NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE PERSONAL CHARACTER OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

SIX MONTHS AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH ABRAHAM LINCOLN. THE STORY OF A PICTURE. By F. B. CARPENTER. 16mo. pp. 359. Hurd & Houghton.

The modest title of this admirable book falls far short of describing the real nature of its contents Those who read Mr. Carpenter's occasional letters to *The Independent*, in which, just after the assassination of the President, he told some of the incidents which fell under his observation while he was employed upon his painting commemorative of the Proclamation of Emancipation, must have expected to find in the volume upon which the artist has long been known to have been engaged, a wealth of anecdote and illustrative narrative, which could not fail to be valuable to Mr. Lincoln's biographers; but we dare say that few were prepared to find such a graphic picture of the domestic life and inner character of our murdered Chief Magistrate as we have now before us. Mr. Carpenter has written with charming simplicity, good taste, and good judgment. He shows no misplaced eagerness to keep himself before us; no egotistical fondness for talking of his painting; no disposition to lose sight of the subject in speaking of the artist. If the portrait which he has painted on canvas is as good as the one he has written on paper, his six months in the White House have been employed to fine purpose. Many of the anecdotes which he reports have been published before; but many others will be new to his readers. They exhibit the tenderness and beauty of Mr. Lincoln's character as they have never been exhibited by any other hand. They show us his grandeur of soul, his kind heart, his honesty and straightforwardness of purpose, his keen foresight, his loftiness of purpose, his vigor of mind, and the touching sadness of heart which in the last years of his life weighed him down like a fearful burden. We cannot give our readers a better idea of Mr. Carpenter's work than by quoting as many passages as we can make room for:

The appointed hour found me at the well remembered door of the official chamber, that door watched daily, with so many conflicting emotions of hope and fear, by the anxious throng regularly gathered there. The President had preceded me, and was already deep in Acts of Congress, with which the writing desk was strewed, awaiting his signature. He received me pleasantly, giving me a seat near his own arm chair; and after having read Mr. Lovejoy's note, he took off his spectacles, and said, "Well, Mr. C——, we will turn you in loose here, and try to give you a good chance to work out your idea." Then, without paying much attention to the enthusiastic expression of my ambitious desire and purpose, he proceeded to give me a detailed account of the history and issue of the great proclamation.

"It had got to be," said he, "midsummer, 1862. Things had gone on from bad to worse, until I felt that we had reached the end of our rope on the plan of operations we had been pursuing; that we had about played our last card, and must change our tactics, or lose the game! I now determined upon the adoption of the emancipation policy; and, without consultation with, or the knowledge of the Cabinet, I prepared the original draft of the Proclamation, and, after much anxious thought, called a Cabinet meeting upon the subject. This was the last day of July, or the first part of the month of August, 1862." (The exact date he did not remember.) "This Cabinet meeting took place, I think, upon a Saturday. All were present, excepting Mr. Blair, the Postmaster-General, who was absent at the opening of the discussion, but came in subsequently. I said to the Cabinet that I had resolved upon this step, and had not called them together to ask their advice, but to lay the subject-matter of a proclamation before them; suggestions as to which would be in order, after they had heard it read. Mr. Lovejoy," said he, "was in error when he informed you that it excited no comment, excepting on the part of Secretary Seward. Various suggestions were offered. Secretary Chase wished the language stronger in reference to the arming of the blacks. Mr. Blair, after he came in, deprecated the policy, on the ground that it would cost the Administration the Fall elections. Nothing, however, was offered that I had not already fully anticipated and settled in my own mind, until Secretary Seward spoke. He said, in substance: 'Mr. President, I approve of the Proclamation, but I question the expediency of its issue at this juncture. The depression of the public mind, consequent upon our repeated reverses, is so great that I fear the effect of so important a step. It may be viewed as the last measure of an exhausted Government—a cry for help; the Government stretching forth its hands to Ethiopia, instead of Ethiopia stretching forth her hands to the Government.' His idea," said the President, "was that it would be considered our last *shriek* on the retreat." (This was his precise expression.) "'Now,' continued Mr. Seward, while I approve the measure, I suggest, Sir, that you postpone its issue until you can give it to the country supported by military success, instead of issuing it, as would be the case now, upon the greatest disasters of the war!" Mr. Lincoln continued: "The wisdom of the view of the Secretary of State struck me with very great force. It was an aspect of the case that, in all my thought upon the subject, I had entirely overlooked. The result was, that I put the draft of the Proclamation aside, as you do your sketch for a picture, waiting for a victory. From time to time I added or changed a line, touching it up here and there, anxiously watching the progress of events. Well, the next news we had was of Pope's disaster at Bull Run. Things looked darker than ever. Finally, came the week of the battle of Antietam. I determined to wait no longer. The news came, I think, on Wednesday, that the advantage was on our side. I was then staying at the Soldiers' Home (three miles out of Washington.) Here I finished writing the second draft of the preliminary Proclamation; came up on Saturday; called the Cabinet together to hear it, and it was published the following Monday."

