## ONE OF LINCOLN'S EARLY CASES.

### The Great Man Whittled a Little Windmill to Convince the Jury.

In the year 1849 there was a memorable lawsuit in Chicago between Taylor and Hoyt over the infringement of a patent right of a water wheel. Adams, Butterfield and others were attorneys for the plaintiff, and Abraham Lincoln for the defendant. During the progress of the suit John Brink, Esq., now of Crystal Lake, Ills., claimed to be in the city, and the following is his account of it:

The trial lasted thirteen days and excited an unusual amount of interest. When Mr. Brink reached the city he found every one talking about the suit and the great expounder lawyer, Abraham Lincoln. Judge Drummond, of the United States district court, presided at the trial. He rendered Lincoln in all of his propositions and in all of his objections to the prolixity taken by the opposing counsel.

In the course of the trial a flume was made and water applied to the wheels for the purpose of demonstrating to the jurors the exact facts in the case. Indian meal was thrown into the water to show the jury exactly the effect of the water on the wheels. Soon after this experiment had been made Lawyer Adams said to Mr. Brink, "Don't you think we have the best of the case?" Mr. Brink replied: "I do not know that I am a suitable judge, as I did not arrive here until the suit had been in progress two or three days. But this man Lincoln seems to hold you five fellows pretty snug."

Then Adams said: "I would rather fight every lawyer in the state of Illinois than Abe Lincoln, because he is a natural man, a natural lawyer and natural mechanic—in fact, a natural anything—and he knows more about that water wheel than the man who made it, and I don't know anything about it."

While the attorneys for the plaintiff were making their pleas Lincoln sat there, and although listening attentively, whittled out a pine stick about half an inch square and a foot long. From that he cut off two pieces about three inches in length, and with these two pieces he made the wings of a windmill. He fastened them together by running a pin through the center of the two wings and that pin into the end of the other and longer stick. After having put it together he blew upon it, and when it worked to his satisfaction he took it apart and placed it in his pocket.

There were eighty-four witnesses on the two sides, and Mr. Brink thinks that Lincoln took no notes, but trusted wholly to memory.

He requested the witnesses to be present during his plea, and said if he made any mistakes in regard to their testimony he wished them to correct him. While presenting his side of the case he took out the above mentioned windmill from his pocket and putting it together blew upon it and explained it to the jury. He assured them that if any infringement had been made Porter had infringed upon the old time windmill, and that Hoyt had not infringed upon Parker. Adams was to make the closing plea, and in Lincoln's speech he adduced what Adams would say, and by this means weakened the force of his plea. Lincoln won his case, and the jury were out only a little over two hours.—Chicago Tribune.

### Testing the Purity of Water.

The inventor of a handy and reliable mode of testing the purity of water would deserve the thanks of the community. It is to be regretted that the simple test of adding a little sugar, which has lately been advocated, and which is said to cause any organic matter in the water to appear after a while in the form of black specks, is of no value whatever practically. The misconception about the merit of this test has probably arisen from the fact that it was formerly used for the detection of a fungus supposed to be peculiar to sewage. A bottle containing aspired water was placed in a strong light and kept at a temperature of 80 degs. Fahrenheit for several hours.

The turbidity thus developed was found, under the microscope, to consist of small spherical cells. Hoech believed that these cells evidenced the contamination of the water by sewage, but Franklin showed that the spores of this particular fungus were present in all waters that had been even momentarily exposed to the air, and that their development was due simply to the presence of phosphates in the water. The addition of even a minute trace of any phosphate was sufficient to cause such development in any water under the conditions stated.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

### Kossuth's Honesty.

Americans who remember the Louis Kossuth of forty years ago—handsome, romantic, eloquent, impassioned—can not easily imagine him a worn and feeble veteran of 80, serving in exile a scanty income by his pen. Though fortune, friendships and patriotic hopes are long outlived, he still keeps his sensitive honesty, and lately refused an offer from his publishers to advance 2,000 florins in anticipation of future articles, on the ground that he might not live to fulfill his contract.—Harper's Bazar.

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Queen Victoria is very fat and not very good tempered. A correspondent writes that she is getting so fatty the waste system backwards and easily, with the help of an ebony cane. This is a lively story. Would the correspondent have us believe that there are no elevators "Vic," as the Britons calls Queen, the prince of the empire of the Indies? If she "quickly" would get out for a good run of several miles a day on foot, and rise upstairs with all her might, face forward and without any stick, about ten times a day, she would feel it would improve her digestion and mind. She is ten years younger than Gladstone. If she wants to keep her intellect and health, she should stop coddling herself and stop drinking so much ale.

