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LINCOLN'S EARLY DAYS.

Correspondence of the Cleveland (O) Leader.

PEORIA, Ill. June 25, 1860. A full and truthful biography of Abraham Lincoln would make a book of the history and individual character, a noble specimen of true moral courage and manbood-the best sample among us of the gigantic growth of intellect and character, under the fostering influences of 'American institutions and society, when not dwarfed by idleness, dissipation, or dishonesty. Every laboring man in the country toiling under the weight of poverty with a view to better days, and every student struggling for knowledge and advancement under whatever diff. culties, has stock in Old Abe, and may be justly proud of him as one of his class. who has demonstrated the distinguished success that may crown any honorable ambition, properly cultivated.

Forty-four years ago Mr. Lincoln's father emigated from Kentucky to Spencer County, Indiana, where he purchased

to be Captain.

he discovered that his old partner had has." been his own best customer in the whisky | Presently I heard footsteps on the stairs flinchingly. He seems to me to be really traffic, and that he bad "decamped" with- and a tall arrowy, angular gentleman, gifted with the faculty of remaining faithous paying the debts of the trading con- with a profusion of wiry hair "lying a- ful to his convictions of right in the face cern, amounting to \$1,100, and without round loose" about his head, and a pair of difficulties and discouragements. I leaving anything to pay them with .- of eyes that seemed to say "make your- shall be mistaken if he does not prove as "Here, then, I was," said Mr. Lincoln self at home," and a forehead remarkably firm as he is acknowledged to be honest. once to a friend, "\$1,100 in debt, or \$1,- broad and capacious, and arms that were Another characteristic that impresses me 100 worse off than at any time in my life somewhat too long and lank for a statue is his eminent truthfulness. I do not bebefore, for I had not a single dollar to of Apollo, made his appearance. The lieve that any earthly power can drive pay this indebtedness with. What to do lips were fall of character, the nose strong- Mr. Lincoln into the commission of a I was at a loss to know. I thought the ly aquiline, the check bones high and mean action. I am sure that he would matter over for many days and was great- prominent, and the whole face indicative far prefer being right to being President. ly di-tressed. To go to work at the cus- at once of goodness and resoluteness .-- One feels, in talking with him, that his tomary wages of a 'hired hand' and earn In repose, it had something of rigidity, utterances come from the heart. \$1,100--it seemed as if I could not do it. but when in play, it was one of the most I heard but one expression of unquali-But I determined at last to try. I never eloquent I have ever seen. None of his fied praise of Mr. Lincoln among his in my life knew a man, who resolved to pictures do bim the slightest justice .- neighbors. No man living is more prodo his duty, did not have some means o- His presence is commanding-his manner foundly respected and more ardently bepened up to him, no matter how impossi- winning to a marked degree. After you loved among those who know him best. ble, seemingly, was the accomplishment have been five minutes in his company All parties and interests join in paying of that duty at the start," and so it proved you cease to think that he is either home- tribute to his private virtues. Everyin this case with honest Abe. Stumb- ly or awkward. You recognize in him a where I heard him spoken of as the best ling upon, accidently, a book on survey- high-toned, unassuming, chivalrous-min- of husbands, the kindest of parents, the ng, he at once made himself master of ded gentleman, fully posted in all the es- most irreproachable of citizens. the science, and commenced the business sential amenities of social life, and susof surveying as a profession, having in tained by the infallible monitor of comthe mean time removed to Sprinfield.- mon sense. Here he made friends very fast, and soon He approached, extended his hand, and became exceedingly popular-so much gave mine a grasp such as only a warmso that he was selected as a Whig candi- hearted man knows how to give. He sat date for the Legislature, and was trium- down beside me on the sofa, and comnoted as a shrewd and intelligent debator. which surprised me. I found that he During his legislative term he commenced some pointed allusions to the great Constudying law by the advice of Judge Lo- gressional struggle which resulted in the gan and John D. Stewart of Springfield, election of Mr. Conkling in 1858. I askwho had discovered in him the evidence ed him if he was not very much bored of an acute and remarkable intellect .-- with calls and correspondence. He re-He was admitted to the bar in a few plied that he liked to see his friends, and months after got married, and at once as to the letters he took good care not to influence enough over her to enable him pashed forward to the front rank in his answer them. He referred playfully to the various "attempts upon his life," and given in meager but truthful outline. I them. His greatest grievance were the need only add that in his personal hatits artists; he tried in vain to recognize him-Mr. Lincoln has always been strictly ab- self in some "Abraham Lincoln's" of the stemious, using neither tobacco nor spir- pictorials. I asked him if he continued his profesitous liquor of any kind. No man, moreover, ever yet accused him of an ungen- sional business since his nomination. He erous or a dishonorable act or thought. said he had attempted it, but pitied his Said I not truly that he furnishes the best clients. He had been arguing a case the sample to be met with of the gigantic day before, but said the demands of his growth of intellect and character, position made him an indifferent lawyer. under the fostering influences of Ameri- He spoke with great freedom of corrupcan institutions and society, when not tion in high places. He regarded it as dwarfed by idleness, dissipation, or dis- the bane of our American politics; and honesty ? L. R. W. Yours, truly,

