

"A nation Lincoln, and the neck of the  
tire,"

It seemed to me very much much  
like a tribute of mere words and I chose  
to attempt to present to you some suggestion  
of the greatness and the significance  
of Lincoln, without correlating the  
spirit and force of his life with  
the needs of our own times, and the  
duty which to me one in favoring  
the work <sup>to</sup> which Lincoln gave his life.  
We regard him as one of the greatest  
if not the very greatest of the builders  
of the nation. Yet his work is hardly  
complete unless we take up the travel  
where he laid it down, and continue  
in the meantime and care for that work  
principle of Democracy, which shall not  
perish from the earth forever. With  
great insight Lowell spoke of him  
as the "New Briton of our race, the  
first American." But our greatest

tribute to him, and to the nation which  
he served, and to the truth and principles  
upon which that nation is founded  
is to see to it that future generations  
shall not be compelled to record that  
the first American war also the  
last.

One hundred, less three, years have  
passed since the first American  
was born in the little log cabin of  
Kentucky. <sup>Montgomery</sup> "The mind布meth where it  
listeth." Won knoweth not whence it cometh  
nor whither it goeth" who can explain  
the wonder full mystery of life, which is  
revealed in the story ~~which~~ of the life of  
Abraham Lincoln. Trace it for yourselves  
as it leads you through the hardships and  
privations of his boyhood in Indiana, what  
gave him the impulse to study by the light  
of a candle or the open fire, searching zealously  
after truth and wisdom? What power is it  
in man that enables him to rise above the  
very limitations, and surroundings

an making them stepping stones to the lofty  
finis<sup>d</sup> of the greatest man of the greatest  
nation of the earth.

What was there in his nature that made  
him look with terror and righteous indigna-  
tion upon the ~~entire~~ system of slavery  
when for the first time he saw it as he  
gained his first knowledge of the world  
in the trip to New Orleans in 1830?

What was it - the voice of God that gave him  
the courage at the age of 29 to announce  
himself as candidate, and publish the  
platform upon which he stood? He had  
no friends of wealth or influence, but little  
education, and no experience. But here  
his political career began.

What was the force in him that enabled  
him feel the pulse of the nation, and  
amid the tumult ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> strife, agitation  
and of those bitter years of conflict to  
read aright the hand writing on  
the wall. Never once did he flinch  
never once did he waver, even when

temporary defeat seemed to take<sup>14</sup>  
the very principles upon which he  
stood.

What power was that in him that en-  
abled him when he came to the White  
house in 1861. to meet the situation, and  
perform the work where unto ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> was  
called. He had no training as a statesman  
to yet he handled with the a skill  
which has never been surpassed the  
delicate and conflictual problems  
which arose in the affairs at home  
and in the relations with foreign  
nations.

What power carried him through all  
the trials of abuse, criticism, and intrigue  
which he had to face from the day he  
set his foot upon the capitol steps, until  
the night when he fell a victim to  
the hand of a worn & mistaken judgment.  
I ask these questions because they are forever  
coming before when I read the story

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of his life, and worse than that because  
I feel that often the answer which we  
give to these questions, rests the solution  
of the problem before us to day.

What kind of a man was he?

He was honest. Not honest because it was  
the best policy, nor because it was con-  
venient, but because he knew that it  
was right. He took with indifference  
now of an that extreme type of honesty  
which he exercised. We very think that  
he was stretching a point when after a  
long day's work he feels bound to travel  
~~these~~ <sup>of referee</sup> several miles to correct a mistake,  
made in giving change. It would  
seem. It would puzzle every public  
official to day to feel that when they  
are called upon to settle accounts, they  
could go to their trunk, and pull  
out the exact amount tied up in an  
old blue stocking, and feel that it had  
been waiting there for years.

The stain of reproach would be wiped

What kind of a won won he,  
the leader seems to me to be  
indeed the acting with (1)  
with an awful multitude of

It is now over a y<sup>r</sup> since I  
have been to see the Reeves over 30  
miles away & am now quite old &  
I don't think I can get there  
now without great difficulty. Since don't you  
know of any one that would  
tell about you or believe it likely  
that such a thing is possible over all  
that I know best in the state you  
can't

strains so strained at certain times  
leaves off. Igneous giving in down  
into you effect below the ~~most~~  
just retrograde leaf it goes at the upper  
part, changes often at info. below are  
leaf lines, which meet at top lines,  
as in first turns loose at top  
but the top leaf lines, pictures and leaf  
away up with pictures next  
leaf and leaves stronger to make the

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from the legal profession if every lawyer  
so should feel as Lincoln did, and act  
as Lincoln did, when at one time "he was  
prosecuting a civil case, in the course  
of which to evidence was introduced  
showing that his client was attempting  
a fraud. Lincoln rose and went  
to his hotel in deep disgust. The judge  
sent for him; he refused to come.

