HENRY D. ESTABROOK.

geance of the Flag.

H "Blossomed With Elegance, Burned With Einquence, Was Classic in Language and Sublime in Gennus."

From the Chleago Inter-Ocean

The Ren. Henry D. Estabreach, of Nebraska, followed, his topic being "The Vengeance of the Flag." He said: February is an American holy month. for in it were born Washington and Lincoln-two names so blended in popular affection that to mention one is to recall the other. Washington, the patrician, whose mind and heart. like the cups of a chemist's balance, seemed to weigh each other, to whom religion was a rule of action, a divine command -Lincoln, the plebelan, whose mind and heart had been fused in the crucible of love, with whom religion was a passionate intuition. Of these twins of destiny I have chosen (I hope not inappropriately to the occasion) to speak of Lincoln-to relate the manner of his death, and the vengeance of the

Was it, my friends, an inspiration or caprice when, on the very threshold of that most sober, somber, sullen story of colonial life, "The Scarlet Letter," Hawthorne suddenly stoops, and, plucking a rose which grew beside the prison door, presents it to his reader? It was a graceful act, a propitiatory act, and withal an act of deep significance. Somehow the perfume of the flower pervades the entire story, so when at last you close the book, with the mist still in your eyes and fain would murmur, "a sad, cruel, useless sacrifice," lo! the fragrance of the rose, like an exhalation from an unseen altar, breathes through your spirit and you sigh instead, "perhaps after all 'twas best, yea, perhaps 'twas necessary."

With something of the motive I have attributed to Hawthorne I wish to relate as a prelude to my recital of the darkin Lincoln Park. The statue of lib-The dear, homely, lovely face with its wilderness of wrinkles, those hierclung hopeless of adaptation-ecce homo! behold our kingly rail-splitter, himself had dreamed of him in boyhood, as I "Fate-sinister burst of laughter!" read of him in history; simple, majestic, actual, as if his immortal spirit had clothed itself in a vestment of immortal bronze. There, in the restful quiet of a park already dedicated to his memory-a nodal point among the mighty vibrations of a great city-a little continent bounded by the "unsalted sea" called Michigan, and the vast ocean of rife called Chicago-there amidst the green twilight of arching trees and whispering leaves, towered the beloved form of Liberty's Messiah.

As I lowered my eyes to trace the words embossed upon the pedestal (the words of that short speech destined to live so long, at once the episode and the epitaph of Gettysburg) I became aware of an old gentlemen who stood gazing up into the dark benignant face that bent above us. He was a quaint old man; lusty, thick set, smooth-shaven, wearing a wide-brimmed felt hat and a home-spun costume, neat enough but far from fashionable. His bright, ruddy face glowed out from its snow drift of white hair like a live coal among its his physiognomy to suggest melancholy, and yet, as he gazed, the tears streamed down his cheeks unheeded.

ion, the statute before us was a good simply: "I presume it is; I never met him."

"And yet," I persisted, "the contemplation of the statute seems to singularly affect you?"

The old gentleman turned to me impressively and said: "Young man, I hoping to die in the old blue grass to death, the clarion of immortality. commonwealth. If Kentucky had left until recent years have I come to realize had been too much of tragedy, and now continued the old man, his eyes again tion, the real in the apparent.

An Elequent Address on "The Ven- I cried, "I what you feel in the free from in account of giory. When the Abraham had reached it forth from such questioning by any lawful means— that he has not talked with him my

God bless you britter? And then and there, in presence of Midway of the performance, and ways." that succed effigs. Kentucky and New shortly after 10 o'clock, a young man And shall we not? The blood of it was permitted by the casults of the gene to confession, she may say that chain, while the great brown statue his eard to the president's messenger. - no, not spilled; for within its crimson, is all tenable enough, but its apparent has been remitted in confession. (c)

apparently senseless crime. I say that The young man, however, fastened the more justrous than those sister stars to "fly"-to which may be added the and theft extend to the remaining although, could we fathern the divine which he had previously prepared for Our noble flag! So long as it shall tinet words having the same sound, as tion may lawfully kill any one who at-Liberty's Messiah?