date. He protested that he knew noth- bousehold was a true type of the Ameri- of social attrition than I had expected. ing about military matters, but a stout can lady. There were flowers upon the I was greatly impressed with the pracfellow pushed him forward while his sup- table; there were pictures upon the walls. tical character of his mind. No man livdeepest interests. He furnishes in his porters formed behind. Great was the The adornments were few, but chastely ing has less of the visionary. He is eviastonishment and the mortification of the appropriate; everything was in its place dently a "good hater" of cloud-capped Major when he discovered that Lincoln's and ministered to the general effect .- theories. The grasp of his mind is strong procession out-numbered his own by two The hand of the domestic artist was eve- and tenacious. He talks like one who men; and Lincoln was therefore declared rywhere visible. The thought that in- thinks clearly and profoundly. He has voluntarily blossomed into speech was, all the marks of a mind that scans closely, Upon Lincoln's return from the war, "What a pleasant home Abe Lincoln canvasses thorougly, concludes deliber-

and there was a strife as to who should to the conclusion that all the world here- to assure me that he did not regard my be the Captain. There was a tall pom- abouts were pedestrians, I set out to vis- call as a bore. I found him to be one pous fellow in the neighborhood, glorying it the future President of these United of the most companionable men I have in the military title of "Major"-who States, in the truly democratic style of ever met. Frank, hearty, and unassuwas very anxious for the new office, and going a foot, and unattended by any guide ming, one feels irresistibly drawn toward who felt confident of obtaining it. When save my own wits. I had little difficulty him. In his conversation and bearing the day of election arrived, there proved in finding the place of my destination .- he reflects the gentleman. Hardly a to be from a dozen to fifteen candidates A modest-looking two story brown frame trace of the rough schooling of his earlifor the captainey. The plan of election | house, with the name "A. Lincoln" on the er days remains. You may be pressed adopted was novel. A space was cleared, door plate, told me that my pilgrimage by his angularity of character, but it nev. and it was agreed that each candidate was ended. I was met at the door by a er occurs to you that he lacks culture. should march across this space with his servant, who ushered me into the parlor, If his manner is at times somewhat unufriends following him in single file, and and carried my note to Mr. Lincoln, who sual, it never strikes you as in the least the man who had the largest procession was up stairs. The house was neatly degree uncouth. In the essential of good of friends should be declared the Captain. without being extravagantly furnished .-- breeding, Mr. L. is infinitely superior to While the processions were forming, some An air of quiet refinement pervaded the to the generality of Americans. I find of the "boys" caught Lincoln by the arm, place. You would have known instantly him far more refined, far more subdued and declared that he should be a candi- that she who presided over that modest in manner, exhibiting far more the effects

ately, and holds to such conclusions un-

The Terrible Cival War in Syria. A correspondent of the Boston Traveler, writing from Beirut, Syria, under date of June 6, gives an account of the civil

war now raging near that vicinity. He Druses and Christians, numbering hun-

dreds of thousands; are now engaged in wholesale murder, arson and pillage, in which fiendish work they are aided by Turks, Moslemens, Arabs and the people known as the Metawalies.

