

is not in all history a single record of true greatness or real nobility but has been the result of unselfish devotion to principle and to truth. Had Lincoln set out to be great and to acquire fame he would have fallen far short of the pinnacle his memory now occupies. Had Washington withstood the perils and discomforts of Valley Forge for mere fame he would not have found so secure a lodgement in the hearts of his Countrymen. The same may be said of the Adamses, Jefferson, Franklin, Morris, Albert Gallatin and of our McKinley, and the great list of those who might be named who put love of God and of Country and humanity, over and above self advancement or private gain.

History is made up of biography, and there is no more helpful or interesting biography any where outside of Holy Writ than that of Lincoln. Fortunately for the Country and generations to come, there have been written of him, biographies which do not attempt to unself him, but which portray him just as he was, so that the real and the true Abraham Lincoln remains always in view. It is neither unwise nor unsafe to tell the American people the truths of human nature. Especially is this true of a great and mighty character like Lincoln in which the divine predominates and produces a picture which is at once a glory and a lasting possession of a free people. It is because of the disadvantages through which he struggled; because of the obstacles he met and overcame; because he grew and developed and achieved and became a master builder—not only of character but of the nation, that we are encouraged in the work that is set before us. It is because he was what he was that we revere his memory, and that we resolve to do our full duty to the Community, the State and the Nation in which we live.

The world acknowledges the pre-eminent greatness of Lincoln, but as to the secret of his greatness there is a diversity of views. It is interesting to observe the way it is accounted for by some of our wisest men. Some say it was due to his common sense—a thing so uncommon among the great: some, that he thoroughly understood himself—a thing quite difficult to do; while others say

that it was his power to reason and analyze. And who shall say that in the main and in the abstract *all* were not right? But it requires only a moment's reflection to see that behind it all and beyond it all, there must have been a something which gave him common sense, a something which enabled him to understand himself, a something which bestowed upon him the power to reason and to analyze. Whence then came his truthfulness, his tenderness, the nobility of his character and the power of his mind? If you will tell me why it was, and is and ever shall be that five shall chase a hundred, and a hundred put ten thousand to flight; if you will answer me what it was that felled to the ground those who sought to slay the Prince of Peace; if you will say what it was that enabled John on Patmos to see visions of the Eternal City, I will tell you what it was that made Abraham Lincoln great. God is not separate and apart from man whom He has created—from the wisdom and the love and the courage which He has given! Therefore to acquaint ourselves with Him in the truest sense is but to equip ourselves for the great duties and immeasurable possibilities which lie before us. It is an inestimable blessing to be an American citizen, to march under the stars and stripes, and to keep abreast of the tide of advancement and progress. The map of the world is being changed; peoples are being made free and self-dependent; the weak are being made strong; wrongs are being righted, and development and growth along right lines are evidenced everywhere. With expansion of territory, material growth, aggregation of capital, and a denser population, there must of necessity arise new problems to be solved, new duties to be performed. Even at this very moment may be seen upon the not distant horizon, economic questions, the wise adjustment of which will require the sturdiest citizenship and the truest statecraft. To control public utilities properly and yet not interfere with vested rights; to see that neither capital nor labor is unjustly dealt with; that both implicitly recognize the absolute supremacy of the law, and that both have the protection that is their due—these are tasks worthy of our highest

effort and mightiest endeavor. In this blessed Country of ours it is not the government that creates public opinion. It is public opinion that creates the government. It is the bounden duty of every good citizen to take a hand in government, to direct the current of public thought, to suggest initiative clues; to help form such a public opinion that through righteousness, the nation shall truly and continuously be exalted. There is no lack of labor for the enthusiastic citizen and none but the enthusiastic citizen is worthy of a place under the flag. He who neglects or refuses to take part in government, to attend the primaries and to do his share whether it be in the interest of local government, honest elections or any of the questions which are constantly presenting themselves, is deficient in citizenship. It is the duty of us all to

"Be strong,  
Say not the days are evil—who's to blame?"

And fold the hands and acquiesce;  
the shame!  
Stand up, speak out! and boldly  
in God's name,  
Be Strong.

It matters not how deep entrenched  
the wrong,  
How hard the battle goes; the day  
how long:

Faint not, fight on! to-morrow comes  
the song!"

I am an optionist. Every one must be such who has his finger on the pulse, who sees the youth of the land growing up into splendid manhood and womanhood; who feels the glow of their enthusiasm, the gulf stream of their zeal, and who sees in their firm faith and high resolves a determination to keep sacredly the inheritance which has come to them through the unselfish devotion of the heroes of the past—among whom none stands in such grand proportions as the loved and honored Lincoln. (Great applause)

Mr. William B. Foote then spoke on "Lincoln the Student." The concluding address of the morning on "Lincoln the Politician" was delivered by Mr. Calvin H. Waller. (Owing to lack of space we are unable to print these two speeches.) The exercises of the morning were then closed by the audience rising and singing "America."

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock, a