Here is another extract relating to the same occurrence:

Mr. Chase told me that at the Cabinet meeting, immediately after the battle of Antietam, and just prior to the issue of the September Proclamation, the President entered upon the business before them by saying that "the time for the enunciation of the emancipation policy could be no longer delayed. Public sentiment," he thought, "would sustain it—many of his warmest friends and supporters demanded it—*and he promised his God that he would do it!*" The last part of this was uttered in a low tone, and appeared to be heard by no one but Secretary Chase, who was sitting near him. He asked the President if he correctly understood him. Mr. Lincoln replied: "*I made a solemn vow before God that if Gen. Lee was driven back from Pennsylvania, I would crown the result by the declaration of freedom to the slaves.*"

Mr. Lincoln used to speak of the signing of this proclamation as "the central act" of his Administration, "and the great event of the 19th century."

A great many affecting incidents are related which illustrates the President's fondness for children, his affection for the members of his own family, and the unaffected simplicity of his private life.

The following story was told Mr. Carpenter by one who witnessed the scene:

"I was waiting my turn to speak to the President one day, some three or four weeks since," said Mr. M——, "when my attention was attracted by the sad, patient face of a woman advanced in life, who in a faded hood and shawl was among the applicants for an interview.

"Presently Mr. Lincoln turned to her, saying in his accustomed manner, 'Well, my good woman, what can I do for you this morning?' 'Mr. President,' said she, 'my husband and three sons all went into the army. My husband was killed in the fight at ——. I get along very, badly since then, living all alone, and I thought I would come and ask you to release to me my oldest son.' Mr. Lincoln looked into her face a moment, and in his kindest accents responded, 'Certainly! certainly! If you have given us *all*, and your prop has been taken away, you are justly entitled to one of your boys!' He immediately made out an order discharging the young man, which the woman took, and thanking him gratefully, went away.

"I had forgotten the circumstance," continued M——, "till last week, when happening to be here again, who should come in but the same woman. It appeared that she had gone herself to the front, with the President's order, and found the son she was in search of had been mortally wounded in a recent engagement, and taken to a hospital. She found the hospital, but the boy was dead, or died while she was there. The surgeon in charge made a memorandum of the facts upon the back of the President's order, and almost broken-hearted, the poor woman had found her way again into Mr. Lincoln's presence. He was much affected by her appearance and story, and said: 'I know what you wish me to do now, and I shall do it without your asking; I shall release to you your second son.' Upon this, he took up his pen and commenced writing the order. While he was writing, the poor woman stood by his side, the tears running down her face, and passed her hand softly over his head, stroking his rough hair, as I have seen a fond mother caress a son. By the time he had finished writing, his own heart and eyes were full. He handed her the paper: 'Now,' said he, 'you have one and *I* one of the other two left; that is no more than right.' She took the paper, and reverently placing her hand again upon his head, the tears still upon her cheeks, said: 'The Lord bless you, Mr. Lincoln. May you live a thousand years, and may you always be the head of this great nation!'"

Here is an rather different character:

A poor girl had obtained entrance into the President's private room, and was pleading for the pardon of her brother, who was a soldier under sentence of death for desertion:

Mr. Lincoln was at first somewhat surprised at the apparent forwardness of the young woman, but observing her distressed appearance, he ceased conversation with his friend, and commenced an examination of the document she had placed in his hands. Glancing from it to the face of the petitioner, whose tears had broken forth afresh, he studied its expression for a moment, and then his eye fell upon her scanty but neat dress. Instantly his face lighted up. "My poor girl," said he, "you have come here with no governor, or senator, or member of Congress, to plead your cause. You seem honest and truthful, and"—with much emphasis—"you don't wear 'hoops;' and I will be whipped but I will pardon your brother!"

