LINCOLN'S SUMMER COTTAGE

MEMORIAL LINCOLN ROSTRUM AT SOLDIERS HOME GROUNDS

PROBABLY not one in ten thousand of the present-day admirers of Abraham Lincoln are aware that there is yet standing in a perfect state of preservation a modest frame cottage which served as the summer home of the martyr president during his administration. Many readers, no doubt, are unaware that Lincoln had any other home than the White House at Washington during the long period of strain and strife, and yet as a matter of fact had it not been for the rest and relaxation afforded by his sojourns at this modest suburban retreat it is doubtful if Lincoln could have met the exactions of that trying half-decade without paying the penalty of nervous collapse long before the close of the war.

The Lincoln summer cottage has a certain added significance when considered in connection with the project which has several times been broached in recent years to provide the President of the United States with a permanent summer home. It may be remembered that only last winter there was talk of attempting to have congress appropriate money for the purchase or erection of a special vacation retreat for the chief magistrate, and then when this scheme fell through various summer resort communities all over the country came forward with offers to donate summer presidential homes, free of expense to the nation, if only they be given assurance that such gift would receive official sanction and designation as the "summer White House."

Yet oddly enough all the time that this discussion of the project for a summer White House was in progress the nation was already in possession of a presidential vacation cottage—the very one that was originally provided for President Lincoln and which has since stood ready for occupancy by any chief executive, although none of our later presidents have availed themselves of the privilege. To be sure, this summer cottage is not located in the mountains or at the seashore, but on the contrary is picturesquely situated in the environs of Washington. But then we must remember that not nearly all of our Presidents have subscribed to the theory of Taft that it is necessary to seek a northern clime for the summer solstice. All the early presidents of the nation who were residents of Virginia thought that the Old Dominion afforded all the requisities of a summer resort and so recent a president as Grover Cleveland chose to spend his summers in the suburbs of Washington in cottages which he rented for the purpose.

But to get back to the subject of the Lincoln summer home it may be explained that this historic cottage stands on what is now the grounds of the National Soldiers' Home in the District of Columbia. This, the only country home officially provided for a president of the United States, was not, however, specially erected for President Lincoln. On the contrary, it was built in 1810 as the country home of George Washington Riggs, one of the first citizens of Washington and the founder of a house that has transacted the banking business of practically every president of the nation. The vast estate which surrounded this epoy country home was the tract which now comprises the grounds of the National Soldiers' Home and the circumstances of its acquisition for the use of the nation were very interesting.

When, upon the conclusion of the Mexican war, Gen. Winfield Scott returned with his victorious army to the United States he brought among other spoils of war the sum of $70,000 in gold which he had exacted as penalty or indemnity from Gen. Santa Ana for the action of the Mexican troops in firing upon a flag of truce. General Scott was soon in a quandary what to do with this money. He offered it to congress, but that body was, for some reason, averse to accepting it. There were good reasons for not attempting to distribute it among the officers and soldiers of the army and General Scott did not want to keep the money himself, although the War Department was quite willing that he should do so. Finally he solved the problem by personally purchasing the Riggs estate and establishing a National Soldiers' Home. Congress accepted the gift and this unique institution has since been maintained by a small tax imposed upon each soldier of the regular army.

It was in 1861 that the Riggs cottage, standing on the crowning site of what had developed into a most beautiful park, was invested with the dignity of a presidential summer home. It was evident, of course, that the progress of the war would prevent President Lincoln from absenting himself from the capital for even a brief vacation, and yet it was equally manifest that his health would suffer unless he had some relief from the tropical heat that besets the city on the Potomac in summer. It was General Scott, himself, who brought to the attention of the president the charms of the beautiful suburban cottage, set on a hill overlooking the city and surrounded by a veritable forest. President Lincoln forthwith fell under the spell of the romantic spot and removed his family from the White House to the newly-discovered retreat.

VIEW OF SOLDIERS HOME FROM LINCOLN COTTAGE

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S SUMMER HOME

IMPOSING GATEWAY TO THE SOLDIERS HOME GROUNDS

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SOLDIERS HOME

From this time until his untimely death Lincoln spent each summer at the cottage on the heights. It was his custom to drive into Washington each morning from the cottage and after spending the day at his office in the White House to drive back to the cottage at night, but there were, of course, occasional days when he remained at his suburban retreat and many conferences were held there from time to time that had important bearing upon the fortunes of the Union. The cottage came to be known as "the president's cottage" and is so popularly designated to this day, but in the course of time it was, by Lincoln's own direction, officially christened Anderson cottage, in honor of General Anderson of Fort Sumter. By direction of the Secretary of War, Anderson cottage was set apart for the permanent use of the President of the United States and in later years it was occupied for brief intervals by Presidents Grant, Hayes and Arthur, but none of them were so deeply attached to the modest and comfortable habitation as was the Civil War President.

