Anecdotes of Lincoln

Sidney Baker, an Illinois "snowbird," told the following story of Lincoln ~~and~~ which happened in Bloomington at which Mr. Baker was an auditor.

On a certain occasion general Gridley was to try a legal case before judge David Davis in the old court house which stood on the site where now stands an elegant stone court house. Springfield is only about 60 miles south of B. and Mr. Lincoln had been summoned by general Asahel Gridley to assist in trying the case. Soon after the train was in from Springfield, Mr. Lincoln was seen to enter the court room where the case was proceeding, and leisurely walking down the aisle he stopped just outside the railing and put down an old fashioned carpet bag which he had been carrying. One of the opposing counsel to Mr. Gridley had been tirading and calling him a number of hard names. Lincoln had heard a good part of it and when invited inside the bar by the judge he retorted in this wise: "I was called to assist general Asahel Gridley in a certain case of law to be tried in this court and about this time. I have known general Gridley intimately for a number of years, but am satisfied that from the description of the Gridley engaged in the case now pending there must be some mistake. He is not the man I was called to assist" ~~and~~ With this he leisurely picked up his carpet bag and slowley walked out of the room.

Lincoln always had a most wonderful influence over a jury and needless to say, that Illinois jury awarded the case to Gridley.

P. On another occasion Mr Baker said the opposing counsel to Lincoln had just read the law from one of the statutes.

It went clearly against Lincoln's client. Said the judge "Is that the law Mr. Lincoln"; and he replied, "That is the law, your Honor"!

Spokane Conservatory of Music

(TITLE COPYRIGHTED 1894 BY F. MUELLER)

Established 1888.

F. MUELLER, - Director

BRANCHES TAUGHT: Piano, Voice, Harmony, etc.

TEACHERS: F. Mueller, B. S., M. B.; Misses Berna Sargent and Hannah Uhden.



MR. F. MUELLER came to Spokane in 1888 from Bloomington, Illinois, in answer to a call from the authorities of Spokane College. He came here in preference to accepting the honorable position offered him by Hennepin Avenue Church, of being its organist and choir master. This church is the fashionable Methodist church of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He graduated at the Illinois Wesleyan University in 1879, delivering the class oration to a class of 17. He realized the fact, that too many teachers of music *fail as teachers* because they have not that mental discipline and culture which a thorough college course imparts. For a number of years he was the pianist of the Strakosch Opera Troupe, traveling with the prima donna, Litta, large orchestra and chorus, from ocean to ocean. With F. A. Parker, now at the Wisconsin State University, Madison, he founded the Illinois College of Music — a school having 725 pupils enrolled last year (1893). In 1885 he graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, in Piano, Voice Culture, Pipe Organ, Harmony, Counterpoint and Theory. This conservatory is the largest and best equipped music school in the world! For over 12 years he was organist and choir master of the First M. E. Church at Bloomington. This is a brick church, beautiful in all of its appointments, elegantly frescoed and cost $70,000 to build. It has a three manual $10,000 pipe organ, which has about 40 stops and over 2,000 pipes. The congregation gives for all purposes about $10,000 per year. President Grant worshipped in it and such eminent pulpit orators as Bishops Simpson, Vincent, Fowler and others have spoken in it to audiences of 2,000 and over. Dr. T. C. Iliff, Bishop of the Protestant work in Utah, was at one time its pastor. Dr. H. W. Bennett, chaplain of the Ohio legislature, Governor Fifer, Vice President Stevenson, Ex-Governor Hamilton, Congressmen Rowell, Owen Scott and B. F. Funk have all attended services at divers times in its sacred precincts.

Mr. Mueller is proud of his success as a teacher of 26 years' experience. Among his distinguished pupils are: Professor Frank Fisk, leading organist, Kansas City, Missouri; Professor Charles Bone, leading piano teacher, Des Moines, Iowa; Kate Donahue, prima donna for three seasons of the Dainty-Berger Concert Company; Professors Skinner and Gray, Illinois College of Music.

When Mme. Thurber, of New York, started an American opera company under Theodore Thomas and Manager Locke, it was Nellie Van Schoick, of Bloomington, his pupil, who was selected after a severe public test in Central Music Hall, Chicago, by Fursch Mahdi, prima donna, as having the finest method, stage presence, etc., out of 60 applicants. The song contest in Spokane in which Berna Sargent was successful over five contestants, and in consequence of which she was sent to the World's Fair to represent us there, the state paying the expenses, is but a repetition of the Chicago incident.

Professor Mueller was Vice President for McLean County of the Illinois Music Teachers' Association while in Illinois and he has now held the office of Vice President for Washington of the National Music Teachers' Association for five years. This is the highest musical office held by any one in our state. Mr. Mueller's published compositions number about 35, and have been very successful. The sales of the "Spokane Gavotte," and the song, "Sleep, Little Baby of Mine," being phenomenally large. Professor Mueller is the only teacher in Spokane who has a diploma in Voice Culture. John O'Neil, of Boston, the teacher of Mme. Nordica, who made the greatest hit, save one other singer, at Bayreuth this year, (1894) was his teacher.

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