It was on the night of April 14, 1865, sign of their calling. In every city of Then-ah! thenthe Union, north and south, and east | There was a sharp detonation, a and west, you have seen those great moment's dread paralysis, a wild comsweeten!

erty's great martyr had recently been reality. And yet, let it come when or unveiled, and I had come to study it. how it will, there is always in the this the language of a tyrant? The To my mind, unskilled in the niceties event a mocking incongruity. But fiat of a conqueror? History has no grotesque, spectacular, I would almost awkward figure to which the garments the fripperies of a playhouse, the tinsel they know not what they do." them. It was Abraham Lincoln as I hear the frantic cry of Victor Hugo

> On this mortal night the president had sought to be amused. He wished to laugh, to be made to laugh; and for der, the chances of capture had been this he has been criticised. Why should weighed by the murderer and reduced he wish to laugh when every click of to a minimum. His route to the south the telegraph was the death tick of a had been chosen and carefully studied. soldier? Why should he? Why should His confederates were numerous and

There is no laughter in the natural world Of beast or fish or bird, though no sad doubt Of their futurity to them unfurled. Has dared to check the mirth-compelling

shout. The lion roars his solemn thunder out. To sleeping woods the eagle screams he

Even the lark must strain a serious throat To hurl his blest defiance at the sky. Fear, anger, Jealousy, have found a voice. Love's pain or rapture the brute bosom

Nature has symbols for her nobler joys. Her nobler sorrows. Who had dared foretell That only man, by some sad mockery.

Should learn to laugh who learns that he

must die. that he must die, but he had every dent? Does not Plato tell us that even reason to believe that his death would granite rocks have souls that shape be at the hands of an assassin. He had their appearance and give them indiashes. There was certainly nothing in been repeatedly warned that such would viduality? Shall a heathen philosopher be his fate; indeed, an attempt had grant such an attribute to stocks and already been made upon his life, and stones and a patriot deny all sensibility that he know of it is shown by papers to his country's flag? It was no acci-The spectacle touched my sympathies found in his desk revealing the plot, dent, but a miracle of gratitude-The and roused my curiosity. With per- and by himself labelled "Assassina- Vengeance of The Flag! Washington haps unpardonable rudeness I attempted tion." Discussing the subject with his was there-Washington, the father to discover the secret of his perturba- friend, Father Chiniquy, he had said, who begot and brought it forth, seemed tion. I ventured to ask if, in his opin- "I see no other way than to be always prepared to die. I know my danger; brace. Lincoln. the savior, who had likeness of Mr. Lincoln. He replied but man must not care how or where redeemed it from the sin of slavery, he dies, provided he dies at the post of was even then dying that it might live, honor and of duty."

ter was the music of his heart, the accident! In the absence of human insweet expression of his sweet humanity. tervention the flag Itself became an Such a man can afford to laugh; for, actor. It reached forth and grappled thanks be to God who giveth us the am a Kentuckian, born and reared and victory, human laughter is a challenge the bloody garment of old mythology.

Moreover, the president had earned clung, clung, clung writhing about and the Union I should have followed and a respite from the anxieties which for fought for her. All through those four years, like four eternities, had The flag was the captor-the flag was ward, I looked upon President Lincoln had ceased to vomit forth its lava of flag! Our proud and happy flag! Rad- and in regard to the former he cites. as a tyrant and a despot, and when the human blood. The vertigo of death lant in its beauty, sparkling with its amongst other authoritative condemmy hat and echoed the yell of the one baffled roar, was muttering over that Abraham Lincoln was the best, this laughter-loving man would gain

glistening with tears, "now I can never | The box which the presidential party

God was not joulous of [1]

purpose.

morning following, at precisely 7:22 of this incarnate devil did not herald liberty! God bless our flag! o'clock. Abraham Lincoln yielded up his approach, that basilisk eye, framed the ghost. The fatal moment is notched by a gimlet-hole, must have sent a on the scythe of Time. Even the watch- shudder through the victim's heart! makers, those wardens of the hours. We may never know. In a moment the have embalined that moment in the door was opened, the murderer entered.

so gentle, patient, brave, and true! So conform with the space allowed. break our bonds of affection." Was following:

the "undying dead."

