CONTRASTS TWO HEROES

GEORGE WASHINGTON AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN COMPARED.

Speech of W. B. Wheelwright at Banquet of Sons and Daughters of American Revolution.

"Washington and Lincoln; a Contrast," was the subject of an interesting and able address delivered last evening by W. D. Wheelwright, of this city, at the banquet of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. He pointed out the sharp contrasts between their characters and showed that each was fitted to purge his land of certain evils peculiar to his epoch. His address follows:

My subject is "Washington and Lincoln; a Contrast."

It is not to be expected that anything new or original will be said about either of these men, whose characters have been studied and analyzed in all their phases throughout the century that has just passed, the century that sprang into life almost upon the death of one, and of which the other was one of the first fruits. Especially may you not expect this from a plain commercial man who cannot count himself a student or a speaker; so if I can interest you at all, it will be no thoughts or words of mine, but rather by what they themselves have written in living characters on the book of time, and what has been said about them by those competent to speak. I shall be contented if I do this, aspiring to no higher title than that of "a fellow of infinite quotation."

The fact that there were sharp contrasts between their characters and the courses of their lives, as there were in the periods during which they lived, is perhaps more curious than important; but if it shall be seen by a study of these contrasts that each was, not a product of his times, but a character specially framed and fitted to influence and correct his times, to purge the land of evils peculiar to his epoch, and to make light shine in its dark places, then the study of their contrasts becomes interesting and instructive, especially if it shall appear that the differences in character correspond in a sense with the differences in the requirements of the times. I would not magnify the importance of circumstances; it has been said that "a talent is formed in the solitudes—a character in the torrents of the world," but I am prone to believe that a man grows to his full stature everywhere, according to the stuff that is in him, and that neither solitudes nor torrents make character, though environment may somewhat modify and circumstances give opportunity.

There was a wide contrast in the antecedents of the two. George Washington was descended from a long line of ancestors who were men of lands, of titles and success.

The ancestors of Abraham Lincoln were so obscure that there is no authentic record of anyone earlier than his grandfather, and his father was unable to read until after he had reached maturity. Lincoln was a born commoner, great in spite of the obstacles of poverty, the other was a born aristocrat, great in spite of the hindrances of wealth. In neither case was the prayer of Agar answered.

There was contrast in the experiences of their early life. George Washington was an intimate associate of a peer of the realm, at the age of 22 he commanded a successful expedition against the Indians, and a few years later was appointed a Colonel on General Braddock's staff. He was of distinguished personal appearance, and delighted in fine uniforms, in the pomp and circumstance of war and life, and the accounts of his daring read like the story of a royal pageant.

Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin, dressed in a linsey-woolsey shirt, deerskin leggins and cowhide shoes, and, as he says, never wore stockings until he was "young man grown." Further he says of himself, "I reached my new home in my 8th year. There were some schools, but nothing beyond reading, writing and ciphering to the rule of three. I have never been to school since. I was raised to farm work, which I continued till I was 22, when I became a sort of clerk in a store. If any personal description of me is thought necessary it may be said that I am six feet four inches nearly, lean in flesh, weighing on an average 180 pounds, of dark complexion, with coarse black hair and gray eyes." Then comes a flash of his distinctive humor—"no other marks or brands recollected."

They were unlike in their dispositions. One was a silent man, having the rare virtue of habitual reticence, never talking unless to say something that should not have been left unsaid, and then saying it with seriousness; a man of high temper and strong passions, whose countenance bore the record of successful battles waged for their subduing—a man who conquered himself and took many cities also, for he was a soldier, whose "hands were taught to war, and his fingers to fight," a majestic figure in war and peace, calm, dignified, severe. The wife of John Adams, after seeing him take command of the American Army, was moved to write of him as follows:

"Dignity, ease and complacency, the gentleman and the soldier look agreeably blended in him, yet modesty marks every feature of his face. Those lines of Dryden instantly occurred to me:

Mark his majestic fabric. He's a temple
Sacred by birth and built by hands divine.

