

# A Magnificent Structure.

Our New Hotel, "The Lincoln."



cent interior emphasize in a most striking manner the wonderful progress which Lincoln, but a few years since a stopping off place on the western trail, has made in the assumption of metropolitan dignity and importance.

At no period in the brief history of the city have the hotel accommodations been commensurate with existing needs and future prospects. The old Tichenor house, the Opelt, the Commercial, the Capital, the Windsor and the rest have in their particular time offered suitable entertainment for the traveler under ordinary circumstances; but in stirring times the person coming to Lincoln in the expectation of finding repose in an elegantly upholstered apartment of "the hotel" has frequently been glad to accept with thanks a cot, not always above suspicion, in some dismal hall or dark recess of the overcrowded caravansary. Those who have attended political conventions and legislative sessions from abroad in the years past will doubtless always carry with them the memory of many an ineffectual attempt to solve the problem of how to crowd one more lodger into a room already insufferably packed. Guests have been on occasion compelled to seek refreshing slumber on the soft side of the hotel stairway or in the hospitable embrace of an office chair, and to quiet the demands of a hungry stomach with a sandwich deftly snatched from a dining room table completely surrounded by an "eager, anxious throng."

But the first day of January, 1891, will witness the completion of an institution which will preclude, for some time at least, a recurrence of the annual complaint of lack of suitable hotel accommodations. "The Lincoln" is a complete hotel and its erection will mark an epoch in the city's triumphant advancement to the goal of full fledged metropolitanism. A brief description of this hostelry, pronounced by experienced men the finest and most elaborately equipped structure between Chicago and Denver, cannot but interest readers of THE COURIER who are interested in all that pertains to the city's advancement and improvement.

"The Lincoln" occupies a quarter of a block. It is seven stories high, including the cornices, and the distance from the cellar to the roof is nearly eighty feet. Ohio sandstone is the principal material used in construction and the architectural design gives a peculiarly massive and stable appearance. The two main entrances, one from P street and the other from Ninth street led to the main rotunda, which is 51 by 58 with a height of 25 feet. The handsome stair case of Vermont marble and ash leading to the second floor from the west side greets the eye on entering from Ninth street.

The floor is of Vermont marble tiling and the frescoing, balustrades and columns are finished in white and gold. Light is furnished at night by 100 incandescent electric jets, each provided with a reflector and in the day time by the great skylight which constitutes the ceiling.

Adjoining the main entrance to the rotunda is the ladies' entrance and reception room near the passenger elevator. The office occupies a space at the south side and is surrounded by a heavy counter of quarter sawed oak. Connected with it is a large burglar and fire proof vault. The barber shop handsomely tiled and mirrored and fitted with six chairs, can be entered from one corner of the rotunda, and along the south side on either side of the office are the gentlemen's writing room and parlor, elegantly furnished and adorned with art mantels, the lavatories, water closets, etc. These latter are admirably fitted up. Then there are committee rooms, offices, etc., and from the northwest corner of the rotunda you enter the billiard and bar room, 42x50 feet, equipped with five billiard and pool tables. The bar room fixtures are characteristic of the city. In addition

to these various departments of the hotel, each of the private stores has an entrance into the main rotunda and windows of plate and art glass. The cellar is paved with brick and here are store rooms, the engines, refrigerators, boilers, pumping machinery, etc. Water is pumped from wells under the building to storage tanks on the roof.

Ascending to the second floor you first notice the wide balcony surrounding the rotunda. On the north side the balcony is twenty-five feet wide. It is richly carpeted with royal Axminster mats manufactured for the purpose. Around each column is an elegantly upholstered divan. Opening off of this delightful promenade are three suites of parlors, two on the P street side and the other on the front.

Each parlor is magnificently furnished and adorned with art mantels. At the west end of the promenade is the principal entrance to the dining room. This room, by the way, is one of the finest halls in the country. It is forty by eighty feet and is twenty-four feet high; capable of accommodating nearly three hundred people at one time. The walls and ceiling are of white and gold and from the latter is suspended a myriad of electric burners. At the front and side are immense windows furnishing excellent light. A large buffet of carved wood stands across the south end, in the center of which is the following:

"Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest."

The top of this buffet is intended to be used as an orchestral stand—an original



idea of the proprietors. An old fashioned open fire place adorns the east side. Much attention has been bestowed on the floor. It is of maple and has been treated to a thorough course of oiling and sand papering. Here large dancing parties and receptions will be held, and nowhere in this country can a smoother surface be found. There are no obstructions in the room, whatever. Back of the dining room are the kitchens, serving rooms, pantry, etc. There is an ordinary of ample dimensions on the south side opening onto the balcony.

