



Lincoln Lore

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Press Coverage of The Gettysburg Cemetery Dedication

The (Washington) *Daily Morning Chronicle*, November 20, 1863 and the *Cincinnati Daily Commercial*, November 23, 1863, published more copy on the dedication of the Gettysburg Cemetery than any other newspapers in the United States. (See *Lincoln Lore*, No. 1473, "Side-lights at Gettysburg, November 19, 1863," November 1960). On the first and second pages of the *Chronicle* (The Foundation's copy is a Second Edition, Friday, Five o'clock A.M.) is to be found Edward Everett's oration in full. The same newspaper on page two carried an editorial, a column in length, on "Mr. Everett's Gettysburg Oration."

On page two of the November 20, 1863 *Chronicle* there is also a three column article on "Gettysburg" which is continued on page three. Under the above-mentioned title are the following subtitles: "The Grand Ceremonies," "Animated Descriptions From Our Special Correspondents," "Graphic Picture Of The Locality," "Full Narrative of the Proceedings," "Immense Assemblage At The Cemetery," "Serenade To The President," "Excitement On Wednesday Night," "The Dedicatory Prayer," "Speech Of The President," and "Flag Presentation, and Speech by Gov. Seymour."

An announcement of unusual significance for modern-day collectors of Lincolniana appears under the mast-head on page two informing *Chronicle* readers that Edward Everett's Great Oration And The Proceedings Of The Dedication Of The National Cemetery At Gettysburg Will Be Issued Tomorrow In Pamphlet Form. For sale at the *Chronicle* Office."

Paul Angle, in his pamphlet *Four Lincoln Firsts*, reprinted from *The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*, First Quarter, 1942, describes the sixteen-

page pamphlet as measuring 7 by 10½ inches, with the following cover title:

The Gettysburg Solemnities./[Double rule]/Dedication/of/The National Cemetery/at/Gettysburg, Pennsylvania,/November 19, 1863,/with the/Oration of Hon. Edward Everett,/Speech of President Lincoln,/&c., &c., &c./[Ornamental rule]/Published at the Washington Chronicle Office.

Angle stated that, "This pamphlet contains a description of the Gettysburg battlefield, an account of the activities at Gettysburg on November 18 and 19, the text of the short speech which Lincoln delivered there on the evening of the 18th, Edward Everett's address, and Lincoln's speech of dedication." The type for this pamphlet, except for a few column inches, was lifted from the issues of the *Washington Chronicle* for November 18, 19, 20 and 21.

The text of Lincoln's speech originally appeared in the *Chronicle* at the end of column seven on page 2 and at the top of column one on page 3 of the November 20, 1863 issue. The sentence, "It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this." was for some reason deleted. Other differences in the address from the better known standard version can be noted:

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are 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 now on a great battle-field of that war. We are met to dedicate a portion of that field as the final resting-place of those who have given their last life-blood that that



From The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Front page of the (Washington) *Daily Morning Chronicle*, November 20, 1863 given over entirely (seven full columns of type) to Edward Everett's Gettysburg oration.

Daily Chronicle.

D. C. FORNEY, Publisher.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1863.

WE ARE REQUESTED to announce that from this date until the meeting of Congress the President will be unable to receive visitors, his time being fully occupied by public business.

November 18, 1863.

EDWARD EVERETT'S GREAT ORATION AND THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEDICATION OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY AT GETTYSBURG, will be issued to-morrow in pamphlet form. For sale at the CHRONICLE OFFICE.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

A dispatch from Wilmington, Delaware, giving the result of the election in that State, shows that Delaware has given the finishing touch to the Copperhead defeats in all the recent elections. In fact, while all the other States have shown that Copperheadism is

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The mast-head announcement of the forthcoming sale of the *Chronicle* pamphlet, of which only three copies are known to be extant. A copy sold for \$15,000 in 1967.

nation might live. 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 to or detract. [Applause.] The world will little know nor long remember what we say; but it can never forget what they did here. [Applause.] And it is for us living to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried forward. [Applause.] It is rather for us here to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from

this honored day 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; that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom. [Applause] And that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth. [Applause.]"

Using newspaper type the *Washington Chronicle* office could get its pamphlet off the press without delay. Perhaps, it was ready for distribution ("to-morrow") on November 21st, and if not then, on November 22nd. One wonders why the pamphlet is so excessively rare today. Apparently, few copies were sold because today only three copies are known to be extant; one at the Illinois State Historical Library in Springfield, Illinois (Henry E. Horner Collection), one in the L. D. Carman Collection in the Library of the Supreme Council Scottish Right of Free-masonry in Washington, D.C., and a third copy sold at the Thomas W. Streeter sale on October 24-25, 1967 at the Parke-Bernet Galleries in New York City for \$15,000. Listed in Monaghan's bibliography as No. 192, it is described as the first known publication in pamphlet form of the Gettysburg Address. The Streeter copy measuring 10½ by 6¾ inches is described as "uncut, badly dampstained and repaired, full morocco slip case." (See *Lincoln Lore*, No. 1571, January, 1969, page 3).