How different the picture presented by the other, taking his own description of his personal appearance that I have just read to you. Gaunt, uncouth, awkward, the kindest, gentlest, tenderest-hearted man that ever lived! Having that frank "simplicity of character that often baffles the most accomplished astuteness," he was easily approachable, unhampered by conventionalities, full of hearty mirth, of the happy humor that lies very near to tears, and of ready wit that enabled him to avoid obstacles which the other would have removed by the exercise of sheer strength or crushed with Titanic blows. It is a well-known story of Daniel Webster, told as illustrating his tendency to the legal habit of mind, that when he was about 10 years old and had been summoned forth to be feruled for some misdemeanor, the teacher looked at the black and grimy paw extended for the purpose and smiling said, "Well, Daniel, if you will show me another hand in school as dirty as that I will excuse you," whereupon the embryo lawyer, orator and statesman promptly produced his other hand from his pocket and escaped. There was something of the same adroitness shown by the youthful Lincoln, when as the result of some rough play, a small schoolmate suffered such serious disaster to his trousers that he had to stand with his back against the schoolhouse while a subscription was started for a new pair. The future President saw the book approaching, knew that he could give nothing because he had nothing, so, not wanting to advertise his poverty, he wrote in the book:

"A Lincoln has no contribution for the end in view."

There was deep contrast in the circumstances attendant upon their taking the Presidential office.

The great soldier was summoned "from a retreat which he had chosen, with the fondest predilection, as the asylum of his declining years," to preside over a people for whom he had achieved a triumphant peace, and that now had "opportunity for deliberating in perfect tranquility on a form of government for the security of their union and the advancement of their happiness." The warfare was accomplished—the victory was won.

The great commoner left Springfield for the National capital "with a task before him," as he said himself, "heavier than that which rested upon Washington," and journeyed through a land "o'ershadowed by the gloom of imminent war," a land which, in fulfillment of the dread prophecy of Webster, was about to be drenched with fraternal blood. While Washington's inaugural address, from which I have just quoted, was a summons "to fruitful strifes and rivalries of peace," Lincoln's ends with this passionate appeal against invoking the dread arbitrament of war:

"I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break the bonds of our affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone 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."

This was the language of a man who had learned the first part of that philosophy which says: "Beware of entrance to a quarrel, but, being in, so bear it that the opposer will beware of thee."

That he had assimilated all of it in its entirety is shown by his forceful passage from his second inaugural, delivered four years later:

"Woe unto him by whom the offense cometh. Earnestly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet if God will that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's 250 years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said 3000 years ago, so still it must be said, that the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

Finally, there was contrast in the manner of their deaths.

Washington died full of years and honors, calm, dignified, serene, though fully conscious of his approaching end.

"He was feeling his own pulse and counting the strokes when death brought the great change in his countenance, his hand dropped from the wrist that he was holding, and George Washington was dead. He died as he had lived, simply and bravely, without parade and without affectation. The last duties were done, the last words said, the last trials borne with the quiet fitness, the gracious dignity, that even the gathering mists of the supreme hour could neither dim nor tarnish."

If he ever uttered the prayer of the prophet, that prayer was answered, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

In what sharp contrast with this serene and peaceful entering upon life was the death of Lincoln, when "sacrilegious murder had broke open the temple, and stole thence the life of the building."

He needed not the accident of assassination to give him his crown of glory. It was because he "had borne his faculties so meek, had been so clear in his great office, that his virtues did plead like angels, trumpet-tongued, against the deep damnation of his taking off."

I am aware that death at the hand of a public murderer does not constitute martyrdom. In the highest sense, it is only from the glorious company of the apostles and their followers that the noble army of martyrs is recruited. But in the sense of offering one's self as a sacrifice to a principle, George Washington was a martyr in spirit and intention, and Abraham Lincoln was a martyr in fact. When one, the subject of a King, once said, "I will raise a regiment of a thousand men, subsist them at my own cost, and march them to relief of Boston," he knew the penalty of high treason. And the use by the other in his last speech at Springfield of the portentous words, "not knowing when or whether I shall return," shows that he rightly judged of the barbarism of that greater tyrant than a King.

Having thus imperfectly and briefly sketched the contrasts in the characters of these two men, let us now consider the contrasts between their times, and see if it be so that each period found its type-man to be the captain of its salvation.

The American Revolution was the consistent, deliberate act of the descendants of those conscientious and austere men who more than a century before had laid, unconsciously, and, "building better than they knew," the deep and broad substructure of a Nation that was to be "dedicated to the principle that all men are created equal." Against the colonists, rich only in courage, truth, honor and patriotism, were arrayed the forces of the greatest military power of the world, which, under the rule of a semi-foreign King, guided by the counsels of his most unworthy Ministers, against the protest of its ablest statesman, after provoking its children to wrath by a long series of despotic acts, now bent its mighty energies to crush them. Was it an accident, was it a coincidence, that in this new England, removed by an ocean of space and a century of time from the old, there had grown up a new Englishman, the very type-man and the flower of the Anglo-Saxon race, free from the debasing influence of the old, encircled by the purifying influence of the new, whose destiny it was to teach the mother country, fat with spoils, gorged with the wealth of subjugated empires, and confident in her memory of the deeds of Clive, the difference between the conquest of a hundred millions of feeble Asiatics, all naked in the fight, and the coercion of a handful of her own sons, panoplied in the triple armor of him "who hath his quarrel just"?