From my window last week I counted from twenty to thirty burning villages upon the mountain, a few miles from Beirut, from whence the flash of musketry may easily be seen, and the volleys heard one after another in rapid succession, as anything strange or mysterious happen they eebo through the valleys. The dying and the dead are brought daily into the town in large numbers, and the windows and the orphans may be seen in great crowds weeping and wailing about the streets.

The barbarity of this war is truly shocking. Men, women and children are overtaken while fleeing for refuge and without arms, and ruthlessly slaughtered while praying for quarter.

The Christians have thus far suffered most terribly. Their villages have been burned, their crops destroyed, and great numbers have been brutally murdered, while the Druses, who are better warriors ently said, "Why didn't de brine run out and far more courageous, assisted by the Turks, Moslems and Metawalies, and nal. up to this time have proved successful.

The bloody war which is waged on both sides as a war of extermination, has its origin in religious and political causes .-The Christians and Druses hate each oth- see so many drones in the great and busy

ty to the Frank population of Beirut, and the expected arrival of a French fleet is hailed with delight.

The absence of an American vessel of war is deeply regretted at this time .-The U. S. steamer "Iroquois" is somewhere in the Mediterranean sea, but it is supposed she is detained at Sicily.

The Mystery of It.

Two darkies had bought a quantity of pickled pork in partnership; but Sambo having no place to put his portion in, consented to intrust the whole to Julius's keeping. The next morning they met, when Sam said, "Good morning, Julius, down your way, lately? "Yas, Sam, most strange thing happen to my house, yesterlastnight. Mystery, all mystery to me."-"Ah, Julius, wha' was dat?"-"Well, Sam, I tells you now. Dis mornin' I went down into de cellar for to get a piece ob pork fur dis yer darkey's breakfust, and I put my hand down into de brine and felt around, but no pork dare -all gone, couldn't tell what bewent with it; so I turned up der barl, and Sambo, true as preachin', de rats eat a hole clar through the bottom of de barl, and dey dragged the pork all out !" Sam was petrified with astonishment, but presob de same hole !" "Ab, Sam, dat's de mystery, dat's de mystery."-Home Jour-

Do Something.

It is truly a melancholy spectacle to with a deadly hatred on account of the hive of human life. We daily see young men of education, and who possess more bout as listlessly as if there was nothing in the boundless universe worthy of their are many sons of wealthy parents! No spurs them on to lesp from obscurity into achievements, are dawdled away in unholy dissipations. If such is to become the universal effect of wealth on the rising generation, it were far better that poverthe Druses have since assassinated every ty should for ever be the handmaid of our sons and daughters. In the name of common humanity, we call on all young men to do something. Do not sneak upon several Druse villages. At first they from the cradle of infancy, to the coffin of oblivion, without, at least, one great effort to prove that you have not lived in vain. Remember, that fame and honor are never achieved with folded arms and "master inactivity." When the sublime wisdom of common sense taught Columbus there was a new world, he did not preach his belief with idle hands and lack lustre eye. The wonderful discoveries in science and art were not made by men who regarded life as a holiday of idleness. If you would win the applause of your fellowmen, if you would gain your own selfrespect, then, in the name of all that is good and sacred, we call on you to go to work and do something.

a small farm. Ten years or so after, the project of a public school in the neighborhood was started, and meeting with encouragement, a log schoolhouse was built, at which Abe, then about 18 years old and who had never attended school before, was installed. Exact six weeks after the school commenced, an execution against his father-the result of indorsing a note for a friend-swept away the little farm, and the student was compelled to leave school to join his parent, who, greatly di-heartened by his misfortune, had determined to emigrate to Illinois with his family. The six weeks schooling in that log school-house is all that Mr. Lin coln ever received. - Ile is indebted for whatever education he possesses solely to his own unaided exertions, made during the leisure hours of a laborious life, often consuming the time that should have been devoted to rest, and always in the earlier part of his life, under eireumstances of great difficulty, induced by poverty

