

The Song of the Hair

There are four verses. Verse 1. Ayer's Hair Vigor makes the hair grow. Verse 2. Ayer's Hair Vigor stops falling hair. Verse 3. Ayer's Hair Vigor cures dandruff. Verse 4. Ayer's Hair Vigor always restores color to gray hair. The chorus is sung by millions. F. O. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

JUSTICE HAILEY'S ADDRESS

Talks This Morning to Students at Willamette About Lincoln

Ninety and seven years ago, amid the rudest surrounding of frontier life, in Hardin county, Kentucky, the singular character which the world accepts as the typical American, first saw the light of day in the person of Abraham Lincoln. Fifty years later he described himself as being, "in height six feet four inches, nearly; lean in flesh, weighing on the average 180 pounds; dark complexion, with coarse black hair and gray eyes; no other marks or brands recollected."

Neither his parentage nor his early

career possesses much of interest to the rising generation, except to excite wonder that from so lowly and uninviting beginnings could possibly be evolved such a sublime character given to the loftiest efforts in the cause of human liberty and betterment of mankind. The most that Lincoln could say about his ancestry was what the French marshal, raised from the ranks, said to his fellow officers of royal lineage, who taunted him with his low descent: "I am an ancestor; you are only descendants." This, indeed, is Lincoln's greatest distinction in the line of pedigree; and it were well if many of his countrymen of today who can make no prouder boast, as well as those who can, would see to it that they strive as did he to become worthy ancestors.

To the average American, enjoying the peace, plenty and prosperity of his day in the comforts of a home whose scantiest furnishings are palatial compared to the rude cabin and its meager belongings of the Lincoln family, the gloomy aspect of that floorless, doorless and windowless log hut in the forest, seems strange indeed as the birthplace of one whose name and fame shall ring forever down the ages as the great friends of man.

It is not my purpose today to recall the many hardships that surrounded the early life of Lincoln nor to recount the many obstacles to progress social, educational, moral and political that made his pathway to success one of thorns rather than of roses. His ultimate success in overcoming every barrier and at last receiving the highest honors of a nation of freemen, should stand as an inspiration to every citizen, not only of our own fair land, but of the wide world, and as an example of the splendid reward to be reaped by patient and persevering honesty, application and unity of purpose in the affairs of men.

The object and purpose of our lives is not measured by the source and surroundings from whence we come, but by the ends and conditions we seek to attain. Although born amid the royal splendor and of flingly par-

entage, if our lives lead not to higher and nobler thoughts and deeds and general progress of the world, we live in vain, and the kindly providence who permits us to impede the ways of humanity should drive us as useless drones from the world's hive of activity. I do not mean by this to say that every young man should strive to be a Lincoln, and that unless he does so his life is vain; but I do say that strife for the better and higher things, moral, social, political and in every way of life, not only brings the things sought, but elevates the seeker to a higher plane of thought and action. Such is the great lesson gleaned from the struggling life of Lincoln from obscurity to world wide prominence and everlasting fame. The one purpose of his life was "Right," spelled with a big "R," and his one rule to reach it was "Modesty," always and everywhere written in big capitals on his whole being and in his whole life. It is true that there are incidents in his early career among the rough and rugged environments of his frontier home which apparently contradict these strong traits in his being, but these were only boyish methods of impressing upon his opponents by physical argument his great sense of the right, and all are forgotten in the acts and declarations of his mature years when, avowing a firm belief in the righteousness of God, he declared that in the cause of union against disunion, "right would make might."

The coarse elements that accompanied his younger days and provoked his sympathetic nature to yield to their vulgar influences as witnessed by some of the doggerel and other written expressions of his boyhood, gradually faded away before the advance of an improved civilization, and just as the higher and better phase of civil life drove back the lower and rougher elements and brought forth the newer and better conditions of every kind, so did the strong character of Lincoln remove the stains of earlier companionship and stand forth resplendent in the fullness of a newer and better manhood, rich in human sympathy, from having seen and endured the wants and woes of humanity, and strong in lofty patriotism from having learned the needs of better and more advanced civil conditions.

In his first declaration of principles as a candidate for the legislature of Illinois, he advocated increase of transportation facilities both by rail and water, and better means of education. Principles still advanced by political aspirants, if we read their declarations aright. In his speech in this initial campaign he closed by saying, "But if the good people in their wisdom shall see fit to keep me in the background, I have been too familiar with disappointment to be very much chagrined." Thus voicing his absolute confidence in the will of the people and his willingness to abide by the decree of fate. From this declaration of a desire for office, he ever possessed and repeatedly announced an ambition for political honors, evidently realizing that his power for good lay along that line rather than along the line of professional or business pursuits, for in the latter he was a complete failure and in the former only a partial success.