But he could refuse petitions sometimes. A gentleman who had carried a request successively to Gen. Halleck and Mr. Stanton at last laid it before the President:

"Have you applied to Gen. Halleck?" inquired the President. "Yes, and met with a flat refusal," said Judge R. "Then you must see Stanton," continued the President. "I have, and with the same result," was the reply. "Well, then," said Mr. Lincoln, with a smile, "I can do nothing, for you must know *that I have very little influence with the Administration.*"

Here are some of Mr. Lincoln's stories:

When the telegram from Cumberland Gap reached Mr. Lincoln that "firing was heard in the direction of Knoxville," he remarked that he "felt relieved at it." Some person present, who had the peril of Burnside's position uppermost in his mind, could not see why Mr. Lincoln should be *glad* of it, and so expressed himself. "Why, you see," responded the President, "it reminds me of Mistress Sallie Ward, a neighbor of mine, who had a very large family. Occasionally one of her numerous progeny would be heard crying in some out-of-the-way place, upon which Mrs. Ward would exclaim, 'There's one of my children that is n't dead yet.'"

One of the last stories I heard from Mr. Lincoln was concerning John Tyler, for whom it was to be expected, as an old Henry Clay Whig, he would entertain no great respect. "A year or two after Tyler's accession to the Presidency," said he, "contemplating an excursion in some direction, his son went to order a special train of cars. It so happened that the railroad superintendent was a very strong Whig. On 'Bob's' making known his errand, that official bluntly informed him that his road did not run any special trains for the President. 'What!' said 'Bob,' 'did you not furnish a special train for the funeral of Gen. Harrison?' 'Yes,' said the Superintendent, stroking his whiskers; 'and if you will only bring your father here in *that* shape, you shall have the best train on the road!'"

One of the latest of Mr. Lincoln's stories was told to a party of gentlemen, who, amid the humbling ruins of the "Confederacy," anxiously asked "what he would do with Jeff. Davis?"

"There was a boy in Springfield," rejoined Mr. Lincoln, "who saved up his money and bought a dog, which, the novelty wore of, became a great nuisance. He was one day leading him through the streets, and had his hands full to keep clear of the little vixen, who had torn his clothes half off of him. At length he sat down on the curb-stone, completely fagged out. A man passing was stopped by the lad's disconsolate appearance, and asked the matter.

"'Oh,' was the reply, 'this coon is such a *trouble* to me!'

"'Why don't you get rid of him, then?' said the gentleman.

"'Hush!' said the boy, 'don't you see he is gnawing his rope off? I am going to let him do it, and then I will go home and tell the folks *that he got away from me!*'"

Perhaps the best story in the book is the following:

Upon the betrothal of the Prince of Wales to the Princess Alexandra, Queen Victoria sent a letter to each of the European sovereigns, and also to President Lincoln, announcing the fact. Lord Lyons, her Embassador at Washington—a "bachelor" by the way—requested an audience of Mr. Lincoln, that he might present his important document in person. At the time appointed he was received at the White House, in company with Mr. Seward.

"May it please your Excellency," said Lord Lyons, "I hold in my hand an autograph letter from my royal mistress, Queen Victoria, which I have been commanded to present to your Excellency. In it she informs your Excellency that her son, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, is about to contract a matrimonial alliance with her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra of Denmark."

After continuing in this strain for a few minutes, Lord Lyons tendered the letter to the President and awaited his reply. It was short, simple and expressive, and consisted simply of the words:

"Lord Lyons, go thou and do likewise."

It is doubtful if an English Embassador was ever addressed in this manner before, and it would be interesting to learn what success he met with in putting the reply in diplomatic language when he reported it to her Majesty."

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COMPRISING THE NINTH, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH WARDS OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

ANNUAL TAX NOTICE.—NOTICE is hereby given, that I have received from the Assessor, the assessment and collection rolls of this District, of the valuations and enumerations subject to tax on the first day of May, 1866, under the United States Internal Revenue Laws; that the duties and taxes enumerated therein have become due and payable, and that I will attend, personally or by deputy, for the collection of the same, at my office, No. 105 West Fourteenth-st., corner of Eighth-ave., daily (Sundays excepted) for a the first day of September, 1866, and the second day of September, 1866, inclusive, between the hours of 9 o'clock, a. m., and 4 o'clock, p. m.

The taxes included in the annual list are upon plate, carriages, yachts, billiard tables, pianos-forte, gold watches, and licenses; and upon incomes for the year 1865.

