Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources illuminating aspects of this most well-known Presidential speech

Reactions to the Address

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection
(Formerly described as: Binder 3, p. 40-81)
Lincoln Speech
Was Applauded

AP Newsfeatures

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Some reports say the audience listened in complete silence. It is often asserted that the occasion was so solemn that applause would have been like blasphemy. Other reports suggest that the audience was not impressed by the speech.

One important Lincoln authority, Dr. Louis A. Warren, has challenged the reports there was no applause. He bases his belief on the copy sent from Gettysburg on the day of the address by Joseph L. Gilbert, reporter for The Associated Press. In that copy, the word "applause" appears in brackets five times.

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. (Applause). Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war: We are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that that nation might live.

"It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far beyond our poor power to add or detract. (Applause). The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. (Applause). It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried on, (Applause). It is rather for us here to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us; that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain. (Applause) that the nation shall, under God, 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. (Long continued applause)"

Fort Wayne Journal Gazette
February 12, 1956
News Report Shows Lincoln Did Get Applause at Gettysburg

AP Newsfeatures

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The Warren study of the problem indicates that reports of a silent audience were all made originally by people who wrote long after the event.

Gilbert was a young reporter for The Associated Press. He was sent from Philadelphia to cover the Gettysburg dedication. He took the presidential speech down in shorthand. Here is the copy which he transmitted:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. (Applause). Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war: we are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that that nation might live.

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LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG SPEECH.

Ward Lamon has caused much astonishment by his recent statement in the Chicago Tribune in regard to the effect of Lincoln's famous Gettysburg speech. Mr. Lamon was Marshal of the day, and witnessed the whole scene, but he does not mention that the day was cold and the audience already tired out by long speeches. His statement is as follows:

A day or two before the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, Mr. Lincoln told me that he would be expected to make a speech on the occasion; that he was extremely busy, with no time for preparation; and that he greatly feared that he would not be able to acquit himself with credit, much less to fill the measure of public expectation. From his hat (the usual receptacle of his private notes and memoranda), he drew a page of foolscap, closely written, which he read to me, first remarking that it was a memorandum of what he intended to say. It proved to be in substance, and, I think, in the very words what was printed as his Gettysburg speech.

After its delivery he expressed deep regret that he had not prepared it with greater care. He said to me on the stand immediately after concluding the speech: "Lamon, that speech won't do! It is a flat failure, and the people are disappointed." He seemed more than ordinarily concerned about what the people would think of it. I was deeply impressed by his frank and regretful condemnation of the effort, and especially by his manner of expressing that regret, and my own impression was deepened by the fact that the orator of the day, Mr. Everett, and Mr. Seward both concurred in manner of expression. Mr. Lincoln is in his unfavorable view of its merits.

The occasion was solemn, impressive, and grandly historic. The people stood spell-bound, it is true. The vast throng was hushed and awed into profound silence while Mr. Lincoln read his brief address; but it seemed that this silence and attention to his words arose more from the solemnity of the ceremonies and the awful scenes which gave occasion to them, than from anything the President said. On the platform from which Mr. Lincoln made his address, and only a moment after its conclusion, Mr. Seward turned to Mr. Everett and asked him what he thought of the President's speech. Mr. Everett replied: "It was not what I expected from him; I am disappointed." In his turn Mr. Everett asked: "What do you think of it, Mr. Seward?" The response was: "He has made a failure, and I am sorry for it; his speech is not equal to him." Mr. Seward then turned to me and asked: "Mr. Marshal, what do you think of it?" "I am sorry to say it does not impress me as one of his great speeches."

As a matter of fact, Mr. Lincoln's great Gettysburg speech fell on the vast audience like a wet blanket. At that time his reputation was confessedly on the wane. The politicians of the country—those of his own party, together with a large part of the press—were casting about for an available candidate to be his successor, while a great majority of the people were for him. I state it as a fact, and without fear of contradiction, that this famous Gettysburg speech was not received or commented upon with anything like hearty favor by the people, the politicians, or the press of the United States until after the death of its author. Its marvelous perfection and its intrinsic excellence as a masterpiece of English composition seemed like a sublime mockery to the scrutiny of the most scholarly critics and the wisest heads of that day on this side of the Atlantic. That discovery was made, we must regretfully see, by distinguished writers on the other side. The London Spectator, the Saturday Review, the Edinburgh Review, and other English journals were the first to discover, or at least to proclaim, the classical merits of the Gettysburg speech. It was then that we began to realize that it was indeed a masterpiece, and it then dawned upon many minds that we had entertained an angel unawares who had left us unappreciated.

The speech is given below:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might have endured. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or to detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these 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.
It will probably cause general surprise to learn that when first delivered Mr. Lincoln's Gettysburg speech was thought by himself and his most intimate party friends and associates a flat failure. Yet the fact is asserted by Mr. Lamon, once Mr. Lincoln's law partner, and marshal of the day at the Gettysburg dedication. Mr. Lamon, in an article in the Chicago Tribune, says:

The people stood spell-bound, it is true. The vast throng was hushed and awed into profound silence while Mr. Lincoln read his brief address; but it seemed that this silence and attention to his words arose more from the solemnity of the ceremonies and the awful scene which gave occasion to them, than from anything the President said. On the platform from which Mr. Lincoln made his address, and only a moment after its conclusion, Mr. Saward turned to Mr. Everett and asked him what he thought of the President's speech. Mr. Everett replied: "It is not what I expected from him; I am disappointed." In his turn Mr. Everett asked: "What do you think of it Mr. Seward?" The response was: "He has made a failure and I am sorry for it; his speech was not equal to him."

Mr. Seward then turned to me and asked: "Mr. Marshal, what do you think of it?" "I am sorry to say it does not impress me as one of his great speeches."

The credit of discovering its beauty and grandeur is awarded by the same writer to the English journals. As we read it now the story seems almost incredible; but it is not the first instance in which discourses that have been deemed weak and impotent when first delivered have proved to be strong and mighty.

**GETTYSBURG SPEECH NO HIT**

(Golden Book Magazine)

When the speakers were being chosen to make addresses at Gettysburg in 1863, President Lincoln was an afterthought—and then a dubious chairman begged him to make his speech as short as possible!

It is generally believed that Lincoln wrote the Gettysburg address on a piece of brown paper, on the way to Gettysburg. But this is not true. Two days before the dedication at Gettysburg, President Lincoln had the speech almost all written and in his hat (where he usually kept valuable papers).

"The silence during the delivery of the speech, and the lack of hearty demonstration at its close," said Ward Hill Lamon, describing the event, "were taken by Mr. Lincoln as certain proof that it had not been well received. In that opinion we all shared. "Mr. Lincoln said to me: 'Lamon, that speech won't stick! It's a flat failure and the people are disappointed.' It occurred to only a few who heard it that it was an immortal address."
My dear Sir:

Your favor of the 22nd instant, with reference to Lincoln's Gettysburg speech, has been received and read.

I really cannot tell you just when Lincoln's Gettysburg speech began to be appreciated; it was appreciated by some very soon after it was delivered and printed. The speech was so brief that the audience scarcely caught on to it before Lincoln had finished and sat down, but very soon after it appeared in type the people began to appreciate it, and the more they read it the more they appreciated it. Whether or not the papers in England were among the first to appreciate the speech, I do not know and am unable to tell you.

I will send you a copy of the report of the Lincoln Memorial Commission and in it you will find a good many interesting things about the Memorial.

With great respect, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

S. M. CULLOM.
Lincoln Speech Hearers Not Impressed at Time, Says New Cumberland Woman

"Any school boy could make a speech like that," Mrs. Lena Rosenberger, 88, of 316 West Fifteenth Street, New Cumberland, one of the few persons still living who heard Abraham Lincoln, the great emancipator, deliver his immortal Gettysburg address, said she heard many persons say, as she stood not more than twenty feet from him after Lincoln sat down.

"But they did not then perceive the great significance of that address," she continued, upon being interceded, "because people in those days thought all speeches in order to be good had to be long."

Mrs. Rosenberger, then Miss Lena Wolf, a girl of 18, is a daughter of the late Capt. Frederick Wolf, who was a retired militia man at the outbreak of the Civil War. She lived with her parents on a farm along the Cumberland pike, about three miles west of Gettysburg, where they were later forced to abandon while the battle of Gettysburg was fought.

She remembers "little Jennie Wade," as she called her, as one of the girls whom she knew before the fatal sniper's ball crashed through the walls of the Wade home and killed her while baking bread for Union soldiers. "We all baked bread for the soldiers then ... we had to," Mrs. Rosenberger said, "and I remember well how Daniel Gitt, whom everybody liked in Gettysburg, could haul in wagons loads of flour."

Saw Him at the Square

"The day Lincoln came in to Gettysburg, Mr. Rosenberger said, "we girls saw him first near the square. It was the first I had ever seen him. He was dressed just as they always described him these days, a little shabby and his pants weren't pressed."

"He seemed to pay more attention to the children than to any one else. As he walked along through the crowd, he smiled kindly at every one, but whenever he came upon little girls and boys, he would stoop and kiss the little girls and pat the little boys on the head. He even paused to admire little babies in their mother's arms. Sometimes he kissed them. There were many soldiers scattered through the crowd and every one was talking about Lincoln and praising him."

"I watched him as they were standing around corners there at Chamberlain's hotel and the Square, getting ready to go out to where he was to speak. Horses stamped about, big horses, but for Lincoln there was but one small one. He smiled as he straddled it. His feet hung down and touched the ground. Everyone laughed and so did he. Then they let him know it was all a joke, and brought him a larger horse which he mounted and rode out with the rest of the party."

Aided to Platform

"There was what we called a big crowd then, standing about as Lincoln mounted the platform, aided by many willing soldiers. Some claim there were still dead horses lying within sight of where he spoke, at that time, but I did not see any. The people had worked day and night, burying them all. As he arose to speak a hush came over the crowd. He was standing a little back of him, alongside the edge of the platform. My mother was old and the soldiers had helped us up into the corner of the platform there. It seemed that you could just feel the gentle warmth of Lincoln's presence. He was so stately, and so kind."

"When he had finished people seemed kind of disappointed because his speech was so short, but everyone was for Lincoln, just the same. We all had great confidence in him. As he descended into the crowd again, he patted more little boys on the head and kissed some of the little girls. I shook hands with him a few moments later. I shook hands with everybody."

Sketched the Martyr

"My girl-friend Lizzie Gilbert, later put something on foolscap paper with a pen, and the drawing showed the face of Lincoln. They had it on display in Tyson's drug store a while and then it was sent to Washington. Lincoln was pleased with it."

"He left for Washington on a special train a short time after he spoke at Gettysburg," Mrs. Rosenberger stated.

The aged New Cumberland resident has a remarkable memory of the Civil War and it's aftermath. She returned to Gettysburg with her family from Arendtsville on the day after the Battle of Gettysburg.

"All along the road on the way back to the farm," she said, "the dead were lying. They were mostly rebels, because they had taken away a lot of ours by that time. There were dead horses lying around too. In the gullies along the road, they had thrown the bodies of rebels and threw a little dirt over them. The heads and feet stuck out, that is when they had feet. There were arms and legs laying around, too, and at one place my brother kicked a leg, cut off at the knee, and cov-
LINCOLN AS AN ORATOR.

He Did Not Impress Those Who Heard Him, Even at Gettysburg.

Charleston News and Courier: George E. Paul, of Philadelphia, who was present and heard President Lincoln's famous Gettysburg address, was asked the other day by "Girard," of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, how it impressed him at the time. We quote Mr. Paul's answer: "Not only," said he, "was I not specially impressed by Lincoln's wonderful speech at Gettysburg that day, but I don't believe anybody else who was there appreciated it. I stood within ten feet of Lincoln while he talked. The big crowd seemed astonished when he sat down, for the speech was so short he seemed scarcely to have begun when he ended.

"I know this to be true that for twenty years afterward I never even mentioned the fact to anybody that I heard Lincoln's speech. In those twenty years it wasn't much talked of, but as you now, everybody reads it.

"Horace White, who reported the Lincoln-Douglas debates, delivered an address in Chicago at the recent Lincoln celebration, and thus described Mr. Lincoln's oratory:

"Lincoln had a high pitched falsetto voice that resembled the pipe of a best-swain's whistle, and he often had to stop for repairs in the middle of a sentence. Both mind and body worked more slowly than in Douglas' case. No one ever caught Douglas napping, and he was quick as a flash in answering questions and making his interrupters feel their inferiority."

Yet much of Lincoln's fame rests upon his addresses, and in a dry style for students of history does Douglas' eloquence survive.

Read from Lincoln's Manuscript. Special Dispatch to the Globe-Democrat.
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 25.—Gen. John P. Taylor, of Milford County, Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and his staff made their first official visit last night since the General's election to that office, to a Philadelphia organization, by attending the muster and camp meeting of Col. Fred Taylor Post, No. 19, on Marshall street above Poplar. During the progress of the camp-fire Col. John E. Nicholson, a member of Post No. 19, arose and delivered an address of much eloquence. He concluded his speech by reading from the sheet of isleascrap paper upon which Abraham Lincoln had written his famous Gettysburg speech and which occupies but two pages of the sheet. The effect upon the huge audience was magical. The document is said to be one of the most valuable in its intrinsic and material worth of any of like character written in existence. Col. Nicholson stated to a reporter who was present that he is not at liberty to name his owner nor its value in money, but it is understood that if sold to-day it would bring many thousands of dollars. Col. Nicholson prevailed upon a friend to loan it to him to read to the men of Post 19 and their friends.

Heard Lincoln at Gettysburg.

Mrs. D. S. Criswell is dead at Clarinda, Page county. She had the distinction of being privileged when a girl to hear the speech of Abraham Lincoln at the dedication of the battlefield at Gettysburg. She occupied a position not far removed from the temporary platform upon which the great president stood when he delivered that memorable and immortal address. Mrs. Criswell left a daughter who is a missionary in Egypt.

LINCOLN AT GETTYSBURG.

The recollections of W. H. Lamon, who knew Mr. Lincoln intimately, which have just been published, throw some needed light on the Gettysburg speech. Tradition, and the school histories, have it that after Lincoln had delivered his twenty lines that Edward Everett, whose stately eloquence had preceded, grasped the president's hand and said that he would gladly give his hundred pages for the president's twenty lines. Mr. Lamon says he was on the platform, at Gettysburg, and heard everything that was said. Instead of saying what would have been creditable to his judgment Mr. Everett said, to Mr. Seward: "It is not what I had expected of him; I am disappointed." Mr. Seward said: "He has made a failure and I am sorry of it; his speech is not equal to his." Mr. Lincoln himself was disappointed with the effect his words had produced on the audience. He said to Mr. Lamon, with a sad expression on his face: "Lamon, that speech won't scour. It is a flat failure and the people are disappointed." Mr. Lincoln's conclusion was reached by reason of the coldness of the audience. There was no sign of approval during the delivery of the now immortal words. The audience had even received the president coldly. But if those who heard it did not appreciate the greatness of the speech time has done full justice to it and placed it forever among the great and inspired utterances.

O. M. Goldsmith, an attorney in Chicago, recently visited his brother Judge C. D. Goldsmith, at Sac City. The Chicago lawyer is a veteran of the civil war and at the dedication of the battlefield at Gettysburg he was among the soldiers commissioned to guard President Lincoln on that memorable occasion. Edward Everett, the noted New York orator and statesman, was selected by the war department to deliver the dedicatory address and Mr. Goldsmith, along with others of his company, stood at attention during the two hours of its delivery. And when it was completed Abraham Lincoln was introduced and in an extemporaneous effort lasting only a few minutes gave to posterity and to the world that immortal speech known to every schoolboy as President Lincoln's Gettysburg address.
What Happened at Gettysburg

Many suppose that Lincoln's address created little attention, but the facts are otherwise.

By RUTH BLOCK

EIGHTY-THREE years ago this Tuesday, on a clear day in November, crowded, slow-moving trains and wagons made their way to Gettysburg. Fifteen thousand people were coming to witness the dedication of a battlefield.

On the previous day, President Lincoln and his party had arrived in Gettysburg. Edward Everett, the venerable scholar and speaker, was to be the Orator of the Day, and Mr. Lincoln had been asked to make "a few appropriate remarks" at the ceremonies. What he said is immortal. But the delivery of his address and its reception have been ever since the subject of conflicting report and legend. To this day there is a widely held belief that Lincoln's speech failed to attract attention among his contemporaries, that it fell upon the ears of an uninterested populace which "applauded faintly and was unimpressed." The facts are quite different.

