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SALT LAKE CITY, FEB. 11, 1908.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Wednesday, Feb. 12, is the ninety-ninth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. The day will be remembered throughout the country, and the wonderful part he played in American history will be recounted to the present generation. And this is well. For the lives of such men are an inspiration to patriotism and deeds of righteousness. Lincoln was born in Hardin County, Ky., Feb. 12, 1808. Like so many other truly great men, he entered the world amid humble surroundings. His education was, as he himself says, defective, but his training in the hard school of experience was clearly calculated to fit him for his great mission. And in this school he was rapidly promoted. He rose to the highest places of honor and responsibility.

Lincoln was the man of the hour, when the question of the right of states to secede was debated on numerous battlefields, and when European nations contemplated the recognition of the South as a separate nation. France with designs in Mexico hoped for a division of the Union. The English aristocracy sympathized with the South. Even Gladstone said: "Jefferson Davis and other leaders of the South have made an army; they are making, it appears, a navy; and they have made, which is more important than either, a nation." Such were the views entertained in Europe. Lord Palmerston was at the point of offering "mediation," which would have been, practically, a recognition of the Confederacy, since "mediation" means an attempt to make peace between independent nations. It was during this crisis that Lincoln proved himself the greatest man of his time. He lived but for one object. When he was publicly attacked for his "mistaken deference to rebel slavery," he answered that his purpose was neither to save, nor destroy slavery, but to save the Union.

The time came, however, when he became convinced that the slaves must be freed, for the salvation of the unity of the nation, and when his mind was made up, he acted accordingly, and his Proclamation of Emancipation was issued. It is believed that this proclamation did more than any other single effort to prevent European powers from interfering as "mediators."

It is strange that this man should be taken away at the height of his services, when the difficult problem of reconstruction confronted the nation. It is strange that the assassin's bullet should be permitted to find his heart, while his work seemed still unfinished. But such was the fact. He died on April 15, 1865, and the whole country felt that he was a martyr to the cause of human liberty. The principles of his life may be summed up as follows: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

The war which it was Lincoln's important mission to bring to a successful close cost the country perhaps a million men and over five billion dollars in money. But it decided the question of the unity of the United States and opened the doors of liberty to four million slaves. It also proved the courage and patriotism of the American people, both North and South.

One trait of character was prominent in the mental constitution of Lincoln. His practical common sense went straight to the essence of every question that arose before him. Another trait was equally prominent. He was sensitive and gentle as a lamb toward his fellow-beings. Sympathy and sweetness of character were shown toward all who approached him to seek his aid. In both these admirable traits of character he resembled the Prophet Joseph, another martyred great American of the last century.

But he was every way equipped for his life's work. He was the strategist of the war. His plans for the prosecution of the conflict were followed to the letter. He was a master in diplomacy, and this enabled him to steer clear of the rocks upon which a less able statesman would have lost the ship of state. He was respected by friend and foe. Jefferson Davis is quoted as follows: "Next to the day of the fall of the Confederacy, the darkest day the South has ever known was the day of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln." A greater tribute was never paid to the memory of any man.

LINCOLN ANECDOTES.

Abraham Lincoln had the reputation of being a good story teller. But according to his own explanation, it was not the story that was the chief point of interest to him, but the illustration that the story would furnish, and in this he was as different as can be from the average story teller who aims only at provoking laughter and killing precious time. To a friend who once asked him to tell a good story, he said:

"I believe I have the popular reputation of being a story-teller, but I do not deserve the name in its general sense, for it is not the story itself, but its purpose, or effect, that in-

terests me. I often avoid a long and useless discussion by others or a laborious explanation on my own part by a short story that illustrates my point of view. So, too, the sharpness of a refusal or the edge of a rebuke may be blunted by an appropriate story, so as to save wounded feeling and yet serve the purpose. No, I am not simply a story-teller, but storytelling as an emolument saves me much friction and distress."

