

care. After some three months of this sort of nightly procedure, I was astounded by the discovery that these imaginary figures became apparently real.

Each of these nine men developed individual characteristics which surprised me. For example, Lincoln developed the habit of being always late, then walking around the table in a solemn parade. When he came he walked very slowly, with his hands clasped behind him, and once in a while, he would stop at my seat as he passed and rest his hand momentarily, upon my shoulder. He always wore an expression of seriousness upon his face. Rarely did I see him smile. The cares of a sundered nation had made him grave.

That was not true of the others. Burbank and Paine often indulged in witty repartee which seemed at times to shock the other members of my Cabinet.

One night Paine suggested that I prepare a lecture on “The Age of Reason”, and deliver it from the pulpit of a church which I formerly attended. Many around the table laughed heartily at the suggestion. But Napoleon did not. He drew his mouth down at the corners and groaned so loudly that they all turned and looked at him with amazement. To him the church was but a pawn of the State, not to be reformed, but to be used, as a convenient inciter to mass activity by the people.

On one occasion Burbank was late. When he came he was excited with enthusiasm, and explained that he had been delayed because of an experiment he was making, through which he hoped to be able to grow apples on most any sort of tree.

Paine chided him by reminding him that it was an apple which started all the trouble between man and woman.

Darwin chuckled heartily as he suggested that Paine should watch out for little serpents when he went out into the forest to gather apples, as they had the habit of growing into big snakes.

Emerson observed, “No serpents, no apples.” And Napoleon remarked, “No apples, no state!”

Once I had a love affair with a young lady whose name was Josephine. We had a misunderstanding and agreed to discontinue our love affair. That