But what of the assassin? Maniacly bold as now seems this murdiscreet. His finances were ample, his equipment complete. As for the leap from the proscenium box, that was a matter so insignificant as scarcely to have entered into the calculation; for the assassin was a trained athlete, exulting in his prowess. In his histrionic career he had often sprung upon that very stage from twice the height, simply to startle the audience into applause. And yet, we are told that except for the accident of his foot catching in the flag, a strip from which was thus torn out, and fluttered at his heels as he dragged his broken limb across the stage, he would have inevitfor the moment to live again in its emthe last quiverings of his heart pulsing with the assassin. It clave to him like It shricked and was rent in twain, but binding him, like a python, in its coils.

well within me and occuffor my open" un to frame the portrait of George bow-Hope's phanton flag. What irregularly by lawful authority, are ing. :41 A witness asked by the judge I had attendy seized his hand and Washington, whom sevene and august wonder that it seems like a gift from not bound to communicate their know; whether he has had any conversation was avenuing it in both of mine. "Size," face smiled from not its simple fields as though Father lodge, and may set saids and avoid with the accused may deny it meaning disposition of Koptucky I swear to you president and his greate entered, the beyond the stars and said. "Take it, such means, however, not including to encoperate in the crime, (3) An I voice the sentiment of Nebraska when schole and leave voice to greet him. It my children take and keep it in re-falsehoods, nor answer made with adultoress, questioned by her husband I say that in the same of Lincoln, we was a short of publice, of gratitude, of more based of more based on making the words as to her guilt, may deny it in any of are once more and forever friends, reverence of love, of advention. And tearn its lesson; know its value; study actually spoken false, this later mode these four ways: (a) That she has not it, learn it, know it, and love it al- of evasion having been formally con- broken the marriage tie, became it is

brasha classed bambs across the bleady came down the outer aide and presented thousands has been spilled in its defense immediately preceding period. This she is innocent of the crime, because it Before the memerger could fairly arteries that heroic blood still flows, force is easily reduced by a little in- That she has not committed adultery, How often have I appealed to this glause at the card, the young man had giving strength and vitality to our genuity. incident when, in reading the particle pushed past him and entered the mer-nation's emblem, making it not an emlars of Lincoln's assassination, I have now passage immediately behind the blem merely, but a living creature? Its amphibology or equivocation from not committed it so as to be bound to felt my both clonch and my sinews box in which the president was scated. burs of white, "as chaste as unsunned mental reservation, and names three tell him of it. - Theol. Mor., iv. 153-162. harden with rising anger. I communit The door to this passage was not locked, snow," have never yet been sullied varieties of equivocation: (1) That a "A few brief citations from other it to you now that I am about to recall for the lock had only that day been with the stain of shame. The golden word having two quite different senses, decisions will show that the same the circumstances of that fatuous and removed to prevent such a contingency. stars that irradiate the night are not as role in Latin means to "wish" and principles applied to questions of lying the crime was apparently senseless; door behind him with a wooded brace which constellate its agure firmament. frequent English ambiguity of two dis-forms of size. (1) A man of high posimotive in human history. I doubt not the purpose. He next went to the flout the sky, laugh in the sun, nor air and heir: (2) A sentence having tempts to slap his face, if there be no that involved with this catastrophe door opening into the box and peered droop, an alien, in the sight of God, so two main meanings, as "This book is other way of warding off the insult. there was more than human wisdom; at the occupants through a small long shall free men, free homes, free Peter's," which may signify his owner- (Theol. Mor., iv. 38.) He who kills A, for have I not already called Lincoln sperture, also previously made for the schools, free churches, yea, freedom ship or his authorship; (3) That of meaning to kill B, is not bound to make itself, find refuge in the shadow of its words having two senses, one more compensation, because the homicide is Surely the noble Lincoln must have strength. God bless our flag! His own common than the other, or one literal casual and inadvertent as regards A, that the shot was fired, and its rever- felt some vague consciousness of this harbinger of universal peace, the stand- and the other metaphorical. The ex- and similarly if a man burns down the beration will last forever. On the propinquity. If the very atmosphere and of humanity, the oriflamme of ample he gives of this last form is the house of his friend, meaning to burn

----ROME'S TEACHINGS.