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At No. 32 East Twenty-first-st.
will re-open on THURSDAY, September 20.
Miss A. will be at home on and after September 1. Letters addressed, as above will meet with prompt attention.

MRS. MARY RODGERS GREFFITTS will reopen her DAY-SCHOOL for young ladies on the 20th September at her residence No. 106 West Forty-second-st.

MME. C. MEARS,
No. 224 Madison-ave.,
Will reopen her FRENCH and ENGLISH BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL, Sept. 20.
Mme. C. M. will be at home after Sept. 10 to receive personal applications. All previous to that date by mail.

MILITARY, CLASSICAL AND COMMERCIAL ACADEMY, Nyack, Rockland County, N. Y., reopens September 4. For Circular address C. RUTHERFORD, A. M., Principal.

MISS BALLOW'S ENGLISH and FRENCH SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES, No. 24 East Twenty-Second-st., will reopen on THURSDAY, Sept. 20.

MADAME GIRAUD'S French and English Boarding and Day School for young Ladies, No. 111 South Oxford-st., Brooklyn, will reopen on MONDAY, Sept. 10. Complete English and French instruction. Diplomas awarded. French spoken in a few months by the boarders.

MISS SARAH SEDGWICK'S SCHOOL for BOYS will open at No. 922 Broadway, SEPTEMBER 17.

MORRIS FEMALE INSTITUTE,
MORRISTOWN, N. J.,
Offers to a small and select number of pupils the highest educational advantages, both solid and ornamental, and superior home accommodations. Term opens September 18.
C. G. HAZELTINE, Principal.

MILITARY HIGH SCHOOL, OSSINING, N. Y. The Rev. D. A. HOLBROOK, Principal. Term begins Sept. 25.

MR. VAN NORMAN'S
French and English BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES, Nos. 5 West Thirty-eighth-st., New-York (Murray Hill), reopens Sept 20. Address as above.

MRS. SYLVANUS REED will reopen her French and English BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL, at No. 11 West Thirty-sixth-st., on the 20th September. Application can be made, and Circulars obtained, as above. References: The Right Rev. Bishop Potter, the Rev. Dr. Sprague, the Hon. M. Fillmore, the Hon. W. H. Seward, Major-Gen. Dix, President Barnard, the Rev. Dr. Ex, the Hon. L. Tremain, the Hon. Henry A. Smythe, James Hoy, esq., George Folsom, esq., Edwin Hoyt, esq., &c.

MISS HAINES
AND
MADEMOISELLE de JANON,
Respectfully inform their Friends and the Public, that their English and French School for Young Ladies and Children,
No. 16 GRAMERCY PARK,
(East Twenty-fourth-st.),
will reopen on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.
All applications, either personally or by letter, may be made at No. 16 Gramercy Park.

MRS. MACAULAY'S French and English BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL for Young Ladies, Nos. 251 and 253 Madison-ave., will reopen on THURSDAY, Sept. 20. Mrs. M. will be in town from Sept. 4 until that time. Address by letter as above.

NEWBURGH INSTITUTE, a FAMILY BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS, commences Sept. 17. For Circulars address HENRY W. SIGLAR, Newburgh, N. Y.

POUGHKEEPSIE (N. Y.) MILITARY INSTITUTE.—A Classical and Commercial School for BOYS of all ages. Fall term opens Sept. 5. Address C. B. WARRING, A. M., Principle and Proprietor.

POUGHKEEPSIE YOUNG LADIES' SEMINARY—A select family school, opens Sept. 12, 1866. For Circulars, address GEO. W. McLELLAN, A. M., Principal, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

PARKER ACADEMY—A Family School for BOYS, Woodbury, Litchfield County, Conn. For Circulars, address The Rev. ALONZO NORTON LEWIS, A. M., Principal.

SCHOLFIELD'S COMMERCIAL COLLEGE, in Providence, R. I., is the most spacious and elegant in its apartments, the best lighted and ventilated of any Commercial College in the civilized world. It is most thorough and practical in its drill, and economical in its charges. For further particulars send for a Circular. A. G. SCHOLFIELD.

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—Young Ladies' Department, No. 46 West Twenty-second-st.; Young Gentlemen's Department, No. 237 West Twenty-third-st., will reopen on TUESDAY, Sept. 11. A preparatory class for small children, from 5 to 7 years of age, will be added to the already existing classes in each Department. A complete course of gymnastics, including dancing, will be taught, under the personal direction of Mrs. Lidy Fischer-Cords. Circulars may be had at the Institute. The Principals will receive applications, for day as well as boarding, pupils, from Monday, Sept. 3. H. GERCKE, ROSALIE F. HEUMANN.