The fitness of Washington for the time in which he lived is shown, not only by what he did but by what he did not try to do. Humanity had not then awakened to the heinousness of the crime of slavery, which had been a human institution through all the ages of the world's history, and through the evolution of its religions. The declaration that "all men are created equal"; endowed by their Creator with the "inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," aroused no effectual protest against the incongruity of African slavery flourishing in the states, under the protection of their laws. The world was not ready for the change; it was only in 1807 that England (generally a leader in all that makes for civilization) prohibited the slavery trade. It was as late as the 3d of March, 1861—the very day before Lincoln's first inauguration—that the greatest despot of Europe performed the greatest act of emancipation that the world had ever seen in freeing more than 40,000,000 serfs. In America there was no general uprising. Politics, then, as now, controlled; the voice of the public conscience was silent, and the church was dumb. Only a little band of abolitionists, standing on their platform of fanaticism outside of the currents of political life—a platform corresponding to that point outside the world without which as a fulcrum there is no lever that can move the world—pleaded for the slave, and though many of them knew it not, preached a crusade that was to accomplish the emancipation of the masters from the bondage of sin, of pride, of arrogance, of cruelty—a bondage lower than the slavery of the slave. At last the spirit of the North, which was the spirit of freedom, was arrayed against the spirit of the South, which was the spirit of bondage, and the type-man came forth; he had tilled the soil; he had labored in the fields, he had riven the trees asunder, he had learned the dignity of labor and had felt its culture, and from the soil, the fields, the woods, he had drunk into his soul great draughts of freedom. What eye more quick to see the difference between labor ennobled and labor degraded, what ear more attentive to the wail that surged up from the house of bondage, the low monotone of the dusky millions which it was his destiny to transform into the majestic harmony of liberty?

Each was the type-man of his time—was one or the other the greater? I will not attempt to detract from either by comparison. Of different antecedents, of different experiences, of different characteristics, differing in their lives and in their deaths, I believe they were both supremely great. They were alike in this: Each heard the voice of God calling "out of the distances of the Universe," and listened to that voice; each "lived the simple truth unaltered"; each did the high behest of that Power Unseen that "sways the great harmonious mystery of Life."

To what end are we here? Cui bono? For what purpose are we gathered together to commemorate those who have passed away and who can no more hear our voice? The earth is for the living, not the dead. Therefore let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die. Let us think no such thing. The perils that assail this day partake not of the character of "malice domestic, foreign levy," such as Lincoln crushed and Washington expelled, but one possibly more dangerous, because more insidious. Humanity responds to the trumpet call for the protection of its rights, or to an appeal for its generous sympathies in behalf of the downtrodden and oppressed, more readily than human nature answers to the crying need for its cleansing and purification, generally accomplished only by blood and fire. The basic principle of republicanism is that the Government receives its authority only from the people, and this peculiar peril always treads upon the heels of a republican form of government that the source from which its power is derived may be lowered or polluted, and as water may not rise higher than its level, so the Government cannot be higher or purer than the people who give it its charter and commission. Therefore the duty of the citizen of a republic is graver, the responsibility of a citizen of a republic is heavier—that is to say, our duty and our responsibility are graver and heavier than those of the citizen who lives under any other form of government in the world. The growth of avarice, the lust of wealth, the piling up of inconceivable fortunes, the social discontent that inevitably follows, the spread of luxury and the attendant vices that war on character and sap the strength of the soul—these are some of the dangers that threaten the Nation today, dangers that can only be averted by keeping up the character of the people to the highest standard of virtue, courage and honesty. Wherefore let me answer the question "Why are we here?" in the words of one of those immortal dead:

"It is for us, the living, to be dedicated to the work which they so nobly advanced—that from these honored dead we 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 this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

EAGER FOR IMPROVEMENT

South Portland Citizens Discuss Various Reforms.

The South Portland Improvement Association met in regular session, at Hobkirk's Hall last evening. Fifteen or 20 minutes were passed in local comment, on the stairway to the hall, while Dr. W. H. Saylor and E. V. Colwell went to the rescue of the janitor who had lost his way while en route with the key. After a fire had been started and the preliminary handshaking concluded, President John F. Caples rapped for silence and ordered the minutes of the previous meeting read. They were adopted as read. The reports of committees being next in order, Mr. Middleton requested an extension of time for the assessment committee, to obtain more data regarding the overtaxation of South Portland property-owners. There being no dissenting voice, the extension was granted by the chair.

