

THE LINCOLN MUNICIPALITY.

Already a Cloud Upon the Horizon of the New City Administration.

THE MIGHTY AGAINST THE WEAK

It Will Be a Cold Day When Cooper Is Appointed Chief of Police—A Botter Fired—Capital City News.

[FROM THE BEE'S LINCOLN BUREAU.]

On Tuesday of this week the new city government of Lincoln will take the reins and conduct the affairs of the city for the coming year.

At the final meeting of the old administration to-night the vote of the city election will be canvassed, the result announced and the certificates to the fortunate will be issued. There is already a cloud on the horizon for the new mayor in the shape of the ordinance introduced increasing the saloon license from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year.

There are a few of the stronger saloons, financially or in patronage, in the city that either favor or are indifferent to the increase, while the others are opposed to the proposed change.

The eleven saloons that fought side by side with the prohibitionists for the election of Mr. Sawyer are somewhat perturbed over the sudden introduction of increased license, and it looks as though one of the first clashes the new mayor would have to meet would be the question of standing by his saloon supporters and the old license or stand with his prohibition support and assist in increasing the license.

With these two classes of election day charmers confronting the mayor he evidently feels how happy he could be with either were the other dear charmer away.

Some of the saloon interests have been anxious to have the old administration issue the licenses for the coming year, but that under the new law is an impossibility, and even could it be done the retiring administration would not trench upon the rights and prerogatives of the new in questions of this character that shape the policy of the administration.

Under the new charter the number of appointive positions are both increased in number and importance. The board of public works is one of the additions, and while Mayor Burr a short time ago submitted a list of names for these places the council has deferred confirmation that the new mayor could exercise his own judgment in selecting a board under the administration.

The only member of Mayor Burr's list that is anxious for a place on the board and who will presumably be appointed is Mr. S. McConega, and the suggestion of his name brings but little comment either way.

The appointment of chief of police is thought to be closely to the door of P. H. Cooper, the veteran democrat and ice dealer of this city. This combination may seem somewhat strange, but the fact remains that Mr. Cooper is a democrat and deals in frozen water.

The organization of the council in selecting a president promises to be interesting. The council is about as evenly mixed in republicans, democrats and prohibitionists as could well be, and what it will evolve is doubtful.

N. C. Brock, the present president of the council, is understood to be a candidate for re-election, but his fast and loose game against his own party will not commend him to the republicans, and the democrats and prohibitionists probably have a man of their own. History is repeating itself in Mr. Brock's case, and in the campaign just past he has had as many horses as he did a number of years ago, when he ran for mayor, two or three nominations and then was elected.

The most agony exists in the police department, and in this branch it is believed that all in the police force will be left and the rest of the organization will be new. Petitions of applicants are floating through the streets daily en route to the office of the mayor-elect.

FINING A BOTTLER. The republican committee met in business session Saturday evening to make final settlement of the campaign work.

Mr. Allen W. Field, the member of the committee from the Fourth ward who botched the republican nomination and after he was made a member of the committee, was not present, but the committee without any hesitation proceeded to declare his place vacant on the committee on account of his leaving the party, and Mr. John D. Knight was appointed to the vacancy.

Mr. Field has been greatly honored by the republicans of Lincoln in the past, being a member of the legislature, speaker of the house and at the present time city attorney under a republican administration.

He was also a candidate for congress last fall, and as such invoked the support of all the republican party, and months afterward he can as calmly as the oldest mugwump in the land turn his back upon the party that has honored him and support a radical democrat who never in his life had any party to which he belonged.

The republicans of the city will approve the act of the committee in decapitating one of the fathers of the lawless propaganda, and if the committee will go farther and name a good challenger with a stuffed club and stand him at the polling place at the next republican primary in the fourth ward to attend to the case of Gere and Hathaway if they attempt to call themselves republicans and vote, they will only do their duty to their party organization.

ARE THEY FORGETTING THE LEASE? A well known attorney of the city calls the attention of the Bee to the fact that the stock yards company, as alleged, is and has been, violating its lease with the state lands, and is in a condition that the attorney generally calls a "breach of the contract." The violation complained is that the company are in their manufacture of brick digging out the valuable clay banks and destroying acres of ground which the lease only gives them a right of occupancy. A member of the legislature, who visited the grounds in question when the scheme was on to buy the land through the bill in the house, noticed the havoc that was being wrought and freely commented upon it. It is suggested that it would be an excellent plan for the state to call the parties to proceedings against them in their contract. The violation complained is that the company are in their manufacture of brick digging out the valuable clay banks and destroying acres of ground which the lease only gives them a right of occupancy.

