

thousand suggestions, showing the similarity of human propensities to those of beasts, and prevent a liking for lower enjoyments, such as only animals may innocently possess.

Without the inclusion of religious and ethical sentiments, for without fervent moralism, such as young readers, "John Halifax," by Miss Muloch; "On the Threshold," by Mungler; and "Boys' King Arthur," by Sidney Lanier, may be given, with judicious comments. Give a boy or girl a handsome set of books, like Walter Scott's novels, and let the sense of possession be awakened by the gift, and the whole list will be read and reread without weariness. You will find the child curled up on a sofa, deep in the mysteries of chivalric love, wholly forgetful of all surroundings, and deaf to all enticements which foolish books may offer.

For a thoughtful young person of fifteen, a book called "Animals' Rights," by Henry S. Salt (looking out the essay on "Vivisection in America" at the end of the book), will be of great value, and Stanley's "Early Travels and Adventures" will show the Indian character and how the red man ought to be treated, while the second volume of "Travels in the East" will, like all Stanley's books, open a mine of new experiences among peoples of strange lands.

There are so many good books for young people nowadays that it is not necessary that any youth should feed on equivocal or bad literary trash.

GEOGRAPHICAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

A CORRECTION.

Two errors, due to the carelessness of the writer, occurred in the questions and answers published November 21. The peak of the Himalaya cordillera that is thought to be higher than Mount Everest is T45, instead of K2, as stated. The Army Barracks of Omdurman is Captain Lake at the time of Alexander the Great.

JACQUES W. REDWAY.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

AN ORIGINAL EXERCISE FOR THE SCHOOLROOM.

BY OLIVE B. DANA.

[The schoolroom should be suitably arranged for the occasion. On the blackboard, or board, made of evergreen, should be the dates, -February 12, 1809, and 1862. The best obtainable portrait of Lincoln should be hung above the platform, or be placed on a large case upon it. Other smaller ones may be shown, and pictures desirable that show scenes of the more memorable events of his public life should be conspicuous. The representation of the signing of the Emancipation of Ex-slaves would have particular fitness. A large flag, or number of smaller ones, should, of course, be used also in decoration, or as prizes for the pupils.]

- 1. Singing "America!"
- 2. We have one hero, pre-eminent in the service he rendered, yet yet remote enough for myth to obscure, or for tradition to distort, the clear and massive outlines of what he did and was. His story, it is well said, is the story of the American people in his time. It is well that this life was lived in a country whose searching light records, with almost photographic distinctness, every deed and aspect of the one who so make or serve us.
- 3. An apothosis, however grateful or sincere, could do what the complete and intelligent and sympathetic knowledge of his achievements, his purposes, and his character will do for him, and most of all, for us.

The picture, variously drawn, which show him to us - the friends and the crowd of youth, the struggling student, the upright lawyer, the single-minded statesman, the good president, and the martyr whose fabled work and hope consummated, will not let us remember his martyrdom - we never tire of seeing.

Let us look at them once more, albeit they have become so familiar, and although we have only words with which to link them here.

3. I see a little lad, shy and ill-used, fair, in a cheerless Kentucky cabin. At the age of seven he was given a Dickinson spelling-book - containing one-third of the family library - and sent to the district school. But he was frequently kept at home, even then. When his mother died, he was ten years old, and had learned to read, and soon after, to write. Nor the family have moved to Indiana, and a foster-mother has come to give something like comfort to the child dwelling, and sympathy and encouragement to the boy.

4. My picture is of an awkward boy, going to school in the log-cabin, when he could, but otherwise employed by some unskilled farmer, or in the store at the cross-roads, and at night taking his supper of corn-bread in his hand in the chimney-corner or under the table, while he devoured, at the same time, "Boop's" tales," "Robin Hood's Crusade," the "Pilgrim's Progress," a history of the United States, or an old "Life of

Washington." He was beginning, too, to make extracts from the books he read, and to frame little essays of his own. Paper was scarce and dear, and so the first draught was made with charcoal on a wooden shovel, which could afterwards be scraped clean, or upon a shingle; the condensed and carefully-pruned copy only being committed to paper.

5. I see the same old, gray-haired, tall, and stronger, and eager to do what ever useful or honestly gainful thing his untrained muscle or inventive brain might attempt. At nineteen, he went down the Mississippi to New Orleans as a flat-boats hand. Returning, he was again early in the country store, and a year or two later himself, and peddling along the route a stock of small wares with which he had provided himself before leaving the home in Indiana. I see him splitting the rails for the new cabin, and helping to build it; and then, presently, being now past twenty-one, leaving home to make his own way in the world. He had more rails must be split for some years of "brown jeans" laid with white wrail," from which some garments might be made for him.

6. I see a more significant scene - a slave auction which he witnessed while on a trip to New Orleans. The horror, and sadness, and deep resolve it stirred in him his reticence only partially told; but his later life was burdened with them. Some slow and miserable years followed, when nothing that he attempted prospered, and he found himself in debt, and with an accumulating load before him. But he had begun to study law by himself; his neighbors trusted him, and he was with all his acquaintances a favorite.

7. Therefore, the next picture is of the country lawyer, obscure, and diligent, and upright, who won many cases, and took small fees; and who would never knowingly stand for a guilty person. It has been known to Abraham a case on more than one occasion, and the bar itself, because he had become persuaded that the client was guilty. He had won, too, some

that the journey gave him something like national distinction not only, but identified him plainly with the anti-slavery party and cause. And he it was who became presently its leader.