To present-day visitors the center of interest at the Lincoln cottage is President Lincoln's bedroom, which is on the second floor and is the largest room in the house. Two large front windows open directly over the porch and a splendid view of the City of Washington is afforded. The parade grounds of the Soldiers' Home, the flag pole and the commandant's quarters are directly in front of the cottage, the site being the most impressive and commanding of the entire grounds. The furniture used by Lincoln during his occupancy of the cottage is reverently preserved, but it has been removed from the cottage to a storehouse and is not open to the inspection of visitors.

Immediately beneath the bedroom is the room which was used by President Lincoln as a sitting room. It is about half the size of the enormous bedroom, but larger than most of the other rooms in the historic cottage. There are, all told, about twelve rooms in the cottage. Several additions have been made to the house since it was erected more than a century ago, but the residence as it stands today is identical with its appearance when Lincoln was master there. As has been said, the building is a frame structure but the exterior is covered with stucco, such as was so popular with many of the early builders, and this has been kept in a perfect state of repair so that the cottage today bears no evidence of its great age.

The cottage is at present occupied by several of the old soldiers, who are spending their declining years in this haven of the veterans of the regular army. Naturally, the old soldiers hold the cottage in the greatest veneration because of its association with Lincoln, and they take manifest pride in showing visitors about and relating anecdotes of the war-time president.

There are many reminders of the immortal Lincoln in this locality. Not far distant is the site of Fort Stevens, where Lincoln was under fire while a spectator in the trenches during a spirited engagement between Federal and Confederate forces. Yet near at hand, in the cemetery connected with the Soldiers' Home, is a handsome Lincoln memorial rostrum, which is the scene of the exercises which are held at this cemetery on each recurring Memorial Day, and at which the President of the United States is often a speaker. It has several times been proposed that the Lincoln cottage be torn down in order to make use of its splendid site for one or another of the buildings which have from time to time been erected to accommodate the increasing membership of the Home's family of old soldiers, but so much sentiment has always been aroused against such action that the scheme has always been abandoned and other sites selected.

A DREAM OF RELIEF.

"Isn't that Miss Yawler singing across the way?"

"Yes, I wished she belonged to a grand opera company."

"You surely don't think she can sing?"

"Not at all, but grand opera companies never come to this town."

ALL A BLUFF.

"Who is that intoxicated chap, boasting that he can whip his weight in wildcats?"

"That's Meekers."

"Husband of Mrs. Puffinghurst Meekers, the suffragette?"

"The same. I suspect he is hanging around here because he is afraid to go home."

SOMEWHAT RATTLED.

"When you are presented to the king you will please make a genuflection," said the master of ceremonies.

"Good land!" exclaimed Mrs. Porkingham of the U. S. A., "is that a noise or a gesture?"

Proper Care of the Eyes

Simple Precautions Will Add Many Years to Service Afforded by These Organs.

Among other drawbacks of what we are pleased to term "civilization" is the failing of the eyesight. Perfect eyesight in a man above the age of 40 is almost as rare as a perfect set of teeth.

The eyes, like every other part of the body, depend upon the condition of the entire system. Diet has a special effect upon the eyes. Sugar is particularly harmful. Some of those of this department have reported that the mere abandoning of sugar has been sufficient to effect a great improvement in the eyesight.

Another evil of "civilization" is that we are most of the time looking at things near by. You seldom have a chance to "raise your eyes to the everlasting hills."

Here are some good remarks from an article on eyes and spectacles in the Journal of Osteopathy, by Dr. W. B. Van de Sand:

"Those who are obliged to use their eyes for near work long at a time will find relief in closing their eyes, of looking at distant objects for a few moments from time to time. There are muscles in and about the eyes that are in a condition of contraction constantly while one is reading, writing or doing near work. Closing the eyes for a few moments, or looking at distant objects, allows these muscles to relax and rests them."

Another excellent thing is to bathe the eyes thoroughly in cold water morning and evening, and to massage them thoroughly, also the regions around the eyes, gently using the finger tips in a good oil. In this way great improvement in the eyesight may be effected.