Together With the Authorities From Which They are Taken.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., March 4, 1893 .when e're you will. It is always-7:22! slash of a knife as he freed himself comment on an article which appeared scribed, and to conform it with an oath. for immoral purposes, for the act is cathedral spire, a marble shaft, or the stirtled, bewil- historical facts to substantiate my as- self; and besides, we are not bound, if subsequent conduct of his employer .cross itself is idle; for those idle hands dered cry, "The president is mur- sertions against the Roman Catholic there be a just cause, to speak so that Ibid., iii. 3, 66, hold out a memory which only pardon dered!" Holy God! how could thou church, condensing the review, so that others may understand. And any asked, and pardon given, can ever, ever suffer it? He, so loving and so lovable; a few thoughts may be presented to honest object for retaining any good babilism which is at the base of all this

The murder of Lincoln was the most slow to anger, so eager to forgive! There exists a school of moral and spirit may be a just cause.'-Theo. Mor., simply the constitution of an external appalling tragedy ever witness in a Throughout our national eclipse his devotional theology in the above named iv. 151. theatre. History, as if despairing of great heart was stayed on Thee, his church, known as Liguorianism. The another Shakespeare, dramatized itself. sole purpose to fulfill Thy will. Only a chief promoter of this school was an 'restriction,' which is the technical out the Latin obedience, having finally We are told that his death interrupted little while before, in his message to Italian named Alfonso Maria de'Liguori, name; this was expressly condemned in conquered the resistance it has enan incident which befell me in this city, a comedy. But what death has not? the nation, he had said to the people of who was born near Naples, on Septhree propositions by Innocent XI., countered at intervals since its first Among all the chimeras and phantasms south, "We are not enemies, but friends. tember 27, 1696. The Rev. R. F. forbidding it in all cases. According to formulation as a working theory. Alest page in American history. It was of this life, death, a thing seemingly We must not be enemies. Though Littledale, L. L. D., D. C. L., men- the analogy of all prohibitory laws, though it owes its chief development to the most unreal, is the one inexorable passion may have strained, it must not tions, when speaking of Liguori, the this general prohibition of the genus the Jesuits, yet some of its ablest op-

of criticism, the work seemed perfect. this—this immolation of Abraham Lin- parallel to this sublime, unasked-for for the guidance of priests in hearing decree, have turned its flank by invent- Liguori, Rome 1815; Life of St. Alcoln was the very masquerade of death; condonation save when, on Calvery, confession, explains clearly the inten- ing a new distinction which was unthat divine whisper faltered through tion of his bulkier treatise, the "The- known in 1679. They have now divided oglyphs of character; the tall, angular, say, fantastic! The glare of footlights, the darkness, "Father, forgive them, ologia Moralis." He says: "When mental restriction into two main heads, Theologia Moralis." S. Alphonsi de and pasteboard of a stage, the gullery Instantly with the pistol-shot the of fifteen years in perusing and weigh- mental restriction (by which is meant Apostolicus, 3 vols., Mechlin, 1849; of a green-room, the mummery of the president had fallen forward. The ing the teachings of very many writers such reservation as cannot possibly be a sort of human rail cleft from a gene- actors-it was into this realm of fiction dear head drooped, never to rise again; whom I observed by the hearers, or conjectured 4 vols., Paris, 1855; Gury, Compendium alogical tree as yet uncatalogued, sound that the awful fact obtruded. It was to the core, with the bark still on, and the coup de theatre of death. And must and Abraham Lincoln, offered by the all the splinters left as God had left we call this fate? Alas! I can almost All-wise as a mediator and an exemplar liked such indulgence, fell into the an oath. But "non-pure" mental re- Lyons, 1864; The Provincial Letters of to his distracted countrymen, was with other extreme of excessive rigour. And striction (that is, such as may conceiv-

