

NE-
BRASKA

A. LINCOLN

LINCOLN

LIN-
COLN

II. Nebraska. A. Lincoln.

By request of Secy. of Board of Church Extension, and his urging by letter and telegrams, I joined him at Lincoln Neb. March 27th and 28th. As the Bd. of Ch. Extension "did not deem it necessary to send a representative" to the Congregational Meeting Jan. 12th, and as that action was used against us, I was not at all enthusiastic to accept the invitation to be present March 27.

Moreover I had carefully investigated the trouble and made my report, and could see no reason for change of opinion or action. A note from Secy. Club suggesting that it might be well to join Secy. Z. and that it would be agreeable to the Board if I did so, decided me, and I started for Lincoln, from Abilene Ks. at midnight of March 26th. Making a connection I was on the road 20 hours, with no meal from 6 P.M. Monday to 6 P.M. Tuesday, and neither bed nor sleeper. From the train at 8.20 P.M. I went directly to the Congregational meeting, which lasted until 1 A.M., and was not at all calculated to advance "pax in pace". The same things "Pro and Con" were gone over. There was crimination and re-crimination, and some of the meanest insinuations to which I have ever listened. One of these was against Mr. Prust, with regard to Bro. Crefman, which I immediately and emphatically squelched, by recalling the visit to S. of Mr. Hanna & myself, and pointing to Prof. S. J. M. Cas-

LINCOLN

terday said, "These are the brother who followed us to the train and declared that the trouble was not location, but that a change of missionary was the necessity, and on his judgment, with our own observations, the Board made the change." I feared little good would come of the meeting, as it looked very much as though Secy. Z. would propose to the majority to pay the B. G. Ch. H. the \$2000.00 first invested by the B. G. & thus getting their money out be relieved of further responsibility, and allow the B. G. of A. U. & W. A. & A. U. Soc. to bear the burden.

On Wednesday A. M. he had a private talk with Prof. S. D. M. Casterday, and Bro. Z. told him very kindly, but very frankly that he had the reputation of insulting people by "insinuation" and great unkindness and sarcasm. Bro. Z. gave him distance upon distance, and called his attention to several notable passages in his remarks the evening before. I then took up his reply to my letter, line by line and answered it in Bro. Z.'s presence. He seemed "surprised" or, but the consultation evidently did good, as he told me afterwards he was "very glad" I joined Bro. Z. "more glad for this visit to Lincoln, than any I had ever made". At 4 P. M. 2, 8th he (rather Bro. Z. & being present) held a conference with Council and Guilding Com, and again "went over the location matter", but with little result, excepting their willingness to pay back to B. G. Ch. H. the \$2000.00

LINCOLN

LINCOLN

LINCOLN

LINCOLN

and "assume all responsibility". After returning to the hotel, he wrote out our conclusions and put them in a hat. I wrote

"Whereas, the congregation at Sincorn Neb. were unanimous in locating the site for Church Building at cor. of 14th & M. Sts. and whereas the Secys of Ch. H. Tension and Home Missions after a careful survey of the field decided the choice a wise one, and most central, and urged the pushing of the work of building, therefore Resolved that permission to sell the 14th & M. St. property and locate at 16th & R. be not granted."

The above, though not the exact wording, contains my view as placed in the hat.

Bro. Z. wrote something to the following effect. "Resolved, that if the congregation at Sincorn^{Nebr} return to the Board of Ch. H. the amt. first paid on property at 10th & H. St. viz \$2000.00 - they be released from further responsibility to the Bd. of Ch. H. and assuming all responsibility for success or failure, be allowed to select such site as they deem best."

Bro. Z. remained in Sincorn Neb. last Sunday, and says he now "has everything settled" and the work will go right ahead.

He has affected a compromise on some other lot, and says he has reported, or will report full details to the boards. If we can secure a missionary of good executive ability, and a determination to be "the head" and leader of the work, success will, no doubt come.

LINCOLN

III. KAN.

-SAS.

A. OTTA-


-WA.

III. Kansas. A. Ottawa.

Wednesday Evening and Thursday morning - March 21st and 22nd were spent at Ottawa, Mo., and a very interesting service held. A consultation was also had with prominent members of council and congregation, as well as with Rev. D. S. Altman.

My conclusion is that there is but little "out-come" or promise for the church at Ottawa, unless the location of the property can be changed. Mr. Altman thinks "a live preacher can build up a church in Ottawa, and bring about a change of location". The time may come when an exclusively English work can be inaugurated and made successful, but I doubt whether such a thing can be done under the present organization. Bro. Seidel has worked faithfully and hard, but with little apparent success. He has concluded to resign, and I advise that his resignation be accepted. He suggests "the case of the congregation" by uniting it with some other point. Until such time as "further developments" may help us to decide as to future plans. Meanwhile he will be spending no money. The property could not now be sold to advantage, and an occasional service will hold together the little we have.

Bro. Seidel has written his views very fully to the Board. I suggested to him a field in Southern Kansas, which can I think be formed without aid from the Board.


Des. News 2a. Amc 6-1888

OTTAWA

OTTAWA