

LINCOLN'S VOW FREED THE SLAVES

ABRAM LINCOLN called his cabinet together on September 22, 1862, to read to them his first proclamation of emancipation. In the diaries of two of the members of that council are given vivid running accounts of that meeting, telling of Lincoln's solemn vow and its consummation. This is the story of that day as told by Salmon P. Chase, secretary of the treasury:

To department about nine State department messenger came with notice to heads of departments to meet at twelve. Received sundry callers. Went to the White House. All the members of the cabinet were in attendance. There was some general talk, and the president mentioned that Artemus Ward had sent him his book. Proposed to read a chapter which he thought very funny. Read it, and seemed to enjoy it very much; the heads also (except Stanton), of course. The chapter was "High-handed Outrage at Utica." The president then took a graver tone, and said:

"Gentlemen: I have, as you are aware, thought a great deal about the relation of this war to slavery; and you all remember that, several weeks ago, I read to you an order that I prepared on this subject, which, on account of objections made by some of you, was not issued. Ever

since then my mind has been much occupied with this subject, and I have thought, all along, that the time for acting on it might probably come. I think the time has come now. I wish it was a better time. I wish that we were in a better condition. The action of the army against the rebels has not been quite what I should have best liked.

"When the rebel army was at Frederick, I determined, as soon as it should be driven out of Maryland, to issue a proclamation of emancipation, such as I thought most likely to be useful. I said nothing to any one, but I made the promise to myself and (hesitating a little) to my Maker. The rebel army is now driven out, and I am going to fulfill that promise.

"I have got you together to hear what I have written down. I do not wish your advice about the main matter, for that I have determined for myself. This I say without intending anything but respect for any one of you. But I already know the views of each on this question. They have been heretofore expressed, and I have considered them as thoroughly and carefully as I can. What I have written is that which my reflections have determined me to say. If there is anything in the expressions I use, or in any minor matter, which any one of you thinks had best be changed, I shall be glad to receive the suggestions.

"One other observation I will make. I know very well that many others might, in this matter as in others, do better than I can; and if I was satisfied that the public confidence was more fully possessed by any one of them than by me, and knew of any constitutional way in which he could be put in my place, he should have it. I would gladly yield it to him. But, though I believe that I have not so much, the confidence of the people as I had some time since, I do not know that all things considered any other person has more; and, however this may be, there is no way in which I can have any other man put where I am. I am here; I must do the best I can, and bear the responsibility of taking the course which I feel I ought to take."

The president then proceeded to read his Emancipation Proclamation, making remarks on the several parts as he went on, and showing that he had fully considered the whole subject. In all the lights under which it had been presented to him. After he had closed, Governor Seward said:

"The general question having been decided, nothing can be said farther about that. Would it not, however, make the proclamation more clear and decided to leave out all reference to the act being sustained during the incumbency of the present president, and not merely say that the government 'recognizes' but that it will maintain the freedom it proclaims?"

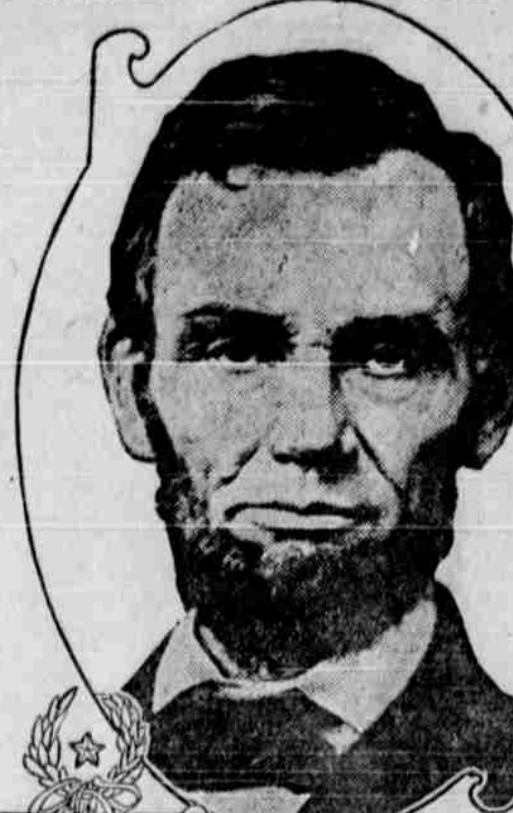
I followed, saying: "What you have said, Mr. President, fully