"Tell the judge," he said "my hands  
are dirty! I came over to wash them!"  
So deep rooted was his sense of honesty  
so firmly did he believe in the absolute  
necessity of keeping his hands unsoiled  
by any act of dishonesty, that when he  
was in the legislature, at a critical moment  
after a long discussion over a bill of jettison,  
he was asked his opinion. The whole affair  
was closed by his reply.

"You may burn my body to ashes  
and scatter my bones to the winds of  
heaven; you may drag my soul down  
to the regions of darkness and despair

to be terminated forever; but you will never get me to support a measure which I believe to be wrong, although by doing so I may accomplish that which I believe to be right."

Some where in that big ram bowl won there lurked a force which we need to stay us than we need education, more than we need reform. That force is flair, hard, clear cut honesty which will suffer any defeat rather than a victory bought by a stain of dishonesty. — Chas E. Hughes, whose fame as the insurance investigator for woe a public won, says he gives us this very forcible saying. What we need is a revival of the sense of honor. We want to hear less of the man who began poor and died a worried riches, and more about the man who lived modestly, though he dies poor."

To the followers of his life Lincoln carried a word ever voiced upon

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absolute and unconforming honesty,  
the integrity of his own life, and the  
integrity of the life of others.

Are we facing life with the same  
honesty?

When he wrote his Gettysburg speech  
in 1863, amid the most impulsive surround-  
ings, and <sup>in</sup> under the most ~~fear~~ trying  
times of his life, he gave expression to  
the greatest thoughts that have ever been  
uttered in the history of the world. There  
were the thoughts of Democracy.

We ~~go~~ forget with what toil, and sacri-  
fice, and loss of life, the slaves the  
seeds of democracy were sown from  
the wreck of the old world, planted  
and nurtured in this country. But  
he did not forget, because the ideas  
of Democracy were vital to him. He  
believed in them, and he lived them  
not alone in the little frontier town  
of New Salem, but when he became

the head of nation. When offering the great address with those words. Fourteen and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this ~~nation~~ continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are free created equal." he was not giving expression to a mere intellectual speculation, but was speaking a truth which found its incarnation in his own life. He regarded himself as a man and he regarded others as men, meeting them as man to man, not holding himself above the lower standard whom he could pick up in the street, and carrying him to the line for treatment like the good Samaritan of old, or regarding himself beneath the most prominent man whom he met in his life.

Most of us betray the swollness of our natures by holding ourselves above those who are less fortunate than ourselves, and whining and fowling

like a Meek Heefer when we come 10  
into the presence of those who happen  
to be ~~too~~ war fortuotes. It takes a  
man to believe in and to live the  
ideas of Democracy. Any whining  
sniffing cad can stand upon the  
shoulders of some less fortunate  
being below him, and grasp  
frank'cally after the coat tails of  
someone above. If we believe in  
the principles of Democracy which  
we profess to believe in, why not  
be men about it. To be men for  
what they are, and fair ones besides  
for what ~~they~~ are. So Lincoln the  
declaration that all men are created  
equal was a practical vital principle  
of his life, and ~~this the~~ according  
to that principle he lived. It was  
because of his unflinching faith in  
the soundness and integrity

of the plain people that gave in such confidence in his fitness and enabled him to lead the nation through those dark years. His power and his strength as a leader rested in this that he was subservient to no one, but was the servant of all, in a government of the people, by the people for the people.

His confidence in human nature, and his recognition of man as a man, was not the trusting credulosity of ignorance, but the direct fruit of knowledge. He knew human nature, he understood all the mindings, in and out, of the human mind, & could meet a man of any trade or calling and in a very short space of time discover the inner workings of the human. This keen and sympathetic response to other minds resulted in two very marked characteristics of his Lincoln.

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The first was his keen sense of humor, a trait which belonged to and developed with his drollery. It resulted from his appreciation of human nature, and from all the strange people that he had met he had gleaned a great store of anecdotes, and tales illustrating of the idiosyncrasies of human nature. When he was president he used to seek relaxation in telling these stories to the ready listeners who clustered about him. It is said that at one time when he was attending court that the judge on the bench had to interrupt a group over in the corner to whom Lincoln was telling stories. Then he called one of the men to the bench immediately, and said, "What was that story Lincoln was telling?"

He was an habitual reader of humorous literature, and in the long sleepless nights of the dark days of the war he used to while away

the Sons by reading Nash, Bill Nye<sup>13</sup>  
and others.

~~But the other side of his have~~ But the  
some insight into human nature, &  
enabled him to see the folly of life.  
and so won in foolish life for  
him more tenderness and inge-  
nuer, than Abolom Lincoln. All the  
stories told of his fadous, and his  
deeds of fine kindness for a tribute  
to a side in his nature which is often  
looking in great men. It woulc no  
difference who come to him, whether  
it woulc for ~~as the war room or the~~ the  
wun of influence, he woulc forever  
granting fadous, so that the generals  
had to request him not to, because  
it interfered with the discipline  
of the army. De spite of this he  
still continued to fadous, and  
he once said. If I have one great  
sin, it is the inability to say no,

Became it contains so much of  
that deep affection of human virtue  
upon which his whole life rested,  
and out of which it evolved, because  
it shows so much of his tenderness  
and sympathy, and above all his  
spirit of forgiveness. I must repeat the  
closing forecast of his 2<sup>nd</sup> inaugural,

"With wisdom to make every man  
charity for all; with firmness in  
the right, as God gives us to see the  
right, let us strive on to finish the  
work we are in; to mend if the  
nation's wounds, to care for him  
who shall have borne the battle, and  
for his widow, and his orphans.—  
to do all which may achieve, and  
cherish a just and lasting peace  
among ourselves, and with all nations."—  
So our civic and social life do we

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to day bring this def rotted rivot  
Democracy resting upon faith in  
Human Nature?

