel somewhat jealous of both of you now—you will be so exclusively concerned for one another that I shall be forgotten entirely. My acquaintance with Miss Fanny (I call her this lest you should think I am speaking of your mother) was too short for me to reasonably hope to long be remembered by her, and still I am sure I shall not forget her. If you cannot remind her of that debt, she owes me, and be sure you do not interfere to prevent her paying it.

I regret to learn that you have resolved to return to the States. I shall be very homesick without you. How miserable things seem to be arranged in this world! If we have no friends, we have no pleasure, and, if we have them, we are sure to lose them and be doubly pained by the loss. I did hope she and you would make your home here, but I own I have no doubt that you have obligations to her ten thousand times more sacred than you can owe to others, and in that light let them be respected and observed. It is natural that she should desire to remain here with her friends. Ad to her friends, however, she could not be anywhere; she would have them in abundance here.



HOME OF NINIAN W. EDWARDS, WHERE LINCOLN WAS MARRIED.

Give my remembrance to Mr. Williamson and his family, particularly Miss Elizabeth; also to your mother, brother and sisters. Ask little Eliza Davis if she will ride to town with me if I come there again.

And finally give Fanny a double recognition of all the love she sent me. Write me often and believe me yours forever. LINCOLN.

P. S.—Poor Easthouse is gone at last. He died awhile before day this morning. They say he was very loath to die. * * *

(To be Continued)

Additional Local.

Mrs. Charles Blakeslee went to Portland a few days ago for a visit with her daughters, Mrs. Jim Brown and Mrs. Frank Porter.

We notice that an ad. in the Oregonian says that a half-interest in a newspaper in Corvallis is for sale. The ad. says: "Address M., Box 238, Corvallis, Oregon." Let us state right here that this is not our notice, and that we understand the party has excellent reasons for wishing to sell.

Rev. and Mrs. T. S. Haandsaker were visitors in Albany, yesterday.

Sunday night will be boys' night at the Christian church. The "Boys' Brigade" of the Sunday School will be guests of honor, and the pastor's subject will be "Manly Men." Monday evening the ladies of the congregation will give a basket social in the church basement, the public being invited.

In a sense of fairness, the following explanation of Deputy District Attorney Bryson, which was addressed to the court during the trial of Ollie Felger for selling liquor in violation of the law, is here given. Mr. Bryson said: "It is not claimed by the state that Mr. Felger is guilty of anything more than a technical violation of the law. The facts are that a C. O. D. package of intoxicating liquor was expressed him and he gave another an order for the package. Mr. Felger received no money and did not, I am satisfied, know that his act was a violation of the law. Having satisfied himself on this point he offers his plea of guilty, making no attempt to deny the facts, and I feel that this statement is due him, that he may not appear to your honor, or in the eyes of the public as a bootlegger or an intentional violator of the law. I therefore ask that the minimum fine be imposed and will say that I regret the minimum is not lower."

Mrs. Isaac Lemon and Miss Jessie Hawley who have been visiting relatives in Southern Benton for several weeks left yesterday for Salem for a visit, en route to their home at Grass Valley, Eastern Oregon.

Farmers in Corvallis, Wednesday, from Northern Benton stated that the worst hail storm of recent years fell in the neighborhood of Mt. View, Wednesday.

Manager R. H. Warfield of the Pacific States Telephone Company was a business visitor in Corvallis, Wednesday.

A number of hopgrowers throughout the valley have reported that in their old yards hundreds of hills will make no showing this year on account of the crown heads rotting. This does not indicate that there will be nothing next year, but it does point to the fact that every old yard will show a shortage this year. It was at first thought the rumor of badly frosted yards was merely set adrift to bull the existing market price, but later reports from reliable sources, by those who have made careful and full investigation, more than corroborate those that first came in. The few choice lots that are in producers' hands in this section will be held by them until the price advances.—Yesterday's Herald.

Robert Wilson of Suver, formerly of Northern Benton, was a Corvallis visitor Wednesday. He stated that Mrs. Wilson, who was operated on for the removal of a very large tumor, in Portland, recently, is getting along nicely and expects to be able to come home in about two weeks.