At 10 o'clock on the morning of Nov. 19, 1863, a procession formed just outside the town of Gettysburg. Generals, Governors, soldiers and officials, with military bands, took their places in line. At the head of the procession rode Lincoln, dressed in black and wearing a tall hat and white gauntlets. His horse was too small and his long legs nearly touched the ground, but the march was not long.

On a platform which had been built for the distinguished guests the President was seated between the Secretary of State, William Henry Seward, and Mr. Everett. A military guard encircled the field, within which stood 15,000 or more persons.

After the religious invocation by the Rev. Mr. Stockton, Mr. Everett rose to speak. White-haired, erect, Everett held the attention of his audience for two hours, and sat down amid the loud and general applause of the crowd.

And then Lincoln rose. He spoke slowly, in a high, clear voice, glancing infrequently at the manuscript he held. His speech lasted two minutes.

What happened when he concluded? There are as many versions as there are people who recorded his impressions.

The New York Times reported "long, continued applause." Spectators afterward recalled everything from "profound silence," or "no applause of any kind," to a "hurricane of applause." * * * a tumultuous outpouring." It is evident from all reports that people were surprised at the brevity of the address. For a moment they were not sure that Lincoln had finished. But then the general response seems to have been one of enthusiasm tempered by the seriousness of the occasion.

In view of the newspaper reports of the dedication, it is far from correct to suppose that while Everett received widespread admiration, Lincoln's words were unnoticed. Certain newspapers devoted editorial praise to Everett and simply quoted Lincoln's address without comment. Others, anti-Administration in policy, described his address in scathing, cruel and unjust terms. But there were many who recognized its greatness.

Lincoln at Gettysburg, Nov. 19, 1863. From an old print.

Probably the earliest favorable comment to appear was that wired by the reporter of The Chicago Tribune from Gettysburg: "The dedicatory remarks by President Lincoln will live among the annals of man." On the day after the delivery of the address Longfellow declared it was "admirable."

The editorial comment of The Springfield Republican, which appeared on the second morning, is worth noting: "Surpassingly fine as Mr. Everett's oration was in the Gettysburg consecration, the rhetorical honors of the occasion were won by President Lincoln. His little speech is a perfect gem; deep in feeling, compact in thought and expression."

The Evening Bulletin of Philadelphia said: "The President's brief speech of dedication is most happily expressed. It is warm, earnest, unaffected, and touching. Thousands who would not read the long, elaborate oration of Mr. Everett will read the President's few words, and not many will do it without a moistening of the eye and a swelling of the heart."

And Everett himself, thanking Lincoln for his kindness to him at Gettysburg, wrote: "I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes."
LINCOLN'S IMMORTAL GETTYSBURG SPEECH

It Was Almost Ignored by the Newspapers in Their Reports of the Occasion.

HE FEARED HE HAD FAILED

Spoke Extemporaneously from Notes Scribbled on the Way to the Historic Battlefield.

The thousands of enthusiastic young red-schoolhouse orators throughout the land and their enrap parents, who have set spellbound while their offspring repeated from the school platform Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg speech, beginning "Four score and seven years ago," could not easily be persuaded to-day that when President Lincoln delivered the address it was received, not only without acclamation, but was almost completely ignored.

Mr. Lincoln's memorable utterance on the indestructibility of freedom, which is known to-day as the "Gettysburg Address," was delivered by him at the exercises in dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg on the afternoon of Nov. 19, 1863. Here were to be buried the soldiers who had fallen in the great battle of a few months before. A part of the battleground had been set apart for the purpose, and consecrated previously to the reburial of the bodies by exercises which attracted attention all over the country.

Edward Everett, the orator of the day, had prepared for the occasion an address the delivery of which took nearly two hours. President Lincoln, of course, had planned to be present at the exercises, and on the night before he left the White House had scribbled down a few notes, knowing, as he said to the late John Hay, then his private secretary, that he would "be expected to say something."

The President's party left Washington at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 18, by special train over the old North Central Railroad. Mr. Lincoln was accompanied by Secretary of State Seward, Postmaster General Blair, Secretary Usher, several members of the Diplomatic Corps, Secretaries Nicolay and Hay, a large number of army and navy officers, and a body-guard from the First Regiment of the Invalid Corps under Lieut.-Col. Ford. The Washington Marine Band went with them, and the route out into Pennsylvania was made resound with martial airs.

Lincoln Nervous Over His Speech.

Soon after leaving the city the President told Secretary Seward that he was nervous about his speech. He fully appreciated the delicacy of the situation; that the experience was yet far from a satisfactory conclusion, and that he was going, not to raise men for the ranks, but to honor the memory of those who died possibly in vain. He talked the matter over almost continuously with his more intimate associates in the party, and just before reaching Gettysburg into which the train drew at sundown, drew apart a corner and went to scribbling in a notebook. Mr. Hay noticed that he tore up the last of the two sheets of notes he had written the night before and substituted the revisions he had made on the train.

Eight companies of the Fifth New York Artillery were in camp at Gettysburg, under Col. Murray, and after the President and his party had eaten supper they were serenaded by the men with their band. The clambor became so loud that Mr. Lincoln finally stopped out upon the porch and said:

"I appear before you, fellow citizens, merely to thank you for this compliment. The interview is a very fine one that you would hear for a little while, at least, were I to commence to make a speech. I do not appear before you for the purpose of doing so, and for several substantial reasons." (Laughter, the men knowing that he had just finished his dinner.) "The most substantial of these is that I have no speech to make. In my position it is somewhat important that I should not say any foolish things." (A voice, interrupting, "If you can help it.") "It very often happens that the only way to help it is to say nothing at all. Believing that is my condition this evening, I must beg of you to excuse me from addressing you further."

Then Mr. Lincoln retired amid cheers.

The next morning the exercises were started. When Mr. Everett arose to deliver his address he found himself confronted by a vast crowd. For a little less than two hours he spoke, delivering one of the most cleverly-phrased addresses ever delivered by this master of rhetoric.

A short prayer followed and the President's turn came. His nervousness had not decreased, and just before he arose he turned to Secretary Seward, who sat beside him, and said, "It is a flat failure. They won't like it." As he spoke in his high-pitched, deliberate voice, he was frequently interrupted by applause, but not more enthusiastic than was due his stature.

How the Speech Was Reported.

The account of the exercises was spread over many columns in the New York newspapers the next morning, but strange as it would seem to newspaper makers of to-day, no particular attention was devoted to Mr. Lincoln's speech. Many of the newspapers did not print the address in a few lines more notice of the fact that Lincoln had spoken. Still others merely said that the President "delivered a short address of dedication."

The Herald devoted nearly a page and a half to the "histrionics" then prevailing, and the "National Necrology—Speeches by Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Seward, and Gov. Seymour." These followed an elaborate account of the exercises and Mr. Everett's address in which Mr. Everett then delivered the following oration, which telling of the exercises are reprinted in an inside page without other comment than: "The President then delivered the following dedicatory speech."

Here Ward Beecher had spoken the same day at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn on the dedication of a monument to his country and England. Much space was given to this devotion to this memorial, and nearly all the New York gals took occasion to comment editorially on the comparison between the utterances of Beecher and Everett, almost unanimously to the disadvantage of the latter.

Classic Speech Almost Ignored.

Not one of them, however, was sufficiently impressed by the remarks of Mr. Lincoln to even mention them in the dispatches. The Herald noted on the morning of Nov. 21: "We published yesterday two very important orations, that of Edward Everett on the battlefield of Gettysburg and that of Henry Ward Beecher, at the Brooklyn Academy. The former was mild and water; utterly inadequate, although his themes were clear and his metaphors as chaste as snow."

On the afternoon of the dedication the Evening Post gave three columns to the Beecher address and a much longer one to the Gettysburg dedication. The President's remarks were neither printed in the account nor commented upon editorially. The only mention of his having spoken at all was in the first paragraph of the article, which said: "The Soldiers' Cemetery at Gettysburg was formally dedicated yesterday. The President, Secretary Seward, and others made brief addresses, and an oration was delivered by Edward Everett."

The Tribune said the fact that Mr. Lincoln had said something at Gettysburg "in the hearing of His story that "Speeches of the President, Secretary of State, and Others—Edward Everett's Address" were printed before Mr. Everett's, but there was no editorial comment upon it. The Tribune printed an editorial in which he said: "Mr. Lincoln's speech was a masterpiece of rhetoric and a most fitting conclusion to the exercises, but we are sure will command the attention of the day, and of not of this day alone."

Ward Beecher printed his account of the exercises with this com-
ment: "The President himself delivered the dedicatory address, brief, and calculated to arouse deep feeling." A columnist—half editorial commenting on the oratory of the day, but failing to include Mr. Lincoln's remarks in the discussion, included this reference to Mr. Everett:

"The most orate and cultivated of American orators has fallen below the occasion and below his own reputation in the greatest opportunity ever presented to him for rearing a monument more enduring than brass."

**Mr. Everett Was Impressed.**

One thing may be said in explanation of the laxity of the New York dailies in dealing with the great address. Mr. Lincoln spoke practically extemporaneously, and "special correspondents" were not then sent as freely over the country as they are to-day. Mr. Everett, however, seemed duly impressed with the worth of the President's speech. He wrote a letter to Mr. Lincoln on the morning of the 20th, in which he said:

I beg leave in this way to thank you for your great thoughtfulness for my daughter's accommodation on the platform yesterday. Permit me also to express my great admiration of the thought expressed by you at the consecration of the cemetery. I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes. My son, who parted from me at Baltimore, and my daughter concur in this sentiment.

Mr. Lincoln wrote in reply the same day:

Your kind note of to-day is received. In our respective parts yesterday you could not have been expected to make a short address, nor I a long one. I am pleased to know that in your judgment the little I did say was not entirely a failure. Of course I knew Mr. Everett would not fail, and yet, while the whole discourse was eminently satisfactory and will be of great value, there were passages in it which transcended my expectations.

There are many different versions of the famous speech, all varying slightly in wording. The one given on another page of to-day's Times is as written out by Mr. Lincoln at the request of Mr. Hay soon after their return to Washington from Gettysburg. The manuscript is now in the possession of Mrs. Hay. In it the fourth sentence originally read: "We are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that the Nation might live."

In the seventh sentence the word "poor" was inserted by Mr. Lincoln as an afterthought. In the ninth he also changed the "the" before "cause" to "that." The manuscript differs from the usual schoolbook copies of the address in several important particulars. The ninth sentence usually reads: "It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced."

In the final sentence "under God" usually appears after "this nation" in the third clause, and the "this" before the famous line, "Government of the people, by the people, and for the people," is found in few copies except the original.
Abraham Lincoln’s great Gettysburg address will be recited today in thousands of schools and public meetings. No unkind criticism will be uttered, and naught but praise will be given it.

But when the address was delivered it was, in most part, coldly received. Some newspapers scoffed at the oration, so cordially did their editors dislike Lincoln. His newspaper adversaries referred to him as clownish and said they were ashamed of his appearance and actions. One Chicago paper asserted:

"Mr. Lincoln did most foully traduce the motives of the men who were slain at Gettysburg. . . . The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads the silly, flat, and dishwatery utterances of the man who has to be pointed out to intelligent foreigners as President."

Among First to Recognize Truths.

The Chicago Tribune was one of the few newspapers of the time that recognized the lasting truths that the Civil War President had packed into the 10 sentences that composed the address.

"The dedicatory remarks of President Lincoln will live among the annals of men," its report said.

The opposing Chicago paper declared that Lincoln gave "an offensive exhibition of boorishness and vulgarity" and quoted a rebel southern paper as saying "Lincoln acted the clown."

Even the American correspondent of the staid London Times set himself up as a critic of Lincoln’s words "The ceremony was rendered ludicrous by some of the sallies of that poor President Lincoln," he wrote.

Lincoln Upheld by Tribune.

The Tribune’s comment on the Gettysburg speech was only one of many instances of support that was given President Lincoln by the Tribune. It was one of the earliest advocates of his election, and its editor, Joseph Medill, took a prominent part in the convention that made Lincoln the Republican nominee for the Presidency.

Thru the dark days of 1863, when there was danger a wearied people would give up the war before victory was achieved, the Tribune carried on a stern campaign against "copperheads," or northern traitors. It upheld Lincoln in every measure for the prosecution of the war and the emancipation of the colored man.

Lincoln was appreciative. In the lobby of Tribune Tower is a letter from him to Medill, in which he said he expected to be a subscriber to the paper "so long as it and I both live."
How Lincoln's Gettysburg speech was reported in the contemporary press is mentioned in *The World's Work* for August by Cameron Rogers in his contribution, "The Forgotten Orator—Edward Everett." Many newspapers in an obscure paragraph inserted a little item that, in the consecration ceremonies at the Gettysburg Cemetery, President Lincoln made "a few appropriate remarks." Of course there were exceptions—the New York Tribune, for example. The latter in its issue for Nov. 20, 1863, clearly shows that applause followed virtually every sentence of Lincoln's speech with long continued applause at the end. Edward Everett, it may be remarked in passing, was at 26 editor of the North American Review.
Lincoln, Ending Gettysburg Address, Believed It A Failure

BY EDWARD BOYKIN
Home Service Historical Authority

THERE was little applause, a few scattered outbursts. President Lincoln looked embarrassed. Nobody rushed to shake his hand and say he had made a great speech. The ladies and a gentleman and gentlemen seated on the platform with the President felt embarrassed. They—and the crowds, too, thought the President had merely paused. Nobody realized that the Gettysburg Address was over.

The day was November 19, 1863, the National Cemetery at Gettysburg had fallen in the great battle, were buried.

The man of the moment was Edward Everett, who had preceded Lincoln with a two-hour, flowery oration. Lincoln had spoken for two minutes. As he returned to his seat he remarked that his speech was a failure and the newspapers next day generally agreed with him. The President made a short, appropriate speech," commented one newspaper.

Two-Hour Oration Forgotten.

Today people have forgotten Edward Everett's two-hour oration, while thousands know by heart the two-minute talk made by plain homely Abraham Lincoln.

The President was not to be the principal speaker at the dedication. This role was reserved for Everett the master of oratory, a former governor of Massachusetts, ambassador to England and president of Harvard University.

Indeed, in the letter inviting the President to attend the ceremony the chairman had said, "It is the desire that after the oration you, as Chief Executive of the Nation, formally accord these grounds for their sacred use by a few appropriate remarks."

Lincoln reached Gettysburg the night before the ceremony. In the course of the evening, serenaders called him out of the home of Judge Will's, the chairman, for one of those like priceless jewels by the American little front-porch addresses in which people.

few marks of value are made. In fact, on this occasion Lincoln actually said, "In my position it is sometimes important that I should not say foolish things." (A voice "If you can help it.") "It very often happens that the only way to help it is to say nothing at all. Believing that is my present condition this evening I must beg of you to excuse me from addressing you further."

Makes Changes In Address.

In his room later Lincoln apparently made slight alterations in the text of his address that was unquestioningly written before he left Washington for Gettysburg. There are many legends and stories about the composition of this immortal speech. It is widely accepted that the speech was written on the train on the way to the battlefield. But it is more than probable that Lincoln not only wrote the speech but labored over it thoughtfully before leaving the White House. Andrew Carnegie, the steel magnate, then a very young secretary to the president of the railroad on which Lincoln was riding, once said that the President borrowed his pencil and with it wrote the Gettysburg Address as the train jotted along. There are even those who say that Lincoln wrote no speech, made no notes, but spoke from the inspiration of the moment.

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But one thing certain is that the next day Lincoln sat quietly on the platform in the sunshine while Edward Everett swept the heavens with his oratory. Lincoln must have known how brief his own speech would seem to the thousands crowded around. When his time came he rose, adjusted his spectacles, stepped forward, glanced at his notes and began to speak. As Lincoln began, a photographer down front was bustling with his camera under an old-fashioned hood. Two minutes later the photographer was still under his hood getting ready to take the picture, but Abraham Lincoln had already said "of the people, by the people and for the people."

Thinks Address Is Failure.

As the President strode back to his chair he turned to a friend and remarked, "Lamon, that speech won't do." He meant that it was a failure.

But Lincoln was wrong in his estimate. The Gettysburg Address is more quoted than any other utterance by a famous American, including even Washington's farewell address. Today the words are written in metal and stone in towns and hamlets all over America; they are used by orators and memorized by school children; they are cherished few marks of value are made. In fact, on this occasion Lincoln actually said, "In my position it is sometimes important that I should not say foolish things." (A voice "If you can help it.") "It very often happens that the only way to help it is to say nothing at all. Believing that is my present condition this evening I must beg of you to excuse me from addressing you further."