In due time the Lincoln family reach ed Coles County, where it was decided to seek their fortunes. By dint of hard labor at low wages, enough money was saved in the course of two years to purchase and pay for eighty acres of Goy. ernment land. The son assisted his father for some time in the cultivation of this farm, but becoming imbued with the spir. profession. it of enterprise, he eventually started out to try his own fortunes, and coming to Macon County, after considerable difficulty in obtaining work, came across a Mr. Hawks, with whom he closed a contract to cut and split three thousand rails. While at work at this job he found more time than beretofore to improve his mind, and it is related of him that when noon arrived he would mount a log, swallow his dinner in from eight to ten minutes, and then spend fifty minutes in close study before commencing the afternoon's work. While engaged upon this job our hero made the acquaintance of a man (whose name I have forgotten), who proposed that they build a flat-boat, that he would stock it with grain and provisions, and that Abe should command said flat-boat on an expedition down the Sangamon Riv-

er to the Illinois; down the Illinois River of Illinois and candidate on the Republi- rough diamond--a slang-whanging Wes-

An Evening With Abraham Lincoln. Editorial Cor. of the Utica Morning Herald. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., June 21, 1860.

I have an instinctive aversion to dogto the Mississippi, and down this River ging the footsteps of distinguished men. to New-Orleans, when the flat-boat and Nothing was further from my thoughts cargo should be disposed of. The enter- four days ago, than a visit to Abraham prise looked promising, the fist-boat was Lincoln. Nothing seemed more impossibuilt and loaded, Capt. Lincoln proceed. ble than that I should ever-before or ed on his voyage, in due time arrived in after his election to the Presidency-join New-Orleans, disposed of boat and cargo, the great mob of those who should "pay Great West. and shipped for home as a deck-hand on him their respects." But meeting an inboard one of the Mississippi River steam- timate personal and political friend of Mr. boats. On this trip up the river Mr. Lin- Lincoln, a few days since, he said, "You coln states that he first met the Hon. Jes- New-Yorkers don't kno wour glorious se R. Du Bois, the present State Auditor standard-bearer. You think him a mere

An Arkansas Girl's Resentment.

GIVING A FELLOW THE SACK LITERALLY A green, awkward girl, the daughter of wealthy parents in Arkansas, baving come to-, in Massachusetts, to be educated, a young dentist, Brown, conceived phantly elected, holding the office for menced talking about political affairs in a notion that his shortest road to fortune four years, during which time he became my own State with a knowledge of details would be to marry her. But then she was the laughing stock of the seminary, He saved money enough during these was more conversant with some of our because she was so gaunt, masculine, and four years to pay off all his \$1,100 in- party performances in Oneida County ungenteel in her dress, and Brown felt debtedness, even to the last shilling .- than I could have desired, and made that it would require all his nerve to stand the redicule of several of the young pupils with whom he had flirted until he was satisfied that they had no money or expectation of any.

However, he consoled himself with the reflection that he should speedily obtain to become, in a measure, her adviser in the matter of costume, manners, &c .-Such is Mr. Lincoln's early history, the poor success that attended some of The foremost thoughs was to amend her long, lank form, by the aid of crinoline, which she had never worn, and his flattery had no sooner secured bim a confidential place in her good graces, before he ventured to make a present of a patent provisions. skirt or sack, together with a hint to fix

> he had invited her. The night arrived, the party were assembled, and the Arkansas damsel made her grand entree from the ladies' dressing school girls and village belles. The boop said he could not respect, either as a man sack was shockingly out of shape, proor a politician, one who bribed or was jecting in front like the sponting horn of bribed. He said he was glad to know the people of Illinois had not yet learned the art of being venal. The whole exous black hose, the fascinations of which pense of his campaign with Douglas did were somewhat augmented by the yellow pot exceed a few hundred dollars. I wish rosettes of her white satin slippers (men's the thousands of people in my own State size) encasing her delicate fect. To whe loathe corrupt practices could have complete Brown's horror, her flaxen head heard and seen Mr. Lincoln's indignant and freekled face were "set off" with a depunciation of venality in high places .profusion of green and yellow bow knots I can now understand how the epithet of of formidable size, intended to do execu-"Honest Abraham Lincoln" has come to tion as beau eatchers.