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not be surprising if a genuine broad sided law suit is entered of record before remedies are restored.

ABOUT THE CITY. The announcement made that Mr. A. E. Touzain has a force of surveyors at work platting the bulk of his thousand acre purchase, six miles east of the city, which new town will be called "Haystack." This tract is in the vicinity of the flag station Newton, on the main line of the B. & M. east, and while many consider it a great boom for Lincoln others raise the question whether a new town so far away will help the city prosper, especially if it means the locating of industries at that point. In connection with the platting the sale of the B. & M. moving its shops to the new town is received, all of which careful men consider of worth attention. If the platting means more than a suburban town it has not yet been divulged.

The Herdman case evidence that has held district court for four days, was all in Saturday night, and the judge withholds his decision in the case for future promulgation. This morning a short session of the court will be held to hear a motion for adjournment for the adjournment for the term will be taken.

The most serious question confronting the city of Lincoln at the present time is the wholly inadequate water supply, the water supply running low, that the mayor has issued a proclamation calling attention of citizens to the fact of the necessity of using no more than absolutely necessary.

The way the city is growing at the present time the present source of supply will not be adequate to one-half meet the demand in six months' time and a water famine is imminent at almost any moment. Work on sewer construction is being pushed now night and day, and in the eastern part of the city the work was being crowded ahead yesterday.

The contractor has experienced great difficulty in securing permanent men to work, and every hour's time is being utilized.

Easter Sunday was observed with special services at all churches in the city. The number of them being handsomely decorated with floral offerings, and the discourse of the pastors being appropriate to the day.

"I see a star, Eve's first born, in whose train Come the dappled twilight that bringeth pain. For aches of head, neuralgia, cut and bruise, Try Salvation Oil, these will you lose.

"How can Mrs. Smith wear such a handsome velvet coat?" "My dear child, don't you know her husband saves doctors bills by using Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup for the children?"

REAL ESTATE. Transfers Filed April 9, 1887. George B. Lane and wife to David J. Mount et al. 602 1/2 feet of land in lot 3 Capitol add, w. d. 11,500

Cora H. Sloman and husband to John J. Sedwick et al. lot 9 in block 7, K. by place, w. d. 2,500

Alexander McGaveck and wife to Paul Getchell, lot 13, River view, w. d. 1,500

W. D. Tanner et al. to W. M. Harris et al. 3 1/2 feet of lot 1 and all of Geo. H. Ayres and wife to W. D. Muselman, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, in Lyon add, w. d. 2,500

John J. Hayes and wife to W. D. Muselman, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, in Lyon add, w. d. 2,500

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SPIRITUAL SPECIALTIES.

"Knockings" That Commenced in Hydeville, N. Y., Forty Years Ago.

SINGULAR TABLE STRIKINGS.

The Fox Sisters—Their Rochester Knockings—Visit to Cincinnati—The Late Convention—Wonderful Psychometric Power.

Cincinnati Commercial Gazette: Early in 1848 the family of John D. Fox, at Hydeville, a small village in Wayne county, N. Y., was disturbed by mysterious rappings, which were heard mostly in one of the bedrooms.

Efforts to trace the noises to a tangible cause were fruitless, but after discovering that the strange presence could converse by answering to the call of the alphabet, the members of the Fox family were startled by its declaration that they were talking with a spirit.

The announcement of this fact produced great excitement at Hydeville, and the neighbors flocked to the residence of Mr. Fox to investigate for themselves.

The wonderful presence continued to manifest itself by raps and was persistent in the declaration of its spiritual nature and occult powers. It was at length ascertained that the raps came from the two younger daughters of the family, Catharine and Margaretta, were present, and then the fame of the "Fox girls" spread far and wide, because they had "a familiar spirit."

Soon after these occurrences the Fox family removed to Rochester, N. Y., in which city the mysterious manifestations continued to accompany them, and they were soon known everywhere as the "Rochester Knockings."