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Our home service is today offering a replica of the Gettysburg Address in Lincoln’s own handwriting and suitable for framing in your home. Turn to the home service feature on page 16.

Among the reproductions of American patriotic documents are The Bill of Rights and "The Star-Spangled Banner."
BRAHAM LINCOLN'S Gettysburg address is today ranked as one of the immortal utterances of man. The truth, the faith that are voiced in it are eternal, historians say. From the platforms of little white schoolhouses out on the prairie, from the flag decorated stands at Fourth of July celebrations, from the solemn rostrums of the centers of learning the Gettysburg address has been repeated times without number and doubtless will continue to be as long as the spirit of democracy lives on. Yet, with the strangely limited view of those close at hand, the great address was considered a failure by many at the time it was delivered. Lincoln himself believed that he had failed to speak anything worthy of the occasion and was greatly downcast. The sense of his failure at such a momentous event added no little to the intolerable burdens that weighed upon him in 1863. The daily newspapers of the North generally took little notice of Lincoln's words at Gettysburg, but were lavish in their praise of the long address delivered by Edward Everett, the great Boston orator on the same occasion. The Patriot and Union, an influential newspaper published at Harrisburg, Pa., with an ability for misjudgment almost beyond all belief, said of the address: "Everett spoke, as he always does, perfectly; and the President, in a firm, free way, with more grace than is wont, said his half-dozen lines of consecration." Praise Only for Everett!

In Mr. Hay's mind, as in the minds of nearly all present, Edward Everett's address overshadowed all else on the pro-

The cant moments of leisure given him in those troubled days. That he did not complete it until a few hours before it was delivered is certain. In fact, he did not know until about two weeks before the date that he was expected to talk at all. The committee that had charge of the arrangements for the consecration of the national cemetery at Gettysburg had asked Mr. Everett a long time in advance and had postponed the date of the consecration from October 19 to November 19 at Mr. Everett's request. Asked of a "Few Appropriate Words." David Wills, a public spirited citizen of Gettysburg and the organizer of the idea of a national cemetery there, wrote to President Lincoln on November 2, six weeks after Mr. Everett had been invited to speak, as follows:

The states having soldiers who were at the White House, writing it in ink upon a sheet of executive letter paper. He finished it in pencil upon a sheet of scrap the morning of the day he spoke at Gettysburg.

Some historians have maintained the President wrote his speech while on the train on the way to Gettysburg, but John Nicolay, his private secretary, said that this was not the case. Lincoln, he maintained, knew before that time what he should say and was plainly disturbed by the feeling that his address would not prove adequate.

Owing to the presence of thousands of visitors—parents of the dead who were to be reburied there, crippled soldiers, sightseers, officials from various states—the President and his party spent the night before the consecration at the Wills home. It was a crystal clear night. From the business section of the village rose the music of many bands that had come to participate in the ceremonies. Crowds of serenaders and glee clubs went from house to house, where there were notables, demanding speeches. Mr. Lincoln responded to a call, but declined to make a speech, saying only: "In my position it is somewhat important that I should not say any foolish things. It very often happens that the only way to help it is to say nothing at all.

Secretary Seward's Queer Error.

Secretary Seward, who consented to make the speech, made the remarkable error of placing Gettysburg within the state of Maryland. His words rang with reproach, for he believed he was speaking to slaveholders or those who sympathized, at least, with the cause of slavery. David Wills, recalling Mr. Seward's speech, said that the secretary used the words:

"This is the first time that ever any people or community on this side of Mason and Dixon's line (meaning the southern side) was found willing to listen to my voice."

The following morning Mr. Lincoln rode to the head of the procession to the platform at the newly consecrated cemetery, his tall, ungainly form stumped over his horse, his face set in its pathetic, homely lines. Only once did he look back. That was at a little girl as the President rode by. Mr. Lincoln grasped the child in his arms, kissed her and handed her back to the mother. A shadow of a smile, gentle beyond all description, passed over the drawn face of the President, only to be replaced by that sad, absorbed look that had become so typical of the President.

A prayer by the Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, chaplain of the United States Senate, opened the program. It was an eloquent, though somewhat lengthy, effort and it breathed the spirit of victory rather than of humility. It was noon—the serene, sundown, crisp noon of a perfect fall day—when the venerable Edward Everett arose to speak. His oration was no longer and its final lines, was filled with the eloquence so popular in that day and it held the multitude in rapt silence. Mr. Everett had long been a figure in public life, an ambassador, a member of the Cabinet, a governor, a speaker of great renown. Much was expected of him, and he gave all that was anticipated. The carefully chosen, exquisitely polished phrases, delivered in his deep, sonorous voice, fell with great effectiveness upon
his hearers. He reviewed the events that led to the war, described the battle and praised the heroes of the North who had died there. But vivid as was his phraseology, penetrating as was his logic, his address lacked the breadth that would have made it undying. There was a note of bitterness in it when he asked: "Which of the two parties to this war is responsible for all the suffering, for the dreadful sacrifice of life—the lawful and constitutional government of the United States or the ambitious men who have rebelled against it?" That same minor spirit crept into his words again and again when he referred to the "disloyal slaveholders" and the "aspiring politicians" of the South and near his conclusion, when he said "the bonds of union are of perennial force and energy, while the causes of alienation are imaginary, fictitious and transient." It was essentially a speech of a Northerner for the North.

A long roar of applause followed the close of his speech.

**Silent for a Moment.**

After the singing of a hymn the time came for Mr. Lincoln to speak. He arose slowly and for almost a minute he stood silent, surveying from his great height the waves of upturned faces, beyond them the broken stone walls of the bloody angle where Pickett's charge had failed and past that the undulating brown fields where the shattered brigades of the South had turned back. Rather than these things of the moment he must have gazed, off into the illimitable future of mankind for whose guidance he was soon to pronounce one of the most solemn obligations of history.

Then in the curiously high pitched voice that seemed so oddly fitted to his towering body, he began to speak. The crowd that had relaxed when Mr. Everett closed his long address, began to set itself for another lengthy speech. The brevity and simplicity of the President's words caught the crowd unawares. It had scarcely adjusted itself for listening before he had finished. There was silence as he bowed and turned back to his seat. The silence continued for a full minute, to be broken only by scattering applause. There had been handclapping here and there at pauses in his address, but it had not been general. The import of his words had not yet reached those who stood that day at Gettysburg. There must have been a throb of deeper pain in the already aching heart of the big, awkward, sad faced man who walked with so little grace back across the platform and sank into his seat. Doubtless he felt, as he had feared, that his address had been a failure.

The singing of a dirge closed the program, and the President and other notables returned to the village. When the ceremonies were over Mr. Everett was one of the first to reach Lincoln's side.

"Mr. President," he began, "your speech—" but the President interrupted him, that shadow of a smile again crossing his face. He laid his hand upon Mr. Everett's shoulder.

"We'll manage not to talk about my speech, Mr. Everett," he said. "This isn't the first time that I've felt that my dignity ought not to permit me to be a public speaker."

After luncheon a reception was held at the home of David Wills and many of the townspeople and visitors greeted the President. Among those who gathered at the Wills home was Prof. Calvin Hamilton, who remarked afterwards upon the expression of sadness upon Mr. Lincoln's face. The President seemed listless, his thoughts far away, as he shook the hands of the hundreds who passed.

Late in the day he walked with John Burns, the village hero, to the town's little Presbyterian Church, where a patriotic service was held. He sat with Burns, the cobbler patriot, in one of the high-backed benches of the church, taking no part in the program. He was not asked to speak again while in Gettysburg. He had uttered the "few appropriate remarks" that had been asked of him.
LINCOLN’S ADDRESS AT GRAVES IN EUROPE

Memorial day ceremonies in France and Belgium this year will be more like those in the United States than ever before.

The Overseas Memorial Day Association, which is headed by Ambassador Myron T. Herrick, has collected sufficient funds to insure every mound marking the resting place of an American soldier—32,000 in France, 300 odd in Belgium—will have its tribute of flowers, while all central memorials, such as the doughboy’s statue at Suresnes and the great flagpole at Romagne bearing the American banner at half staff will be heaped high with French roses, poppies and marguerites by the surrounding townsfolk.

The association has received valuable assistance from the Duchess de Talleyrand, George Blumenthal and Anne Morgan, who are attempting a campaign to provide within the next twelve months funds sufficient to supply fitting decorations for every cemetery here during the next ten years.

French military bands will play America’s national anthem on Memorial Day, and everywhere the French clergy are asking permission to collaborate with American ministers and priests in tribute to America’s dead.

This year, for the first time, instead of sermons, the principal feature of the program will be the reading of Lincoln’s Gettysburg address, the committee of the American Legion having decided that this represents better than any modern declaration can the real purposes for which thousands of American heroes volunteered their lives in the great war.

COMMENTS ON LINCOLN’S GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

By MATTHEW CALVIN,
of Hollidayburg, Pa.

On the 19th day of November, 1863, the National Cemetery for Union soldiers, killed at the battle of Gettysburg, was formally dedicated in the presence of a vast concourse of people assembled from all parts of the country. They met on the battlefield of Gettysburg. The orator of the day was the distinguished Edward Everett, a highly gifted speaker. After him arose President Lincoln, who in a few well chosen words delivered one of the most remarkable addresses ever made. I have read the speech very many times and at each additional reading with increased admiration. It is an American classic and is universally so considered wherever read. What is there in this unrivalled production which causes it to be so very greatly admired? Is it the solemnity and prayerful attitude which pervade the orator throughout the address, in which he prays that “this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom and that Government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth”? Is it the exalted patriotism and devotion to duty which dominated the speaker? Is it the intensity of the grief manifested for the boys “who here gave their lives that that nation might live”? Is it the high regard and abiding affection which Mr. Lincoln always entertained for the soldiers? Is it the modesty and absence of self glorification of the orator which so favorably impresses the reader of this wonderful production? Is it the abhorrence of slavery and love of freedom for all people that the President showed? Or, is it the happy combination of all these queries united in a harmonious whole by this master mind? The directness of statement, simplicity of style and absence of display give to this address the grandeur which so captivates the reader. It was received with silence by the audience. Not one word of applause was uttered. It was treated with the profound solemnity of a beautiful prayer which does not evoke applause. Mr. Lincoln was intellectually great and his goodness illuminated and adorned his intellect.
That Speech Won't Scour—

That is what Abraham Lincoln said when he had finished his Gettysburg address. He was wrong—the world did not soon forget “what we say here.”

By JOSEPH BENJAMIN OAKLEAF.

Albert C. Wahlgren, Chicago, who suggested the following article to the Observer, says of Mr. Oakleaf, Moline attorney, who wrote these interesting sidelights on the life of Abraham Lincoln:

"J. B. Oakleaf is known throughout the country as an authority on anything pertaining to Lincoln. Oakleaf's library and collection of Lincoln relics would furnish much of interest for an article on Mr. Lincoln."

The life of Abraham Lincoln should be a guiding star for every boy in the United States, especially so if that boy has been brought up in penury and want, or compelled to shift for himself. The foundation of Abraham Lincoln's career is based upon one word, "Honesty," he, himself, selected as a cornerstone upon which his edifice of life should be built.

In 1911, I received a letter from W. S. Matthews, assistant Adjutant General, Department of Ohio, G. A. R., and among other things concerning Lincoln, he said:

"Abraham Lincoln is a wonderful theme to talk about or write about. He seems to me to be the most unexplainable man in all history, at least, in our American life. I simply cannot account for him by any process of reasoning from general principles. The least schooling, yet the most educated. The poorest, yet the richest. The least pretensions, yet the most fascinating. The commonest of men, yet all pay deference to the Gettysburg battle field. Since it would take him two days to get there and two days to return, and longer to prepare his address, the earliest he could promise to be ready would be November 19 and that was the day set."

President Lincoln prepared the first half of the address at Washington, and the other half after he reached Gettysburg, at the home of Mr. Wills, whose guest he was. After getting the address in the form in which it was delivered, he sent it over to Secretary Seward, who was the guest of another resident of Gettysburg, for his approval—for all students was singing and, at the conclusion, Mr. Lincoln was introduced, but the people had not yet been settled and could not hear him. Only those who were very close to the platform could hear him. He held a manuscript in his left hand and read his address, and, before the people had begun to "settle down," Mr. Lincoln sat down. The people were surprised, for they had expected that he would make extended remarks, but he was not expected to do so.

He was only to dedicate the ground in a "Few, well-chosen words." He had performed his task and done well. He could say of other big men. If they had been with him with their hearts, minds, and voices, and if the generals in the fields had been true to each other, the Second Inaugural would have been delivered by Abraham Lincoln with a reunited country. No wonder, then, that he uttered the words, in closing his Second Inaugural:

"I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone, over the wide wide world.
The life of Abraham Lincoln should be a guiding star for every boy in the United States, especially so if that boy has been brought up in a horseless, carless era, or compelled to shift for himself. The foundation of Abraham Lincoln's career is based upon one word, "Honesty." He, himself, stated that as a cornerstone upon which his edifice of life should be built.

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No one, who is at all familiar with the life of Lincoln, will say that the foregoing is untrue.

The book is the read the leading biographies of Abraham Lincoln, and a great deal of other matter, such as does not appear in book form, from the journals of the time and from the papers of the time. The book is a "pilgrimage" to belittle Lincoln's early life in order to make his later career appear as if it were a sort of descent, but if a person will read the different biographies and pay particular attention to the contents, he will know that Abraham Lincoln was a "pilgrim." Before stepping anything, he would spend a great deal of time in the wilderness.

Was Poor Extemporaneous Speaker.

He was not a good extemporaneous speaker and if he would be called up suddenly, his reply would be sublimely logical, his language commonplace, and his Lincoln-like style was then either of the Rock Island Advertiser, a weekly newspaper, sitting on the steps leading to the center of Lincoln's Statehouse, Lincoln had made a speech, which was quite commonplace; and Mr. Lincoln came and sat down by Mr. Whar- ton and asked, "How did you like it?" Mr. Wharton replied, "I did not like it. You can do better than that, and you did not say enough; "that is just what the people would want to know." Mr. Lin- coln, after a little while, said, "I guess you are right, Mr. Wharton. I tell you what I think of that whole speech, and (he stated what kind of speech it was); if you think I should have been to inter- pose, then I will address the people."

When I waited about half an hour before he had a chance to introduce the resolution, and then Mr. Lincoln saw how the people felt, he was new to him and he did not know anything about it, and made the ringing speech that has gone down into history. The form of the speech was so good was that he was prepared.

To take the speeches he made on his way to his inauguration; in those cities where he was expected to speak and was prepared, the speeches were fine, but in those places where he was called out to say a few words and did not expect it, his speeches were very poor, and not a bit like Lincoln in the Capitol. He, of course, did not like letters and that have gone down into history are those upon which he has given some thought and prepared.

Let us take the Gettysburg address, for example: One of his early biographers, an Illinois lawyer, tells us that Lincoln picked up an old cardboard from the floor of the car on his way to Gettysburg and scratched off the Gettysburg address on a corner of it. It is printed in the "National Tribune," "On the way to Gettysburg, with a large number of people, I noticed the dedications of the National Tribune." Mr. Lincoln was informed that he was expected to say something, and Lincoln seemed surprised at that and then asked for a piece of wrapping paper that a person had some printing tied up in, and then he wrote the Gettysburg address.

Ben Perley Poore, a Washington correspondent, corroborated that story, and after many years, came "The Perfect Tribute" by Mr. Robert Lincoln. He pointed out that it fostered upon the rising generation the same old story. Her book is nearly all fiction. There is just enough truth in the narrative to make it appear historical. She states that the reason why the people did not applaud Mr. Lin- coln when he said his famous speech was that they were so over- awed at the wonderful words that he uttered that they forgot. She goes on to say that the people became "the people felt that it was too sacred for a demonstration." The fact of the matter is that President Lincoln had been invit- ed by those in charge of the dedication to "dedicate the cemetery by a few words;" having been interviewed that Ed- ward Everett had been selected to make the oration, it was the intention of the commission to have the exercises in the four part of October, 1865, but Mr. Everett had written that it would be impossible for him to prepare his address by those that it would be necessary for him to spend two or three days on the Gettysburg battle field. Since it would take him two days to get there and two days to return, and I have to prepare this address, the earliest he could promise to be there, was on Wednesday night, that was the day set.