be so universally applied to him by the Madder than sixty, the disappointed deptist went through the first dance with He related many pleasant incidents her, taking little or no pains to conceal connected with his contest with Douglas. his disgust, and then hurried away to the He told me that he spoke, in all, sixty whist room to escape the compliments four times, nine or ten times face to face and sarcastic ridicule of his old flames. with his antagonist. His estimate of the The unfortunate partner, who was clear

difference in their religious faith-and the Christians hate the Druses with a than ordinary natural gifts, lounging aspecial hatred because Druses are in a great many of the mountain Christian districts feudal chiefs and rulers over the attention. How utterly lost to manhood Christian or Maronite and Greek Catholie villages. The more immediate causes ambition, no hope, no ardent desire, ever of the war may be traced to the fact that last summer at Bait Marri a quarrel a- the broad daylight of lasting renown .-rose, in which the Maronite Christians Their lives, which should be full of noble were victorious, having repulsed the Druses, killing forty or more, while their own loss was less than one-third of that number. Although peace was then declared,

Christian who came in their way. This aroused the Christians, and so exasperated them that they made an attack were successful, but the Druses rallied under their warrior chiefs, and burned every Maronite and Greek Christian village within their reach. The provincial authorities pronouncod the invading party-the Christians-to be rebels, and the Governor-General proceeded with all his. available force to the mountains, and brought his cannon to bear npou the Christians. The Christians are rallying for the forlorn hope; for they fear that the Druses, thus aided, will endeavor to exterminate them. This, however, will not be an easy matter, as the Maronite Greeks and Greek Catholios number about two hundred and fifty thousand.

The American missonaries in Mount Lebanon have been greatly exposed, but as yet have suffered only for the want of

up pretty handsomoly for a ball, to which Consul Johnson sent guards for their pro- ing-stick." The "devil," wishing to pac tectoin, and in some cases provisions .-- ify, told him to go into the sanctum where Some of the families of the Mission have the editor was writing duns to delinquent come down to Beirut under an escort fur. subscribers. He says that picture of disnished by the Consul, and others are dai. pair reconciled him to his fate. room, amid the titter of laughter from the ly expected. No personal danger to the Americans in Mount Lebanon is apprehended, as they are well known and well wife told him that she had been informed protected. But their work is stopped by that Mr. Stick-in-the-mud's wife's cousin Nahant; but that was nothing to the ex- the war, their houses become asylums for had heard how that Mrs. Tattle guessed pose it made of her somewhat incongru- the wounded and the fearful; in fact they she saw somebody go into Wiggin's house are crowded out by the people who seek when nobody could have been there but their protection; for, wherever the Amer- Mrs. Wiggins. We hardly credit the reican flag is seen waving on the housetop, port, but feel it our duty to circulate it. the people flock in great numbers for admission.

The humanity shown by the Americans in Beirut to the wounded, the homeless and the starving refugees from the mountains, will long be remembered by the natives of the country.

The American Mission premises are crowded day and night by women and children crying for bread, which they receive with comfort and consolation from the American missionaries.

One of the largest of the towns, Deirel to the bar and take something at his ex-"Little Giant" is generous. He concedes grit, was deeply incensed when informed Kenir, is now in a State of siege, and pense. Negro did so, and shortly left.great suffering is produced by the want Landlord says to the stranger : of provisions. Deirel Kenir is a Turkish "Are you acquainted with that negro ?" town, and is garrisoned by Turkish troops "No. never saw him before; but why -unlike the other Christian towns. In do you ask ?" thus attacking a Turkish town the Druses "I supposed so, from your conversing with bim, and asking him to drink." allowed the Druses to burn a large por-"Oh." said the stranger, "I was experimenting. The fact is, I was dry too, It has been estimated at the British and I thought if your liquor didn't kill consulate that about sixty villages have that negro in fifteen minutes, I would been burned. It is believed that the Euventure to take a drink myself !" ropean powers will now interfere in be-Landlord's curiosity was fully satisfied. Woman with Whiskers. This morning we learn of a large num. Mrs. Lucinda S. Standiford, now about Roars of laughter followed this spirit- ber of peasantry having been induced to return to their villages, where they were thirty-two years of age, wife of Jarvis T. along badly, and did not prove profitable. wheat ready for the sickle. Indeed, ma. ridicule. The Chicago Times tried that make his escape. The next day he left all killed in cold blood-and of the mar- Standiford, residing in Toulesburg, Lewchurch, who were shot down near the beard about five inches in length, grown upon her face since the first of Septem-The success of the Druses has un- ber, 1850. She has been married about doubtedly stirred up all the Moslem hos- thirteen years, and had no indications of tility to Christians, and a general insur- a beard until the first of last September. rection seems to be trembling in the bal- It is very thick, very dark, and coarse that there will be no paper i-sued this war was the subject of excitement. A center of business. After vainly search - nearly two hours long. More than once week, as his wife is using his seissors to lance. The presence of a Russian frigate like a man's beard, and has never been

