

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

A Very Curious Love Romance in His Life.

Mr. W. H. Herndon, who was for many years the intimate personal friend of the late President Lincoln, has recently delivered a lecture on his life and character, in which he relates an episode in the life of Mr. Lincoln, which will be read with the interest that attaches to such incidents in the life of men who have attained to eminence. He states that "Lincoln loved Ann Rutledge letter than his own life," and thus states the facts connected with that "love affair," which he says will "throw a stray foot-light on the path of Abraham Lincoln from New-Salem through Springfield, to and through Washington to the grave."

"Ladies and gentlemen, friends, enemies, too, give me the good, kind, and tender corner of your hearts to-night, not forgetting your heads. Ann Rutledge was a beautiful girl of New-Salem from 1824 to 1836. She was born in Kentucky, January 1813. She was a grandchild of the liberty-loving, patriotic Rutledges of South Carolina. Her father was born in South Carolina amid the echoes of the cannon's revolutionary roar. Mr. Lincoln lived in New-Salem from 1830 to 1837, and boarded for a while with Cameron, who was a partner of Mr. Rutledge. Mr. Lincoln soon changed his home. He went and boarded with Mr. James Rutledge about the years 1833 and 1834, and then and there first became well acquainted with Ann Rutledge. He may have known her well before this. I have no space here to give a description of this beautiful, amiable and lovely girl of nineteen. She was gifted with a good mind. Three good and influential men of the little village of New-Salem simultaneously fell in love with this girl—A. Lincoln, Mr. —, and Mr. —. The thirty man she quickly rejected. He was a gentleman; so was Lincoln; so was —. All three were strong men, men of power, as time demonstrated. Circumstances, fate, Providence, the iron chain of sweeping events so willed it that this young lady was engaged to Mr. Lincoln and Mr. — at one and the same time. No earthly blame can be attached to the girl, and none to the men in their fidelity and honor to her. It all happened, or was decided by fate. It shall, in truth, be explained hereafter, to the satisfaction of all. It is a sad, thrilling story. The young girl saw her condition. Her word of promise was out to two men at the same time, both of whom she loved, dearly loved. The consciousness of this, and the conflict of duties, love's promises and womanly engagements, made her think, grow and become restless and nervous. She suffered, pined, ate not and slept not. Time and struggle, as supposed and believed by many, caused her to have a raging fever, of which she died on the 25th day of August, A. D. 1835. She died on a farm seven miles north, bearing a little west of New-Salem, and now lies buried in the Concord cemetery, six miles north, bearing a little west of New-Salem, and four miles from Petersburg."