President Lincoln prepared the first half of the address at Washington, and the other half after he reached Gettysburg, at the house of Mr. Wills, whose guests it was. After getting the address in the form in which it was deliv- ered, he sent it over to Secretary Seward, who was the guest of another resident of Gettysburg, Mr. E. S. Pease, at whose house the possession of history knew that Mr. Seward was considered the "scholar of the Cabinet." The address was returned to Mr. Lincoln without change.

November 19, 1863, was a beautiful day and many thousand people were gathered to take part in the consecration of the grave for the brave men who fought and died there. For two years and two months before the address had been on the mind of Mr. Lincoln, yet the words, "the word of the nation" had not been used by a masterful orator, and the following was his prediction:

"I would do no injustice to other noble achievements of the war, which have reflected such honor on both arms of the service, and have entitled the armies and the navy of the United States, their officers and men, to the warmest thanks and the rich rewards which a grateful people can pay. But there is one task, will be my task in saying, as we bid farewell to those of our patriot heroes, that whereverever through the civilized world the accounts of this great war are read, and down to the latest period, for many years to come, in the glorious names of our common country there will be no brighter page than that which relates the battles of Gettysburg." After Mr. Everett sat down a quartet sung a hymn, composed by Mr. D. B. F. Church, Esq., of Gettysburg, the first verse of which runs as follows:

"In God's holy ground."

That spot, where, in their graves, those men who fell in President Lincoln's last cause, are lying in peace for liberty and law.

Let tears abound.

At the close of Mr. Everett's address, the people arose and walked around "all the quartet was singing and, at the conclu- sion, Mr. Lincoln was introduced, but the people had not yet been settled and could not hear him. Only those who were very close to the platform could hear him. He held a manuscript in his left hand and read his address, and, after the people had begun to "settle down," Mr. Lincoln sat down. The people were surprised, for they had expected that he would make extended remarks, but he was not expected to do so. He was asked to dedicate the ground in a "For, well-chosen words," he had performed his task, but it was only true that those who sat on the platform saw the beauty of the address, and immediately upon the close, Mr. Everett congrat- ulated the President and stated to him that he hoped that he, in his two-hour speech, had come near the central idea, as did the President in his two-minute address.

Newspapers Criticize Address.
The following was not at all complimentary to the President's efforts and, in fact, many papers belittled "the "For, well-chosen words," as a cheap political effort for the purpose of being seen." The new- spapers of this country did not make up to the fact that "litera- ture of the green gem has been set upon the shoreless seas of humanity;" until papers were received from England praising the address. That short address, which we are so prone to believe was just scratched off during the hurriedly of a crowded passenger coach, Mr. Lincoln had spent many days upon—in thought, in writing, re-writing, and revising. The letter to Mrs. Richy is another of those gems that will live longer as the Gettysburg address; and his Second Inaugural will never die.

Can the reader visualize the scene? During four years of ter- ritorial work, President Lincoln had suffered much. A son, who to him a diadmon in the family setting, had been taken away. Those whom he expected to uphold him were criticizing, maligning, and caricaturing him, such as Chandler, Wad, Henry Winter Davis, Greely and a score of other big men. If they had been with him with their hearts, minds, and voice, and if the gen- erals in the fields had been true to each other, the Second In- augural would have been delivered by Abraham Lincoln with a re- nations country. No wonder, then, that he uttered the words, in clos- ing his Second Inaugural:

"I am left to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory stretching from every battle-field and every patriotic and living thing to every living thing we know and where we have drawn our breath, the whole human race will forever stand guard upon this union, when again touched, as surely they will be by the better angels of our nature."

I did not like the film, "Abra- ham Lincoln," recently shown, for the reason that it was entirely too sub. There was much of humor, or in Lincoln's make-up, and it was this humor that was the safe- ty valve of his stormy career, dur- ing the time he could not keep his President's chair. In the midst of what would seem very trying ordeals, he would think of some pleasant and it would send sparks of humor through his whole frame.

General Fry, who was designated by the Secretary of War as a special escort to the President from Washington to Gettysburg, states: "At the appointed time I went to the White House, where I found the President's carriage at the door to take him to the station; but he was not ready. When he appeared it was rather late and I remarked that he had no time to lose in going to the train. "Well," said he, "I feel about that as the cousin in one of our Illi- nois terms felt when he was going to the gallows. As he passed along the street, we saw several people, eager to see the execu- tion, kept crowding and pushing past him. At last he called out: "Boys, you needn't be in such a hurry to get away. There won't be any fan till I get there."
No one, who is at all familiar with the life of Lincoln, will say that the foregoing is untrue.

I have read all the leading biographies of Abraham Lincoln, and a great deal of other matter, such as does not appear in book form, and it seems that many are prone to belittle Lincoln's early life in order to make his later career appear as if it were a sort of "story of Aladdin's Lamp," but if a person will read the different biographies and pay particular attention to the contents, they will know that Abraham Lincoln was a "plodder." Before attempting anything, he would spend a great deal of time in thinking the matter over.

Was Poor Extemporaneous Speaker.

He was not a good extemporaneous speaker and if he would be called upon suddenly, his remarks were quite mediocore. For instance, at Springfield, when Abraham Lincoln made his "House-Divided-Against-Itself" speech: Mr. O. P. Wharton, who was then editor of the Rock Island Advertiser, a weekly newspaper, was sitting on the steps leading to the rostrum after Lincoln had made a speech, which was quite commonplace; and Mr. Lincoln came and sat down by Mr. Wharton and asked, "How did you like it?" Mr. Wharton replied, "I did not like it. You can do better than that, and you did not say much; that is not what the people...

Of history know that Mr. Seward was considered "the scholar of the Cabinet." The address was returned to Mr. Lincoln without change.

November 19, 1863, was a beautiful day and many thousands of people were gathered to take part in the consecration of the ground for the brave men who fought and died there. For two hours Mr. Everett held the audience spell-bound by his masterful oratory, and the following was his peroration:

"Surely I would do no injustice to other noble achievements of the war, which have reflected such honor on both arms of the service, and have entitled the armies and the navy of the United States, their officers and men, to the warmest thanks and the richest rewards which a grateful people can pay. But they, I am sure, will join us in saying, as we bid farewell to the dust of these martyr-heroes, that wherever throughout the civilized world the accounts of this great warfare are read, and down to the latest period of recorded time, in the glorious annals of our common country there will be no brighter page than that which relates the battles of Gettysburg."

After Mr. Everett sat down a quartet sang a hymn, composed by Mr. B. B. French, Esq., of Gettysburg, the first verse of which reads as follows:

"Tis holy ground,—This spot, where, in their graves,We place our country's braves,Who fell in Freedom's holy cause,Fighting for liberties and laws;Let tears abound.

At the close of Mr. Everett's address, the people arose and moved around while the quartet true that those who sat on the platform saw the beauty of the address, and immediately upon the close, Mr. Everett congratulated the President and stated to him that he hoped that he, in his two-hour speech, had come as near the central idea, as did the President in his two-minute address.

Newspapers Criticise Address.
The press of that day and the next were not at all complimentary of the President's efforts and, in fact, many papers belittled him and stated that "it was only a cheap political effort for the purpose of being seen." The newspapers of this country did not wake up to the fact that "Literature of the rarest gem had been set afloat upon the shoreless seas of humanity," until papers were received from England praising the address. That short address, which we are so prone to believe was just scratched off during the hurly-burly of a crowded passenger coach, Mr. Lincoln had spent many days upon—in thought, in writing, re-writing, and rating.

The letter to Mrs. Bixby is another gem that will live as long as the Gettysburg address; and his Second Inaugural will never die.

Can the reader visualize the scene? During four years of turmoil and strife, President Lincoln had suffered much. A son, who was to him a diamond in the family setting, had been taken away. Those whom he expected to uphold him were criticizing, maligning, and caricaturing him, such as Chandler, Wade, Henry Winter Davis, Greeley and a score
That Speech Won't Scour—

That is what Abraham Lincoln said when he had finished his Gettysburg address. He was wrong—the world did not soon forget “what we say here”

By JOSEPH BENJAMIN OAKLEAF.

Albert C. Wahlgren, Chicago, who suggested the following article to the Observer, says of Mr. Oakleaf, Moline attorney, who wrote these interesting sidelights on the life of Abraham Lincoln:

"J. B. Oakleaf is known throughout the country as an authority on anything pertaining to Lincoln. Oakleaf's library and collection of Lincoln relics would furnish much of interest for an article on Mr. Lincoln."

The life of Abraham Lincoln should be a guiding star for every boy in the United States, especially so if that boy has been brought up in poverty and want, or compelled to shift for himself. The foundation of Abraham Lincoln's career is based upon one word, "Honesty." He, himself, said as a corner stone upon which his edifice of life should be built.

In 1911, I received a letter from W. S. Matthews, assistant Adjutant General, Department of Ohio, G. A. R., and among other things concerning Lincoln, he said:

"Abraham Lincoln is a wonderful theme to talk about or write about. He seems to me to be the most unexplainable man in all history, at least, in our American life. I simply cannot account for him by any process of reasoning from general principles. The least he is, yet the most educated the Gettysburg battle field. Since it would take him two days to get there and two days to return, and longer to prepare his address, the earliest he could promise to be ready would be November 19 and that was the day set.

President Lincoln prepared the first half of the address at Washington, and the other half after he reached Gettysburg, at the home of Mr. Wills, whose guest he was. After getting the address in the form in which it was desired to propose, he was singing and, at the conclusion, Mr. Lincoln was introduced, but the people had not yet been settled and could not hear him. Only those who were very close to the platform could hear him. He held a manuscript in his left hand and read his address, and, before the people had begun to "settle down," Mr. Lincoln sat down. The people were surprised, for they had expected that he would make extended remarks, but he was not expected to do so of other big men. If they had been with him with their hearts, minds, and voices, and if the generals in the fields had been true to each other, the Second Inaugural would have been delivered by Abraham Lincoln with a reunited country. No wonder, then, that he uttered the words, in closing his Second Inaugural:

"I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must
No one, who is at all familiar with the life of Lincoln, will say that the foregoing is untrue.

I have read all the leading biographies of Abraham Lincoln, and a great deal of other matter, such as does not appear in book form, and it seems that many are prone to belittle Lincoln's early life in order to make his later career appear as if it were a sort of "story of Aladdin's Lamp," but if a person will read the different biographies and pay particular attention to the contents, they will know that Abraham Lincoln was a "plodder." Before attempting anything, he would spend a great deal of time in thinking the matter over.

**Was Poor Extemporaneous Speaker.**

He was not a good extemporaneous speaker and if he would be called upon suddenly, his remarks were quite mediocre. For instance, at Springfield, when Abraham Lincoln made his "House-Divided—Against-Itself" speech: Mr. O. P. Wharton, who was then editor of the Rock Island Advertiser, a weekly newspaper, was sitting on the steps leading to the rostrum after Lincoln had made a speech, which was quite commonplace; and Mr. Lincoln came and sat down by Mr. Wharton and asked, "How did you like it?" Mr. Wharton replied, "I did not like it. You can do better than that, and you did not say much: that is what the people up an old cardboard from the floor of the car on his way to Gettysburg and scratched off the Gettysburg address; another says, "On the way to Gettysburg, with a large number of people who were to attend the dedication of the National Cemetery, Mr. Lincoln was informed that he was expected to say something, and Lincoln seemed surprised at that and then asked for a piece of wrapping paper that a person had some printing tied up in, and wrote the address."

Ben Perley Poore, a Washington correspondent, corroborated that story, and after many years, came "The Perfect Tribute" by Mary Shipman Andrews, and set upon the rising generation the same old story. Her book is nearly all fiction. There is just enough truth in the narrative to make it appear historical. She states that the reason why the people did not applaud Mr. Lincoln at the conclusion of his speech was that they were so awed at the wonderful words that he uttered that they forgot. She called it "The Perfect Tribute" because "the people felt that it was too sacred for a demonstration."

The fact of the matter is that President Lincoln had been invited by those in charge of the dedication ceremonies to "Dedicate the cemetery by a few words," having been informed that Edward Everett had been selected as the orator of the occasion. It was the intention of the commission to have the exercises in the fore part of October, 1863, but Mr. Everett had written that it would be impossible for him to prepare his address by that time and that it would be necessary for him to spend two or three days on

Mr. Everett sat down a quartet sang a hymn, composed by Mr. B. B. French, Esq., of Gettysburg, the first verse of which reads as follows:

"Tis holy ground—
This spot, where, in their graves,
We place our country's brave,
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Fighting for liberties and laws;
Let tears abound.

At the close of Mr. Everett's address, the people arose and moved around "while the quartet not break our bonds of affection.
The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearth stone, all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

I did not like the film, "Abraham Lincoln," recently shown, for the reason that it was entirely too sad. There was much of humor in Lincoln's make-up, and it was this humor that was the safety valve of his stormy career, during the time he occupied the President's chair. In the midst of what would seem very trying ordeals, he would think of some pleasantry and it would send sparks of humor through his whole frame.

General Fry, who was designated by the Secretary of War as a special escort to the President from Washington to Gettysburg, states: "At the appointed time I went to the White House, where I found the President's carriage at the door to take him to the station: but he was not ready. When he appeared, he was rather late, and I remarked that he had no time to lose in going to the train. "Well," said he, "I feel about that as the convict in one of our Illinois towns felt when he was going to the gallows. As he passed along the road in custody of the sheriff, the people, eager to see the execution, kept crowding and pushing past him. At last he called out: 'Boys, you needn't be in such a hurry to get ahead. There won't be any fun till I get there.'"
At the same altar Mr. Everett unbound the sublime thought of the Greek orator, and gave it noble completion: "The whole earth is the sepulchre of the brave;" and he added, "all time is the millennium of their glory." General Meade, who won the victory, wrote for his soldiers, what ordinaril would not be so significant: "This army has duties to perform which will not admit of its being represented on the occasion." With great tenderness Secretary Chase wrote of our heroes: "It consoles me to think what tears of mingled grief and triumph will fall upon their graves, and what benedictions of the country, saved by their heroism, will make their memories sacred among men." And in a speech before the dedication, the Secretary of State said, thanking God for his belief that this was our last fraternal strife, and that it would end in the removal of slavery—"Then we shall know that we are not enemies, but that we are friends and brothers. Then we shall know that this Union is a reality, and we shall mourn, I am sure, with sincerity, equally over the grave of the misguided, whom we have consigned to his last resting-place, with pity for his error, and with the same heart-felt grief with which we mourn over his brothers, by whose hand, raised in defence of his Government, that misguided brother perished."
EDITORS AND THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS.

The New York Times of Thursday contained an editorial on Lincoln's Gettysburg address and the strange failure of editors to appreciate its beauty and eloquence at the time of its delivery. The New York Times of the day referred editorially to the speech of Edward Everett, regarded as the chief orator of the Gettysburg occasion, but did not mention Lincoln's address. The New York World was similarly unimpressed by it, and the Tribune merely quoted a few words from it without commenting in any way upon its quality. Dr. William E. Barton, in his book on the Gettysburg address, published last year, reached the conclusion after a thorough investigation that almost nobody realized that a masterpiece of literature had been uttered.

Examination of the files of the St. Louis Democrat, progenitor of the Globe-Democrat, reveals no editorial comment on the address, although it was a strong supporter of Lincoln, and it printed the long oration of Everett as well as the brief one of the President. A few years ago Prof. Daniel K. Dodge of the University of Illinois investigated this curious apathy and presented the results of his research in a chapter in his little book entitled, "Abraham Lincoln, Master of Words." He found but four newspapers that gave any praise to Lincoln's address. They were the Springfield (Mass.) Weekly Republican, the Boston Transcript, the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin and the Providence Journal; and of these, only one, the Providence Journal, saw in it something of those superlative values that are now universally accredited to it. The Journal said:

"We know not where to look for a more admirable speech than the brief one which the President made at the close of Mr. Everett's oration. It is often said that the hardest thing in the world is to make a five-minute speech. But could the most elaborate and splendid oration be more beautiful, more touching, more inspiring, than those thrilling words of the President? They had in our humble judgment the charm and power of the very highest eloquence."

