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THE BURNS FESTIVAL.

On the evening of Tuesday the 25th of January, 1859, the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns was celebrated in Springfield by the Scotch residents of the place. There was a notable and largely attended banquet in Concert Hall. "Among the invited guests," said the "Journal's" account, "we observed the Hon. Abraham Lincoln of this city and U. F. Linder, Esq., of Coles county. The banquet was spread by Myers and embraced all that could be desired by the greatest of epicures. The company sat down at nine o'clock and after satisfying the appetite with eatables the 'mountain dew' was brought out and together with a large number of mysterious looking bottles was freely circulated during the remainder of the evening."

A large number of toasts were responded to. Mr. Lincoln is mentioned among the speakers, but his toast is not mentioned in the "Journal's" report. The "State Register," however, in its account of the banquet says:

"Mr. Lincoln, being loudly called upon, the following toast was read and responded to by him in a beautiful and humorous speech: 'The Prairie State—though young in the family of commonwealths, it numbers amongst its citizens literary men and statesmen of commanding ability. May it grow in prosperity until its far-reaching prairies are the happy homes of myriads of the virtuous sons of labor.'"

Neither paper attempts any report of Lincoln's speech on this occasion, though several other speeches appear in one or the other of the papers during the few days immediately following. The "Register" says that "the most polished and entertaining address of the evening was delivered by Mr. Knox, a native Scotchman."

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