There are thirty suites of rooms with private baths also public bath and toilet rooms on each floor. Altogether there are 230 rooms in the hotel, of which 189 are bed rooms. These are all elegantly furnished in hard wood. Each is supplied with electric light and bells and steam heat. Call bells can be rung in the rooms from the office.

The furnishing throughout is beautiful and elegant, costing nearly \$60,000, and all the apartments are first class in every respect.

The freight and passenger elevators are conveniently located and are of the latest approved design. There are three stairways running from the cellar to the roof.

No building in the west is so thoroughly equipped with fire escapes. These extend the full height of the building on P and Ninth streets, and are accessible at the end of both halls on each floor. The passenger elevator is also constructed on the fire escape principle, shaft the being built of solid masonry and the doors made of iron.

tion. Mr. Markel will divide his time between this city and Omaha, where he is interested in the management of the Millard, while Mr. Shears will remove to Lincoln and give the hotel his personal attention. The Lincoln Hotel company, to whom credit is due for this magnificent enterprise is officered as follows: John Fitzgerald, president; H. D. Hathaway, vice president; Austin Humphrey, secretary; N. C. Brock, treasurer. The board of directors are John Fitzgerald, H. D. Hathaway, Austin Humphrey, N. C. Brock, H. T. Clark, G. C. St. John and J. A. Buchstaff.

Just as soon as the few last finishing touches can be made the hotel will be thrown open to the public, which will be in a very few days. Governor-elect Boyd and scores of prominent people have already engaged apartments.

## A Necessity, Not a Luxury.

INSURANCE in our present day is as important a factor in business as good credit, in fact without the former, no business man is considered A 1 in the commercial field. It is one of nature's first principles to be secure and be that safety from burglary, accident or fire, is immaterial, for one is equally as necessary as the other. Good reliable insurance is a boon and now that the country fairly swarms with fakes of all kinds in that line, the unsuspecting will always prove a willing victim. Right here at home, be it said with credit to Nebraska's fair capital city, we have an insurance company that is in every way worthy of liberal support. It is not a new thing or a speculators scheme, but a thoroughly reliable company that has been with us for over five years, doing excellent service and giving the very best of satisfaction. Reference is made to the Farmers' and Merchants' Insurance Company, which was organized in July 1885. Many other companies have since then been brought to life, but very few have

their hands. Who can show a better record? Lincoln should feel proud of such an institution. It is an honor to the city and state and THE COURIER is pleased to note the success with which it is meeting, not only at home, but abroad as well and wishes it continued prosperity.

## Santa Claus of 1890.

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FROM the belfry sweet and low,  
Hidden in the midnight's gloom,  
Sound the bells across the snow  
Through the casements of my room.  
And I cry a blithe Amen!  
To the burden of their lay,  
As they singing seem to say  
Santa Claus has come again.

How the bells imprint a smile  
On the child in happy sleep!  
How they sleepless souls beguile  
As they sound from deep to deep!  
How they preach to weary men  
Grown half hopeless with the years!  
How they teach, 'mid joyous tears,  
Santa Claus has come again!

For too often care and doubt  
With their shadowy sister, pain,  
Casting darkness all about  
Quench the sunlight of the brain,  
So a joy comes o'er me then  
Which no words can ever frame,  
When the merry bells proclaim  
Santa Claus has come again.

Yet methinks that Santa Claus,  
Though unseen, dwells ever near,  
And through nature's august laws  
Brings unceasingly good cheer;  
And that all the sons of men,  
If they listen in this life,  
Hear above all earthly strife,  
Santa Claus has come again.

For I see without, within,  
Something whose resistless might  
Slowly crushes strife and sin,  
And with wisdom aids the right.  
So, no matter what has been,  
Well I know that every hour,  
And in sweetness, love and power,  
Santa Claus has come again.

WILLIAM L. S. FAULKNER.

## A Reduced Appetite



Mr. Bingo—What part of the turkey do you want, Tommy?  
Tommy Bingo (who has been stuffing himself with candy all the morning)—I don't know as I want any (hesitatingly). I don't feel very hungry.  
Mr. Bingo—Come, that won't do. You must eat something, my son.  
Tommy—Well, you might give me a drumstick and a wing and some of the breast and a little stuffing and gravy and—and the wishbone. I know I couldn't eat any more than that.

THE COURIER enters upon its sixth year this month. In the last five years it has evolved from that very modest and unpretentious sheet known as "Vol. 1, No. 1" into one of the leading society papers in the west.

If you have kept your heart closed all the year, open it now. It will do you good.

RESOLVE on New Year's day to make only such resolutions as you are likely to keep.