The following anecdote has been published in the Century:

"I once heard Mr. Lincoln defend a man in Bloomington against a charge of passing counterfeit money." Vice President Stevenson told the story. "There was a prison case against the accused, but when the chief witness for the people took the stand he stated that his name was J. Parker Green, and Lincoln reverted to this the moment he rose to cross-examine. 'Why, J. Parker Green? What did the J stand for? John? Well, why didn't the witness call himself John P. Green?' was his name, wasn't it? Well, what was his reason he did not wish to be known by his right name? Did J. Parker Green have anything to conceal, and if not, why did J. Parker Green put his name in that way? And so on. Of course, the whole examination was farcical." Mr. Stevenson continued, "but there was something irresistibly funny in the varying tones and inflections of Mr. Lincoln's voice as he rang the changes upon the man's name; and at the recess the very boys in the street took it up as a slogan and shouted 'J. Parker Green' all over the town. Moreover, there was something in Lincoln's way of intoning his questions which made me suspicious of the witness, and to the day I have been able to rid my mind of the absurd impression that there was something not quite right about J. Parker Green. It was all nonsense, of course, but the jury must have been affected as I was, for Green was discredited and the defendant went free."

The story of Lincoln's last appearance in Springfield is pathetic. One who saw him and heard him says no one can ever forget that meeting. When he told his friends he was going away, not knowing whether he would ever return, the whole audience felt a chill. Many burst into tears. It was as if the shadow of death had been cast over everyone present. His words were prophetic.

WHY ITS RAGE?

Whenever the rottenness in the Tribune camp becomes so conspicuous that the public must take notice of it, that paper flies into a rage against the Deseret News, and the Churchill. The famous, or infamous, McWhirter episode will be remembered. At that time the absurd charge was even made that the Church had hired the victims to lose \$10,000 in order that a charge might be preferred against protectors of the anti-Mormon party organ. And now, when more graft is coming to light, and the true nature of the anti-Mormon conspiracy is further revealed, the apologist again raves at the "News."

The evident purpose of its tactics is to draw the attention of the citizens away from the deplorable facts, and from its own responsibility. That is the reason for its abuse. Like the octopus it hopes to escape in its own black effusion. But to no purpose.

Just for the sake of the argument; suppose that the "News" were guilty of every crime imputed to it by its imaculate opponent; suppose that the "News" were even worse than malice can paint it; how would that help the cause of the Tribune? The railing accusations against the "News" comprising lying, grafting, hypocrisy, and many other generalities, are false and malicious; but suppose they were true, what bearing would that fact have upon the recent revelations of irregularities in certain public accounts? The Tribune gang professes virtue, honesty, patriotism. It claims purity of the very highest excellence. Is it too much to ask that such claims be proved, not by manifold ravings at others, but by deeds of honesty, and purity in the administration of public affairs?

We have always contended that the Tribune, with its record and without any sign of remorse, is in no position to preach morality to anyone, and we notice that this view is now accepted, by indirection, by that paper itself. For, when it assumes that the "News" is in no position to speak about graft, although that assumption is false, it accepts as true a proposition from which it necessarily follows that the Tribune is out of place as a preacher of morality. Any logician will at once perceive the force of this statement. A paper that used to advocate the establishment of saloons and brothels as effective anti-Mormon agencies, and that quite recently apologized for the assassins of the martyred founders of the Church, is a monstrosity in American journalism and not a fit preacher of ethics until it repents and brings forth the fruits of repentance.

A PROTEST FROM POLAND.

Mr. Henryk Sienkiewicz in a letter to the New York Evening Post protests against the efforts that are now being made by Prussia to drive the Poles away from their native soil.

The history of conquered Poland is one that should appeal to the civilized world, and the appeal would not be in vain, if the lofty principles that inspired the so-called holy alliance were recognized among nations.

For some time the Prussian government has tried to extinguish the Polish nationality. The land of the Poles has been bought up; the Polish children have been maltreated if they used the language of their parents, and the use of Polish in public meetings has been prohibited. But all these measures have failed, it is now proposed to dispossess the Poles of their land, by compulsion. If the bill is presented to the diet and passed, its effect would be that the Poles under the Prussian rule would at last be rooted out of that soil which is their country, the beloved land where for thousands of years, long, unintermitted generations have been born, have lived, and remain buried.

Mr. Sienkiewicz points out that the Poles under the Prussian scepter have never kindled revolutionary flames; they behave peacefully, strictly fulfilling the hard duties that events impose upon them. They pay the taxes and yield a military contingent whose courage was more than once admired by Bismarck. The proposed outrage is therefore all the more barbarous.