But editors were not alone in this failure to appreciate the Lincoln address. Apparently there were few of all those who heard or read the speech at the time who were greatly impressed by it. No doubt that was because of its extreme brevity and simplicity, because it was overshadowed by the sheer bulk of Everett's address and the great fame of the latter as an orator, and because the people had not then learned to look for literary values in what Lincoln said.
Notes and News

On January 24 The Nation, commenting editorially on the New York Times’s merry habit of contradicting its news in its headlines, made some guesses at how the Times would probably announce such a matter, say, as Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address. “More than likely,” that editorial concluded, “its heavy headline on the Gettysburg occasion would have been ‘Everett Delivers Masterly Oration’; and a sub-head would have announced that ‘President Lincoln Also Spoke.’” A hardy contributor has dived into the files of the Times and has brought up pearls. We were truer than we knew. The actual headlines for November 20, 1863, were as follows: “A Solemn and Imposing Event. Dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg. Immense Numbers of Visitors. Oration by Hon. Edward Everett. Speeches of President Lincoln, Mr. Seward, and Governor Seymour.” The address by Everett was given in full; and it was elaborately analyzed as a “classic and ornate oration.” No comment on Lincoln’s speech was thought necessary, but the day before there had been this much about it: “President Lincoln’s brief address was delivered in a clear, loud tone of voice, which could be distinctly heard at the extreme limits of the large assemblage. It was delivered (or rather read from a sheet of paper which the speaker held in his hand) in a very deliberate manner, with strong emphasis, and a most business-like air.”

It is but just to the Times to say that it was in good New York company by such obtuseness. The Herald published the full text of Everett’s speech and omitted Lincoln’s, without, indeed, any other reference to the President than to say he had been at the cemetery. The Tribune gave the full text of both speeches but obviously saw nothing particular in Lincoln’s.

The Nation
THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, often considered the acme of American oratorical effort, was almost ignored at the time it was delivered. None of the big papers said much of anything about it. The Patriot and Union, published at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, very near to Gettysburg, sneered at the speech. It said in reporting the event:

"We pass over the silly remarks of the president; for the credit of all the nation, we are willing the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them, and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of."

Other hostile papers referred to Lincoln's speech as a "Political harangue."

All of which goes to show how easy it is for great presidents to be assailed, misrepresented and slandered by cheap politicians.

OLD-TIME PARTISANSHIP

Some time ago we had something to say about the abuse which was heaped upon Lincoln by his political opponents during the Civil War. Then we quoted from a Democratic paper published at Washington, Pa., A day or so ago we ran across the comments of the Harrisburg, Pa., Patriot, another Democratic paper, upon the Gettysburg Address which now has come to be recognized as an English classic. Here it is:

"The President succeeded on this occasion because he acted without sense and without restraint in a panorama that was gotten up more for the benefit of his party than for glory of the nation and the honor of the dead. We pass over the silly remarks of the President; for the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of.

In reading the wonderfully beautiful address one wonders how even an intense partisan could find anything in it to criticize adversely, but feeling ran so high then that it was not possible for Mr. Lincoln to do anything the opposition were not ready to condemn.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

To the Editor of The New York Times:

Apropos of your editorial in regard to Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, the following, which I cut from a paper in 1919, may be of interest to your readers.

"In the perspective of history an official often receives a different rating from that given by contemporaries. Take this comment, for example:

"The President succeeded on this occasion because he acted without sense and without restraint in a panorama which was gotten up more for the benefit of his party than for the glory of the nation and the honor of the dead.

"We pass over the silly demands of the President. For the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of."

This is not an extract from an editorial in The New York Sun or The New York Times. Nor were the sentiments quoted above taken from any of the public utterances of Senator Spooner or Senator Sherman or Senator McCormick. They are from an editorial that was printed in The Harrisburg Patriot and Union on Nov. 24, 1863; the President in question was Abraham Lincoln—the "silly remarks" were the Gettysburg Address. LUCILLE R. AMOLA.

Garrison, N. Y., Feb. 12, 1931.

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LUCILLE R. AMOLA,
Garrison, N. Y., Feb. 12, 1931.
Woman Who Reported Lincoln Gettysburg Address Honored

HANOVER (Pa.) Nov. 16. (AP) Reward finally came today for the girl reporter who gained a unique place among journalists of her time by acclaiming Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address as a "remarkable speech."

Three days before the 78th anniversary of the Civil War President's immortal words, townspeople unveiled an eight-foot shaft on the Mt. Olivet Community Cemetery grave of Mary Shaw Leader. It bears her likeness along with this inscription:

"Her first hand report of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address bore witness to its greatness. In her account for the Hanover Spectator she garnered Lincoln's words from his own lips. She helped the world to long remember. Her fellow townsmen pay this belated tribute to her courage, enterprise and foresight that we may never forget."

Mary Shaw Leader walked 15 miles to Gettysburg through wintry weather to report the President's talk Nov. 19, 1863. She carried his full three-minute text in the weekly Hanover newspaper while most journalists gave their space to Principal Speaker Edward Everett's flowery oration of nearly two hours or merely announced that Lincoln also spoke.

Miss Leader died in 1913 during the 50th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Gettysburg to which she was uninvited. Her grave was unmarked until Job Printer William Anthony originated the idea of erecting a monument in remembrance of her courteous treatment while he was an apprentice at the newspaper where she worked. Townspeople subscribed $402 for the memorial.
“A FEW REMARKS.”

Daily Newspapers Saw Nothing in the
Gettysburg Address,
Sioux City Journal.

The Muscatine Journal has been
digging back into its files to see what
it said about the dedication of the
Gettysburg battlefield as a national
cemetery on No. 19, 1863, and
discovers that Hon. Edward Everett “de-
ivered the oration, which was listen-
ed to with profound attention,” while
President Lincoln “also made a few
appropriate remarks.”

The Muscatine paper has little rea-
son to apologize for its seeming lack
of appreciation of the merit of these
“few appropriate remarks.” It is
doubtful if any of the newspapers of
1863 had the slightest notion that the
brief speech that President Lincoln
delivered on that occasion was de-
tined to be immortal. The only news-
paper of that time in the files in this
office is the Cedar Falls Gazette. In
one issue it briefly chronicled the fact
that “the consecration of the sol-
diers’ cemetery at Gettysburg, Pa.,
took place yesterday,” and in the next
week’s issue it mentioned a speech
Lincoln, nor by Mr. Everett, but by
which was made—not by President
Governor Seymour, of New York. D.
Appleton & Co.’s Annual Encyclope-
dia for 1863 mentions the dedication
but says nothing of President Lin-
coln’s address. Like the Muscatine
Journal, contemporary publications
recognized in Lincoln’s brief pro-
nouncement nothing more than a
“few appropriate remarks,” and left
it for the future to come to know
their beauty and strength.

Authorities differ as to how the
Gettysburg address came into being.
Isaac Arnold, one of the best known
of Lincoln’s many biographers, says
it was “in the cars on his way from
the white house to the battle field”
that Lincoln was informed that he
would be expected to say something,
and thereupon he jotted down in pen-
cil the brief address which, a few
hours later, after Mr. Everett had de-
ivered what was supposed to be the
“oration of the day,” he read to the
field. But Messrs. Nicolay and Hay
assembled multitude on the battle
field in their biography offer in evidence
the note of invitation, dated November
2, in which Lincoln was notified
that “it is the desire that, after the
oration, you, as chief executive of the
country, formally set apart these
grounds to their sacred use by a few
appropriate remarks” (just what the
Muscatine Journal reported that he
delivered), so it would seem that, af-
fter all, Lincoln had some time to give
to preparation of the speech, al-
though of course he may have delay-
ed putting his thoughts on paper un-
til the eleventh hour.

“The world will little note, nor long
remember, what we say here,” said
President Lincoln. It is true that the
world of that day, as reflected in the
Muscatine Journal and the Cedar
Falls Gazette and hundreds of other
newspapers, took little note of what
was said at Gettysburg by Mr. Lin-
coln, but as for its being remembered,
it will be treasured by the republic
as a part of its heritage as long as
the republic shall last.
Fifty Years Ago

Story of the Dedication of the National Cemetery as Told in the "Adams Sentinel" of Nov. 24, 1863.

Consecration of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg.

IMMENSE CONCOURSE OF PEOPLE

Military and Civil Procession.

Edward Everett's Oration.

Address of President Lincoln.

"Thursday, the 19th, was a great day in the history of Gettysburg—second only in interest to the first, second and third days of July last.

"The influx of strangers commenced last Monday, and the trains became heavier and heavier as the day of consecration approached. On Wednesday, Wednesday night and Thursday morning, trains arrived every few hours swelling the crowd to immense proportions.

"Day dawned on Thursday with an unclouded sky, giving assurance of lovely weather. The streets swarmed with people from all sections of the Union, the number variously estimated at from twenty to forty thousand. Every available spot on the principal streets was occupied. The throng of ladies and gentlemen, the large turnout of military in their best trim, the flags flaunting in the breeze at innumerable points—all contributed to making up a picture of rare and exciting interest.

"About ten o'clock the line of procession was formed, and moved forward to the grounds of the Cemetery in the following order:

"Marine Band

"Second United States Artillery

"United States Regular Cavalry from Carlisle Barracks.

"Major General Couch and Staff.

"Twentieth Pennsylvania Cavalry, one hundred and twenty in number, under the command of Col. Stickney.

"Colonel Prevost, of Philadelphia, and Staff.

"Battery A, Fifth United States Regulars.

"Major General Schenck and Staff.

"Band of Fifth New York Heavy Artillery.

"Fifth New York Heavy Artillery Regiment under command of Colonel Murray.

"The President of the United States, attended by Vice-President Hamlin, Secretary Seward of the State Department, Secretary Seward of the Department of the Interior, Secretary Welles of the Navy Department, and Post Master General Blair, escorted by Chief Marshal Ward B. Lamon and Aides—Brigadier General Wright, General Doubleday and General Gibbon, attended by their staffs.

"Commissioners of the different States.

"United States Sanitary Commission, numbering twenty men, under command of Dr. W. F. Sewall.

"Odd Fellows Lodge Number 124, of Gettysburg, numbering two hundred and fifty men, with the Gettysburg Encampment of the same order.

"Hanover Lodge I. O. O. F. Number 34, one hundred and fifty with Odd Fellows of other places.

"Baltimore Delegation consisting of members of Councils of Baltimore and Civil Officials.

"Birgefield's Band, of Philadelphia.

"Faculty and Students of the College and Seminary.

"Several hundred citizens, comprising delegations from the several States.

"Carriages containing citizens from the different States and the surrounding country.

"The procession started promptly at the time indicated, 10 o'clock A.M., and moved over the route previously arranged. By the time the President, accompanied by the different members of the Cabinet, entered the Cemetery grounds, the stand erected in the center of the same was surrounded by at least twenty thousand citizens. Several thousand of whom were congregated immediately in front of the stand, the immense crowd being interspersed with Chief Marshals, aides and officers of different grades.

"A cordon of soldiers was placed in the form of a circle outside the crowd congregating near the stand and entirely surrounding it, beyond which thousands of citizens clustered in surging masses, endeavoring to get a glimpse of the stand. Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, Chaplain of the United States Senate, then arose and offered a most impressive prayer.

"During the offering of this most eloquent prayer the most profound silence prevailed and many were affected to tears. The touching pathos of the venerable divine, the occasion and the scene presented, was at once most affecting, and not a few eyes not accustomed to weep were bathed in tears.

"The President evidently felt deeply and with the venerable Statesman and patriot, Hon. Edward Everett, who was by his side, seemed not ashamed to let their sympathetic tears be seen.

"Never has it been our privilege to behold a more grand and imposing scene than was now presented to the eye. Standing upon the platform, the whole of the battlefield spread out like a pan otrama before the beholder.

"In the distance the surrounding hills where, on the memorable days of July, stood the Rebel invaders, dimly seen through the November mists, on either hand and beneath us the very heights so heroically defended by our gallant troops against the fierce assaults of the Rebel hosts, the graves of the fallen, the thronging multitudes surrounding the stand, the glittering bayonets of the troops, their flags and banners draped in mourning, all made up a picture which for impressiveness could scarcely be excelled, and which language can but faintly represent.

"At the conclusion of the prayer the band very appropriately performed the grand old hymn of Luther’s ‘Old Hundred.’ Hon. Edward Everett’s speech followed.

* * * * *

Closing Ceremonies.

"At the conclusion of the oration, which was listened to with most earnest attention, the following hymn composed by Hon. B. B. French, was sung by the Baltimore Glee Club, in a manner that elicited the admiration of all.

"‘Tis Holy ground—

This spot, where in their graves, we place our country’s brave,
Who fell in Freedom’s holy cause
Fighting for Liberties and Laws—
Let tears abound.

"Here let them rest—
And Summer’s heat and Winter’s cold,
Shall grow and freeze above this mound
A thousand years shall pass away—
A nation still shall mourn this clay,
Which now is blest.

"Here, where they fell,
Oft shall the widow’s tear be shed,
Oft shall found parents mourn their dead,
The orphan here shall kneel and weep.
And maidens, where their lovers sleep,
Their woes shall tell.

"Great God in Heaven!
Shall all this sacred blood be shed—
Shall we thus mourn our glorious dead,
Or shall the end be wrath and woe,
The knell of Freedom overthrow—
A Country riven?

"It will not be
We trust, O God! Thy Gracious Power
To aid us in our darkest hour,
This be our prayer—"Oh Father save
A people’s Freedom from its grave—
All praise to Thee!"

"The President then delivered the following dedicatory remarks:

"Four score and seven years ago our
fathers brought forth upon this conti-
nent a new nation, conceived in liberty,
and dedicated to the proposition that
all men are created equal. [Applause] Now, we are engaged in a
great civil war, testing whether that
nation, or any other nation so con-
ceived and so dedicated, can long
endure. We are met on a great bat-
tle-field of that war; we are met to
dedicate a portion of it as the final
resting place of those who here gave
their lives that that nation might live.
It is altogether fitting and proper that
we should do this. But, in a larger
sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot
consecrate, we cannot hallow this
ground. The brave men, living and dead, who
struggled here, have consecrated it far
above our poor power to add or de-
tract. [Applause] The world will
little note nor long remember what we
may say here; but it can never forget
what they did here. [Applause]

"It is for us, the living, rather to be
dedicated here to the unfinished work
that they have thus far so nobly car-
ried on. [Applause] It is rather for
us here to be dedicated to the great
task remaining before us; that from
these honored dead we take increased
devotion to that cause for which they
here gave the last full measure of de-
votion; that we here highly resolve

that those dead shall not have died in
vain.—[Applause] That the nation
shall, under God, have a new birth
of freedom; and that governments of
the people, by the people and for
the people, shall not perish from
the earth." [Long continued applausk]

"After the ceremonies were con-
cluded, a salute was fired by the artillery,
and the military portion of the procen-
ssion re-formed and escorted the Presi-
dent to his lodgings, where he was sub-
sequently visited by a large number of
persons, and more than an hour was
the victim of "hand shaking" that must
have tested his good nature to the ut-
mest. The President returned to Wash-
ington in a special train, which left
Gettysburg about 7 o’clock.

"A Dirge was then then sung with
fine effect, after which the Benedic-
tion was pronounced, and the throng
of people dispersed and returned towards
town. The celebration was complete,
and not the slightest accident occurred
to mar its success.

"Among the distinguished personages
here were, we understand, nine Foreign
Ministers; Ex-Secretary Cameron, Gov-
ernor Curtin, Auditor General Sneiken,
Surveyor General Barr, State Treasurer
McGrath, Adjutant General Russel, of
Pennsylvania, Governor Seymore, of
New York, Gov. rod, of Ohio, Gov-
ernor-elect Brough, of Ohio, Governor
Moran, of Illinois, Ex-Governor
Knight, of Indiana, Gov. Bradford of
Maryland, Ex-Governor Pierpount of
West Virginia, and many others of
lesser note.

"President Lincoln and party left late
in the evening in a special c.r. Gov.
Curtin and the heads of the Depart-
ments left late in the night. Other
trains followed, taking away thousands
of passengers.

"On Friday morning the crowd of
persons, notwithstanding the departure
during the night, was still great, nearly
all of whom spent the day visiting the
various points of interest on the battle-
field. These, nearly all, left on Friday
evening and Saturday morning, when
the town settled down into its old-time
quiet.

"The military arrangements, by
General Couch, were admirable. Man-
side Cameron also performed his part
well, as did D. Wilh. Esg., the agent
for Governor Curtin. Capt. McCurdy
had the railroad as efficiently worked
as possible.

Incidents of the Occasion.

"The Hon William H. Seward, Sec-
tary of State, was serenaded at his
lodgings in the Square, and acknowl-
edged the compliment by making a brief
speech. * * * * * *

"The President was serenaded twice
during the evening, and his appearance
excited bursts of enthusiasm—showing
the strong hold he has upon the affec-
tions of the people. He made but a few
remarks, but they were characteristic
of the pure and honest President.