Mr. Roberts, Secretary of the college Y. M. C. A., was given a pleasant surprise party by the Caithorn Hall boys Wednesday evening. The young lady guests were mostly Alpha Hall girls, chaperoned by Mrs. F. Berchtold.

Miss Emma Purdy left Wednesday for a visit at the home of her parents, Representative and Mrs. Purdy, in Washington county.

Miss Alma Watson of OAC has gone to Centralia, Wash. On account of illness in the family she will not be able to return to college until next fall.

Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Shedd are both very ill, each having suffered something like a stroke of paralysis, Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Judge Galloway of McMinnville, vice-president of the Rebekah Assembly of Oregon, left yesterday after conducting the district convention of Rebekahs in this city Wednesday afternoon and evening. This district comprises Albany, Philomath, Corvallis and Buena Vista, but the latter place was not represented. Sessions were held here Wednesday afternoon and evening at the Odd Fellows hall.

Preaching at the Presbyterian church, Sunday morning and evening by the pastor, Rev. J. R. N. Bell. Morning topic, "Hope. The Second Link in the Chain." Evening topic, "The Mistake of Elijah." Sunday Sch. at 10 a. m. Senior Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting and Bible Study on Thursday evening at 7:30. All made welcome to all of these services.

Bad Move for Farmers.

In vetoing the Johnson road bill, Governor Chamberlain no doubt had a purpose, but what it is we have no idea. It was quite generally supposed that the Tuttle law would be repealed at the last session of the legislature, and when the Johnson bill passed both houses, practically repealing the Tuttle law, no further effort was made to repeal it. Now that the governor has taken advantage of his power to negative the bill, the Tuttle law is still in effect and just as unconstitutional as ever.

If Mr. Chamberlain were courting favor from the farming element for future benefit he made a great mistake. The Tuttle law is disapproved by 99 per cent of the farmers and when the governor sanctioned this law by vetoing one of greater importance, he has retarded the good roads movement in Oregon and met with disapproval. Farmers do not want good roads established under the provisions of the Tuttle law and cities will not have them. This was demonstrated last year in Silverton when a movement was on foot to build a road east of the city, but was abandoned on account of lack of support on the part of Silverton tax-payers.—Silverton Appeal.

The Modesty of Women naturally makes them shrink from the indicate questions, the obnoxious examinations, and unpleasant local treatments, which some physicians consider essential in the treatment of diseases of women. Yet, if help can be had, it is better to submit to this ordeal than let the disease grow and spread. The trouble is that so often the woman undergoes all the annoyance and shame for nothing. Thousands of women who have been cured by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription write in appreciation of the cure, which dispenses with the examination and local treatments. There is no other medicine so sure and safe for delicate women as "Favorite Prescription." It cures debilitating drains, irregularly and female weakness. It always helps. It is strictly non-alcoholic, non-secret, all its ingredients being printed on its bottle-wrapper; contains no deleterious or habit-forming drugs, and every native medicinal root entering into its composition has the full endorsement of those eminent in the several schools of medical practice. Some of these ingredients are the strongest of professional endorsements of its ingredients, will be found in a pamphlet wrapped around the bottle, also in a booklet mailed free on request, by Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y. These professional endorsements should have far more weight than any amount of the ordinary lay, or non-professional testimonials.

The most intelligent women now-a-days insist on knowing what they take as medicine instead of opening their mouths like a lot of young birds and gulping down whatever is offered them. "Favorite Prescription" is of known composition. It makes weak women strong and sick women well.

Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., 21 one-cent stamps for paper-covered, or 31 stamps for cloth-bound. If sick consult the Doctor, free of charge by letter. All such communications are held sacredly confidential.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets invigorate and regulate stomach, liver and bowels.

Attention Ranchers! We are cash buyers of all sizes of veal, and can net you more than you are now receiving. Express your calves to our address, and mark your name and address plainly to insure immediate payment on shipments.

For references write or call, Aberdeen Banks, or Corvallis Creamery Co. West Coast Produce Co., Aberdeen, Wash.

