LINCOLN'S BIRTHPLACE TO BE DEDICATED TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE SOON

1—Lincoln statue in Hodgenville, Ky. 2—View of the memorial. 3—Log cabin in which Lincoln was born. 4—Officers of the Ladies' Lincoln league of Hodgenville, Ky. 5—Cabin of the caretaker of the Lincoln memorial, built in 1844. 6—Rear view of the memorial.

By CHARLES N. LOWIE.

TWO years ago we saw the culmination of Lincoln enthusiasm, the apogee of the Lincoln star in the American heaven. But before the worldwide celebration of the centenary of Lincoln's birth his star was a fixed planet in the constellation of fame, and neither the great outpouring of honor two years ago nor any subsequent celebration could add a scintilla of luster to his name. Celebrations of Lincoln day, Feb. 12, are now yearly events in many states, marked by general cessation of labor and business, by meetings and addresses by prominent women and men. This year is not an exception to the general rule. Lincoln's birthday will be celebrated in the usual manner in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Springfield, Ill., Lincoln's home city, and in many other cities and towns.

In one particular, as regards the paying of tribute to the memory of Lincoln, 1911 will be different from other years. Memorial day, May 30, 1911, will see the dedication of the memorial at Hodgenville, Ky., which houses and preserves the log cabin in which Lincoln was born.

There is room in this great America of ours for two Mount Vernons. The grandeur of the estate on the bank of the Potomac where Washington lived and died is his last and where he lies at rest conveys to the patriotic visitor an air of grandeur and exaltation befitting the character of the occupant as Americans picture and revere him. Mount Vernon should find a twin in the respect and veneration of Americans at Hodgenville, and the little knoll on which rest the Lincoln cabin and its granite envelope should be exalted in America's mind and heart to an equal height with the bluff overlooking the broad Virginia river.

It is to aid in the fostering of this spirit of veneration that the Lincoln Farm association has planned the coming dedication of the Lincoln memorial. The cornerstone of the memorial was laid two years ago at the centennial Lincoln celebration in Hodgenville, and the memorial was completed several months ago. The dedication was planned originally for last November, but circumstances prevented it. Then Lincoln's birthday of this year was suggested, but the probability of inclement weather caused the postponement to the coming Memorial day. There will be a program of addresses by prominent speakers, and then it will be announced that the Lincoln memorial is formally presented to the American people.

The erection of the Lincoln birthplace memorial building is the outcome of the patriotic efforts of the Lincoln Farm association to preserve for all time the birthplace of Lincoln as a permanent shrine. Before the association commenced its labors the house wherein Abraham Lincoln was born was made a public show, to be gazed at by visitors to national expositions and classified with freaks and mementoes of notorious persons and occasions. It had been sent from place to place, subject to the vicissitudes and dangers of travel and had found what seemed to be destined to become its final inglorious resting place in a storage warehouse in an outlying corner of New York city. Its authenticity was undoubted, but its history was not one which the patriotic American could recall without shame. For its preservation we are indebted to an association of patriotic Americans who worked for years to return the cabin to its original resting place, the historic farm of Thomas Lincoln two and a half miles from Hodgenville, and to preserve it for all time by erecting over it a granite and bronze memorial building to avert the decays of time and the blows of storms.

Heretofore the memorial building, awaiting its formal dedication, has not been opened to the public. It is guarded constantly in anticipation of its relinquishment to the care of the American people. Efforts are being made to interest the federal authorities in the matter of its acquisition from the association in order to stretch over the memorial the strong protecting hand of the government.

Here is the inscription on the pediment of the facade of the memorial:

HERE OVER THE LOG CABIN WHERE LINCOLN WAS BORN, DESTINED TO PRESERVE THE UNION AND TO FREE THE SLAVE, A GRATEFUL PEOPLE HAVE DEDICATED THIS MEMORIAL TO UNITY, PEACE AND BROTHERHOOD AMONG THESE STATES.

Immediately below this inscription, at the top of the portico, are graven Lincoln's words of peace:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all."