"Abraham Lincoln loved Miss Ann Rutledge with all his soul, mind and strength. She loved him as dearly, tenderly and affectionately. They seemed made in heaven for each other, though opposite in many things. As before remarked, she was accidentally, innocently and honestly engaged to A. Lincoln and Mr. — at one and the same time. It is said and thought that the young lady was conditionally promised to Mr. Lincoln, to be consummated upon a release from her first engagement with Mr. —. The primary causes, facts and conditions which led to this complication shall be related to you at another time and place. There is no dishonor in it to any of the three. In her conflicts of honor, duty, love, promises and womanly engagements, she was taken sick. She struggled, regretted, grieved, became nervous; she ate not, slept not, was taken sick of brain fever, became emaciated, and was fast sinking in the grave. Lincoln wished to see her. She silently prayed to see him. The friends of both parties at first refused the wish and prayer of both; still, the wishes and prayers of both prevailed. Mr. Lincoln and Mr. — went about the 10th day of August, A. D. 1835. The meeting was quite as much as either could bear, and more than Lincoln, with all his coolness and philosophy, could endure. The voice, the face, the features of her, the love, sympathy and interview fastened themselves on his heart and soul forever. Heaven only knows what was said by the two. God only knows what was thought. Dr. Jason Duncan, of New-Salem, about September, A. D. 1833, had shown and placed in Mr. Lincoln's hands the poem called in short, 'Immortality,' or, properly, 'Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud?' Remember, Miss Rutledge died on the 25th of August, A. D. 1835, and was buried in the Concord cemetery, six miles north, bearing a little west of New-Salem, and that is her fate. He said in addition, to the same friend, 'I cannot endure the thought that the sleet and storm, frost and snow of heaven should beat on her grave.' He never addressed another woman, in my opinion, and characteristically abstained from the use of the word 'love.' That word cannot be found more than half a dozen times, if that often, in all his letters and speeches since that time. I have seen some of his letters to other ladies, but he never says 'love.' He never ended his letters with yours 'affectionately,' but signed his name, 'your friend, A. Lincoln.' Abraham Lincoln was by nature more or less, in tendency, abstracted—had the power of continuous concentrated thought. It may be, as alleged, that he was a warm, ardent, and more or less impulsive man, before 1835, and of which I give no opinion. He never did care for food—eating mechanically. He sorrowed and grieved, rambled over the hills and through the forests day and night. He suffered and bore it for a while like a great man—a philosopher. He slept not, he ate not, joyed not. This he did until his body became emaciated and weak, and gave way. His mind wandered from its throne. In his imagination he nurtured words to her he loved. His mind, his reason somewhat dethroned, walked out of itself along the uncollected air, and kissed and embraced the shadows and illusions of the heated brain. Love, future happiness, death, sorrow, grief, and pure and perfect despair, the want of food, a cracked and aching heart, over and intense thought, soon

worked a partial wreck of body and mind. It has been said that Mr. Lincoln became and was totally insane at that time and place. This is not exactly the truth. The dethronement of his reason was only partial and could alone be detected by his closest friends and sharpest observers, through the abruptness of his sentences, and the sharp contrast of his ideas and language. To give you a fair idea, an exact one of his then true mental state and condition, imagine Mr. Lincoln situated as I have attempted to describe. Mr. Lincoln had a strong mind, a clear and distinct one. His style and mode of expression in 1835 were entirely different from what they were from 1838 to 1864. He had more, much more, emotion, fancy and imagination, in 1835, when he was 25 years of age, than he had in 1858 to 1864, when he was 48 to 55 years of age. He grew stronger as he grew older. Did this dread calamity of which I have spoken, crush him and thus modify, if it did not change, his nature? It must be expected that his expressions would follow truly his own rational thoughts in part only, not only so in logic, at least. His utterances and expressions would be necessarily disconnected and sharply contrasted. It is said, and I believe it, that he lost his logical faculty—power over cause and effect, and his legitimate relation—through the momentary loss of memory alone.

"The friends of Mr. Lincoln—men, women and children—begged him to quit his home and place of business. They coaxed and threatened him by turns in order to get him to quit the places and scenes of his sorrows and griefs. His women friends tried their arts on him. Men begged and held out strong inducements to go into the country. The boys and girls of the town and neighborhood sided and assisted the older people all they could. All tricks were detected by the man the whole people so dearly loved. Bolin Green, and some of his and Lincoln's special friends, at last tried their powers. They succeeded in throwing Lincoln off his guard by robbing him of his suspicions. Mr. Lincoln, in September, went down to Bolin Green's in consequence of the pressure thrown on and around him, and in the space of a week or ten days, by Bolin's humor, generosity and hospitality, his care and kindness, aided by the womanly sympathy, gentleness and tenderness of his wife, Lincoln soon rose up a man once more. He was visited daily by men, women, boys and girls, whose conversation, stories, jokes, witticisms, and fun, soon roused up the man, thus enabling him to momentarily throw off sorrow, sadness, grief, pain and anxiety. They walked over the hills with him, danced for him, read for him, laughed for him, and named him in a thousand ways. He evidently enjoyed all as a man scarcely ever enjoyed two weeks before no since. He got well and bade adieu, for a short season, to Bolin's kind and generous hospitality. Mrs. Bolin Green still lives, God bless her! and survives her own husband, and their ward and guest. Mr. Lincoln went to New-Salem, as thought, a changed man. He went to New-Salem about the last of September, A. D. 1835. He now once more picked up, took up, and read, and re-read the poem called 'Immortality,' or 'Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud?' He saw new beauties in it. He seized it, and it seized him—a mutual seizure and arrest. He learned, learned it by heart, committed it to memory, and repeated it over and over to his friends.