satisfies me that you have given to every proposition which has been made a kind and candid consideration. And you have now expressed the conclusion to which you have arrived clearly and distinctly. This it was your right, and, under your oath of office, your duty to do. The proclamation does not, indeed, mark out exactly the course I would myself prefer. But I am ready to take it just as it is written, and to stand by it with all my heart. I think, however, the suggestions of Governor Seward very judicious, and shall be glad to have them adopted."

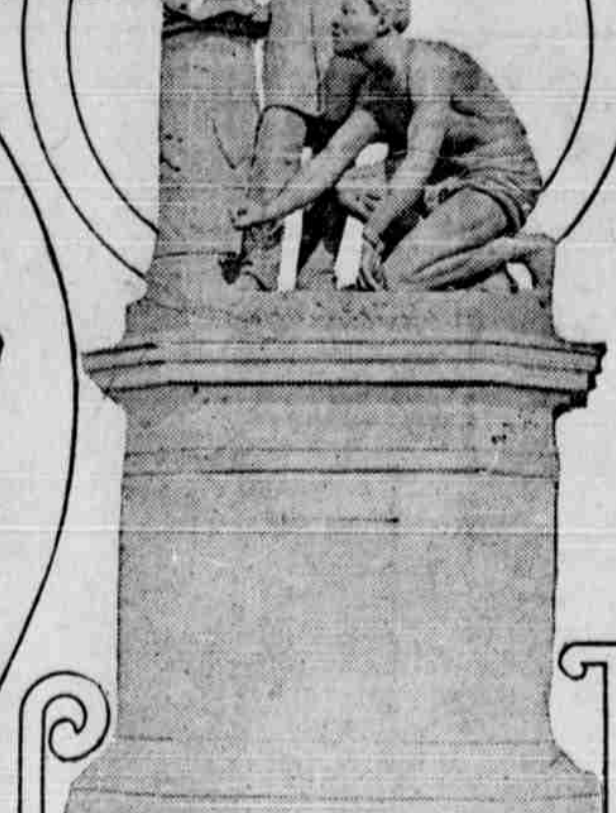
The president then asked us severally our opinions as to the modification proposed, saying that he did not care much about the phrases he had used. Every one favored the modification, and it was adopted. Governor Seward then proposed that, in the passage relating to colonization, some language should be introduced to show that the colonization proposed was to be only with the consent of the colonists and the consent of the states in which colonies might be attempted. This, too, was agreed to, and no other modification of the navy also recorded in his diary the events of that day. He, too, alluded to the solemn covenant Lincoln had made, to free the slaves in the event of a victory. The victory had come, and Lincoln had made up his mind. This is Welles' narrative, written under date of September 22:

A special cabinet meeting. The subject was the proclamation for emancipating the slaves after a certain date, in states that shall then be in rebellion. For several weeks the subject has been suspended, but the president says never lost sight of. When it was submitted, and now, in taking up the proclamation, the president stated that the question was finally decided the act and the consequences were his, but that he felt it due to us to make us acquainted with the fact and to invite criticism on the paper which he had prepared. There were, he had found, not unexpectedly, some differences in the way the views of each and all, individually and collectively, formed his own conclusions and made his own decisions.