### First in House.

Without wishing to discuss in these columns the expediency of any of the political or economical proposals made at the late convention of the Farmers' Alliance, we cannot but share the satisfaction of disinterested patriots at the renewed interest evinced by American farmers in state and federal government. Farmers are now, as they have always been, the backbone and sinews of the American people. They feed us, and they furnish the bulk of the produce wherewith we purchase European commodities. In their hands is the raising, the great driving wheel of our social machinery. Through them we reap the benefit of the good gifts of earth, at whose bounty we must be nourished from cradle to the grave. Of all honorable vocations the tillage of the soil is the first to date and the first in honor.

Especially weighty is the debt owed to farmers by the American commonwealth, for the first settlers in this country, unlike Anglo-Saxon invaders of Britain, had to pay the axe and hoe the criminal forest before they could peck the place.

Moreover, the tillers of the soil have continued to play a dominant role in the United States from the time when, at Lexington "the rotundity farmers stood" up to a comparatively recent period.

Of the first five presidents four were farmers in the sense that they depended for a livelihood on the returns from land tilled under their supervision and at their expense.

It was not until after the overthrow of the so called "Virginia dynasty" that farmers were gradually allowed out of the federal congress and the state legislatures until at one time the agricultural interest seemed almost extinct as a factor in American politics. In the great crisis of the civil war, however, the farmers fully recognized their duty to the state, and they formed the mainstay of the armies on either side of that fratricidal conflict. Their present activity is the inevitable outcome of their awakening to the profound social changes undergone by our country within a generation. They feel the imminence of economical problems in whose solution farmers, as well as all other members of the community, are vitally concerned. Their alliances and combinations are simply an effort to give themselves a voice in legislation proportionate to their numbers and to the magnitude of their social functions.—New York Ledger.

### The Alliance and the Senators.

The Minnesota farmers are tired of high protection. Their Alliance state convention has declared in unmistakable terms in favor of a lower tariff. The resolutions adopted demand that "the war tariff be radically revised, giving necessary reductions and placing raw material on the free list, to the end that the farmers of Minnesota may be able to compete with the world for a market."

They want raw materials to be placed on the free list instead of having them taxed higher and higher as the instance of the McNiduettes to suit the wishes of a few manufacturers who have nothing to offer the farmers in return but the very sop of a proclamation for of the ex: tra cents a pound in the value of their wool, which must be paid for many times over in the shape of cost of clothing, and expenses and surplus. They demand a radical revision of the tariff in other respects, but are especially opposed to being unnecessarily taxed on raw material when their chief product has to be sold in open competition with that of other countries.

Apparently the Minnesota senators are not aware of this attitude on the part of their constituents, or if they know of it they do not attach to it the importance it deserves. Certainly nothing they have yet said or done indicates there to be "no touch" with the people they are supposed to represent at Washington. It is about time for them to wake up if they would not be rated as unfaithful and negligent servants, unworthy to have some dinner spread in them for the future.—Chicago Tribune.

### Moral Embankment.

According to Edward Bellamy in The American Agriculturist, the fact which "constitutes altogether the most significant aspect of the farmers' uprising is that it attacks the industrial, political, commercial and social system on lines so radical as to be revolutionary. This is the characteristic which broadly distinguishes it from any mere political overturn, and compels its consideration as a part of the present world wide movement of the masses for a radical change in the industrial system—a movement everywhere so startling to those who do not understand it, so inspiring to those who do."

He proceeds to point out that it is most inevitably result in the great national party of the people, "which is destined in the near future to establish a nobler and brighter civilization in this land." Mr. Bellamy says that "not since the war has there been a political campaign carried on with so much moral enthusiasm as the Alliance campaign just closed—or more so properly I may say just begun, for it is the clearest nonsense to set down, as the politicians would like to do, the farmers' movement as a mere off year demonstration."

### Specie Specie.

What we need for the purification of the political atmosphere is an infusion of the old spirit which made the country and put into power men who were the depositaries of action consistent with convictions of right. Party leaders are banded together and so nicely fit for purpose of carrying out certain well defined principles as to make the spoils of office, which we have found, to appear and are not infrequently elevated between those who for public have been trained to act as to be no obligation. This is a time of life and death. It is not an occasion for a party contest. Everybody knows that and everybody acknowledges it, but everybody has not courage to act in accordance with the knowledge and honor this spirit of strong sense.—Farmers' Friend.

### Possibility of Gold Wire.

Gold can be drawn out into wires which possess considerable tensity. A wire only one-twelfth of an inch in diameter will bear a weight of about 100 pounds. But that is not so strong as iron, copper, silver or platinum wire. The density of gold, however, is so great that one pound weight of this metal can be drawn out as a wire to a distance of 500 feet.—Chamber's Journal.

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Even if you kept it only a week, the good resolution you made the beginning of the year did some good.

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With the retirement of Gen. Ben Butler from practice as a criminal lawyer the world will lose a good deal of fun.

