

carried on. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we may take increased devotion to the 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 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."

If that is the greatest speech in the history of our country, then we can place second to it a speech of one of your own Indian people. This, too, is short, but great and eloquent because it recognizes the same truth that Lincoln uttered. It is the speech of Curly, the famous Custer scout of the Crow Indians:

"I was the friend of General Custer. I was one of his scouts, and will say a few words.

"The great Father in Washington sent you here about this land. The soil you see is not ordinary soil; it is the dust of the blood, the flesh and the bones of our ancestors. We fought and bled and died to keep other Indians from taking it; and we fought and bled and died helping the whites.

"You will have to dig down through the surface before you can find nature's earth, as the upper crust is Crow. The land as it is is my blood and my dead; it is consecrated, and I do not want to give up any portion of it."

Both messages give us a truth we often disregard. When we look at the stars and stripes waving in beauty above us, let the red bars speak of the blood of our fathers; the white of the purity and devotion of our mothers; the stars in the blue of the God who rules over us. The opportunities and privileges that come to you have been purchased by tremendous sacrifice. They come to you as gifts from the past. You must hold them sacred; you must use them rightly.

Our word, "patriotism," comes from the Greek word for country, "patrios," embodying the idea of a gift from our forefathers; but our word is literally their "patriotes," meaning "one's fellow countrymen."

True patriotism must include a love for our fellow men that will lead us to give our best in their service.

It is to be hoped you will never be called upon to fight with gun or sword in defense of your country's honor. But you are called upon to serve your fellow-men with the best powers of your life; to fight against the evils that destroy; to help men onward in righteousness and goodness. The battle calls for the strong and the brave, and its rewards are ample. Feel it a privilege to go back to your people and give to them the new insight and the richer life that has come to you in the days of your schooling. If you go back sometimes to conditions that are harder