highest authorities of the Roman Cath- cumstances, '-Theol. Mor., iv. 152. olic church, such as those of no previous casuist of the past reformation era can plied: (1) A confessor may affirm with which the article was taken, can be elergy, and in fact only just fall short of being actually enjoined, Conse-Gaume, as also the kindred mannual of which, though not accepting them for himself, he yet embodies without censure in his work, thereby giving them the character and caution of probability. mainly, though not exclusively, to the

teaching on falsehood and theft. of his name, that my heart does not draped with the Union flag, so arranged on the air, as impalpable as the rain- interrogate them, or are questioned affirm to the judge that he has noth- watch the columns of this paper!

denned by Innocent XI, in 1629, though not voided by adultery. (b) If the has

"Next, as to mental reservation, or "His own words, in the preface to his species also. But the casuists, unable "Homo Apostolius," a work intended to oppose direct resistance to the papal impossible to the general body of be- means of concealing a secret, which one could not disclose without loss or Sinclair, in 1867. (R. F. L.) "As Liguori embedies also in his inconvenience, which would be hurtful materials the casuistical authors of the as lying to human intercourse, and article, by an author who is mentioned succeeding century, who were taught therefore the condemnation passed by some caution by those mishaps of their the pope on mental restriction is rightly predecessors, his works represent the to be understood of a restriction taken Engiand and the United States of final stage of casuistry in what is ac- absolutely and strictly, for that alone counted a purified and moderate form, can be called true mental restriction and have a yet greater importance, in which takes place in the mind alone, that they have been accorded an official and so remains hidden, and can in no approval and authorization from the wise be recognized from external cir-"The following Illustrations are sup-

President Lincoln was not only aware ably escaped. But why call it an acci- allege. They are fully sanctioned, en- an oath that he is ignorant of a crime found in both Catholic and American couraged and recommended for general which he has heard in confession, homes. The works are non-sectarian, use amongst the Roman Catholic secretly meaning thereby that he is standard, compilation of facts. ignorant of it as a mere man, though not as a minister of religion. (2) An quently they themselves, and the accused or a witness, if irregularly works based on them by Scavini and questioned by the judge in court, may swear that he knows nothing of a crime Gury, are all but universally found in which he does in fact know of, underuse, and it is thus easy to learn from standing thereby that he does not down to the old U. P. This road will them what is now the accredited moral know it so as to be legally bound to always be the great transcontinental theology prevalent throughout the answer or depose concerning it. This Latin obedience. * * * So far, only alarming proposition is apparently the general principles on which corrected by the warning that, when Liguori's system is based have been the interrogation of the judge is in due explained. It next remains to exhibit form, then the person questioned is their practical application, both as re- bound to obedience, and barred from all shows you historic Salt Lake and the And still he laughed, and his laugh- in all its breathing folds. It was no gards his own statements and also as equivocation. But this safeguard is at regards those opinions of other casuists once fatally weakened by the further Laramie plains, the Humboldt Basin provision that, if the act be not a and the Grand Canyon, over the very crime in the witness's opinion, he need stage route that Horace Greeley and not disclose it, and that if the crime be Artemus Ward rode. altogether hidden (i. e., when only the It will simplify the inquiry to limit it criminal himself and the witness know the facts), the witness is not merely permitted, but is actually bound, to say Pueblo. Helena and the Yosemite. "Both of these are declared by that the accused did not commit it. Tacoma and Seattle, Los Angeles and frightful years, and tor long years after- broaded over him. The volcano of war its country's Nemesis! All hall the Liguori to be sins of grave character, And the accused is equally free to do San Diego, and is the only route into so, unless there be already "half-full's San Francisco. It has no real rivals proof against him, because, in the ab- vet." news came of his taking-off I flung up was past. The thunder of battle, in stars, conscious of itself, its God, and nations, these words of Pope Innocent sence of such a degree of presumption. its America! Look up my countrymen, III.: 'Not even to defend our life is it the judge has no legitimate right to assassin-'Sic semper tyrannis!' Not the distant field of Appomattox. There look up poor human race, look up to it lawful to speak falsely.' He adds that question him as to his guilt. Those in reverence and with a prayer of grat- persons who are being lawfully ques- who have deceived the court by such itude! Behold it unfurled above the tioned by such as have a right to in- sworn equivocation are, Ligouri rules, the truest friend that the south or surcease from the long tension on his nations of the earth, the splendor of its terrogate, as judges in court, or a entitled to absolution without the humanity has ever had. And now," heart-strings by forgetting fact in fie- sheen as lambent as the sunlight that priest in the confessional, are bound to declaration of the truth being imposed plays upon it: its undulations as bil-disclose truly all they know of the as a condition. (3) A needy man, who lowy and voluminous as the clouds of matter inquired into. Those who are has made away, for his maintenance, American are sure to bring a profitable think of him, never hear the mention was to occupy had been appropriately heaven; its gorgious colors painted up- questioned by such as have no right to with property due to his creditors, may return to the advertiser. Americans,