I have spoken of his faith in his  
own integrity, and some that expeered  
itself in his honesty, his unwillingness  
to soil himself in what was wrong  
or dishonest. I have spoken of his faith  
in the integrity of human nature, and  
the vital Democracy which rested upon  
that faith. I come now to speak of  
his def religious nature. His faith in  
god, by whom which both is honesty, and  
his Democracy reflects.

I am well aware of the fact that he  
has not always been regarded as a  
religious man, that he was even spoken  
of as an atheist, and infidel, but the  
counsels of judgement have not always  
been just.

Let us approach this by the way of deed.  
One cannot read the well known story  
of how he <sup>first</sup> came across the town

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chunkhord lying in the street one night, and carried him on his back to the inn, and cared for him as he would for a brother. He ~~wishes~~ that if ~~Jesus of Nazareth~~ were of that stamp he would see it, without thinking of the beautiful parable of the good Samaritan which Jesus tells.

But such things are not always regarded as evidences of Religious life, and in as much as he had read from Paine's Age of Reason, did not believe that all of the Bible was inspired, and did not believe in the miracles, he has been spoken of as an Atheist. So I wish to speak of one or two things in which is revealed as a devout religious votive sacrifice. He once said. Whenever any church will inscribe on its alter as a grabification for membership the Founder's statement of the substance of the law and the gospel. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with ~~all~~ all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and

with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as ~~thy~~  
thyself, that church will join with all  
my heart and soul."

In the dark days when the outlook for the  
Union was black, he used to go alone with  
God and give himself up to prayer. "I have  
been driven many times to his knees  
Knees," he once remarked, by the over-  
whelming conviction that I had nowhere  
else to go, my own misdeeds, and  
that of all about me seemed insufficient  
for that day." That must have been  
a wonderful sight to see that great  
God fearing man alone, at night, when  
all the city was sleeping, forming out  
the bibles and cloths and fears of his  
soul to God in prayer."

The thing worse as to his religious life  
and the direct bearing it had upon the  
way in which Lincoln served his country.  
The Diary of secretary Chase contains  
the following entry for the day when  
the Proclamation of Emancipation

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wor viewed. He quotes the President  
as saying these words.

"When the Rebel army was at  
Frederick, I determined as soon as it  
should be driven out of Maryland to  
issue a proclamation of Emancipation,  
such as I thought most likely to be  
useful. I said nothing to anyone,  
not wrote the fomrse to myself  
and to my Mother. The Rebel army  
is now driven out, and I am going  
to prepil my tht fomrse."<sup>11</sup>

This deep religious life of Lincoln  
was the foundation of all his great  
work, and who shall not say that  
in this rests that great power and  
genius which enabled him  
to do the work that he did. To  
the problems of his day he carried  
a deep religious faith resting upon  
the experience of his own soul?

are we giving to our times a service  
centering upon a covenant of service with  
God?<sup>19</sup>

You may think it a strange  
that I have said nothing about  
Lincoln's Education which he received  
for himself, and the noble which  
Education, and such things very fitting  
to the problems of our own day. But  
education, skill, executive ability,  
and training, are not the qualities  
of which we are in need. We are  
still working out the problems of  
a nation conceived in liberty, and  
dedicated to the proposition that all  
men are created equal." Many of the  
problems still remain, Social and  
Political corruption, Industrial  
uncertainty - false ideals of life,  
~~betrayed~~ unsound works, the  
care of new-comers, and the

training of them into citizens, are  
the problems which we must  
face. So there problems we must  
bring that some absolute honesty,  
that some mild Democracy, that  
some faith in God, and his truth  
that the great Lincoln showed when  
he faced the problem of Slavery,  
a broken Union and a divided Earth.  
that the ~~dearly~~ men who have  
died for freedom must be paid in  
vain. That we may complete the  
work which they devoted themselves  
to we must dedicate ourselves  
to the unfinished work which those  
who fought in the Civil war have  
so nobly advanced. It is for us  
to dedicate ourselves to the great  
task remaining before us - that  
from the bounden debt we take  
increased devotion to that same

for which they goeth lost free  
measure of devotion; that we here  
highly resolve that those dead shall  
not have died in vain; that this  
nation, under God, shall have a new  
birth of freedom; and that the Government  
of the people, by the people, and for  
the people shall not perish from  
the earth.