THE MISSES GREEN will REOPEN their SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES, at No. 1 Fifth-ave., first door from Washington-square, on WEDNESDAY, Sept. 26.

THE ENGLISH, FRENCH and CLASSICAL SCHOOL of Dr. F. BERTHET & GEO. B. GOODALL will be open SEPTEMBER 17, at No. 728 Broadway. There is a Gymnasium. For Circulars, apply to LOCKWOOD, No. 411 Broadway.

THE CHILTON HILL Boarding School, for Boys, Elizabeth, N. J., will reopen Sept. 3. J. YOUNG, Principal.

THE MISSES WALKER will REOPEN their DAY SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES No. 122 Madison-ave., on THURSDAY, Sept. 20.

THE MURRAY HILL INSTITUTE, corner of Thirty-eighth-st. and Sixth-ave., will reopen MONDAY, September 24. JOSEPH B. HULL, Principal.

WYERS'S BOARDING-SCHOOL for YOUNG MEN and BOYS, West Chester, Pa.—An English, Mathematical, Commercial and Classical School. Corps of instructors large, number of students limited to 150; accommodations, play-grounds, gymnasium, music and convenient. Terms, $350 per scholastic year of 40 weeks. School opens Sept. 5. For circulars address WILLIAM F. WYERS, A.M., Principal and Proprietor, West Chester, Pa. Circulars at A. S. BARNES & Co.'s, No. 111 William-st., care [illegible]

Instruction.

ANSCHUTZ MUSIC INSTITUTE
STECK'S MUSIC HALL
No. 141 EAST EIGHTH-ST., BETWEEN BROAD [illegible] AND FOURTH-AVE.

The office of this Institute is now open from 9 to 4 p. m. for the reception of applications and examination of pupils. For circulars, terms, &c., apply as above. The course will commence Sept. 17.
CARL ANSCHUTZ.

AARON RANDS' SCHOOL for BOYS will reopen September 17 at No. 11 West Twenty-seventh-st.

ANTHON, MR. GEO. C., will reopen his Classical FRENCH and ENGLISH SCHOOL, with Primary Department and Gymnasium, Fifth-ave., cor. Twenty-sixth-st., on MONDAY, Sept. 10.

A GENTLEMAN (German), an experienced Professor of Music, graduate of one of the principal Conservatories, desires to form an engagement with some first-class school, to give INSTRUCTION on PIANO and SINGING. Address H., No. 753, Broadway, Scharfenberg & Luis's.

COOPER UNION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE AND ART.
FREE NIGHT SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ART.
FREE READING ROOM AND ORPHEON FREE CHORISTER CLASS.

The Trustees of the Cooper Union announce that the Eighth Annual Session will begin on Monday, the 1st day of October next. Circulars containing the rules and regulations of the school, the manner of admission, &c., can be obtained at the Office any day from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., and Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7½ to 9.

Applications for admission to the Free Night School of Science and Art, of which Prof. Joseph G. Fox is Principal, will be received at the office till October 1, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, from 7½ to 9.

Applications for admission to the Free Day School of Art for Women, of which Dr. W. Rimmer has been appointed Principal, may be made at the office daily, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., and at the same time and after Sept. 24, from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m.

The Reading-Room is now open to the public, both day and evening, without any restriction whatever.

The Orpheon Free Chorister Class will hold its sessions during the day, and is limited to ladies and girls over 8, and boys between 8 and 14 years of ages. The former will meet on Mondays and Thursdays, at 4 p. m., and the latter on Tuesdays and Fridays, at the same hour. Applications for admission must be made during the last week in September, on the above-mentioned days. All necessary books and materials for drawing, including instruments, can be obtained at the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings.

The public are admitted to the lectures on Chemistry and Natural Philosophy, but must enter before 7½ p. m.

The cardinal idea of the institution being to improve and educate the working classes, the Trustees cordially invite the youth of the city and the public generally to avail themselves of the liberal provision which has been made for their improvement.

By order of the Trustees. ABRAM S. HEWITT, Secretary.

CHEVE'S
NEW MUSICAL INSTITUTE,
UNDER THE INSTRUCTION OF
SIGNOR JOSEPH BORRA.

CARD FROM PROF. BASSINI.

MY DEAR SIR: Desiring to cooperate with all the influence I can well command, within