President Caples then called on the committee on gulches. No reply greeted his request for a report. "It is high time that we are doing something in regard to filling these gulches," said the chair. "I certainly would be pleased to hear from someone on this matter."

This brought William Fleidner to the floor. "I think an ordinance must be passed before we can take action in this matter," he said. "Mr. Zimmerman knows more of this matter than anyone else." A roll call failed to locate Mr. Zimmerman and the gulch situation will rest there until some future date.

Joseph Weber reported that the $15,000 appropriation asked for the construction of the Sellwood Ferry, at the late session of the Legislature, had been referred in the same way as the Albina Ferry and Madison-street bridge appropriation, and would have to be voted on at the next city election.

Someone mentioned sidewalks and Dr. Saylor immediately arose. "I don't think there is a section of this city where the sidewalks are more eligible to improvement than right here in South Portland. A man who can own property can certainly find a way to build a sidewalk, and I move that a committee of three be appointed to take up this matter and report these negligent property-owners to the City Engineer, whose business it is to see to the construction of walks where they are needed."

"This is an important committee, if not a popular one," laughed Judge Caples.

"They can never be elected to office," remarked someone in the background.

The motion for a committee was adopted and Messrs. Saylor, Colwell and McGowan were appointed.

Mr. Colwell then took the floor and made a long and earnest plea for the construction of a wide stairway down the steep incline on Bancroft street, between Kelly and Macadam. "I am tired of climbing that chicken-ladder arrangement up that bank," said the speaker, "and I am sure that the other 200 people who hurry up that slippery plank on a rainy day would be equally grateful for a broad and easy stairway." The matter was referred to Messrs. Colwell and Weber, who hope to secure donations to the amount required for the lumber from property-owners in that vicinity, and the services of the city repair force to construct the stairway.

As the election of an executive committee had been delayed from the previous meeting Mr. Allen moved that a committee of three be appointed to select six members of the association, for this committee and submit their names at the next regular meeting. The motion was adopted and Messrs. Zimmerman, Saylor and Colwell appointed.

The meeting then adjourned until the third Saturday in March, the date set for the next regular meeting.

WANT A LONG STREET.

Property-Owners on East Sixth Anxious for Extension.

Property-owners south of East Oak on East Sixth street are anxious that the proposed improvement of East Sixth street should be extended across the slough between East Oak and East Washington streets, so there may be a long thoroughfare. A petition is now out for the improvement of East Sixth between East Oak and East Everett streets. If this petition is acted on it will leave the street cut in two parts, leaving the two blocks in the slough unimproved. This is just what residents to the southward are trying to prevent. They are now agitating to have a full improvement from East Grant, in Stephens Addition, to East Everett street. This, they say, would provide a fine long street, parallel with Grand avenue, on which there are no car tracks. It is building up rapidly with homes, and would build up faster if there should be a long street.

Multnomah Hall Association, which owns the Woodmen of the World Hall on East Sixth street, is very desirous that the improvement should be continued south. S. F. Dunning says it should include a bridge across the gulch. If it is not done now it never can be done. Mr. Dunning says that all that would be needed would be to dress up East Sixth street with some gravel and it will last for several years to come.

Under the new charter the assessment for the roadway would not fall on the adjacent property, but would have to be paid for by nearly all the property-owners on the street.

Another Man Wants a Share.

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—A new claimant has spoken for a part of the estate of Richard Tighe, the eccentric old millionaire who died in 1897. Nearly three years ago the courts divided the estate among about two dozen heirs. City Chamberlain Dr. E. L. Gould received a letter from David Barr, Thorpe, Delaware County, asking for information concerning the death of Tighe, and the disposition of his property. "He was a relative of my mother's," said Barr in his letter. The Chamberlain has forwarded all the information at hand and referred Barr to the executrices of the estate.

PERSONAL MAGNETISM

How Prominent Men Develop This Power and Use It to Influence Others — Women, Too, Adepts in This Mysterious Art.

A Reporter Makes Astounding Discoveries — Secret Methods Which Charm and Fascinate the Human Mind.

High Priests of the Occult Reveal Jealously Guarded Secrets of Years — A Wonderful New Book by Prominent New York Men.