It was here discovered by rapping out the letters of the alphabet that different spirits were apparently using this channel of communication, and that almost anyone, on coming into the presence of the two girls, could get a message from a departed friend, the same often being accompanied by tests which satisfied the interrogator of the spirits identity.

In a few months a large number of the presence was observed in the Movement of tables and other ponderable bodies, but still only while these young girls were in the room. Such manifestations, at the time growing more and more remarkable, attracted numerous visitors from far distances, and the phenomenon ere long began to propagate itself, and to be witnessed in other families at Rochester, and elsewhere, while, as coincident circumstances, susceptible persons would sometimes fall into apparent trances, become clairvoyant, and recall these raps and physical movements to be the products of their own mind.

The public meeting held at Corinthian hall, at Rochester, in November, 1849, was called at the request of the alleged spirits, for the purpose of submitting these phenomena to the test of a committee to be selected by the audience, with a view to the publication of a report concerning their nature and claims, whatever the decision respecting these might be. The raps were freely manifested through the Fox sisters, and were submitted to many tests, and the committee, after having continued their investigation for several days, reported that they were unable to trace them to any earthly source. Upon the announcement of this conclusion the excitement throughout the country was intense, and every where the men marveled at the power of the raps, which were generally regarded as a new revelation.

In May, 1850, the Fox sisters visited New York city, and then these peculiar manifestations through their mediumship became the subject of an extensive newspaper discussion, and it was in the speech of Americans everywhere. The facts were published far and wide in many tongues. Mediums through whom similar manifestations occurred, sprang up in different parts of the country, and were soon multiplied by hundreds and since that date spiritualism has been a prominent theme of public discussion by popular writers, and by men and women. The manifestations in New York were sometimes accompanied by phosphorescent lights and noises like electrical explosions, and as all the particulars were given in the newspapers, are sufficiently familiar to old citizens. The rappings instantly began and Mr. Urner said to our informant:

"Now ask if there are any spirits present that will communicate with you."

"Such a question is always a poser to the neophyte. It appears to him that he is merely interrogating the empty air, and that the reply can be nothing more than the echo of his own voice, and he hesitates. Our friend hesitated, but finally nerved himself to the occasion and repeated the question as suggested. The answer was given in the affirmative, and he was greatly embarrassed, and Miss Margaret Fox, observing this, told him to write his questions, or if he could concentrate his mind sufficiently, to ask them mentally. He chose the latter method and inquired:

"Is the spirit of my mother present?" "Answer, 'Yes.'"

"Is the spirit of my daughter Eliza present?" Answered affirmatively.

He asked his mother several common-place questions, which were answered correctly, and then inquired:

"Mother, what was the age of my daughter Eliza when she died?" The rappings immediately became regular. The raconteur did not know they were to be counted, but the others counted them.

"Twenty-two? What was your question?" they asked.

He said he had asked the age of his daughter at her death, and the answer was "Twenty-two right?"

He said it was, for she was within a month of that age when she died. But, like all anxious inquirers, he wanted still another test.

"Mother, what was your age when you died?" he asked.

Distinctly and unequivocally ninety-seven raps were given, which was the correct answer.

He asked several additional questions, all of which he said were answered as only his mother could have answered them.

From the very beginning of the interrogations he felt something striking his knee, like a ball of wool. This he thought very queer, and determined to say nothing about it. He several times peeped under the table to see if it could be some person doing it, and continued to feel the soft blows from something wholly invisible to mortal ken. They were centered about six inches from the feet of the table, and he felt that they were raps on the table which he did not understand, and one of the mediums announced that the alphabet was

called for. Through its aid this question was asked:

"Why don't you tell?" "What what?" inquired one of the circles. "The knocking on your knee," was spelled out.

Our good friend was astounded. Some one asked him:

"Did you feel knocking on your knee?" "Yes," he replied; "but I intended you should know nothing of it."

"Which knee?" was asked. "The right knee," was the answer. "The right knee," he attended another circle a few evenings following that upon which these incidents occurred, and not only received correct answers to every question he propounded, but he was actually occupied by him was shoved about the room, backward and forward, more than a dozen times, without the visible touch of any power!