In the course of the discussion on this paper, which was long, earnest, and, on the general principle involved, harmonious, he remarked that he had made a vow, a covenant, that if God gave us the victory in the approaching battle, he would consider it an indication of Divine Will, and that it was his duty to move forward in the cause of emancipation. It might be thought that the disposal of matters when the way was not clear to his mind what he should do. God had decided this question in favor of the slaves. He was satisfied it was right, was confirmed and strengthened in his action by the vow and the results. His mind was fixed, his decision



THE STATUE OF LINCOLN ERECTED BY THE FREED SLAVES



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made, but he wished his paper announcing his course as correct in terms as it could be made without any change in the determination. He read the document. One or two unimportant amendments suggested by Seward were approved. It was then handed to the secretary of state to publish tomorrow.

After this, Blair remarked that he considered it proper to say he did not concur in the expediency of the measure at this time, though he approved of the principle, and should, therefore, wish to file his objections. He stated at some length his views, which were substantially that he ought not to put in greater jeopardy the patriotic element in the border states, that the results of this proclamation would be to carry over those states en masse to the secessionists as soon as it was read, and that there was also a class of partisans in the free states endeavoring to revive old parties, who would have a club put into their hands of which they would avail themselves to beat the administration.

The president said he had considered the danger to be apprehended from the first objection, which was undoubtedly serious, but the objection was certainly as great not to act; as regarded the last, it had not much weight with him.

The question of power, authority, in the government to set free the slaves was not much discussed at this meeting, but had been canvassed by the president in private conversation with the members individually. Some thought legislation advisable before the step was taken, but congress was clothed with no authority on this subject, nor is the executive, except under the war-power—military necessity, martial law, when there can be no legislation. This was the view which I took when the president first presented the subject to Seward and myself last summer, as we were returning from the funeral of Stanton's child—a ride of two or three miles from beyond Georgetown. Seward was at that time not at all communicative, and, I think, not willing to advise, though he did not dissent from the movement.

It is momentous, both in its immediate and remote results, and an exercise of extraordinary power, which cannot be justified on mere humanitarian principles, and would never have been attempted but to preserve the national existence. The slaves must be with us or against us in the war. Let us have them. These were my convictions and the drift of the discussion.

The effect which the proclamation will have on the public mind is a matter of some uncertainty. In some respects it would, I think, have been better to have issued it when formerly first considered.

There is an impression that Seward has opposed, and is opposed to, the measure. I have not been without that impression myself, chiefly from his hesitation to commit himself, and perhaps because action was suspended on his suggestion. But in the final discussion he has cordially supported the measure as Chase.

For myself the subject has, from its magnitude and its consequences, oppressed me, aside from the ethical features of the question. It is a step into the distant future. A favorable termination of this terrible conflict seems more remote with every movement, and unless the rebels hasten to avail themselves of the alternative presented, of which I see little probability, the war can scarcely be other than one of emancipation to the slave, or subjugation, or submission to their rebel owners.

There is in the free states a very general impression that this measure will insure a speedy peace. I cannot say that I so view it. No one in those states dare advocate peace as a means of prolonging slavery, even if it is his honest opinion, and the pecuniary, industrial, and social sacrifice impending will intensify the struggle before us. While, however, these dark clouds are above and around us, I cannot see how the subject can be avoided. Perhaps it is not desirable it should be. It is, however, an arbitrary and despotic measure in the cause of freedom.

with the vapor and the room is lightly filled with fragrance.

All perfumes which are imported have risen in value. It is the higher duty which has brought this, not any scarcity of flowers, as the many manufacturers would have us believe.

A Bride's Way.
Mrs. Exe—is Mrs. Youngbride a good housekeeper?
Mrs. Wye—Well, when I dropped in on her she was trying to make bread in a chafing dish.

midnight hour; and it occurred to one of them to ring the bell of the residence of a certain professor. No sooner thought than accomplished. The professor stuck his head out of the upper window.

"What is it?" he asked.
"One of your windows is open, professor."

"Thank you, gentlemen. Which window?"
"The one you've got your head out of!"
Then they ran. Oh, college days!