"Toward the close of the after-
noon an incident occurred which must ever
be inseparable from this occasion and
which deserves a place in the story of
the war as a noble representative fact.
At the request of the President, a com-
mittee waited on the brave old man,
John Burns, who fought in three of our
wars, it is said, and who, at the Battle of
Gettysburg, dressed himself in his
Sunday clothes and went into the fight,
which he did not leave until he had re-
ceived three wounds. It need hardly
be told how that patriot of the people,
the honest potter father Abraham,
received this brave and venerable
man. The greeting was extremely cor-
dial—the "God bless you, old man"
of the nation in the person of the Presi-
dent.

"Arm in arm with the president and
the Secretary of State, John Burns
went to the church in the evening.
Cheering to the President, in his great
office, must be this simple event—most
cheering to the declining years of the
"brave John Burns." In this touching
incident, perhaps, more than any other
Gettysburg was truly dedicated.

"According to announcement at 6 o’clock
P. M. Colonel Anderson, Lieut. Gov.
elect of Ohio, delivered an address in
the Presbyterian church. The build-
ing was filled to repletion by an intel-
ligent and highly respectable audience.
The President of the United States and
suite, with several of the Governors of
States occupied seats in the pulpit. The
orator was introduced by Ex-Governor
Dennison, of Ohio, and commenced his
oration by a general reference to the
occasion, which had called together such
a vast assemblage. The address was a
bold and noble exposition of the causes
which led to the present war, the issues
involved in the contest, and the im-
portance of its determination. It was
that original and first human conflict between
freedom and despotism which was to end
in the triumph of one or the other.

"In the interval before the procen-
sion, thousands traveled off to the battle-
field, visiting the Cemetery Hill, Culp’s Hill,
The Round Top mountain, and the fields
around the Taneytown Road. The
ground in those vicinities is yet strewn
with the remains and relics of the fear-
ful struggle, ragged and muddy knap-
sacks, canteens, cups, haversacks, thread
bare stockings trodden in the mud, old
shoes, pistols, bullets, bayonet sheaths,
and here and there fragments of gray and
blue jackets—mournful and appealing
memorials of the civil strife whose vic-
tory would be shreds and tatters; like
these rags, were not so nobly pur-
chased for so glorious a cause. Hides
and skeletons of horses still remain upon
the ground. Grave marks of unrecognized heroes were in every quarter of the field, and rows of graves ranged along the line of the stone or wooden fences, which had afforded shelter to the sharpshooters. A ravine, up which the Rebels had charged towards the stone fence flanking Culp's Hill, was yet full of those forlorn Remains of the battle, so indicative and so eloquent, that imagination had little task to call back the dashing charge of the greybacks up the hill, and the still fierce fire-brand and onslaught of the determined and inexorable men whose resistless bravery was victory ordained, and who proved that if the rebels fought well in the South, the loyal soldiers fought even better in the North. Melancholy but glorious vestiges. Here fall our braves, sometimes stricken down like grass, withers, still with their feet to the toe, or irregular strewed about where death was sown in every field and forest. Here they dropped down dead and dying, to the Infinite of our physical universe, not more than so many sparrows falling; but to the moral progress of the world representatives, causes and martyrs. These men, it is said, die without name and make no sign; but here they gave their sign masonic, their death grasp, and the whole world in the secret. They are distinguished in the great appellations of Victory and Freedom, and their name is Legion. They died saints and martyrs in a certain sense, but left rich relics—only battered canteens, ragged blouses, torn haversacks, and wretched shoes. Think of how they marched under the burden of eight days' supplies overloaded with knapsacks and blankets a hundred miles in the hot pursuit of the enemy; think of, now they fought and fell and won—and we should feel less tender than the good women who bandaged their piteous wounds and less inspired than the orators and poets who shall pronounce their glory.

"The hot shell shattering in its fall, The bayonets rending wedge; Here scattered death—but search the spot, No traces thin eye can see; No altar and they need it not Who leave their children free."

"Thus wrote of another battle-field one of our poets; we may accept his feeling if not his words. Traces of this great battle most indelibly remain. An altar will rise worthy of the grandeur of the struggle, worthy of the nature of the nation. The dead will rest in sanctuary, and Gettysburg be forever a shrine of pilgrimage.

Crowds unable to hear the speakers wandered in every direction over the battle-ground. A party under General Gibbon rode over to Broad Top hill, where the rebels made on of their fiercest assaults. One visitor to the battle-ground rode a horse which General Lee himself had confedered, in the vicinity and used during the battle. Huns
dreds gathered up, to bear with them the thrust of the spirit of Gettysburg to every quarter of the State, relics more eloquent than the orations. The memory of the day and especially the profound impressiveness of the hallowed battle-ground, will never leave them.

The Governors, generally conspicuous by their individual character, were more or less congregated as loyal Governors, like loyal States should be, at one time a very interesting group. Gov. Curtin, straight, tall, clear-faced, was probably the handsomest gentleman in the party; Seymour, with his quick eyes, gentlemanly bearing, and bland and polished manners, might claim to divide the honor. John Brough, is truly represented in his name—a corpulent, farmer-like, homespun, Western man, with a full rosy countenance. It deserves mention as perhaps the most edifying and remarkable incident of the scene, that curtoy Governor Seymour and the rough Ohio Governor greeted each other most cordially. "Where is Vallandigham," asked Governor Seymour, with dry pleasantry, "in Canada?" said Brough laconically. These two representative Governors were afterwards seen walking down the line of the road engaged in a friendly dialogue. What they said is left to speculation and cannot be reported. But Mr. Brough did not quarrel and Governor Seymour was apparently satisfied.

The Celebration at Gettysburg

"It gives us heartfelt satisfaction as it always does, to say that the late celebration at our now classic town, was (to use words from every mouth) "a perfect success." We could not but admire the systematic arrangement, the beautiful order which prevailed throughout the whole ceremonies, amidst the immense assemblage that filled our village, and all the splendid grounds which surround it, showing to all our visitors a beautiful scenery, independent of the glorious battle-field, with all its interesting recollections. So far as we had an opportunity of association with our visitors from abroad, they all have gone to their homes with bright and pleasant remembrances of our interesting town. To all of us this thought is gratifying. One writer from abroad says: "The presence of so large a number of distinguished persons, and the brilliant and crowded

During the evening of Wednesday last a number of our distinguished visitors were serenaded at their lodgings. Among them the President of the United States; Gov. Seward, Secretary of State; Gov. Seymour, of New York; Mr. Blair, Postmaster General; General Schenck, the French and Italian Ministers, etc. In most of these instances there were neat and appropriate responses. There was so much to hear and so much to record, that a very large amount has to remain unsung by our weeklies. It must suffice for us to say, that our town has been the scene of much to interest. Our citizens have met many of the officials of the land, and have been gratified. Those gentlemen have been to their homes, and official duties, and carry with them the kind and feelings and regards for the citizens of Gettysburg and County. They have found much in the associations surrounding the glorious battle-field; the marked grounds of the National Cemetery. The beautiful scenery which has been seen around them, as the eye caught at a glance the whole of that theatre of terrible battle strife, with all its surroundings; and will have much to think of and relate for years. We have the great gratification to know, as we do, that Gettysburg, independent of all the glorious

flowing in of the military and the people, made Gettysburg famous for the second time. It has two very marked periods in its history and here the record may close the Battle of Gettysburg and its solemn celebration; but this is glory enough for all time."
Photo taken by Tyson Bros. from a position in Welty’s field, just north of Jennie Wade House. It shows the crowd returning to town after the exercises, November 19th, 1863.
LINCOLN'S GETTYSBURG SPEECH

Ward Lamon Says It Was Unappreciated When Delivered. 44

Chicago Tribune: A day or two, before the dedication of the National cem-
tery at Gettysburg, Mr. Lincoln told me that he would be expected to make a
speech on the occasion; that he was extremely busy, with no time for prepara-
tion, and that he greatly feared that he would not be able to acquit himself
with it, much less to fill the measure of public expectation. From his
hat (the usual receptacle of his private notes and memoranda) he drew a page
of foolscap, closely written, which he read to me, first remarking that it was
a memorandum of what he intended to
say. It proved to be in substance, and, I
think, in these words, what was printed
as his Gettysburg speech.

After its delivery he expressed deep
regret that he had not prepared it with
great care. He said to me on the
stand immediately after concluding the
speech: "Lamon, that speech won't
sail! It is a flat failure, and the people
are disappointed." He seemed more
than ordinarily concerned about what
the people would think of it. I was
depressed by his frank and re-
gretted condemnation of the effort, and
especially by his manner of expressing
that regret, and my own impression
was deepened by the fact that the or-
at of the day, Mr. Everett, and Mr.
Seward both coincided with Mr. Lin-
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The occasion was solemn, impressive
and grandly historic. The people stood
spell-bound, it is true. The vast throng
was hushed and awed into profound si-
elence while Mr. Lincoln read his brief
address; but it seemed that this silence
and attention to his words arose more
from the solemnity of the ceremonies
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sion to them than from anything the
president said. On the platform from
which Mr. Lincoln made his address,
and only a moment after its conclusion,
Mr. Seward turned to Mr. Everett and
asked him what he thought of the pres-
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"It was not what I expected from him;
I am disappointed." In his turn Mr.
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it, Mr. Seward?" The response was:
"He has made a failure, and I am
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has been repeatedly published that this
speech was received with great eclat by
the audience; that amid the tears, sobs,
and cheers it produced in the excited
through the orator of the day, Mr.
Everett, turned impiously to Mr. Lin-
coln, grasped his hand, and exclaimed:
"I congratulate you on your success!
adding in a transport of enthusiasm:
"Ah, Mr. President, how gladly would
I give all my hundred pages to be the
author of your twenty lines?"

All this unworthy gush, it is needless
to say, is purely apochryphal. Nothing
of the kind occurred. It is an after-
thought—merely rhetorical bombast—
gotten up to serve the purpose of base-
less adulation. It is a slander on Mr.
Everett, an injustice to Mr. Lincoln,
and a falsification of history. Mr.
Everett could not have used the words
attributed to him in the face of his
openly-expressed condemnation of Mr.
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ly and a hypocrite, and he was neither
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large part of the press—were casting
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the people were for him. I state it as
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cover was made, we must regretfully
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WARD LAMON.
LINCOLN AT GETTYSBURG.

Interesting Historical Facts Regarding a
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we had entertained an angel unawares
who had left us unappreciated.—Ward
Lamon, in Indianapolis News.
Two Hundred and Seventy-two Words

The Gettysburg address of Abraham Lincoln comprises 272 words. In comment on it, in appreciation of it, in citation of facts or contentions about how it was written, how it was delivered, how it was received and in correlative discussions, thousands upon thousands of words have been written and published. By general estimate the Gettysburg address is accorded first standing among the great speeches of American history.

The tribute of this high acclaim has been tardy. There was no symptom of it at Gettysburg on that eventful day. Lincoln's audience was not even attentive. They had already undergone the gruelling punishment of standing on a raw November day through a two-hour oration by Edward Everett. His was a fine oration, but too long by far. When he had finished many of the exhausted 15,000 who had been listening started for the exits. Some of them, when they observed that the president had been introduced and was beginning to speak, began crowding their way back toward the speaker's rostrum. The result was a confusion of milling people who, because of their milling, could not give full attention to the speaker's words and of others who had kept their places but whose hearing of the address was greatly hindered by the noise of those who were milling about. Very apparently the people, with the precedent of Everett's two hours, still poignantly upon them, thought the president would go on and on. But in two minutes and thirty-five seconds after he had begun Lincoln completed delivery of his 272 words in ten sentences and sat down.

The crowd was taken by surprise at the abruptness of the thing. Doubtless, worn and surfeited as they were, they were relieved also. And thus it was that the greatest speech of all our history was received in near silence and that the man who had risen to unparalleled heights in its conception, its composition and its delivery thought that the speech was a failure and that he had failed.

True it is that testimony as to how the speech was received is not unanimously of one trend. Joseph Tausek, in his "True Story of the Gettysburg Address," records that a score of witnesses, present on the occasion, gave conflicting accounts later of what they had seen and heard. Among them were a few who declared there was loud applause. Benjamin French, who contributed a hymn which was sung for the occasion and who was present, wrote in his diary three days later: "Anyone who saw and heard the hurricane of applause that met his (Lincoln's) every word at Gettysburg would know that he lived in every heart." Others testified similarly. The best guess one can make is that in certain small sections of the crowd of 15,000 there may have been applause. One in the center of such a group might conclude that the applause was general.

Preponderance of credibility and evidence is on the side of those who contend that Lincoln's words aroused no enthusiasm nor evoked acclaim. Ward Hill Lamon introduced the president and sat close beside him as he spoke. In the book of his "Recollections" Lamon says that "the silence during the delivery of the speech and the lack of hearty demonstrations of approval after its close were taken by Mr. Lincoln as certain proof that it was not well received. In that opinion we all shared." Lamon also relates that Lincoln said to him, while yet on the stand after delivering his speech: "Lamon, that speech won't scorch. It is a flat failure and the people are disappointed."

John Hay was a member of the president's party. In his diary entry of the day's events he makes only passing mention, totally without appreciation, of Lincoln's speech. Ward was there and made no favorable comment. Nicolay was present, but it was not until thirty years later that he wrote glowingly of the Gettysburg address. Wayne MacVeagh says he told the president on the spot, "You have made an immortal address," and was chided by Lincoln for extravagance of estimate. And Edward Everett did not fail in quick appreciation. He wrote Lincoln on the day following the dedication: "I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes."

MacVeagh and Everett were the two notable exceptions. The immortal 272 words seem to have gone over the heads of the rest of the 15,000 at Gettysburg.

The press was no keener than the audience. In the current McCull's Alexander Woollcott writes that the puissant New York Times published an edition of one entitled "Two Great Speeches." It developed in the text that one of the speeches was Everett's and the other had been delivered on a different occasion by Henry Ward Beecher. Lincoln's Gettysburg speech was not mentioned in the discussion. A newspaper called the Patriot and Union, published at Harrisburg, near Gettysburg, said in its account of the dedication: "We pass over the silly remarks of the president," and the Chicago Times proclaimed: "The cheek of every American must tingle with shame as he reads silly, flat, dish-watery utterances of the man who has been pointed out to intelligent foreigners as the president." And the verdict of the American correspondent of the London Times, as published in that ponderous journal, was that "anything more dull and commonplace it would not be easy to produce."

But in the course of his 272 words Lincoln said: "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here," thereby demonstrating that he, like the rest of the 15,000, lacked appreciation of the greatness of his own 272 words.
'Long Remembered'

Girl Best Reporter At Gettysburg

By WILLIAM G. SMOCK
HANOVER PENN.

Abraham Lincoln's birthday February 12 has a special significance in this Eastern Pennsylvania community, where townspeople still tell how a girl reporter on a weekly newspaper here earned an immortal journalistic niche in 1863 by gauging the true worth of the famous Gettysburg address.

The girl—one of America's first woman reporters—was Miss Mary Shaw Leader, who was sent to cover the speech delivered by Lincoln when a national cemetery was dedicated on the Gettysburg battlefield during the War Between the States.

On November 19, 1863, the 28-year-old reporter wrote a story which called the address a remarkable speech while better-known reporters from big cities shrugged it off and used their adjectives on a two-hour oration by Edward Everett, former Governor of Massachusetts and one-time minister to Great Britain.

Miss Leader and the Associated Press carried the full text of Lincoln's short address, but most newspapers merely mentioned that the President spoke briefly.

The Hanover girl's story—written for the Weekly Spectator, her family's paper—began this way:

"Thursday last, the 19th of November, 1863, was a great day in the history of Pennsylvania and the entire Nation. The battlefield was dedicated with imposing ceremonies in the honor of the great battle which decided the fate of the Nation.

"The appearance of the President on the stand was the signal for repeated cheers and enthusiasm. Then our great President began to deliver a remarkable speech."

Miss Leader, an attractive young woman and considered one of the town's most stylish residents, was a reporter on the Spectator until the paper suspended publication in 1892. She died in comparative poverty in 1913.

In 1941, a Hanover man who learned the printing trade as an apprentice in the Spectator shop while Miss Leader was a reporter decided to perpetuate her memory by collecting a fund for a monument at her grave.

As a result of his efforts, a ten-foot shaft of granite was erected. The monument carries a relief of Miss Leader and an inscription which reads in part:

"To the memory of Mary Shaw Leader, pioneer newspaper woman."

"Her first-hand report of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address bore witness to its greatness. In her account for the Hanover Spectator, she garnered Lincoln's words from his own lips. She helped the world to 'long remember.'