Such was the experience of the gentleman who, upon visiting this first circle, had determined to erect from his own ignorance a throne of judgment upon which to condemn these manifestations, but instead of this he found his skepticism suddenly cured. We do not give the incident for its intrinsic merit, for it is but one of the hundreds of thousands of the same kind, but its value consists in its early date and connection with those original exponents of spiritualism whose natal day is now being celebrated in most of the large cities of the United States.

It is natural for the average reader to say that he does not admit the assurance of any one who expects him to believe in the occurrence as above related, and it is proper to reply that he is not expected to believe in them till evidence of their truth is presented to him from the original source. Then belief will not be necessary, for he will know. Zeno declared the existence of a criterion to establish the truthfulness of their original exponents, and the spiritualist proves to himself the soundness of Zeno's position. But he cannot prove it to his neighbor. The manifestations of spirit presence must come to every one direct. Through an intermediate mortal they are of no force or value.

Whatever the actual foundation of spiritualism may be, it has undeniably increased in strength from year to year in its own country, and has spread to the wild-eyed, unkempt and generally distrustful disciples of its early days, we now find among its believers many alert business men and first class citizens. They scoff at the term "medium," and regard they walk by sight, without the least regard to faith. The best of them admit that many impositions have been practiced under the name of spiritual manifestations, but that the majority of cases fraud could not have been palmed off even if designed, and that in other cases there could be no possible motive for deception, as the investigations were carried on in private families, with their own sons and daughters for mediums.

Wonderful Work. A special dispatch to the St. Louis Globe Democrat, dated 28th inst., from the spiritualist convention of the South, at its session this afternoon, the Hon. A. C. Ladd, of Georgia spoke. He is denominated a normal speaker, that is, one that speaks not with a trance, but in his own mind. He spoke on ancient and modern spiritualism and the effect upon the human race. He held that spiritualism was established as true by more perfect tests than any other religion. He stated that the only absolute evidence of the immortality of the soul, whereas speculative theology was founded on hearsay evidence only. No evidence of a future ported that the soul can be greater than that of the return to us of our friends after death.

Mrs. Edith E. R. Nickless, of Chicago, through the little Indian girl control, Little Sunflower, gave some tests in a trance state. She talked in broken English, as it is supposed an Indian would talk, and pointed out persons in the audience and made observations about them. To a man she said: "You are in the midst of troubles and you think there is no way out of them."

"That's so," responded the man. "But there is," responded the medium. The girl then turned to another man, and said he had never seen the medium, and that he was not a spiritualist. A lady was called up and told that a spirit friend objected to her wearing black clothes, not just an ordinary black dress, but a white living. The lady said that she once had just such a friend, who was now dead.

SPIRITUALISTIC EDUCATION ADVOCATED in the evening Mr. George Colby spoke on the theme "What lack ye yet?" He assumed that spiritualism has robbed death of its terror and the grave of its gloom, and had brought the sunlight of hope into the life of millions, but the millions to whom it had made this revelation had not yet become spiritualists because they failed to comprehend the philosophy of it. He suggested the education of children in spiritualism that they may escape becoming a prey of bigotry or blank infidelity. On this point he expatiated at some length.

Mr. Wilson Porter, of Chicago, the father of E. W. Porter, deceased, of Cincinnati, gave a series of psychometric readings. Her method was to read the history of several lives by holding in her hand some familiar object of the deceased, such as a handkerchief, a bunch of keys or a ring. These readings went into details of personal history, and were in every instance pronounced correct. To a lady whom she heard walking in the street a few days she said, talking rapidly:

"You are very positive, and you rule your own household, and I am glad you number and variety of things which instantly followed were a surprise to her. He was greatly embarrassed, and Miss Margaret Fox, observing this, told him to write his questions, or if he could concentrate his mind sufficiently, to ask them mentally. He chose the latter method and inquired:

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ing and said he wanted them to subscribe to the stock in the spiritualist property on Lookout Mountain. He said they proposed to build a college there, and they must consider that matter in this convention. The enterprise of investment there was a profitable one and full of promise, and it was worth fostering.

The meetings are held in Greenwood hall, which was brilliantly lighted. The stage is flooded with light, and the medium stands about the middle of it. The attendance has been good. About six hundred people were present to-night, and their attention was perfect from first to last.

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