ITTA printer, not long since, having been flung by his sweef heart, went to the Upon the breaking out of the war Mr. office to commit suicide with the "shoot-

Mr. What-do-you-call-him says his

Extraordinary elopement-Mr. Jone's dog eloping with Mr. Brown's dinner.

A Wise Precaution.

A man traveling entered a tavern, and seeing no one present but the landlord and a negro, seated himself, and entered into conversation with the negro. Shortly he asked Sambo if he was dry. Sambo said he was. Stranger told him to go

can ticket for re-election, who was also tern stump speaker, who lacks the case and polish of the well-bred gentleman. I discharging the duties of deck hand.

The first flat expedition proved so want you should go and see him-to come successful that two others were projected, in contact with the man-to talk with and by the time they were completed, his neighbors-and then go home and Lincoln had saved several hundred dol- tell your people why we in the West so lars. With this money he opened a small much love and honor him." I confess I store at a settlement known as New-Sa- had an intense desire to see the man, and lem, and with the usual foolishness of readily surrendered to the arguments of new beginners in business, he took in a my friend.

partner. "I reekon now," said Lincoln, Armed with a strong letter of recomalluding to the enterprise on one occasion, dation, I was soon en route for Springwith one of those proverbally comic ex. field. Leaving Chicago by the Illinois pressions of countenance, "I reckon now Central Railroad, I passed over a counthat that was the store," and I judge try unsurpassed in fertility of soil, and of his friends were kind enough to let within an inch o'yer life; you'd better be- them from the Turkish yoke. from his ludicrous description of its mis- smiling in the promise of a bounteous him see the most abusive of them. He lieve it." cellaneous contents that it might have harvest. As I went south, I found the should judge the line of tactic which they been. However, the new business went corn almost ready to tassel out, and the intended to pursue, was that of personal ed conduct, and tooth-puller was fain to The partner insisted that they must add ny fields were already cut.

some whisky to their stock in trade if Ten hours of dusty riding, in a sun zingly. He was inclined to believe that The Arkansas girl became a pet, and finthey would save themselves, but to this that had all the fierceness of the dog-days, the present effort of his enemies would be ally made a very respectable appearance walls of Sidon. proposition Lincoln stoutly objected, but brought me to Springfield, a common place, the partner as stoutly insisting, Lincoln sprawling sort of town, covering about ten times as much ground as it ought, and refinally sold out to him.

new militia company was to be formed, ing for a back, and finally settling down I rose to leave, but he was kind enough balfsole his cassimeres with.

to him great hardihood, pertinacity, and of his abandoment, and some of the symmagnetic power. Of all men he has ever pathisers advised her to "give him the seen, says Mr. L., be has the most auda- sack." i. e., dismiss him at ouce. "I'llcity in maintaining an untenable position. be dodrotted of I don't do it 'for the hull Thus, in endeavoring to reconcile Popu- crowd," she replied in a boiling passion, lar Sovereignty and the Dred Scott de- and making straight for the dressing room, become rebels, but the Governor-general cision, his argument, stripped of sophisand followed by a bevy of laughing girls, try, is : "It is legal to expel Slavery soon emerged again with the hoop-sack tien of the place before he interfered. from a territory where it legally exists !" in her hand, and threw it at Brown's feet. And yet he has bampoozled thousands "Thar, you mean, good-for-nothing shaker out of old snags! Take your old into believing him.

I asked Mr. Lincoln if he saw much of sack and wear it yourself, and ef I ketch the Democratic papers. He said some you speaking to me again, I'll lick ye half of the Christians of Syria and relieve

in '58, and helped him (Lincola) ama- the village, and has not returned to it .--

attended with like happy results.

I was fortunate in finding Mr. Lincoln alone and disengaged. My visit, which About this time the Black Hawk markable chiefly for having no visible I intended should be ten minutes, was

Out in Illinois, an editor gives notice