On the walls, directly to the left and right of the main entrance, appear respectively these lines, taken from the famous Cooper Union address in New York city on Feb. 27, 1860, "Let us have faith that right makes right, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it," and the lines from the Peoria (Ill.) oration of Oct. 16, 1854, "Stand with anybody that stands right, and part with him when he goes wrong."

On the four panels on the inside of the front wall of the building appear the biographical inscriptions of Nancy Hanks Lincoln and Thomas Lincoln, the parents of Abraham Lincoln; an abstract of Lincoln's own autobiography, a verse from Maurice Thompson's poem, "At Lincoln's Grave," and a verse from Edwin Markham's poem on Lincoln.

Sharing interest with the Lincoln memorial which stands on the Lincoln farm out of Hodgenville is the new Lincoln statue in the town itself. It stands in the courthouse square, amid surroundings which have been as unlovely and forbidding as can well be imagined. But by the time of the dedication they will be transformed into a park, with grass plots and flowers, to afford a fitting setting for the statue. The park itself will be a monument to the efforts of the women of Hodgenville, who have labored to raise in the town the sum of $2,000 for the parking of the square. The officers of the Ladies' Lincoln league of Hodgenville, Ky., are shown in the accompanying illustration.

The statue is the gift to Hodgenville of the United States government and the state government of Kentucky, acting jointly. The commission for its execution was intrusted to Adolph A. Weinman of New York, one of the best known of the younger American sculptors. He was the favorite pupil of the late Augustus St. Gaudens. Among other works, Mr. Weinman designed the Maryland Union Soldiers and Sailors' monument in Baltimore. A replica of the Hodgenville Lincoln statue stands on the campus of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Wis. Six cities sought the honor of owning a replica of the statue, asking for it when the monument was still only in the clay.

The Lincoln memorial itself is the work of John Russell Pope, architect, of New York. It is simple in design, noble and impressive, in keeping with the character of the man whose birthplace it covers. Only the most enduring of materials, granite and bronze, were used in its construction. The visitor enters the confines of the Lincoln farm through two granite posts, joined by a chain. Thence a newly constructed road takes him to the place of the memorial, which stands as nearly as painstaking research may determine on the exact spot where Lincoln was born. Wide granite steps lead the visitor to the memorial. He enters through a bronze door and treads a concrete walk which takes him to the door of the little log cabin itself. When with reverence he bows his head and sets foot within the inner door he stands on the soil itself—the sacred soil which gave birth to Abraham Lincoln.

LONDON'S BOBBY A GOOD SORT, EVEN IF HE IS A "OUNDSDITCH 'ERO"

"I'S 'ard to be a 'ero for 6 shillings a day," said a London policeman the other day. He was being questioned in his turn off duty regarding the recent battle in Houndsditch, in which two men, armed with repeating pistols of up to date type, stood off for ten hours 1,500 "bobbies," besides a large number of soldiers. The policeman was unusually communicative. Generally he and his comrades will not discuss police affairs with outsiders.

SCENE IN RECENT BATTLE WITH ANARCHISTS.

It may be hard, as the policeman said, to measure up the standard of a hero when one is underpaid for professional heroism, but all, save a negligible minority, of the men on the London force—and very probably on the police forces of all other cities—attain the required height. Since the anarchist affair in Houndsditch some of the unthinking folk of London have been jeering at their policemen as "Oundsditch 'eroes," but the mockery is undeserved. Individually the London policeman is about as plucky a man as can well be found outside of a few bodies of men selected especially for their daring.

Judged by American standards the London policeman is underpaid. Upon joining the force the recruit receives only $330 a year, and it is only after a considerable term of service that his pay is advanced to the maximum, $460 a year. That is for the "constables," whose rank is the lowest in the force. Compared with this wage, New York policemen receive good pay, ranging from $900 a year to $1,400. The minor officers of the London force are also paid much less than their American brethren, and it is only when the very highest offices are reached that the salaries paid are comparable with the American.

TYPICAL LONDON "BOBBY."