We presume every man and woman sensitive to the sufferings of fellow-beings, will join the Polish patriot in his

protest against a contemplated wrong. Nations cannot with impunity violate the eternal laws of justice and righteousness, any more than an individual can. It is not safe to play the part of an oppressor, even if the physical power to do so has been achieved.

"Hotels" blasts many a boom.

Platforms have outriggers as well as outlines.

The proper thing to do is to call in Sherlock Holmes.

Freddy Dubois' Scimitar has a very dull edge, probably because its temper is bad.

Thin free soup will not attract many tramps to the town, though free beer might.

The peace that Portugal is now enjoying is simply revolution with the lid on temporarily.

Just now not a square deal but the delegates is what all the presidential candidates want.

Speaker Cannon says that he never swore a profane oath in all his life. Good for Uncle Joe.

To the unemployed an eagle from the Philippines isn't any rarer than an eagle from Philadelphia.

Passing through the straits did Admiral Evans see anything of York Minister and Jimmy Button or their descendants?

The simplified spelling board has put out another list of simplified-spelled words. Ache is spelled "ake." Why not "ak"?

There is no more gambling going on in the town than there has been for the past two years. To pretend to be surprised at its discovery is nothing but arrant humbuggery.

That money has wings everybody knows, but just how it can fly out of a strong chest in a burglar-proof safe in its flight, is a most puzzling mystery.

"A green winter makes a fat churchyard," quoth the Baltimore Sun. Also a green doctor, with the assistance of a green nurse or two, answers the Washington Post. To the list may be added green cucumbers.

THE COST OF KINGS.

New York World.

Portugal, whose affairs are now occupying so large a share of public attention, contains 34,254 square miles. That is 1,210 square miles more than Maine and 1,696 less than Ohio. Its population is 3,400,000, or about the same as that of Illinois, Portugal having 5,016,267 to the 4,821,559 of Illinois. The population of Illinois is now estimated to be 5,590,000. The civil list of the king of Portugal is \$567,000 a year. Maine pays its governor \$3,000. Indiana pays \$5,000 and Illinois \$12,000. Maine, Indiana and Illinois have excellent schools. In Portugal there are so few schools that the bulk of the population is illiterate. In addition to the cost of the royal family there is the expense of the army, navy, embassies and legations throughout the world, as well as the cost of governing the colonies. Portugal is one of the few nations maintaining two embassies at Rome, one to the Quirinal and the other to the Vatican. The national debt, steadily increasing, amounts to nearly \$500,000,000, nearly as great as the net interest-bearing debt of the United States. It is a wonder that there is a strong and growing party in Portugal that favors substituting a republic for the monarchy.

COMPARATIVE ABILITIES TO VOTE

Indianapolis Star.

The Oklahoma legislature is preparing to pass a measure intended to disfranchise negroes in that state. While this is going on magistrates in the east are issuing naturalization papers to Italians who think Roosevelt is king and are bent on being citizens. "How long has he been king?" asked one of these future citizens the other day. "About two weeks," was the reply. There may be native born who will hold that the time of Theodore's reign is longer, but at least it would seem that a black man is as well qualified to vote as such foreign accessions.

CONGO ANNEXATION.

New York Evening Post.

The withdrawal of the Congo annexation treaty for further consideration by the crown is taken as an augury of victory for the opponents of Leopold II. The Belgian parliament had worked out a satisfactory bill for the cession of the colony that the nation was about to acquire, when the terms of the treaty of annexation submitted by the king made the speedy acquisition of the colony once again an impossibility. The bone of contention was the so-called Foundation of the Crown, the revenues of which, it was stipulated, should remain affected to the uses for which the king had hitherto employed them. The uses were described as "absolutely disinterested and patriotic," consisting chiefly in the creation of imposing public works in various Belgian cities and the support of charitable and educational labors in the Congo. For himself, the king asked "neither indemnity nor repayment," though liberal pensions to various members of the royal family were demanded. It was also required that Belgium should continue the work-

JUST FOR FUN.

Not Water Enough.