It is important to note that the *Chronicle* pamphlet contains the identical version of the Gettysburg Address as appeared in the newspaper of November 20, 1863, with the sentence: "It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this" deleted.

A correspondent whose articles are signed "P" supplied the *Cincinnati Daily Commercial* with copy on the Gettysburg dedication that filled almost seven full columns of type on pages 1 and 2. The report of the ceremonies at the cemetery carries the heading "The American Necropolis." Sub-headings are: "Its Dedication at Gettysburg," "Glimpses Of The Battlefield," "The Ceremonies at the Cemetery," and "Speeches by the President, Mr. Seward and Gov. Seymour."

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is given in full (no sentence deleted) and the *Cincinnati Daily Commercial* version, which follows, most nearly resembles the press copy which was recorded by newspaper reporters who attended the dedication ceremony. By making a careful comparison between the official press copy and this version, one might conclude that some differences are typographical:

"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 other nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war; we are met to dedicate a portion of it as

(Continued on page 4)



From The Lincoln National Life Foundation

Front page of the *Cincinnati Daily Commercial*, November 23, 1863 indicating that six full columns of type were devoted to the Gettysburg Cemetery dedication on page 1.

More Museum Notes

The collection of letters from young visitors, published under the heading "Museum Notes" on page four of the April 1970 issue of *Lincoln Lore* was so warmly received by our readers that we believe the following letters and poetry, contributed by children who have read the literature we send out in our Lincoln packets, may elicit an equally favorable response.

Through the years we have received many notes of thanks from the thousands of persons who have requested information, free literature and pictures of Abraham Lincoln. An outstanding expression of appreciation came in the form of a hand-written and illustrated album, compiled by the members of the sixth grade class of Mrs. Amanda A. Baum, Ephrata Elementary School, Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Lettered in red and blue crayon on the white cover was a quotation from Abraham Lincoln: "I view education as the most important subject we as a people can be engaged in."

Two members of the class gave special reports on the Sixteenth President, after which each pupil then "talked to Mr. Lincoln" in writing in his own way, as follows:

Dear Mr. Lincoln

"Dear Mr. Lincoln,
We talked of you today.
I don't know what to talk about
I don't know what to say.
Dear Mr. Lincoln,
Jeff read the speech you made.
He read it over again,
But I know you had it better said."
"Dedicated to Mr. Lincoln —
"Abraham Lincoln was a brave
man,
And his skin was sort of tan.
He spoke of letting the slaves free
Like every little bumblebee.
Yes, you were good, Mr. Lincoln.
Quite good, as men come,
Quite tall,
And quite handsome."

"A Letter to Abe Lincoln"

"Dear Abe,
"How is it up in heaven?
Are you having fun?
I am now eleven,
Have you heard from Robert, your son?"
"There is a war in Vietnam
We don't have to worry about the slaves,
Now we have to worry about the bomb.
Lots of people live in caves."
"People are starting to look now,
Like they did around your time.
They have very, very long hair (and how),
And they're also full of grime."
"So this is the end of my letter,
I hope you've liked it a lot,
And now I'm going to write a plot.
Truly yours,"

"Mr. Lincoln"

"Mr. Lincoln, you're a great man! Many
great things you have done,
I don't know when you'd take time to
have a little fun.
Doing things for God and for our
country, too,
Mr. Lincoln, you're a great man. I
really think of you.
Mr. Lincoln, I'll remember that
Gettysburg address.
You wrote it, just so perfect, like
a pretty pleated dress.
Every time I think of you I
just have to read your speech,
Every time I think of you, I
think how you could preach.
Mr. Lincoln, you're a great man
indeed!"

"Abe Lincoln"

Abe, you were the best,
But I'm sorry that you're
laid to rest.
Now that you belong to
the ages,
I'll read about you in
history book pages.
I wish I could see you in
your tall black hat,
And sit in a chair where
you once sat.
I'm sorry that you had
to go,
Because of John W. Booth,
you know."

"Dear Mr. Lincoln, I think that you were the greatest man that ever lived on this earth. I say this because in your childhood you were poor, but you did not let that overcome you. And in your early manhood, you were so honest and loyal. And in your manhood, you were so kind and generous you would have given what you did not have to some poor persons. But the greatest part, I think was your presidency because of your knowledge and wisdom and GUTS."

"Mr. Lincoln, I read about you in a story book. I even made a report about the women in your life. I was reading one of your books, about you. I really like your sister, Sarah. She really does a lot."

"I know the Gettysburg Address. It's fun to learn. I learned a paragraph a day. Then I soon got to know it. I heard a lot about you. You were born in Hodgenville, Kentucky on Feb. 12, 1809, and died in Washington, D.C. April 15, 1865. When I read the part about when you died, I felt sad. You're a Great Man, Mr. Lincoln!"