SEEN AND HEARD IN MICHIGAN

Hartford.—Despondent, it is alleged, over the unreciprocated love of a schoolmate, Grace Cutler, the fourteen-year-old daughter of Mrs. Mary Cutler, committed suicide at the local public school by swallowing strychnine. The girl almost immediately approached her teacher, Miss Bernice Gustine, and informed her of her act. Dr. R. R. Lawrence was hastily summoned to the school building, where he found the girl lying on a table. She calmly informed the physician of her attempt at self-destruction. Efforts to save her failed. Although only fourteen years of age, the girl was of an exceptionally romantic and sentimental nature. A few days ago she wrote a note to Verne Haney, a schoolmate, which furnished the key to the mystery. "If you love me tell me so and reply by noon or I'll take poison," said the note.

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Bad Axe.—Three men were injured in a bad wreck on the Pere Marquette railroad about five miles south of Port Hope village. Conductor Edward Whiting and Engineer R. E. Stringer both sustained broken ribs and internal injuries. One passenger, Fred Koglin of Port Hope, was also injured. The train started for Palms with two engines ahead on account of the snow. At a place where the heavy frost had raised the track the rails spread under the second engine. The engine, baggage car and two coaches tipped over into the ditch under a speed of about twenty-five miles per hour. The cars and engines were badly broken. There were only a few passengers aboard.

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Grand Rapids.—Harry Roughton, who murdered his divorced wife here July 16, 1911, was captured by Detective Peter Viergever on a farm near Portland. He was returned to this city. The police say he has confessed. Roughton's crime was one of the most mystifying that the local police has had to deal with since the celebrated Oom case 12 years ago.

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Grand Rapids.—Humane Agent Raudolph found 18 cattle and two horses starving to death on a farm in Yankee Springs, Barry county. A warrant was sworn out for the arrest of a Chicago man who owns the farm. James Jones, also of Barry county, was allowing three cows and four horses to starve. The humane agent ordered his arrest and he paid a $40 fine.

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Saginaw.—Joseph, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mesh, living on the Prairie farm, died as the result of being scalded a few days ago. The baby was playing with a brother when he fell backwards into a pan of hot water which had been left upon the kitchen floor.

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Menominee.—Following his plea of guilty to the charge of arson, Herman Renger, the Daggett farmer who was charged with having set fire to his house and barns and afterwards slashed his throat with a razor, was examined in private by Judge Flannagan, who refused to accept the plea of guilty and appointed M. J. Doyle to defend him. The evidence developed that the fire was started by Renger throwing hay from a loft down on a lantern. The accused was shown to have been crazy drunk at the time, having consumed a gallon of bad whisky, also fired the house and in the excitement of the moment cut his throat. As there was no evidence in the case, except the man's own testimony, and as no intent could be shown, the court ruled that the man was temporarily insane and took the case away from the jury, declaring him not guilty of arson as charged.

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Hancock.—Albert Holter of Ashland achieved distinction and arrest in a series of episodes which kept the town of Ontonagon stirred for many hours.

The accusations against Holter charge him with entering a department store, robbing the till, permitting the place to catch fire from dropped matches, sounding the alarm of fire, working as a volunteer fireman to extinguish the blaze, and being arrested later as he was taking a train for Ashland.

The Ontonagon police declare that Holter confessed to the robbery and that stolen property was found in his possession.

J. P. Donnelly, who owns the store, said the loss was $40,000. Less than $40 was in the cash drawer before the fire.

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Ionia.—Dr. Bell of Portland was placed on trial here charged with violating the local option laws by dispensing liquor in large quantities on prescriptions. The case is attracting widespread attention and all the evidence is in with the exception of that of the defendant, who is on the stand.

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Reed City.—Charles H. Miller, a resident of Reed City, who owns a farm about four miles out, went there to repair the roof of his barn. He fell to the ground, breaking his neck. A widow and eight children, the youngest of which is dangerously ill, survive him.

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Bellaire.—Leon Brown of Traverse City, a brakeman on the Pere Marquette railroad, in attempting to board a moving train at Bellaire slipped and fell under the wheels and was instantly killed.

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Saginaw.—Christian Westfall, forty-five years old, a farmer of Spaldnaw general hospital as a result of being crushed under a rolling log. Mr. Westfall was loading a sleigh when one of the top logs fell, pinning him to the ground.

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Grand Rapids.—Without food or fuel and starving to death, Johns to talk by deputy sheriffs in a hut west of this city. He has been brought here and placed in a hospital. He is so deaf communication must be done by writing.

DIDN'T THINK SHE WAS TIRED

Mr. Jinks' Mean Insinuation When Young Lady Dispossessed Him of His Seat.