"Her fellow townspeople pay this belated tribute to her courage, enterprise and foresightedness that we may never forget."

(By AP)
Lincoln's Address at Gettysburg
as Reported by Harper's Weekly

HARPER'S WEEKLY'S report of the Lincoln Gettysburg address, published December 5, 1863, was as follows:

"The solemn ceremony at Gettysburg is one of the most striking events of the war. There are graveyards enough in the land—what is Virginia but a cemetery?—and the brave who have died for us in this fierce war consecrate the soil from the ocean to the Mississippi.

"But there is a peculiar significance in the field of Gettysburg, for there thus far was thundered to the rebellion: This it is which separates it from all the other battlefields of this war. Elsewhere the men in the ranks have fought as nobly, and their officers have directed as bravely; but here their valor stayed the flood of barbarism, and like the precious shells that the highest storm-tides strewed upon the beach, showing how far the waters came, so the dead heroes of Gettysburg marked the highest tide of war.

"Therefore shall their graves be peculiarly honored, and their memory especially sacred; and all that living men can bring of pomp and solemnity and significance to hallow their resting-place shall not be wanting.

"The president and the cabinet were there, with famous soldiers and civilians. The oration by Mr. Everett was smooth and cold. Delivered, doubtless, with his accustomed graces, it yet wanted one stirring thought, one vivid picture, one thrilling appeal.

"The few words of the president were from the heart to the heart. They can not be read, even, without kindling emotion. "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." It was as simple and felicitous and earnest a word as was ever spoken.

"Among the governors present was Horatio Seymour. He came to honor the dead of Gettysburg. But when they were dying he stood in New York sneeringly asking where was the victory promised for the Fourth of July? These men were winning that victory and dying for us all; and now he mourns, ex officio, over their graves.

"When the war is over and the verdict of history is rendered, it is not those who have steadily perplexed the government in every way—those who first incited and then palliated massacre and riot—who will be known as the friends of the soldiers, but those whose faith was firmest in the darkest hours, and who did not falter though the foe were at the door."
Herbert, George. The works of, in prose and verse. 2 vols., London, William Pickering, 1846, full mor., g. e., 5½x8½, portrait and view. $6.00

Pickering’s fine large-type edition.

Herbert, Henry W. The Captains of the Old World; as compared with the great modern strategists, their campaigns, characters and conduct, from the Persian to the Punic Wars. N. Y., 1851, clo., 4½x7½, pp. xiv, 364, illus. $1.50

First Edition.

Hillard, George S. Address before the N. E. Soc’y. N. Y., 1852, paper, 5½x8½, pp. 31, original wrappers, stitched. $0.75

First edition.

Hillard. Memoir of James Brown. Boston, 1856, cloth, 5½x8½, pp. 188, portrait of James Brown, privately printed. $1.50

Presentation copy, with inscription on fly leaf—“To Charles Folsom, Esq., with the kind regards of Little Brown & Co. Boston, Dec. 10, 1856.”

Hodson, James S. An historical and practical guide to Art Illustration, in connection with books, periodicals, and general decoration. With numerous specimens of the various methods. London, 1884, clo., g.t., uncut, 5½x8½, pp. 8, 224, illus. $2.00

Gives a technical description of the various forms of engraving and illustrative processes, including most of those of modern origin.

Holkot, (Roberti). Expositio Libri Sapientiae Salomonis, editio prima; an admirable specimen of the Typography of the XV century, printed in double columns of 42 lines each, very thick folio, a beautifully clean and fresh copy, full bound in Russia extra, gilt leaves, by Hering, 7½x11½, a fine volume. (Colonie. U. Zell, seu C. de Homborch), circa MCCCLXXIX. $25.00

Holland, Josiah Gilbert. Bitter Sweet. N. Y., 1859, clo., 4½x7½, pp. 220. $1.25

First Edition. Of Holland as a writer The Nation says—“He had the immense advantage of keeping on a plane of thought just above that of a vast multitude of readers, each one of whom he could touch with the hand and raise a little upward.”
Thursday, the 19th day of November, 1863, will long be remembered as the day when the NATIONAL NECROPOLIS at Gettysburg was dedicated. On that day, Governors of the States and the President of the United States, with tens of thousands of the People of the States, assembled in that quiet Pennsylvania town for the piously patriotic purpose of dedicating, with suitable solemn ceremonies, the ground where rest the remains of that noble "army of Martyrs" who fell in the great battle of Gettysburg, on the 2nd and 3rd of July last.

The day was delightful. All the other days of the week were rainy and inclement. But, on Thursday, the day set apart for that august ceremonial, the sun rose upon the scene with unclouded brightness. And, scarcely had its beams lighted up the landscape, before thousands of the pilgrims to this shrine of patriotism, were wandering over the battlefield which has made Gettysburg henceforth a historic name.

On taking our course out southward of the town, we soon reached the summit of Cemetery Hill. Here were still found the quickly-formed entrenchments from which our batteries hurled death and destruction upon the advancing columns of the rebel foe. From this point, the landscape is beautiful. The view is wide, and the undulating valley, rich with fertile fields and dotted with glistening white farmhouses, goes rolling on and on towards the distant mountains, that stand like a giant framework to this lovely picture of peacefulness and quietude, in we could scarce comprehend that all this had so recently been the theater/which was enacted one of the great tragedies of the war.

But the spot upon which we stood was, even yet, grim and ghastly with the mute memorials of strife and carnage. Soiled fragments of uniforms, in which heroes had fought and died, remnants of haversacks and cartridge boxes, and other mementoes of the terrible conflict, still lay strewn about; while, still lower down the hillside, is seen as mound of earth covering the decaying remains of the artillery horses which were slain by the side of the masters whom they served.
Gettysburg Dedication

on that dreadful field. A little to the west, and upon the apex of the hill, we see the cemetery grounds, where other mounds of earth are rising, and beneath which are to rest all that is mortal of those immortal heroes who died to win the day at Gettysburg.

Looking off northward beyond the town, we see the Seminary buildings, near which the first of the fighting, on Wednesday, July 1, occurred. We can see the position where the gallant Reynolds fell. We can see the position where Howards 11th corps of 18,000 so bravely held the field against 40,000 rebels under Ewell and Hill. Finding himself overpowered, Howard ordered Steinwehr with artillery to occupy the spot whereon we stand; and this prudent move covered Howard's retirement through the town, and thus saved his corps from overpowering numbers.

Further to the southwest rises Wolfe's or Kulp's Hill, wooded and rocky. Along its northeastern front stretches the long line of breastworks, looking still fresh and ungrassed. Hither we ramble and muse mournfully on the tragic scenes that here transpired. A soldier joins us. He had himself stood behind those rude breastworks and battled bravely in those scenes of strifes on the first Thursday and Friday in July. He points out the spot where heroes fought and fell. The trees around us are scarred and marred with ball and shell. Here is where Ewell pushed his desperate rebels up the rocky hillside to the very muzzles of our guns; and here they fell by thousands. Behind yonder rock were found no less than 24 dead rebels in one heap, slain by our flanking sharp-shooters; among them a rebel General, richly dressed, wearing silk stockings and silk under-clothing, diamond jewelry, and $180 in gold in his pocket.

Still further to our right and south of the town is the Round Top Hill, which commanded the field, and which was the position that the rebels strove so desperately to gain. Here the surroundings still bear the marks of the terrible war storm that broke around its summit. The trees are cut and pierced with the leaden hail that fell from clouds of flame upon the devoted defenders. The
Gettysburg Dedication

ground is still strewn with those missiles of death, and thousands are gathering those relics of one of the most awful battles known to the records of human welfare. Between Round Top and the town, on the Taneytown road, we pass Meade's headquarters, a small farmhouse, which is literally rent and riddled by bullets and balls, by shot and shell. As many as six shells in one second fell around it. Sixteen horses of Meade's Aides were here killed while hitched at the fence, and man and beast alike fell victims of this tempest of horror. Not less than three hundred guns of heavy calibre were then sending ruins over these now peaceful hills, while the rattling roar of two hundred and twenty-five thousand muskets contributed their terrible treble and contralto to the awful bass that was thundered from those deep-throated monsters of destruction.

Once more we reach the summit of Cemetery Hill, and the sounds of martial music greet the ear. The town of Gettysburg is decorated with the flags at half-mast; and from among them we see emerging the splendid banners of the 100th New York, whose snow white tents now fleck the meadows upon the east. The grand procession is moving out towards the point we occupy. The military escort is the regular funeral escort of honor paid to the highest officers in the military service, and consists of this regiment of infantry, one squadron of cavalry, and two batteries of artillery, the whole under command of Major General Couch. The PRESIDENT joined in the procession on horseback; and thus mounted on a splendid black steed, Mr. LINCOLN'S tall and upright figure becomes commandingly conspicuous, and is the observed of all the observers.

On reaching the ground, the President, accompanied by Mr. Seward and Mr. Everett, dismounts and passes to the platform, the whole immense crowd spontaneously uncovering their heads as they pass. Among the distinguished persons upon the stand, we see Governor Curtin of Pennsylvania, Governor Tod of Ohio,
Gettysburg Dedication

Also Ex-Governor Denison, Hon. John Brough, Governor-elect, and Hon. Chas. Anderson, Lieut. Governor elect of Ohio; Governor Bradford of Maryland; Governor Morton of Indiana; Governor Seymour of New York; Governor Parker of New Jersey; Governor Boreman and Ex-Governor Fierpont of West Virginia; and Major Generals Schenck, Stahl, Couch and Doubleday.

The ceremonies of the grand and solemn occasion are opened by the following eloquent and thrilling invocation by Rev. Thos. H. Stockton, of the Methodist church: The Prayer....(almost col. in length, 4 times as long as Lincoln's address)....

Concluding with the Lords Prayer, in the utterance of which Reverend speaker was spontaneously joined by almost the entire multitude, whose feelings seemed most deeply solemnized during the offering up of the devout and sublime prayer that had preceded it.

Solemn and dirge-like music followed, after which HON. EDWARD EVERETT delivered the oration prepared for the occasion (PUBLISHED ELSEWHERE ON ACCOUNT OF ITS LENGTH.) The oration of Mr. Everett is eminently worthy of the great occasion and of his own great fame. Concerning it, Mr. Seward remarked, that it would prove a most valuable paper for the country, for the reason of the influence it must have, as an historic document upon our relations with foreign countries.

As the last tones of the pealing anthem died away, PRESIDENT LINCOLN rose to deliver the Dedicatory Address. Instantly every eye was fixed and every voice hushed in expectant and respectful attention. (The address was published, indicating "Applauses" were made by the audience)....

The President's calm but earnest utterance of this brief and beautiful address stirred the deepest foundations of feeling and emotions in the hearts of the vast throng before him and when he concluded, scarcely could an un-tearful eye be seen, while sobs of smothered emotion were heard on every hand. At our side stood a stout, stalwart officer, bearing the ensignia of a captain's
Gettysburg Dedication

rank, the empty sleeve of his coat indicating that he stood where death was revelling, and as the President, speaking of our Gettysburg soldiers, uttered that beautiful touching sentence, so sublime and pregnant of meaning - "The world will little note, nor long remember what we here SAY, but it can never forget what they here DID" - the gallant soldier's feelings burst over all restraint; and burying his fact in his handkerchief, he sobbed aloud while his manly frame shook with no unmanly emotion. In a few moments, with a stern struggle to master his emotions, he lifted his still streaming eyes to heaven and in low and solmen tones exclaimed: "GOD ALMIGHTY BLESS ABRAHAM LINCOLN!" And to this spontaneous invocation a thousand hearts around him silently responded, "AMEN."

At the close of the President's address, Chief Marshal Lamon announced the conclusion of the ceremonies of the day.......

Chio State Journal, Nov. 23, 1863
Another bum guess: Back in 1865, the Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot & Union commented thus on Lincoln's Gettysburg address, which had just been delivered: "We pass over the silly remarks of the President . . . We are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of." (Ho-hum.)

Age of reason: You have to be 25 yrs. old before you can vote in Japan.
Seventy-Four Years
Since Lincoln's Speech

Three score and fourteen years ago Friday Abraham Lincoln delivered his famous Gettysburg Address.

"One of the few people of that day who really appreciated Lincoln's remarks was Edward Everett who had preceded the President on the program with an address of great length. In a letter to Mr. Lincoln on the following day, Mr. Everett said:

'Permit me also to express my great admiration of the thoughts expressed by you, with such eloquent simplicity and appropriateness, at the consecration of the Cemetery. I should be glad if I could flatter myself that I came as near the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes.'

"Although comparatively few people recognized at the time that the President's brief remarks comprised an oration of unusual worth there is no difference of opinion today about the literary merits of the Gettysburg Address, delivered by Abraham Lincoln on Nov. 19, 1863. Lord Curzon, a famous English critic, declared in a lecture at Oxford University that it was one of the three outstanding orations in the Anglo-Saxon tongue."

[11-17-5]
Even Gettysburg Address
Ridiculed in Its Time

The President succeeded on this occasion because he acted without sense and without restraint in a panorama that was gotten up more for the benefit of his party than for the glory of the nation and the honor of the dead. We pass over the silly remarks of the President; for the credit of the nation we are willing that the veil of oblivion shall be dropped over them and that they shall no more be repeated or thought of."

This is not an extract from an editorial in one of our Republican newspapers. Nor are the sentiments quoted above taken from the utterances of a senator opposing the New Deal. They are from an editorial that was printed in the Harrisburg Patriot and Union on Nov. 24, 1863, and have no reference to President Roosevelt.

The president in question was Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday we are celebrating. The "silly remarks" were the Gettysburg speech.

When we come to consider that Lincoln's Gettysburg speech is looked upon by all men as the greatest speech of all time save one alone, viz: the Sermon on the Mount, how little attention we should pay to the outpourings of the press of either party.

JAMES L. BLACKMER
THE GETTYSBURG SOLEMNITIES
(Reprinted from the Philadelphia Bulletin, Nov. 20, 1863)

The proceedings at Gettysburg yesterday seem to have been, in every respect, appropriate. The presence of the President and many other distinguished men, together with a vast multitude of people from all parts of the country, shows how high is the popular estimate of victory that was won by General Meade in July. It shows, too, how dearly the Nation treasures the memories of the brave men who laid down their lives on those memorable days. Mr. Everett's oration is a fine, scholarly production. It is somewhat deficient in warmth, as it is all that he writes, but it will serve as an enduring record, not merely of the dedication of the National Cemetery, but of the whole campaign which was crowned with victory at Gettysburg. The President's brief speech of dedication is most happily expressed. It is warm, earnest, unaffected and touching. Thousands who would not read the long, elaborate oration of Mr. Everett will read the President's words, and not many of them will do it without a moistening of the eyes and a swelling of the heart. The really sacred soil of the Battlefield of Gettysburg has now been solemnly set apart as the resting place of its heroes, and it will attract pilgrims from all parts of the land as long as we are a Nation.
LINCOLN SPEECH AT GETTYSBURG
A TRIBUNE BEAT

Delivered 4 Score and 7 Years Ago Today

BY CLAYTON KIRKPATRICK

Four score and seven years ago today — Nov. 19, 1863 — Abraham Lincoln stood before a great outdoor audience and delivered one of the most eloquent and perfectly composed addresses in literature. He dedicated the new national cemetery at Gettysburg, Pa., with words that have become immortal.

The speech was widely reported in the newspapers of the day, but only a few of the correspondents who were there, and still fewer among the editors who read their dispatches, recognized the speech for the masterpiece that it is.

Among them were a correspondent for The Chicago Tribune and his editor in Chicago, Joseph Medill. It was because of Medill’s sound evaluation of one of the greatest news stories of all time, that The Tribune excelled all other newspapers in Chicago and most others throughout the nation in its report.

Biografer Cites Dispatch

It was the first newspaper in Chicago to publish the complete text of the Gettysburg address. William E. Barton, biografer, who examined most of the newspaper accounts of the dedication ceremonies before writing his book, “Lincoln at Gettysburg,” reports that The Tribune’s dispatch was the first printed in the nation that accurately forecast the immortal quality of the speech.

Medill, who had taken over the job of editor in chief that same month, tho he had been a principal owner of the newspaper since 1855, put the Gettysburg story on page one of three different issues of The Tribune. The principal account occupied one and three-quarters columns and was unsurpassed in completeness and detail in the national press.

The Five Texts

These are some of the reasons why photostats of these stories have been included, in displays and the comment of its correspondent that “there was some speech making. The crowd called out the President, who responded briefly and managed to say nothing but the customary formalities.”