These passages contain all that is in the lecture concerning Mr. Lincoln or Miss Rutledge. They are exceedingly interesting and throw much light on phases of Mr. Lincoln's character, and especially on the melancholy and abstracted mood which so many of his friends had observed, and which no one hitherto has attempted to explain.

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Income for year end, Aug. 1, \$2,750,000

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Will make cash advances on all Cotton or other Produce shipped to us. Our terms shall always be as low as any other reliable house. JAMES M. GARREY and WM. T. SAMPLE will give their undivided attention to the Cotton Department, and will strain every nerve to make it to the interest of planters to patronize us.

We will at all times keep a full stock of Groceries, Bagging, Rope and Twine, and all grades of Flour for sale at the lowest prices.

WANTED.—We wish to purchase washed and unwashed Wool, Tenthons and Dried Fruit, and will always give the best price. BAILEY, ORDWAY & CO.

Fancy Flour! Fancy Flour!! We keep constantly on hand, by the single barrel or car load, H. Vaughn & Co.'s Celebrated Looking Glass Flour, which we will warrant in every instance. We will also keep on hand other brands of Flour, which we offer to the trade at the lowest cash prices. Dealers will do well to examine our Flour before purchasing. BAILEY, ORDWAY & CO. sep1-2m [U. & A. B.]

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REID, CHADBOURN & CO., (Successors to French & Co.) Cotton and Tobacco Factors and General Commission Merchants. Corner Clark and Front Street, NASHVILLE, TENN. oct7-ly

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\$5,000 WORTH Bonnet, Hat, Sash, and Trimming Ribbons.

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Paris Flowers and Bird Wreaths. New Style of Neck Chains, Handkerchiefs, Etc., New Style Hair Waterfalls and Collars. D. Fine Cloth Cloaks—costs at \$10.00; 20 pieces French, all Wool Merinos, at \$1.50. Ladies Sets of Furs at cost. A Large Stock of Toys and Fancy Goods, Perfumery, etc., at cost. Woolen Hose, Comforters and Children's Hose.

N. B.—As my health requires a change of climate, I intend establishing myself in business at New York, leaving a branch of our business at Nashville, exclusively for Millinery Goods, and my residence East will give us superior advantages to select goods at greatly reduced prices, and the latest novelties as they come out East.

I trust our old friends will help us out at this time, and get good value for their money.

At 46 Union Street, Next door to the Bank of Tennessee.

CHANCERY SALES

Saturday, December 15, 1866.

John B. Johnson vs. Samuel R. Morgan and others. IN PURSUANCE OF A DECREE OF THE Chancery Court at Nashville in the above named cause, I will sell, at the Court House, at Nashville, on

Saturday, December 15th, 1866. No. 1. The undivided half of Lot No. 75 in the McIntire West Nashville property, and lot fronting 29 feet on Market street, and running back 100 feet, to a 15 foot alley.

No. 2. Tract of 1/2 acres and 30 poles, conveyed to S. R. Morgan by W. H. Howell.

No. 3. Tract of 1/2 acres and 100 poles, conveyed to S. R. Morgan by H. B. Ray.

TERMS OF SALE.—Six and twelve months credit, with interest from day of sale. Notes required, with approved security, and lien retained. Sale free from redemption.

MORTON B. HOWELL, C. and M.

William H. Haslam and others vs. Catharine Haslam and others. IN PURSUANCE OF DECREE OF CHANCERY COURT at Nashville in above named cause, I will sell, at the Court House, at Nashville, on

Saturday, December 15th, 1866. Lot No. 90, in Belch & Whiteside's Addition to Nashville, lying on Hamilton street, and running from McLemore to Spruce street.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash, two and three years credit, with interest from day of sale. Notes required, with approved security, and lien retained. Sale free from redemption.