News to the Professor.
Two students went out and had a good time—what they thought was a good time—Saturday evening. And they ambled homeward at about the

THE AMERICAN HOME

W. A. RADFORD
EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF CHARGE on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 178 West Jackson boulevard, Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

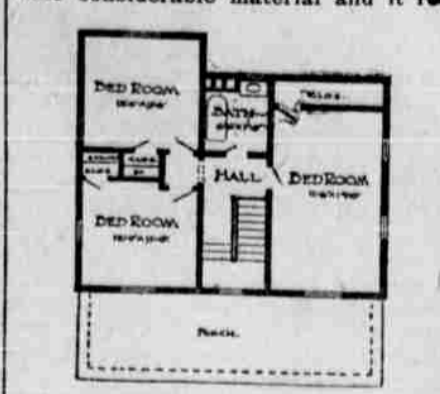
perintend the outside boarding and the fitting of the building paper over the corners and around the joints at the edges of the window frames; and you must call to see the mason when he gets ready to do the plastering. It is not a cheap house to build because, although it looks plain it will take considerable material and it re-

Some of the best houses in the lake shore suburbs north of Chicago are built after this plan. Sometimes the large bedroom upstairs is divided to make two rooms and occasionally other minor changes are made, but this arrangement of rooms usually is rather closely adhered to in houses of this style and size.

There is a hall in the center wide enough for a handsome open stair, but, in this particular house you go upstairs backwards, that is, you go to the rear end of the hall and start up towards the front instead of going up from front to rear, as in the ordinary house. This brings the turn and the landing in the front of the hall, and the hall where a certain floor space may be utilized to advantage that is usually a puzzle to an architect. You all know of houses where the headroom over the front stair is completely wasted, sometimes worse than wasted because it is impossible to dress it up to look right. For that reason this backward front stair is an improvement.

There also is an advantage in placing the big chimney at the rear of the hall. When the days are cold and dreary you get a nice bright cheerful glow from the grate fire emanating from what would otherwise be the darkest corner in the house, and this arrangement leaves the large living room free for the most artistic display of furniture. Such a fire place corner may be made into a very artistic lounging place and it offers a splendid wall space for a rather large set of book cases. Another advantage in putting the chimney well back is that you get the kitchen fire just where you want it, and the one chimney is sufficient for the heating plant, for the grate and for cooking purposes.

In selecting a wide house plan of this kind you must have a lot with at least fifty feet frontage. I have lately seen several mistakes where such houses have been built on narrower lots. The owners have not only spoiled their own property but have in-



Second Floor Plan.

quires everything of the best. A house of this size and shape built by unskilled hands is likely to look like a barn when finished. On the other hand when built by experts unhampered by inadequate appropriations it will be an ornament to the street and a credit to its owner.

IS THE AGE OF "SOCIETIES"

For Every Purpose Under Heaven People Have Banded Themselves Together.

Who can deny that this is pre-eminently the age of combinations and "societies"? There is a society, with a capital S, for every purpose under the heaven. Yes, verily, a society to kill and a society to heal, a society to mourn and a society to dance, a society for war and a society for peace, a society for noise and a society for the suppression of noise, a society for giving and, at last, a society for the preventing of giving.

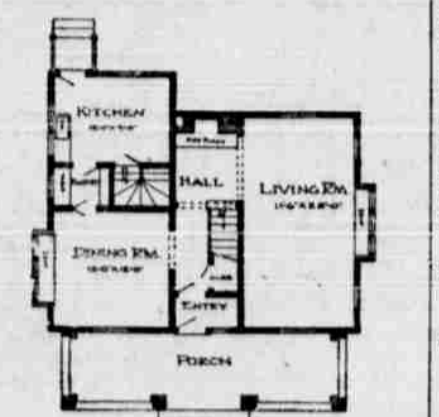
Is it not almost time to pause in our mad career of organization and to ask ourselves: What next? Whither and wherefore? Forsooth, can we not suppress superfluous noises without making so much noise about it? And is it absolutely necessary to pay useless dues in order to prevent useless giving?