using the word in its frequent biblical "In the first place, he distinguishes sense of "idolatry." (d) That she has

phase "I say no," uttered by a person that of an enemy.-Bid., iv. 628, 629. who wishes to conceal something as to (3) Though we are bound to love our which he is questioned. The words enemies, we are not bound to salute seem to his hearer to denote express them, to speak to them, to visit them if denial of the fact; the meaning in sick, to comfort them in any trouble, to which he uses them is merely, "I utter receive them into our house, or to hold the word 'no,'" this sentence being any kind of familiar intercourse with To the Editor of The American: complete in itself. 'It is certain,' adds them.—Ibid., v. 3, 28. (4) A servant "You were too severe in your lang- Liguori, and the common opinion of may help his master by lifting him on dumb wooden horo oges pointing back motion, a clutch at the fleeing assassin, uage." Such were the words which all, that it is lawful for a just cause to his shoulders, or by providing him with ward to the dread event. Look at them a flerce imprecation and the savage were thrust upon me in regard to a use equivocation in the manners de- a ladder, to enter a house, even forcibly, Could Coloridge describe a thing more from the detaining grasp, his leap to in a recent issue. Thinking that a * * * And the reason is that we do innocent and colorless in itself, nay, idle than those painted hands upon a the stage, his mock heroics, his re- similar thought might entangle other not then deceive our neighbour, but for even an act of charity or good will, and painted dial? Idle? No, not unless a hearsed magnifequence, his Chauvin-minds, it is my desire to present a few a just cause permit him to deceive him- the servant is not responsible for the

For all practical purposes, the prothings that are useful to our body or easuistical method, and which is authority for the dictates of conscience, is now in absolute possession throughshould include prohibition of all the ponents were members of that company."

"Authorities: Glattine, Tita di phonso Maria di Liguori, edited-by F. W. Faber, 4 vols., London, 1848-49; compiling that work, I spent the labour the first of which, absolute or "pure" Ligorio, 10 vols., Mechlin, 1845; Homo Scavini, Theologia Moralis Universa, this was my principal task, to select ably be observed and inferred from bridge, 1880; article "Probabilisme," from such a mass of opinions, those de- attending circumstance, such as an in Richard and Girand, Bibliotheque cisions which, on the one hand, should inaudible whisper, or a qualifying Sacree, vol. xix., 29 vels., Paris, 1822uphold the obedience due to the pre- gesture) does not, they allege, fall 27; Besombes, Morales Christiana, 2 cepts of God and the church, and on under the face of Innocent XI., and is vols., Toulouse, 1745 (the best of the the other should not add burdens always lawful for a just cause. The anti-probabilist treatises; Meyrick, which God has not imposed, by binding reason of this opinion is that, if it were Moral and Devotional Theology of the everyone to that perfection which, not permissible to use non-pure mental Church of Rome, according to the through human weakness, is morally restriction, there would be no lawful Teachings of S. Alfonso de Liguori, London, 1857; Charge of Archdeacon

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