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The Floral society of California has adopted the golden poppy as the state emblem. It is this because so much opium has been smuggled into the country through California ports?

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Citizens of the north Atlantic states who have thought the winters were turning warmer have probably concluded by this time that our climate is not changing quite as much as it was.

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The beautiful Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota has been discovered to be gradually disappearing. The water supply is it is drying out. It is now shallower by 3 feet 8 inches than it was in 1882. The legislature is to be asked to take action in the matter, though what a legislature can do to stop the water of a lake from drying up is hard to see.

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The idea has occurred to many that in some way the power needed in the rise and fall of the ocean tides might be utilized to run machinery. An attempt is to be made by a French engineer to put the idea into practical shape. He will pen up the tide water into a sixteen feet rise and fall at Hayre, believing that thereby he can also capture a force equal to 42,000 horse power. He does this by means of turbine wheels, and expects to transmit the power electrically to Paris, 142 miles away.

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The winter has been a very severe one on the American quail. Where there has been many snow fall the food these birds eat has been covered, and they have been left to starve. We hereby appeal to farmers and sportsmen everywhere in behalf of the helpless quail. The thing to do to save them will be to scatter grain in spots sheltered from the snow, or if there are no such spots then upon the snow itself. This should be continued till the weather becomes warmer. In the preservation and increase of the most popular game bird of American ornithologists who feed the quail will have their reward.

### The Red Cross.

It is a pity we kind are so conservative. Perhaps it arises from ignorance of what is the really best. The International Red Cross society is the leading benevolent organization of the world. Its members hourly do that which is together all the civilized nations. It was formed to give aid to the wounded on a battlefield. Clara Barton, its American president, has extended its labors in this country to include all great calamities by flood, fire, earthquake, famine or pestilence.

The emperor of Japan and the king of Belgium are the presidents of the society in their respective realms, and curiously are they interested in the good works which are its object. Wherever there is need the Red Cross steps in and does its task swiftly and deftly, making no call on the general public or on government for aid or money. The badge of the Red Cross society is a crimson cross on a white ground. Wherever it is seen it is sacred; and guards and hostile armies relax their fires and let it pass.

And now some men, thoughtless Americans, and for purpose of gain appropriate the sacred badge as a trade mark to sell their wares. It has been used as a label on cigars, patent medicines and washboards. Some time ago speculations formed for private gain have taken the badge, called themselves "Red Cross societies, and have obtained sums of money under false pretenses. The real Red Cross society therefore has brought a bill before congress asking that it be made an offense against the United States statutes for outsiders to use the name or insignia. It is to be hoped that hereafter, for the good name of the country and mankind, Americans will stop exploiting themselves to patrons and commercial uses, whether there is any law passed or not.

### No Wonder They Hate It.

The parent who wants his children between the ages of 11 and 18 to properly appreciate and be fond of the works of English authors should carefully guard them against studying the so called text books of English literature of the present day. For if there is any opinion defined by the impunity of the land himself to make the average slow, good natured, blundering boy or girl hate the writings of our standard English authors through all eternity it is these same textbooks.

The religious views of a "system" must first commit to memory an awful load of words about punctuation, style, grammar, analysis, etc. He hates it as Satan hates holy water, but there is no help for him. Added to his other miseries, he probably has a nervous, snappy teacher, in whom all human sympathy has been long age dried up, and who knows nothing but sawdust stuffing and marks. The child falls utterly, or blunders through the diabolical machine and is ground out, and never thinks of English literature again without a shudder.

It is something unspeakable, this present accident stuffing our teachers call "English literature." Will these children ever read up garret and spend a night over living or dead or Hawthorne or Macaulay, as so many gifted children used to do, just because they are so interested they cannot help it? Not they! But they will have these and other authors so they will never open one of their books, just from recollection of the purgatory they endured at school.

As to punctuation let no whisper a word. Learn to punctuate out of your own head as common sense and nature dictate, and your method will be infallible. Did Shakespeare ever learn punctuation in the schools, do you think?

### The Heavy Matrimonial Chain.

Mrs. E. Lynn Linton writes in The Forum a paper about what she calls "The Revolt Against Matrimony." If divorces are any sign, there is surely such a revolt in our generation, and a tremendous one. Chicago divorces have been noted for some years, but they have been latterly granted at a rate that will land two or three so called lawyers in the penitentiary. A firm of divorce lawyers in New York city has been notoriety that had a magnificent trade in divorces. They were rapidly becoming millionaires at the rate at which they united unhappy couples. Any husband or wife could get a divorce for any assignable cause from these kind hearted men. The case with which the thing was done at length aroused suspicion. Investigation was made, and revealed that the enterprising firm had a counterfeit seal of the county of Cook, Ills., and charged with it all the divorce documents issued out of their mill.