Follow-sufferers, let us be up and doing! There is but one way out of this



jured their neighbors. I would emphatically say if you haven't fifty feet of ground select a narrower house and get the necessary room by extending it further back. Where conditions are right, however, for a house of this kind it is almost certain to prove satisfactory.

It is a good-sized house, being 35 feet wide by 27 feet deep, and by this arrangement you get the floor space divided up into large rooms instead of having smaller rooms and more of them. In addition to the other advantages you get a very cozy dining room, pantry and kitchen connected as



First Floor Plan.

Knew Where to Go.
The schoolmaster wanted to know whether the boys had an understanding of the functions of a British consulate. "Supposing," he began, framing his question on the likeliest way to arouse the interest of his hearers, "supposing some one took you up in an aeroplane, and after a long, exciting flight, dropped you down thousands of miles from home in a country quite foreign, what place would you seek out first of all?"

An eager hand was instantly up lifted.
"Well, Willie, what do you say?"
"Please, sir, the hospital."—Weekly Telegraph.

Mercenary Husband.
A society affair was to be given in which private theatricals were the most interesting feature. Mrs. Van Clews, a stage-struck young society woman, was to appear and was, in consequence, very enthusiastic over the affair. "Do you know, Wilfred," she said to her husband, "I scarcely know what to do. The part I am to take calls for me to appear in tights, and I don't like the idea of doing it. What do you suppose people will say?"
Wilfred gazed at his wife's figure in silence for a moment, and then said: "You will all say that I married you for your money."—Exchange.

Sea Paradox.
There is one queer thing about a vessel.
"What's that?"
"When she's tied up she can't make knots."
His Business.
"It is a wonder that photographers ever succeeded in business."
"Why is it a wonder?"
"Because they take everybody who comes along at his face value."

MORE AND BETTER FARMERS.

The way to cheapen food is pointed out by the head of the bureau of soils in the department of agriculture, but it is not a road by which we shall arrive at our destination next year or the year after, and ten years hence there will be more of us, the demand for food will be greater, and even with increased supplies there may be no real decrease in prices, says the Philadelphia Record. The crops of the present year have had some little effect upon prices. The abundant supplies of corn, oats and hay should reduce prices of all sorts of meats until another harvest season, but these mitigations of prices are temporary. The persisting fact is that the increase in the number of farmers, the increase in the area of tilled land and the increase in production are not keeping pace with the growth of the population. With all the infinite variety of farm implements and the hundreds of agricultural colleges and experiment stations, the quality of agriculture is not improving at anything approaching the pace of mechanical improvements. The country needs more farmers, and it needs more scientific methods of cultivation. Farming is improving, but practical agriculture falls very far short of possible agriculture. We need not expect to see the theoretically possible ever attended over a wide area, but the prosperity of farming for the last 15 years ought to keep in the country the young men who are still crowding into cities looking for wages of two dollars a day, and with all the scientific agricultural knowledge that we possess the yield per acre ought to be much greater than it is.

"Why," asks the clever painter of outdoor life, Adam Albright, denouncing the billboards of Chicago, "why does the law permit a man to rent the landscape?" That is a new turn to the old thought, says the Boston Post. The owner of a field believes that he has a perfect right to authorize an advertising company to disgrace its beauty with a hideous row of billboards, and so he has, legally. Yet he is maintaining a nuisance as truly as the man who permits an evil smell or foul water on his premises. Some day God's out-of-doors will be freed from the curse of these nuisances to the eye. We have begun to free our parks already. The world is coming to regard the value of beauty as next to that of virtue and orderliness.

The crop reporting board of the bureau of statistics of the United States department of agriculture estimates, from the reports of the correspondents and agents of the bureau, that the total production of cotton in the United States for the season 1912-13 will amount to 6,612,335,000 pounds (not including lint), equivalent to 13,520,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight. Last year's crop, according to the census bureau report, was 15,692,701 bales. The average annual crop for the five years 1905-10 was 11,874,270 bales.