A Baby. Should be sunshine in the home, and will be if you give it White's Cream Vermifuge, the greatest worm medicine ever offered to suffering humanity. This medicine is becoming the permanent fixture of well regulated households—a mother, with children, can't get along without a bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge in the house. It is the purest and best medicine that money can buy. Sold by Graham and Wortham.

Don't Complain. If your chest pains you and you are unable to sleep because of a cough. Buy a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup, and you won't have any cough. Get a bottle now and that cough will rot last long. A cure for all pulmonary diseases. Mrs. J. Galveston, Texas, writes: "I can't say enough for Ballard's Horehound Syrup. The relief that it has given me is all that is necessary for me to say." Sold by Graham and Wortham.

Listen. And remember the next time you suffer from colds—when your head nearly bursts with neuralgia—try Ballard's Snow Liniment. It will cure you. A prominent business man of Hempstead, Texas, writes: "I have used your liniment. Previous to using it I was a great sufferer from rheumatism and neuralgia. I am pleased to say that now I am free from these complaints. I am sure I owe this to your liniment." Sold by Graham and Wortham.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS: Fifteen words or less, 25 cts for three successive insertions, or 50 cts per month; for all up to and including ten additional words, ½ cent a word for each insertion. For all advertisements over 25 words, 1 ct per word for the first insertion, and ½ ct per word for each additional insertion. Nothing inserted for less than 25 cents. Lodge, society and church notices, other than strictly news matter, will be charged for.

HOMES FOR SALE.

AS I AM GOING OUT OF THE BUSINESS will sell my grain warehouse at a bargain, or would exchange for a good residence in Corvallis, or a small farm of equal value. Handled 47,000 bushel of grain this season. R. N. WILLIAMSON, Wells, Ore. 214t

WILL SELL LOTS IN CORVALLIS, Oregon, on installment plan and assist purchasers to build homes on them if desired. Address First National Bank, Corvallis, Ore.

WILL SELL MY LOTS IN NEWPORT, Or., for spot cash, balance installment, and help parties to build homes thereon, if desired. Address M. S. W. ed o k C. Wallis, C.

Veterinary Surgeon

DR. E. E. JACKSON, VETERINARY surgeon and dentist, Residence 1220 Fourth street. Phone 389. Office 1011 Main street, Phone 204. Give him a call.

PHYSICIANS

B. A. CATHEY, M. D., PHYSICIAN in Oregon. 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 1st fl

MARBLE SHOP.

MARBLE AND GRANITE MONUMENTS; cutting made to order; cleaning and repairing done neatly; save agent's commission. Shop North Main St., Frank Vanhoosen, Prop, 921t

ATTORNEYS

J. F. YATES, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office up stairs in Zierolf Building. Only set of abstracts in Benton County

E. K. BRYSON ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office in Post Office Building, Corvallis, Oregon.

WANTED

WANTED A CHOICE PIECE OF TIMBER land. Must be cheap. Address P. O. 223, Corvallis, Ore. 20ft

WANTED—A MAN, WITHOUT STOCK to rent a dwelling adjoining Corvallis who is a kind good workman with a team of horses. 81-tt

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

BANKING.

THE FIFTH 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.

MARKET

SEED STORE—A LARGE SUPPLY OF fresh garden seeds in bulk, just received. All kinds of farm and garden seeds, seed wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, artichokes, feed oats, chicken feed, Land Plaster. Five kinds of clover and vetch. I can furnish clover by the car load. Second door north of express office. L. L. Brooks. Phone 655.

I WILL PAY THE HIGHEST MARKET price for poultry, hogs, veal, calf, etc., at T. A. Boulder's grocery store, corner Second and Monroe St., opposite Corvallis Hotel. Your cash is always ready, and a square deal guaranteed to all. THOS. BOULDEN 01t

Attention Ranchers! We are cash buyers of all sizes of veal, and can net you more than you are now receiving. Express your calves to our address, and mark your name and address plainly to insure immediate payment on shipments. For references write or call, Aberdeen Banks, or Corvallis Creamery Co. West Coast Produce Co., Aberdeen, Wash.

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