

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

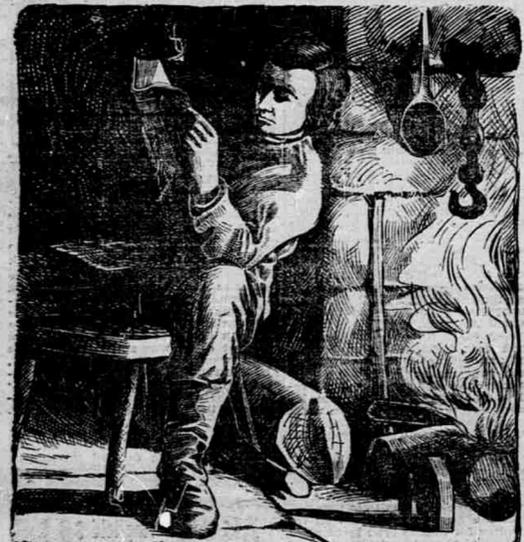
(Copyright, 1909, by John McElroy.) By JOHN MCELROY.

CHAPTER II. From Childhood to Boyhood.

At the time of his mother's death Abraham Lincoln, then 10 years of age, was even more lank and ungainly than boys are apt to be at that age.

women prepared dinner for the workers, which was for the time as enjoyable as a banquet to their more refined descendants.

Young Lincoln's life only differed from that of the rest of the boys in being more studious.



"YOUNG ABE WOULD SIT FOR HOURS AND READ BY THE LIGHT OF THE FIRE."

Nature exacts a full price for all that she gives, and the lives and strength of these men and women were drained in the conquest of the wilderness.

wooden shovel which stood by the fireplace being used for this purpose.

Almost all the furniture in his house was the product of his rude carpentering with an ax, a saw and an auger.

At that time the books to be found in those scanty homes were mainly the Bible, Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," Baxter's "Saint's Rest," Aesop's Fables, "Robinson Crusoe," the history of the United States, Weems' "Life of Washington," and dog-eared school books.

Yet the hard, poor life of the frontier had its pleasures, and the people made the most of their opportunities.

death was the gloomiest one of Abraham Lincoln's whole life.

There was much emulation among the men in this work, skill and strength were on exhibition in handling logs and in adjusting them properly in place.

There is talk about conducting an investigation and examining Mr. Busbey before the Appropriations Committee to

upon the great principles of the law, and then relied upon the force with which he could expound them, and apply them to the cases in hand.

Lincoln a Willing Worker.

The testimony of those who knew Lincoln in his youth would seem to confirm the theory that education tended to make boys lazy in the sense that the people then understood laziness.

Kind-Hearted and Sympathetic.

The testimony is unifo. a that he was distinguished by sympathy and kind-heartedness, even in that community in which those virtues were general.

A Lively Message.

In this 23-page pamphlet message the President champions the Secret Service men who have worked very effectively during a period of many years in exposing extensive frauds in public land dealings.

Lincoln's Stepmother.



SARAH BUSH LINCOLN, STEP-MOTHER OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE \$1,000,000,000 SESSION.

It Opens With the Row Over the Secret Service—Congressional Resentment of the President's Reflections—The Dispute Goes Toward Pettiness—The President Does Not Lack Supporters.

The long pull and the strong pull by which the Congress of the United States has been summoned to meet in Washington within the next 60 days has begun.

He is willing to tell more about how the Secret Service men have shadowed Representative Swager Sherley, Democrat of Kentucky, a member of Appropriations, whose words the President quotes to show the Congress were determined its members should not be shadowed by Secret Service men, promises to put a deal of interesting material in the Congressional Record.

President Roosevelt helped make the resumption of the session interesting. Senators had little time to exchange notes about the holiday recess.

Mr. Sherley was among the New Year's callers at the White House last Friday. As he passed in the line the President said:

He attributes the hostility of many members of Congress to the Secret Service to an article in the White House Bulletin, Speaker Cannon's secretary, wrote in 1903, shortly before he ceased to be a Washington correspondent, and which was reprinted in the magazine section of the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Charges were made that Secret Service men took it upon themselves the very day of that occurrence to "look over" certain members of Senate and House to ascertain whether they had any confidential knowledge of the investigation brought out that Simon B. Hayes, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Enrolled Bills, and Stephen W. Duggan, of Arkansas, both Republican reconstruction Senators, were among those whom the Secret Service men had "looked over."

Threats in the House.

Threats are heard in House circles about dragging to the light records of the hearings regarding Secret Service appropriations. How much of this is pure bluff and how much of it is really serious talk is a matter of conjecture.

On the incident which the President introduced his resolution for an inquiry. He had just taken the gavel. Mr. Perkins was upon his feet waiting for the Speaker to call upon him.

The President's Supporters.

The President, however, has some supporters among the House members. They prefer to remain in the background for the present till there have been further developments.

Small Potatoes.

Something of a fuss is likely to be made in Congress over a request by President Roosevelt to remove certain furniture from the White House and the White House offices on March 4, when he retires to private life.



He Has His View.

them, and he ought to expect no quarter in return from them.

matter of fact he has already consulted with a number of representative Republican Senators about the men who would do well for his Cabinet.

Not long ago the President wrote to Speaker Cannon a letter that has been referred to the House Committee on Appropriations. It is stated that when he retired to private life he wishes to take away the chair at the head of the Cabinet table where he had presided, and also the chair at his own desk in the corner room.

The Assistant Secretary of State, a desirable office, has already been filled. It has been announced that Bekman Winthrop, now Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, will have that place.

A TAFT ADMINISTRATION.

The President-Elect Wants His Own Men About Him.

The pilgrimages of statesmen into Georgia are becoming somewhat of a feature in the political happenings of the hour. Some have already been called thither by Mr. Taft in his capacity as elect. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, one of the four men who probably did most to further Mr. Taft's nomination for the Presidency, has just returned from Augusta, where he had a long talk over the situation, especially with reference to New England.

The impression grows apace in Washington that President-elect Taft has many surprises for the American people, and particularly for local officials, up his sleeve.

Gradually those peace-with-all-the-world smiles have been wearing away. Not that Mr. Taft has done anything in particular to shake the confidence of these satisfied ones, but little things have happened to indicate that there are to be fewer back doors to Mr. Taft's favor than there have been for his predecessor's favor.

Big Men Who Stand for Something.

Whatever Mr. Roosevelt's capable qualities as President have been—and they have been many—his great weakness has been in gathering incompetent men about him.

Some people in Washington believe that the talk about National Chairman Hitchcock going into business is only preliminary to an ultimate announcement that he will not be in the Cabinet as Postmaster-General, and that as a matter of fact the President-elect does not and has not planned to have him in the Cabinet. It is known that Mr. Hitchcock himself communicated to the public the announcement that he was to be Postmaster-General, which made President-elect Taft very angry, indeed.

The Same General Policy.

Of course, in matters of general policy and of general politics Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt are working in the most perfect harmony. That was to have been expected. But in matters of politics it is natural for Mr. Taft to look forward to something of a career on his own.

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