10. Recitation: "Abraham Lincoln" - Part VI. of Lowell's "Commemoration Ode."

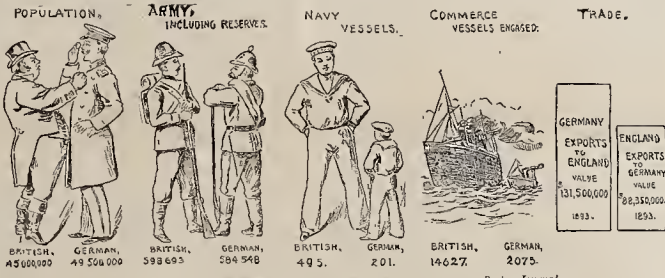
11. Singing: "The Star Spangled Banner."

12. My vision, at once sad and significant, is of the president-elect on his way to Washington to take the oath of his office. The campaign itself, despite its result, had shown its crucial character of the period through which the nation was passing, and the new forms into which familiar institutions, not less than beliefs and laws, must be cast before stability and confidence could be restored. And every passing day revealed the magnitude of the task and the responsibility which rested on its ruler. To this realization of these things he gave expression in well-nigh unthought words.

13. Recitation: Speech of farewell on leaving Springfield for Washington.

14. Speech of the president-elect at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, during the same journey.

15. I see him in his cabinet, which he had chosen with far-seeing wisdom and sagacity, presiding over its deliberations with such authority and tact that it became at once one of the most potent of national councils, and his own ally, instructor, and trusted company of advisers throughout his proslavery. And, more plainly, and as the people whom he shepherded see him always most clearly, he appears at the head of the troubled and divided nation, with all the responsibilities of civil war upon him; with momentous questions of right and justice and both immediate and far-reaching expediency to be solved; following the movements of the Federal Legislature in the field, and lowering the anathemas of his complicity; weighted with a thousand cares and sorrows because of the suffering and sorrow this righteous war was bringing; relieving the tense gravity of some trying council by a joke, or a quip, or a remembered story,



THE STRENGTH AND RESOURCES OF ENGLAND AND GERMANY COMPARED. - Boston Journal.

local celebrity as a captain in the Black Hawk war, and we find him presently in the legislature of his state, where his unusual memorable act was the stand he took against a pro-slavery resolution, a departure in which he was followed by only one other member.

8. Next, a successful lawyer in Springfield, where his uprightness was brought into even stronger relief in a wider field. The kind heart, which had been from childhood quick to redden a wrong or render a service, had its way in many things, too. Winning rapidly the confidence and respect of his associates, he was, in 1846, to the national congress, where he but did the duty of a young, little-known, and single-aimed statesman, careless of gain or fame, and finding only occasional opportunity to champion the cause he had most at heart - a change of sentiment, at whatever cost to popularity. Other obscure and ill-fated years followed, and it was the kindling agitation and debate of the middle 'fifties that summoned him at last to a larger service.

9. We must linger, even beside this tide of event and discussion, to see him, the most picturesque figure in a picturesque and spirited and not facile tourney. And, indeed, it was no unimportant part of it, in its later outcome.

His opponent, politically, had been Stephen A. Douglas, who, as opponent of slavery and its extension or possible overthrew was seen to be more and more plainly as the prime determining factor in all national politics, found himself in the position, essentially, and in his own state, of one of its foremost advocates. Mr. Lincoln, quite as inevitably, was one of its most zealous combatants, but acting with more natural, at least, and less of a sense of obligation, than a tour of the state for a prolonged fight debate. And it is in such wise that we next see him, in 1858. The terse, vigorous, and persuasive speech which has since distinguished Abraham Lincoln as a master of English was already his. The question, moreover, was one which found him possessed of deep and firm convictions; he had added to his former knowledge of the subject, reason and feeling, alike gaining new force and intensity, as he proceeded. So

or winning a momentary lease from his perplexity by a momentary indulgence in his old-time humor. And he saw him at last, shaping and signing the Emancipation Proclamation; giving, too, liberty and manhood to three millions of slaves.

16. Recitation: "Lass Deo" - Walter.

17. Singing: "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

18. I see him, then, still guiding the ship of state safely through perils, places through narrow straits, and past shoals and quicksands without number; maintaining the edict he had issued and confirming it; seeing the rebellion quelled, the freedman assured of his liberty; the army on the eve of disbanding. And then, while such jubilee still sounded in the land, I see the martyred president. And the very bells which rang for his valiant deed, toll for his valiant death.

19. Recitation: "Our Good President" - Thelie Cary.

20. And now, though the years have come and gone full three decades are numbered, and the last of these pictures of a hero's life has grown thin, another vision waxes, growing fairer and nobler, clearer and deeper, as the time goes on - the vision of a united people, its animosities forgotten, its differences put aside; with abuses and corruption steadily put away; with quaker feeling for civic honor and purity, and increasing wit and wisdom in promoting them; a growing and advancing nation, with multiplying resources of wealth and industry, with new sons to defend and to guide her with the old allegiance. Is it not the nation of Lincoln's love and sacrifice, whose purity and whose unity he defended?

21. Recitation: "Salp of State" - Longfellow.

22. Singing: "Speed Our Republic."

NOTE. - The known bibliography includes lives of Lincoln by Nicolay and Hay, Henshew, Holtz, Bayne, Henshaw, Henshaw, and others; a suggestive monograph by Carl Schurz; "Abraham Lincoln," an address on Lincoln by Phillips; letters, and many other and supplementary articles in periodicals, including the life now running in McVee's Magazine. As poetic songs may be sung with these, and it is suggested that where time and occasion permit, allusions of Lincoln's addresses be introduced as recitations. The Emancipation Proclamation may be read, and, among others, which may be most aptly read in part, are the addresses at Cooper Institute, at Springfield, and at Gettysburg.