It was at a christening ceremony, and the mid minister took the squalling infant in his arms. "The name?" he murmured, dipping his long, slim fingers into the font. Charles Louis Augustus Rembrandt Frederick Henry Napoleon White, answered the young father, calmly. "Dear, dear!" murmured the minister, turning to the sexton. "A little more water, Mr. Holyrood, if you please—a little more water!"—Chicago News.

Not Yet.

It is alleged that the Standard Oil company is going into the ice business, but there seems to be no truth in the rumor that the Rockefeller have assumed control of the bootlicking business in New York.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Japan's New Civilization.

Japan is now making "Scotch" whiskey and occasionally shows symptoms of having sampled it.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Very Little Feeling.

Tam (at the musicale)—Don't you think Miss Screecher sings with considerable feeling? Jack—Not so I can notice it. If she had any feeling for the rest of us she wouldn't sing at all.—Chicago News.

A SERMON FOR WORKERS

[For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.]

The average employer has a funny trick of deciding your fate the minute he claps his eyes on your person, and your first line of talk greets his ear. The first interview is the moment of decision in two cases out of three. If your appearance is slouchy and careless—and this may suggest itself in your manner as well as your dress—or if it is just the opposite; finicky, dandified, or prim, it is doughnuts to dollars the "Big Man" will take his snail reservation. Once, except he should wait you for a strike breaker in the first place or a snow winnow feature in the latter instance. Even the way you walk over the threshold, seat yourself on a chair, your manner in talking, or your lack of manner, are all topics of interest to the modern employer. The manager of a large Chicago hotel, who said that he has no exerts in hiring help that he could generally pick a good man the minute he saw him, and sometimes before he opened his mouth.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

National Magazine for February has a cheery greeting to readers in all corners. There is a "Affairs at Washington" as chronicled by Joe Mitchell Chapple, who "knows everybody" and understands how to gather those rare bits of current, curious, and always entertaining. Ten stories of love and adventure make a fiction offering crisp and heart-stirring, altogether a literary luncheon. All this is supplemented by the third installment of the "Smoky God." This story deals with the unknown north and the mysterious inner earth of which so many scientists have dreamed and dreamed of great western railroad presidents, reflecting the personality and characteristics of the great generals of transportation, and Judge W. H. Bardsley, a handsome, well-to-do man, "The Alaska of Today," are articles that have the charm of personal narrative. The Happy Habit sketches as usual glow with that cheerful philosophy that makes one feel in tune with himself. A sketch of Charles Wesley Miller is one of Joe Chapple's delightful bits of biography, where an old-fashioned Goshen wheelbarrow figures conspicuously.—The Chapple Pub. Co., Boston, Mass.

"Current Literature," says Elbert Hubbard, "is the only magazine I read from cover to cover." The February number opens with a discussion of two burning issues, the presidential canvass of Mr. Taft and the recent attacks on the efficiency of our navy. Among the foreign topics taken up are the "Personal Exile of the Czar and the Czarina," the recall of Aoki and the condemnation of Harden. Under persons in the foreground, Loeb, the patient man, is humorously treated. Other articles are "Pyran, a Slave of the Wheel of Labor," and "The Fighting Bob of the British Navy." The visiting German sculptor, Gustav Eberlin, is introduced to the American public in an authoritative and richly illustrated. Hawthorne's "Cardinal Error" and "How to Raise the Standard of American Scholarship" are equally startling and instructive literary topics. Under Religion and Ethics, "The Papal War on Modernism," "Mrs. Edley's Dual Doctrine of Marriage," "The Fascination of Pessimism" and "The Living Faith of an Agnostic" are adequately and strikingly treated. Music and the Drama are represented by a discussion on "The Greatest Living American Actor," "The Personal Equation in Dramatic Criticism," "The Spell of Paderewski," etc. The play from which selections are reprinted is "My Wife," a comedy from the French, successfully produced by John Drew. Science reads like romance in the twentieth century, especially as it is presented in "The Struggle for Existence in Ourselves," opens strangely fascinating and terrifying vistas. "Madame Curie on the 'Structure' of Electricity," "Walking Wheels for Pedestrians," will make both scientist and layman sit up and take notice. Fiction, Poetry and Humor likewise receive their due attention in this magazine, which is at the same time intellectual and newsworthy. West Twenty-fifth street, New York.

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