The accommodating purpose of using his hat for a postoffice delivery box and his honest intent in making a sock serve as a safety deposit vault for his cash transactions afford amusing examples of the eccentricities of a great man, but warrant no praise for his financial abilities in the world of business.

In his practice of the law he displayed the prime requisite of every successful advocate—an abundance of common sense, but was greatly deficient in that wide reading and deep study of the law which constitute learning, the essential complement of common sense in the general makeup of a great lawyer. His knowledge of human nature and great sympathy in all human causes, coupled with his power to terse expression, and fund of anecdotal illustrations, made him a great advocate, who won the favor of juries and wrested from them verdicts in accordance with his ideas of human rights. His powers as a lawyer, however, were limited to the cause in which he believed. To use the language of one of his recent biographers, he "generally refused to take cases unless he could see that as a matter of genuine right he ought to win them." A fine sentiment, always applauded by the layman, but sometimes disregarded by the practitioner in his zeal for personal success.

Neither business nor law was Lincoln's forte. For the one he had no capacity; for the other his sympathies were too deep and his sense of right and justice too broad to be circumscribed by the technical terms of precedents and ancient form. Politics that wide and restless sea of au-

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man activity and endeavor whose bosom is strewn with the wrecks of petty men of selfish aims and whose highest and strongest waves have been proudly and triumphantly ridden to the haven of fame and glory by the great men of every age, who could sink self in the cause of humanity; politics, not in the narrow sense of holding office, but politics in the broad sense of doing duty and serving country, know and claimed Lincoln for its own. The affection was mutual and brought its rewards to both. In the hard school of practical politics his master mind grew and developed from the narrow limits of the untitled member representing one county in the state legislature, to the wide confines of the presidency of the leading nation of the world, possessing the power to proclaim liberty to the individual of the nation as his forefathers had proclaimed it for the nation itself nearly a century before. Lincoln, the boy candidate for the legislature, willing to abide the verdict of the people of his county, was far removed from Lincoln the man President ready to execute the commands of his country and prevent the disunion of a nation. Two common traits join the boy to the man—strict adherence to what he thought was to be the right and a firm regard for honesty.

Almost countless pages of history, written by both friend and foe, tell the story of that four years fraternal strife following Lincoln's inauguration as President, and from those pages you of this generation, far removed by time and space from the passions and prejudice of their day, can learn the right and the wrong of those who fought valiantly for what each deemed to be the right. For my part, I thank God that Christian charity and the healing influence of time, aided by greater industrial activity, have obliterated the fearful scars of that struggle, and I most earnestly pray that the recording angel shall inscribe upon the everlasting rolls only the deeds of daring and words of brotherly love of Blue and Gray alike, as tributes of glory to the valor of American sailors, soldiers and statesmen, north and south.

"There were giants in those days." Mighty men of business, mighty men of war, and mighty men of statesmanship; yet high above them all, not in business, not in war, and perhaps not in statesmanship, but in that which is far greater—unselfish patriotism and love of liberty for the individual, rose the mighty Lincoln. Right with him was not a matter of color, a nation meant union.

A firm belief in the wisdom and righteousness of God and of His guiding hand in the management of the affairs of men and of nations, gave to Lincoln a steady purpose in his high resolve and sustained him

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in his hours of depression and gloom. His early study of the Book of Books, the Holy Bible, acquainted him with the choicest of literature and taught him the everlasting principles of human right and justice as declared in the ten commandments and the sermon on the mount, and graved deep into his heart the golden rule of action; thus laying the firm foundation upon which to build the splendid character so useful in his day and generation.

The tall form of Lincoln moves no more in his earthly tenement. The kindly gleam of his melancholy gray eyes now reflects no earthly sympathy, the sweet smile of his homely countenance rests only in the memory of fortunate friends who survive him; but the name and fame of Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator, who struck from the fettered slave the bonds of slavery, and gave a new birth to freedom in a land of liberty, will ever stand as an inspiring emblem of the highest success attained from humblest beginnings by honesty of purpose, regard for right and progressive development in the cause of humanity and justice.

May we then "with malice toward none; with charity to all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right," strive for the advancement and glory of our nation and of all mankind, and receive from succeeding generations the praise we so gladly accord to him whose memory we revere when we say it is well for the world that he lived.

2

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