Dyeous therefore having a Chicago divorce will do well to have it examined.

The quickest divorce cases of all, however, have come to light, strange to say, among a people popularly supposed never to want liveness—namely, Jews. In Russia, as well as in some other parts of Europe, it is the custom of the rabbi of the congregation to which married couples are attached to divorce those whom he deems there is sufficient reason, then, in his opinion and theirs, they are free to marry a mate. Thousands of Russian Jews have come to America in the past few years, and they have brought this delightful custom with them to the land of the free. One little red headed rabbi, with one eye, has been granting such divorces for twenty years, and has got a good pile of money thereby. In case of the Jewish divorces it is the husband who always gets the rabbinical divorce, sometimes because he is tired of supporting his children, sometimes because he wants to marry another woman. The wives are so ignorant that they do not know enough to apply for divorce, or even that a rabbi has no right to divorce them. It is only when some of these abandoned families become objects of charity that the unique custom was discovered, and the Lindonds were arrested for bigamy.

Still, all this is nothing against matrimony. The people who get the bogus divorces get them because they want to marry somebody else.

### One Rich Man's Little Habit.

"I have been asked often how rich men enjoy themselves when they are free from business, observations that I can to judge. I know how we does, and to say what it is worth nothing. The gentleman lives on Washington boulevard. It used to live out on one of the branches of the Northwestern road. He was not always rich. He was a shabby, old fellow then, and made the most of a shiftless existence. He came a professional life, and from that hours speculating. He owned perhaps Steel for the latter, and his views began growing like that point of Jonah. He came to the city where he would have more sight, and pursuits continued to walk by his side.

"When he was living up the country, and before he began to get rich, he used to have a great deal of young company at his house. He liked their society. When he became rich and moved to the city he did not forget the little friends. As I said, he is a student. Not long after he moved into the city he fitted up a lecture room in his house and sent word to his young friends in the country to visit him once a week and he would deliver a course of lectures. Of course, he did every Friday night there came in an omnibus load of Northwestern trainer four ladies and three gentlemen, who got to the mansion on Washington boulevard, and saw the lecturer of this man's intermitten. If they choose to do so, they have the opportunity of remaining over until Sunday evening, in which event the rich man takes them to a Theater Saturday evening and to church Sunday morning."—Chicago Tribune.

### The Russian Navy.

In numbers and in armored tonnage the Russian navy exceeds that of Italy. But a large proportion of the Russian fleet is old. Many of these other ships are small and weakly armored. Moreover, some of Russia's recent vessels are armored cruisers of an objectionable type. Still she is a good fourth in the race, and if her present rate of construction continues for a few years longer she is likely to contrip Italy. A very large portion of the new vessels are for the Black sea, and in that quarter Russia is the acknowledged mistress. Turkey no longer even attempts to keep pace with her. Three large battle ships for the Black sea are now practically completed, the Tolstoiu, the Sinope and the Catherine II.

They are older ships, and their details are: Displacement, 10,180 tons; length, 331 feet; beam, 69 feet; draught, 27 feet. Their armor is compound, 16 inches on the belt and 14 on the triangular barbette breastwork. The main battery is six 12 inch 30 ton guns; auxiliary battery, seven 6-inch breech loading rifles; secondary battery, sixteen small rapid fire and machine guns; speed eighteen knots.

Three other armorclads of the same type and some size are under construction for the Black sea fleet. Russia's Baltic force, which includes all vessels for foreign service, is also being extensively increased. The additions are chiefly of the armored cruiser type.—New York Herald.

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The German government will not take hold of the manufacture of lymph for Dr. Koch, and so he will continue to make it himself in his laboratory. He will only furnish it to hospitals in America hereafter, because he says there are so many failures with it in private practice.

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Millionaires always look younger.


DO YOU KNOW WHAT AILS YOU? You feel tired—Do you know what it means? You are nervous—Why? You cough in the morning—Do you realize the cause? Your appetite is poor—What makes it so? You cough like a changed person to your friends—Do you know what is the matter, or has the change been so gradual it has escaped your notice? You have Consumption! We do not say this to frighten you, but it is true. These are the sure symptoms of this terrible disease. There is one thing which will check it and that is

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A Warning To Horse-Owners.

The Spit Nail in this Shoe was taken from the horse from which it was taken by taken in Worcester, Mass. The piece of the nail came out in the process of the stanching, and so discovered the fact. Inquiry was made of the horse. The shoe went in the direction shown in the illustration, piercing the tender part of the foot called the "quick," from which the horse was made lame for the space of two weeks.

This is not an unusual case. The same thing is happening every day, and is the cause of all manner of diseases. Many times the horse is not lame, but the injury is DANGEROUS.

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