It is not easy for a man to enroll himself among London's 18,000 defenders of the peace. Conformation to high physical and moral standards is required, and a man's record must be clear. Discharged soldiers are preferred, and many of the men come from that class. Only a small portion of London's policemen are Londoners, as it has been found that life in the great city is not conducive to the development of the required physique. The metropolitan police district embraces an area nearly 700 square miles in extent, the greatest in the world, inhabited by a population verging on 8,000,000.

In one important respect the London policeman has differed hitherto from the policeman of almost every other large city. That is in the matter of his arming. His only weapon of defense and offense has been a short staff or truncheon, which has afforded him little protection when it came to getting into action against a desperate criminal armed with a knife or a revolver. It is now proposed that he be armed with the revolver, to give him at least an even chance if attacked by one of the foreign criminals who have made their obnoxious presence felt in London in recent years. The native criminal or misdemeanant has a well grounded respect for the London policeman and seldom ventures on violence when disturbed in his occupation of breaking the law, but the results of Great Britain's hospitality in the matter of harboring the offscourings of other countries are being felt in London.

The question of arming the London policeman with the revolver has aroused great interest in Great Britain. The arguments in favor of the change are obvious. The other side of the case was presented thus by one of London's leading newspapers:

"We wrote of the Houndsditch police murders [six policemen were shot, some fatally, in a battle with foreign burglars]: 'Desperate crime of this kind is little known in London, and our police are not armed with revolvers with which they can return fire. It may become a question whether the man on night duty should not be so armed.' Nevertheless we are sorry to see the proposal made in some quarters that the police as a whole should be armed with revolvers. That would be a serious blunder. In undertaking dangerous duty, such as the arrest of known burglars, the police should certainly be placed on an equality with their possible assailants. To pass from this to general arming is a step that requires most earnest consideration. We possess the most efficient police force in Europe, and its power springs largely from the fact that it is not armed as other police are. An armed police produces an armed criminal class, besides creating no little danger to ordinary citizens."

That London's "bobbies" succeed well in handling the "ordinary citizen" is well evidenced by the fact that in London the proportion of arrests to population is only about one-half of that in New York and other big American cities. The thing about the London police which impresses American visitors to London most is the courtesy and calmness with which the men go about their duties. Next to that trait, probably, in strangeness to the American, is the policeman's willingness to accept small tips for small services rendered.

RICHARD BARCLAY.

HIS SWEETHEART TRUE

A Valentine Day Poem

By WILLIS B. HAWKINS

[Copyright by American Press Association, 1911.]

ROB JONES he sleeped uth me one night,
An' first we had a pillow fight;
Nen mamma comed in an' tooked the light
An' telled us go to sleep.
But Rob an' me pulled up the clo'es
An' whispered half the night, I s'pose,
Uth both our heads tucked under so's
Nobuddy 'd hear a peep.

ROB he's a good deal bigger 'n me,
But 'en uv course he oughtuh be,
F'r I ain't only seven, y'u see.
An' Rob he's awmos' nine.
He telled me 'bout his sweetheart true
An' telled me how to git one, too;
He said 'at all y'u haf to do
Is make a volumtine.

Y'U dratz a picture uv a heart
Stuck through the middle uth a dart,
An' nen y'u dab the under part
Uth drippin' drops uv red,
Nen print y'ur 'nitials down below.
Y'u see, y'u've got to do that so
The girl 'at gits the heart 'll know
It's you she loves, Rob said.

NEN when y'ur volumtine 's done
Y'u leave it by 'er door an' run;
Nen after that you'll be the one
'At she'll be sweetheart to.
Nex' time y'u see 'er after this,
When she's alone, y'u mus'n't miss
To go right up an' take a kiss;
Nen she'll belong to y'u.

THAT'S ev'ything y'u haf to do,
'Cause when a girl belongs to y'u,
W'y, 'en she'll be y'ur sweetheart true,
An' you will be 'er beau.
'At's why I leaved a volumtine
By mamma's door, nen kissed 'er fine,
An' now I know 'at she is mine,
Because she telled me so.

Y'U MUS'N'T MISS TO GO RIGHT UP AN' TAKE A KISS.