A wonderful new book, entitled "The Secret of Power," has just been issued, at an expense of over $5000, by one of the leading colleges of the City of New York. This book is from the pen of the ablest specialists of modern times. The authors gave away the copyright on condition that 10,000 copies should be distributed to the public free of charge. The Columbia Scientific Academy is now complying with this contract, and until the edition of 10,000 copies is exhausted you can get a copy of this book absolutely free. The book is profusely illustrated with the most expensive half-tone engravings. It is full of wonderful secrets and startling surprises, and thoroughly explains the real source of the power of personal influence. It fully and completely reveals the fundamental principles of success and influence in every walk of life. The hidden mysteries of personal magnetism, will-power and scientific character reading are explained in an intensely interesting manner. Two secret methods of personal influence are described, which positively enable any intelligent person to exercise a marvelous influence and control over any one whom he may wish. These methods are entirely new and have never before been made public. A reporter has tried them personally, and can vouch for their wonderful power.

The book also describes absolutely certain methods by which you can read the character, secrets and lives of every one you meet. No one can deceive you. You can tell what vocation is best for you to follow. You can know the secret power by which minds of human beings are charmed and fascinated. The newest, latest and best system of physical and mental culture and magnetic healing is fully explained and illustrated by beautiful half-tone engravings. No such book has ever before been published. No such wonderful information has ever before been placed in the hands of the public. On account of the mighty power and influence placed in one's hands by this book, the Legislature of the State of New York debated whether or not the state ought to permit its promiscuous circulation; but it was finally decided the good it would accomplish would greatly overbalance the ill, and its distribution was not interfered with.

Not long ago John D. Rockefeller, the richest man in America, said, in talking to a Sunday school class, that he attributed his success in life largely to his ability to influence others. Lincoln, Lee, Napoleon and Alexander the Great all won fame and renown by their wonderful powers of personal influence. Jay Gould piled up millions by this same power. J. P. Morgan organized the billion-dollar steel trust and enriched himself by millions simply by his marvelous ability to influence others. There are today thousands of men with the brains and education of Mr. Morgan who are practically paupers. They have the ability to organize a trust, but they have not sufficient power of personal influence. Personal influence, will-power, stamina—call it what you will—has from the creation of man been the subtle force that has brought wealth, fame and renown to those who are fortunate enough to possess it. This strange, mysterious influence is inherent in every human being. By the late methods explained by the New York specialist in human culture any intelligent person can develop a wonderfully magnetic personality, and learn how to read the character, secrets and lives of others in a few days' study at his own home. You can use this marvelous power without the knowledge of your most intimate friends and associates. You can use it to obtain lucrative employment, to secure an advance in salary, to win the friendship and influence of others to obtain a greater share of happiness from life. You can be respected, honored and become a leader in your community.

If you are not fully satisfied with your present condition and circumstances; if you long for greater success or more money; if you are not able to influence others to the extent you desire, the reporter would advise you to write at once for a free copy of this great work, now being given away by the Columbia Scientific Academy.

Mrs. C. Richmond Duxbury, of 472 A Green Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y., the authoress of "New England Folk," recently sent for copies of the books; after carefully examining them and testing the methods of personal influence on her friends and associates, she makes the following statement in a letter to a friend: "Nothing could induce me to part with the advantage that my little knowledge of your books has given me. Any student can acquire it and will be fascinated and delighted with the result."

Fred Perkins, of South Haven, Mich., says: "I have been in great demand since I read the work of the Columbia Scientific Academy. People are amazed and mystified at the things I do. I believe I could make $25 per day reading character alone if I were to charge for my services. If any one would have told I would receive so much wonderful information I would have thought him crazy."

Mrs. M. Effie Watson, of Martinsville, Ind., says: "Could I have had access to such information in past years, I could have avoided many misfortunes. This work of the Columbia Scientific Academy shall be my guiding star the remaining days of my life."

If you will send your name and address to the Columbia Scientific Academy, Dept. 480 Y, 1931 Broadway, New York City, this book will be sent to you absolutely free, postage prepaid. On account of the great expense involved in preparing this book, the Columbia Scientific Academy requests that only people who are especially interested write for free copy—only those who really desire to achieve greater success and better their condition in life.

All Stars in "Romeo and Juliet."

NEW YORK, Feb. 21.—Liebler & Co. have arranged for a Spring tour of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" with a notable cast, in which Kyrie Bellew will appear as Romeo, Miss Eleanor Robson as Juliet, Eben Plympton as Mercutio, and possibly Wilton Lackaye as Friar Laurence. All the principals will be starred equally.

Burned to Death in Factory.

CHICAGO, Feb. 21.—The five-story milk-can factory of Sturges, Cornish & Burn Company was partially destroyed by fire today. Several hundred employes, many of whom were girls, escaped with but slight injuries to a few. Arthur J. Parr, foreman of the paint shop, was burned to death. Total property loss, $50,000.

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Kid Gloves—our $1.00 kid glove is the best in the market. We guarantee every pair. We try them on. Full assortment of colors and sizes.

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