Some Critics Scornful

The correspondent might have been referring to a brief speech Lincoln made the night before the dedication ceremonies, Wednesday, the 18th, but the story printed on Nov. 21 did not make this clear. At any rate, the paper’s estimate of the speech was indicated in a Chicago newspaper that attempted to disparage the great Lincoln speech. The other two, the afternoon Journal and the Morning Post, merely failed to recognize its significance.

The Journal carried only one report on the speech, a little more than half a column on the afternoon of the 21st. It appears to have pirated part of the Times’ story since it carried the same line about Lincoln’s saying nothing “but the customary formalities.” It belatedly made amends on Nov. 25 when it reprinted a text of the Lincoln address with the following introduction: “The brief and beautiful remarks with which President Lincoln dedicated the national cemetery at Gettysburg last Thursday were somewhat marred by the telegraph as published by us Saturday. We therefore republish them in corrected form.”

Lincoln-Douglas Debates

The Morning Post had nothing on the Lincoln address until the morning of the 22d. It reprinted a text of the speech, complete with the same telegraphic errors, that had been printed in The Tribune a day earlier.

The Tribune had established a practice of reporting Lincoln’s speeches fully in 1858. This was the year of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates. Medill and The Tribune were avid Lincoln supporters since it was Medill who helped to launch Lincoln’s political career and to found the Republican party that carried him to the Presidency in 1860.

A shorthand reporter took notes on each of these debates for The Tribune and they were printed and widely distributed throughout the middlewest. The Times, at that time the chief rival of The Tribune, carried verbatim reports of Douglas’s speeches.

The reports made the two debaters nationally famous. The Tribune’s efforts helped Lincoln gain the national stature necessary for his nomination to the Presidency.

Sent From Harrisburg

The identity of The Tribune correspondent at Gettysburg has been lost, but he ably fulfilled his assignment. It is reported that after Lincoln finished speaking shortly after 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 19th, the correspondent took the train to Harrisburg and wrote the dispatch on the way in order to get his story on the wire to Chicago.

Telegraph facilities at Gettysburg were swamped by messages on that day, it was said, and there would have been long delays had...
Nonpolitical Tie-up

Delivered 4 Score and 7 Years Ago Today

BY CLAYTON KIRKPATRICK

Four score and seven years ago—Nov. 19, 1863— Abraham Lincoln stood before a great ovation and delivered one of the most eloquent and perfectly composed orations in history. He declared the new nation of Gettysburg, Pa., with words that have since become a part of the speech.

The speech was widely regarded as a fine of the correspondence of the day and those who read among the editors who read their newspapers as the speech for the masterpiece that it is.

Among them was a correspondent for the Tribune, Thomas N. Lincoln, who at the time was a correspondent for the Tribune and served as a volunteer for Lincoln at Gettysburg. The newspaper's editor, Horace Greeley, had been a close friend of the dedication ceremony and was writing his own letter to "Lincoln at Gettysburg," reports that a Tribune dispatch was the first printed in the nation that accurately transcribed the entire text of the speech.

Medill, who had taken over the job of editor in chief that same month, had just been a president of the newspaper since 1889 and had purchased the Tribune in 1884.

The principal section of the paper was saved and misprinted and was unreported on many of the wire services.

The first of these drafts was published on Nov. 24, the day before the speech was delivered. The copy was delivered to the printer in time to be inserted, the three sheets were reprinted before the story appeared in the last edition of the Tribune.

The second time he wrote the story, he made the report as a benefit sale at a fair in New York. This copy was also published, on the day after the speech was delivered. The story was delivered to the printer in time to be inserted, the three sheets were reprinted before the story appeared in the last edition of the Tribune.

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Delivered 4 Score and 7 Years Ago Today

[Continued from preceding page]

should do this. But in a large sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground.

"The brave men lying dead, who struggled here, consecrated it far above our poor power to add or to detract. The world will little heed, nor long remember what we say here, but it will never forget what they did here. [Immense applause."

"It is for Us—"

"It is for us rather, the living, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried forward. It is rather for us here to be dedicated the great task remaining before us; for us to renew our devotion to that cause for which they gave the full measure of their devotion. Here let us resolve that what they have done shall not have been done in vain. That the nation shall, under God, have a new birth. That the government the people founded, by the people shall not perish."

This version, as most schoolboys will recognize, contains many verbal departures from the authorized text of the address. Undoubtedly, as the Post pointed out, the message had been garbled to some extent in transmission.

Other newspapers printed even different versions. There is still some uncertainty about what Lincoln said exactly on that memorable day. He had written at least the first half of his speech before he left Washington on the afternoon of the 18th. It is believed he finished this draft in pencil that evening. This copy is one that has been preserved.

Lincoln's Revision

The next morning Lincoln made a new copy of the speech making minor changes in words and punctuation. It was this new copy, most witnesses declared, that Lincoln pulled from his pocket when he rose to speak.

It was said that he glanced only occasionally at the manuscript. According to most reports he departed from it slightly. The phrase, but it was reported by most of the correspondents,

Lincoln loaned his draft of the speech to an Associated Press reporter named Gilbert for a few moments after he had finished and Gilbert corrected his notes from it. Otherwise the reporters depended upon their own notes for the text.

Everett's Appreciation

Everett, the great orator who spoke for two hours and four minutes before Lincoln rose to make his brief and simple address, was one of the first to congratulate the President. Two days later he wrote a letter in which he said:

"I should be glad if I could flat-ter myself that I came as near the central idea of the occasion in two hours as you did in two minutes."

It was in response to his plea for a copy of the speech that Lincoln wrote it out again. Later he wrote two more copies for George Bancroft, the historian. Each of the copies differs from the others slightly in word choice or punctuation.

The Tribune's Follow-up

The Tribune at this time had weekly and tri-weekly as well as daily editions. On Nov. 24, in one of the tri-weekly issues, it carried the complete text of Everett's speech requiring nearly four and a half columns of type.

On the 26th the weekly issue carried the whole Gettysburg story again on page one. In addition it carried a vivid eye-witness account of the Battle of Gettysburg written during the campaign by Maj. William Medill, a brother of Joseph Medill.

William Medill was an officer in the 8th Illinois cavalry regiment. This regiment together with the 12th cavalry and the 82nd infantry helped turn the tide against the Confederacy after Lee's armies had made their deepest penetration into northern territory.

William Medill's Story

He told of watching the battle develop "as plainly as you can [see] a scene in McVicker's theater." And he described the charge of his regiment at a critical moment when it seemed that the rebels would overrun the Union infantry.

The editor's brother was killed July 6 after he led his regiment into the battle of Williamsport where the beaten southerners had turned at bay after their defeat at Gettysburg.

For the final round-up of the story THE TRIBUNE even included a diagram of the 17 acre cemetery plot where 1,893 union soldiers from 18 states were buried.
Lincoln's "Remarks."

The Muscatine Journal has been digging back into its files to see what it said about the dedication of the Gettysburg battle field as a national cemetery on November 19, 1863, and discovers that Hon. Edward Everett "delivered the oration, which was listened to with profound attention," while President Lincoln "also made a few appropriate remarks."

The Muscatine paper has little reason to apologize for its seeming lack of appreciation of the merit of these "few appropriate remarks." It is doubtful if any of the newspapers of 1863 had the slightest notion that the brief speech that President Lincoln delivered on that occasion was destined to be immortal. The only newspaper of that time in the files in this office is the Cedar Falls Gazette. In one issue it briefly chronicled the fact that "the consecration of the soldiers' cemetery at Gettysburg, Pa., had taken place yesterday," and in the next week's issue it mentioned a speech which was made--not by President Lincoln, nor by Mr. Everett, but by Gov. Seymour, of New York. D. Appleton & Co.'s Annual Encyclopedia for 1863 mentions the dedication, but says nothing about Lincoln's address. Like the Muscatine Journal, contemporary publications recognized in Lincoln's brief pronouncement nothing more than "a few appropriate remarks" and left it for the future to come to know their beauty and their strength.

Authorities differ as to how the Gettysburg address came into being. Isaac Arnold, one of the best known of Lincoln's many biographers, says it was "in the cars on his way from the White House to the battle field" that Lincoln was informed that he would be expected to say something, and thereupon he jotted down in pencil the brief address which a few hours later, after Mr. Everett had delivered what was supposed to be "the oration of the day," he read to the assembled multitude on the battle field. But Messrs. Nicolay & Hay in their biography offer in evidence the note of invitation, dated November 2, in which Lincoln was notified that "it is the desire that, after the oration, you, as chief executive of the nation, formally set apart these grounds to their sacred use by a few appropriate remarks" (just what the Muscatine Journal reported that he delivered), so, it would seem that after all, Lincoln had some time to give to preparation of the speech, although, of course, he may have delayed putting his thoughts on paper until the eleventh hour.

The Gettysburg Address.

It is remarked on and wondered at that while Lincoln's Gettysburg address has now taken its place as an immortal English classic, when delivered, not only was it received without acclaim, but it was almost completely ignored.

This little speech was delivered by Lincoln at the exercises in dedication of the national cemetery at Gettysburg on the afternoon of November 19, 1863. Here were to be buried the soldiers who had fallen in the great battle of a few months before. A part of the battlefield had been set apart for the purpose, and consecrated previously to the reburial of the bodies by exercises which attracted attention all over the country. Edward Everett, the orator of the day, had prepared for the occasion an address the delivery of which took nearly two hours. President Lincoln, of course, had planned to be present at the exercises, and on the night before he left the white house had scribbled down a few notes, knowing, as he said to the late John Hay, then his private secretary, that he would "be expected to say something."

The account of the exercises was spread over many columns in the big city newspapers the next morning, but no particular attention was devoted to Mr. Lincoln's speech. Many of the newspapers did not print the address and a few made no mention whatever of the fact that Lincoln had spoken. Still others merely said that the president "delivered a short address of dedication."

Couns Bluffs

And this is thought remarkable. But why? It probably was a gathering of ordinary people that heard Lincoln on that day. It was not for the ordinary mind to perceive at once the truth and beauty of what was said, notwithstanding the simplicity of it. It takes heated phrases, pronounced with vehemence, substance or no substance, to catch the crowd. The newspaper accounts were faithful enough; the reporters merely interpreted events as they transpired. Like good reporters, they remained with the crowd. But there was in that crowd one man, who, of them all, was least favorably circumstanced to place a correct estimate on what he heard, he himself having just concluded the "main" ad-
What Post Readers Say

LINCOLN'S ADDRESS
To the Editor of the Post:

Sir—Apropos of Louis A. Warren's assertion in a talk at the Providence Rotary Club that President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address had been written three days before the immortal President delivered it at that hallowed cemetery instead of having been written "with a pencil stub on a piece of brown wrapping paper on a train." may I say to Mr. Warren: "What of it?

As a schoolboy, I recited it on Memorial Day, and the good schoolteacher who asked that I should told me she, as a girl, read it to an appreciative audience.

Mr. Warren may know what he was talking about, and Ida Tarbell, Carl Sandburg and other biographers of Lincoln don't.

However, whether it was written in the White House and revised three times, or written on a soiled cuff or a piece of wrapping paper in a day coach, it is still a masterpiece. So why spoil a cherished national legend?

I hope that some Rotary Club orator doesn't arise some day and say he doubts that Francis Scott Key wrote the "Star-Spangled Banner" on the back of an envelope with the stub of a pencil.

READER.
But What Is Truth?

 Asked Jesting Pilate.

The Lit. Dig. this week has on its cover a picture of Lincoln at Gettysburg, which is strictly the boloney. It's that same old picture we've seen before on calendars and in art lithographs, and, though we always let out awful moans whenever we see it and tell everybody that will listen the real story of the Gettysburg speech, it never does any good. And now comes the Lit. Dig. with the same hooey picture. All right, we'll moan some more and tell again the truth about that afternoon at Gettysburg.

The picture on the cover of the Lit. Dig. represents Mr. Lincoln standing on the platform at Gettysburg with his hands clasped in front of him in the attitude of a sweet girl graduate about to say, "And so, classmates, let us march forth and conquer." In the Lit. Dig.'s picture the sky is blue, white fleecy clouds float softly overhead, the people sitting on the platform are listening intently, and one strong man has broken down and is weeping softly into a handkerchief and a high silk hat.

Yet, on the afternoon Lincoln spoke at Gettysburg it was a dreary, dark day. Edward Everett, who had delivered the oration of the day, had talked for 3 hours and 1/2, and the audience had been bored into unconsciousness. Lincoln, who had been told by the committee to say just a few words as a sort of benediction, had written his speech on a postal card while the train was bringing him in from Washington.

As Mr. Lincoln began to speak the rain came down and many of those who had not been entirely paralyzed by Mr. Everett's long winded harangue turned and hurried for shelter. A big crowd of drunken soldiers just in front of the platform began grabbing each other's caps and teasing them about and then started fighting. Some one held an umbrella over Mr. Lincoln and he pulled out the postal card and read his speech, slowly and painfully, because it was getting towards night and the light was fading. Those on the platform said Mr. Lincoln could hardly be heard fifteen feet away and that he read so badly that they all thought his speech was a failure and regretted that he had made it. It took several days for the great American public to realize that the Gettysburg address was one of the masterpieces of the English language.

And now will the artists stop distorting history and be, eh, we themselves? If you think so, dearie, then you don't know artists.
Old Mahoning Register Bore  
Text of Gettysburg Address

Eighty-one years ago today, on Nov. 19, 1863, Abraham Lincoln spoke words at the dedication of a national cemetery at Gettysburg that live on as a message to Americans today.

An account of the dedication of the cemetery plus the complete text of Lincoln's speech was published Nov. 26, 1863 in The Mahoning Register, a Youngstown weekly, Republican paper. It ran on Page 2, alongside the editorials. Most of the account was taken from news gathered by The Pittsburgh Chronicle.

The text of the President's speech varies slightly from the modern version. It began: "Four score and 10 years ago," and the concluding phrase read, "but that the nation shall endure and that government by the people and of the people shall not perish from the earth," instead of "that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

Dignitaries at Cemetery

High dignitaries and military personnel, in colorful attire, proceeded along Emmittsburg Road to the southwest slope of the cemetery in a solemnly impressive procession.

The ceremony opened at dawn when the quiet of the battle-scarred slopes around Gettysburg was broken by the blast of a 12-pound shell from a British gun mounted on Culp's Hill. Shortly afterwards, crowds of people on foot, horseback, in carriages, and all manner of vehicles scattered over the countryside to examine the battlefield. The procession formed at 9 a.m. and began moving an hour later.

After Edward Everett's two-hour speech, and a song by the Union Musical Association of Maryland, came the President's speech. He began:

**Cheer Lincoln**

"Four score and seven years ago..." Cheers greeted his opening assertion that "all men are created equal." Cheers again rose from the crowd as he spoke the memorable phrase: "Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether this nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure." Lincoln arrived in Gettysburg at 5 o'clock the night preceding the dedication. The station looks the same now as it did 81 years ago, residents there say. In a room on the first floor of a building at the corner of what is now Carlisle and York Sts., Lincoln is reputed to have revised his speech. A national monument now marks the spot where Lincoln stood as he spoke words which will live forever.

**Ohioans There**

Soon after Lincoln and his party arrived at Gettysburg, another train arrived bringing Governor Curtin and staff, Gov. David Tod of Youngstown and staff, Gov.-Elect Brough, ex-Governor Dennison, Lt. Governor Anderson, and about half the members-elect of the Ohio legislature. On the same train were Governor Huntington of Indiana, and a prominent delegation from the West, Governor Seymour of New York, Governor Packer of New Jersey, and Governor Pierpont and staff of Virginia.

Following the ceremonies, the lieutenant governor entertained the Ohio delegation at a dinner in the Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m. at which Lincoln was an honored guest.
Washington Background

British Colleges Revere Gettysburg Address

By The Inquirer Washington Bureau Staff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN McSWEENEY (D., O.), who completed his law education in the London Inns of Court, was telling a group of colleagues on Lincoln’s Birthday that while on a sight-seeing tour of Oxford University he noticed in the chancel of the Great Hall a copy of Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address painted on the wall. Below it was this statement: “The finest example of English extant.”

McSweeney said he was told that the heads of Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Aberystwyth and other great English universities, at their annual meetings, often discussed the Gettysburg Address. The only phrase to which any one ever took exception was “dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.” A few scholars questioned Lincoln’s choice of the word “proposition,” contending that a proposition was amenable only to a mathematical equal. Yet, when the objectors tried to find another word to take its place, they confessed they were stumped.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 16, 1950