Chicago waiters have a clubhouse in which there is a library of 2,000 volumes of the best authors, all bought with champagne corks, which the members pick up and sell for \$3.50 a thousand. As the club is nine years old, it is possible to figure out, in a way, the extent of Chicago's indulgence in champagne.

Since the instructive exhibit on tuberculosis which drew large crowds, eager to obtain information about the white plague, this mode of impressing lessons on prevention of disease has become popular. Not only does it enlist the interest of inquiring minds, but a more fundamentally important result is that the graphic demonstration by diagrams, figures and epigrammatic statements of facts arouses in the average visitor a desire to learn and to participate in the movement, says the New York Sun. The people who have thronged the halls of the City college which has been generously offered by Dr. Finley to the national committee for mental hygiene, attest to the deep interest in the exhibit of this committee.

The 14-inch cannon which bursts at the test seems a concrete example of the old couplet: "If so soon I am done for, I wonder what I was begun for." But it is more judicious for it to burst on the testing ground than in action—it is ever to get into action.

Wealthy and fashionable women in Boston have formed an association to discourage cruelty to animals in the cause of fashion. They have renounced meat as a diet, and given up the wearing of furs and feathers, which are procured at the cost of suffering to the fur-bearing animals and to birds. They may not establish a large following, but that they are in earnest is proved by the sacrifices made, which are particularly hard for well-dressed women to initiate.

An athletic young woman in Washington who blackened a policeman's eyes was fined \$60 for each eye in mourning. But she probably thought the fame of such an exploit cheap at the price.

Every once in a while somebody discovers that the hobble skirt is 5,000 years old. Let us remind the scientists and historians that Marco Polo discovered the bustle among Asiatic women in the thirteenth century.

MUST BE KEPT FROM HEAT

Something to Be Remembered by the Woman Fond of the Perfume of the Violet.

Appropos of violet perfume it may be well to whisper in the ear of every woman the secret which every perfume so well knows, a very simple little secret, but very important to the preservation of perfume. It is that no bottle of violet should at any time be put near the heat, nor in the

Homely Baby's Prospects.

Let no parent despair of a plain child. Beauty, so far from being "skin deep," largely depends upon the proportion between the different parts of the face, and this depends upon their rate of growth. Before a boy's voice breaks he may have a very defective chin, a serious blemish for our ideal of manly beauty. But that chin may be destined to grow just when the boy's beard begins to grow, and may transform him. I saw the other day an old school-fellow whom I could

strong light, either artificial or natural, for a decided chemical change takes place not only in the color of the perfume, but in the odor.

The wistaria blossoms have surrendered their color, and strange sweetness to the skill of the Oriental, and may be had in sachet. There are also the bars of sandalwood which may be had among one's trocés but, comparatively speaking, do not care for its pungent quality compared to the blossomy outdoor fragrance of the real flower scents.

scarcely recognize, so vastly improved was he since his young boyhood by the acquisition of that chin which anatomists tell us is a peculiarity (and therefore a beauty!) of our species. Robert Southey was described by his nurse as a "great ugly boy" when he was born, but he grew to be so handsome that Byron said he would be almost content to father Southey's poetry if he might have its author's head and shoulders. I cannot say what percentage of ugly children turn out handsome later in life, but certainly

many do, partly because in earlier life the various parts of the face have developed at somewhat unequal rates, and partly because of the influence of another factor of beauty in which Southey was rich, its old-fashioned but familiar name is the soul.—Dr. Saleeby in the Strand.

Ground sandalwood and orris may also be had for about one dollar for a quarter of a pound to make into individual sachets, but no sachet is lasting and too much should not be expected of it in the way of durability.

Perfume burners have found their way into vogue. The correct way to use these artistic combinations of gun metal and brass, which look so like a tiny and much beautiful alcohol lamp, is to mix the perfume with water and let it boil. As it does so the freshness of the blossoms floats off

with the vapor and the room is lightly filled with fragrance. All perfumes which are imported have risen in value. It is the higher duty which has brought this, not any scarcity of flowers, as the many manufacturers would have us believe.

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