"A Tribute To Mr. Lincoln"

"Mr. Lincoln, we have not forgotten your great feats of skill and brilliance. We celebrate your birthday. We read your Gettysburg Address. We have built memorials in your honor. We named buildings after you. We made a coin in your honor. We have not forgotten how you fought to keep our nation united. We have sung songs in your honor. Yes, we have not forgotten you! And we never will because it was because of you we are one nation under God."

"We honor Mr. Lincoln,
Because he kept us free,
And because he kept us one,
That's what he means to me.
He never gave up,
And he was so brave,
He had a lot of courage,
But now he's in his grave."

"Lincoln"

"I wish I lived in
Lincoln's time,
I would have sent him
a Valentine,
And if he would be
alive today,
I'd say, see you
another day."

"Dear Mr. Lincoln"

"Dear Mr. Lincoln, I would just like to say that the spirit of Abe Lincoln is still spread all over the United States. By the way, you know that speech you made at Gettysburg? Well, you thought it wasn't much of a speech, but everybody really cherishes what you said at Gettysburg. I even have a copy of it. I think it was really a nice thing you did for the black people, freeing them and all. I guess as long as I live, at least, there will never be another man quite like you, Abe."

"In Honor of Mr. Lincoln"

"'Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation.' Do these words sound familiar? They were the famous words of Abraham Lincoln who is one of the most famous men in the world because of more things than the Gettysburg Address."

"Mr. Lincoln"

"Mr. Lincoln, I have heard your great many things. I think the best thing said was the Gettysburg Address. The best thing you did was free the slaves. That is one real good reason why you're famous and another is you were the sixteenth President of the United States. You are the greatest man in history, I think."

"Abraham Lincoln"

"Abraham Lincoln was a very famous man
And had a true love whose name was Ann,
He said such true words in the Gettysburg Address
When he was dressed his very best,
It's a pity he died,
He never lied
He had a son,
And now my poem is done."

"Abe Lincoln"

"Abe Lincoln I tell you now,
You're the very best and how!
Although you are not with us today,
You're in every body's heart to stay.
You are the very best to me,
And in the books of history."

"Mr. Lincoln"

If you were here today you would not believe your eye. There are jet planes bigger than a football field that can fly across the ocean. There are schools that have more than one room, and you get a better education. And better trains that are diesel-powered."

"Mr. Lincoln"

I am very glad I can talk to you now. I think you were a great President. And I think all the people liked you, too, or they wouldn't have voted for you. They all knew you would make a good President, because when you said you were going to do something you did it if you could. I learned a lot about you, when you born, when you got married, when you became President, when you died, and how everybody knew you didn't want slavery. I liked your Gettysburg Address very much."

"Hi there, Abraham Lincoln,
Glad your boat's not a-sinkin!
I've heard many things about you,
You're a great man and everyone
else thinks so, too!
You made a famous speech called the
Gettysburg Address.
The way you wrote it is very nice;
it sure didn't look a mess!
I noticed on most of your pictures
you didn't smile,
Maybe it's because you had so many
papers to file.
I heard you earned \$4.00 a week,
That's hardly even enough to make
a mouse squeak!
Was your mother a good mother, Nancy Hanks?
In your days there weren't many banks!
Yes, Mr. Lincoln, you were a fine, fine,
President!"

"Dear Mr. Lincoln"

I've been reading about you and I especially enjoyed the story in the (Lincoln) Life magazine we passed around. You're one of the great men in February because it's your birthday. Many people put flags out . . . I am very impressed with how you handled our country when you were President. Many things have changed. Half of our teenagers live like wild animals. This was a great honor to write to a man with as much courage as you, Mr. Lincoln."

"My Conversation with Mr. Lincoln"

"Hi! Mr. Lincoln, do you know that your Gettysburg Address is remembered to this day?" I said.
"It is!" Abe exclaimed, "Why I thought it was forgotten a long time ago."
"No, sir!" I said, "Matter of fact, it's 'bout as popular as The Declaration of Independence."
"Boy, Well, I'll just go outside and get a whiff of that good air," he said.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Every year thousands of school children visit the Lincoln Library-Museum located in the home office of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company.

"Wait!" I said, "Don't you know . . . oh, I forgot."

"Forgot what?" he questioned.

"Forgot to tell you about air pollution," I sighed.

"What's that?" he asked.

"It's poisonous gases in the air," I said.

"Oh!" he frowned. "Then I guess I'll stay inside for awhile."

"I think Abe Lincoln was the best president besides Ike and JFK. And I think he was great because he knew they were going to try to kill him and he said his speech anyway."

"Abe Lincoln was a good president.

He did the things he thought were right,
And he was very bright."

Editor's Note: We hope that the above letters will help to refute the claim of many elders that the young people of today worship new and strange gods and no longer revere such traditional heroic figures as Abraham Lincoln. We found the reaction of the children to the lesson about Lincoln refreshingly reassuring.

Gettysburg Cemetery Dedication

(Continued from page 2)

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 can not dedicate, we can not consecrate, we can not hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or to detract. [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 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 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 Governments of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth. [Long continued applause]