MORTON B. HOWELL, C. and M.

M. S. Allen, Ex. vs. Mary E. Young and others. IN PURSUANCE OF DECREE OF THE Chancery Court in above case, I will sell, at the Court House, at Nashville, on

Saturday, December 15th, 1866. 1/4 tract of 7/8 acres, near the Nolansville Turnpike, on the road leading to Mill Creek Church, having upon it a neat frame house with four rooms, besides all necessary outhouses, etc.

This place is about two and a half miles from the square and is just the thing for a small family who wish to live out of the city.

TERMS OF SALE.—Credit of six, twelve, eighteen and twenty-four months, with interest from date. Notes required, with personal security, and lien retained. Sale free from redemption.

MORTON B. HOWELL, C. and M.

Elijah Dickson vs. Dennis Connor and others. IN PURSUANCE OF A DECREE OF THE Chancery Court in above case, I will sell, at the Court House, at Nashville, on

Saturday, December 15th, 1866. The following two lots in North Nashville, to-wit: Commencing at the Northeast corner of Bellville and a street 33 feet wide, running 110 feet North, to an alley 10 feet wide, said alley being 110 feet south of day street; thence at right angles 110 feet to a stake; thence at right angles to the street aforesaid; thence at right angles 30 feet to the beginning of Bellville street.

2d. A lot fronting 20 feet on Bellville street, adjacent to the above, and running back 110 feet to an alley.

TERMS OF SALE.—Six and twelve months credit, with interest from day of sale. Notes required, with approved security, and a lien retained. Sale free from redemption.

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Valuable Non-Taxable City Property For Sale. BY VIRTUE OF POWER IN ME VESTED by trust conveyance made by Judge Thomas Maney, deceased, and recorded in the Register's office of Davidson county, Tennessee, in book No. 23, pages 204, 205 and 206, I will, on

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1866. Offer at public sale, on the premises, corner of Broad and McLemore streets, in the city of Nashville, the residence of the late Judge Thomas Maney, deceased, and the adjacent grounds, fronting 27 feet on Broad street and 327 on McLemore street. This desirable residence, with a lot fronting 79 feet on Broad street and 109 feet on McLemore, will be sold separately. The other grounds will be sold in lots of convenient size, and will comprise some of the most eligible sites for building purposes in or around Nashville. The whole of this handsome property is FREE FROM TAXATION, and affords this advantage of economy in land cost, with the prospect of great increase in value.

Plans of lots will be exhibited and terms made known on day of sale.

AMMONSON, J. M. MURPHY, Trustee, nov6-df-10

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M. V. LEWIS, D. S. KIMMONS, S. D. WEST, Kentucky. Lewis, Comingore & West, COTTON FACTORS AND GENERAL Commission Merchants, No. 31 PERDUE STREET, (FACTORS' ROW), NEW ORLEANS, CINCINNATI. oct13-12m

VALUABLE LANDS FOR SALE. FIVE HUNDRED ACRES, LYING on Duck river, in Hickman county, Tennessee, about One Hundred and Twenty-five acres cleared, balance well timbered. The whole admirably adapted to the culture of Cotton Corn, &c. ALSO. 1,300 Acres, Finely Timbered, Tennessee bottom Lands, about twenty miles above Johnsonville. Apply to, or address EDWD. HICKS, Nashville, Tennessee. nov20-1m

JAMES C. MALONE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE. Office 27 West side Public Square, corner of Centre and Duckrick streets—UP-STAIRS. Post Office Box 183. sep1-17

Executor's Notice. THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE QUALIFIED as Executors of the last Will and Testament of WILLIAM B. LEWIS, deceased. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment to them, and all those having claims against the same will present them for payment. G. M. FOSTER, J. H. HINDSLEY, Executors of Wm. B. Lewis, deceased. nov10-df-ep