"That was adding insult to injury," said Representative Mann, the minority leader of the house, apropos of a political squabble. "It reminds me of young Jinks.

"Late one night young Jinks sat in a crowded trolley car, and, when a girl he knew got aboard and stood directly in front of him, he made no sign. His face hidden by his newspaper, he pretended that he didn't know the girl would like to have his seat.

"After a while she spoke.

"'Good evening, Mr. Jinks.'

"'Why, good evening.'

"'I've been to the Primrose social dance.'

"'Indeed.'

"Then, after a pause, she added:

"'It's a wonder, Mr. Jinks, you wouldn't offer me your seat!'

"Jinks then got up. He was very angry. He said, as he hooked himself to a strap:

"'I thought you wouldn't want it; for, as you said you'd been to a dance, I knew you must have been sitting all the evening.'"

ACCORDING TO HOYLE.

Miss Pert—I believe in calling a spade a spade.

Chappelgh—Sure. It would be widiculous, you know, to call it a heart, a club or a diamond.

PIMPLES COVERED HIS BACK

"My troubles began along in the summer in the hottest weather and took the form of small eruptions and itching and a kind of smarting pain. It took me mostly all over my back and kept getting worse until finally my back was covered with a mass of pimples which would burn and itch at night so that I could hardly stand it. This condition kept getting worse and worse until my back was a solid mass of big sores which would break open and run. My underclothing would be a clot of blood.

"I tried various remedies and salves for nearly three years and I was not getting any benefit. It seemed I was in eternal misery and could not sleep on my back or lean on a chair. I was finally given a set of the Cuticura Remedies and inside of two weeks I could see and feel a great relief. I kept on using Cuticura Soap, Ointment and also the Resolvent, and in about three or four months' time my back was nearly cured and I felt like a new being. Now I am in good health and no sign of any skin diseases and I am fully satisfied that Cuticura Remedies are the best ever made for skin diseases. I would not be without them." (Signed) W. A. Armstrong, Corbin, Kan., May 26, 1911. Although Cuticura Soap and Ointment are sold by druggists and dealers everywhere, a sample of each, with 32-page book, will be mailed free on application to "Cuticura," Dept. L, Boston.

Right in Her Line.

Gillet—The people in the flat above us are constantly fighting.

Perry—Doesn't your wife object?

Gillet—No. She likes to have a fuss made over her.

SEVEN YEARS OF MISERY

How Mrs. Bethune was Restored to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Silkeston, Mo. — "For seven years I suffered everything. I was in bed for four or five days at a time every month, and so weak I could hardly walk. I had cramps, backache and headache, and was so nervous and weak that I dreaded to see anyone or have anyone move in the room. The doctors gave me medicine to ease me at those times, and said that I ought to have an operation. I would not listen to that, and when a friend of my husband's told him about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and what it had done for his wife, I was willing to take it. Now I look the picture of health and feel like it, too. I can do all my own housework, work in the garden and entertain company and enjoy them, and can walk as far as any ordinary woman, any day in the week. I wish I could talk to every suffering woman and girl, and tell them what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me."—Mrs. DEMA BETHUNE, Silkeston, Mo.

Remember, the remedy which did this was Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

It has helped thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing down feeling, indigestion, and nervous prostration, after all other means have failed. Why don't you try it?

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BREAD FLOUR, VELVET PASTRY, COMMERCIAL and PANCAKE FLOUR

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USE ABSORBINE, JR. LINIMENT FOR $1

A mild, safe, antiseptic, disinfecting, germicidal liniment, and a powerful, quick-acting remedy for varicose veins. Mr. H. Bedford Becket, Mass., before using this remedy, suffered intensely with painful and inflamed veins; they were swollen, knotted and hard. He writes: "After using one and one-half bottles ABSORBINE, JR., the veins were reduced, inflammation and pain gone, and I have had no recurrence of the trouble during the past six years." ABSORBINE, JR., also relieves Boils, Felons, Infected Sores and Swellings, Wens, Cysts, Chilblains, Bruises, "Black and Blue" discolorations, etc., is a powerful germicide, price $1.00 and $2.00 a bottle at druggists or delivered. Book 5 Q F free. Write for it.

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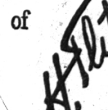

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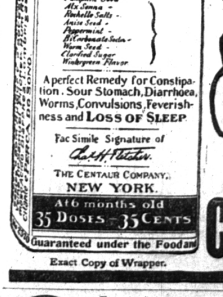

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