Career of Abraham Lincoln as an Example for Young Men of Today

dustrious and brave.

that some fellow human being has actually cess. And so it is that Lincoln's life is a the workers out of dreams. practical help to young men.

which grew into a holocaust of concurring humble homes—they came up through hard man loses his enthusiasm he has begun to purpose, were lit in the breast of Bona- conditions to the power which they tow die in soul. parte by "Plutarch's Livea." It is said wield, and I am sure that there are a milthat he pored over them so many times lion young men on farms, in villages and I say this word to parents and to all peothat he almost knew them by heart. Alex- among the working classes of our citizens ple of mature age: If you have a friend, ander. Caesar, Luculius and others of that burning with an unexpressed determina- never let him lose his enthusiasms, even stern breed of human mastery produced tion to make their lives count for something though they make him appear bizarre, exin the consciousness of the young Corsican big, something sweet and helpful and satis- travagant and grotesque. Enthusiasms are something like a frenzy for conquest. And fying. It is to such young men as this that the fires that drive the engine of life; put no man can know how many tongues have Lincoln's life is a personal message—a di- them out and your engine may be there, a been set to music that thrilled and com- vine word of guidance spoken by the mouth perfect machine, but motionless and withmanded great public audiences, legislative of God himself through the deeds and out use-a thing of potential might, but, bodies and finally the nations themselves character of this mighty and beloved after all, no more than assembled scrap by young men having read the old Greek's America. fascinating brochures on Cicero and Demosthenes

to do the like.

He Knew Poverty.

For Lincoln, too, was in like case with these young men of whom I am now speak-The truth is that every young man who ing-yes, and far worse case. He, too, has the stuff in him is searching out the knew poverty, its bitterness, its disadvanlives of men who have achieved things tages, its cruel hardships, and yet this povthroughout all history and is determining crty of which you, young man, are complaining Lincoln turned into the gold of

Personally, I believe in prayer. Napoleon-a new type and a better model. the foundation for a real and effective However you work it out, whatever the This is a nation of plain people-that is learning. He, like you, young man, had reasons may be, the fact remains that what Lincoln called us. He said, "God no chance to acquire that polish which is tangible and definite results follow intelli- must have liked the plain people, he made supposed to come from the mingling with gent prayer. But prayer is not enough, so many of them." Much of the vitality so-called cultured people, and yet he was Neither is counsel and advice. Of course, of this republic-all of it, perhaps-is due wise enough to see that this polish and culthis is a bromidic commonplace, so ancient to the fact that up to the present time we ture so prized by those who do not go that it is tiresome, but I must state it to are still near the soil and our strong men deeply into human life weakens native complete the point I am making. The ordi- come from the grass roots. While Lincoln's strength in more cases than it improves mary human mind is so constructed that life cannot be an inspiration to young men conduct. Ingersoll said a great half truth there must be the influence of example, unhappily born among the idle rich and the when he declared that colleges are places There are few of us who can break a new so-called better classes of our country, ex- where brickbats are polished and diamonds path; we require some stronger one to cept in a vague, dilettante and theoretical are dimmed. That is not entirely true, of blaze the trail for us. We see the ad- way, his life is a perfect mold into which course. The college is not to be sneered at, vantage of wise counsel, but that counsel the young men of the plain people can even by this great master of eloquence. needs to be vitalized by the knowledge pour and run their forming characters and By all means get a college training if you become Lincolnesque. And that means to can, but if you have to choose between lived it and that in his living it he has become honorable, industrious and brave- having your energies tamed, your enthuproved its fruitfulness for power and suc- practical idealists, the achievers of visions, slasms quenched and your self-confidence honeycombed with doubt on the one hand I find that most young men who are be- and a college education on the other hand, I suppose that no one any longer ques- ginning to do things in literature, politics turn from the latter as you would from an tions that fact that the fires of ambition, or business first saw the light of day in attractive but destroying drug. When a

iron. I find that enthusiasms are the children of our faiths. Lincoln never lost his because he never lost his faith in things. He believed in things-believed in a great many things, and they were all big things. And he believed in them enough to work for what he believed in. That is one reason why he rose high above being a mere politician.

that has now become accepted national break and your bones are weary you are wards. dogma. Yet when it was proposed it was, not only earning your wage and all that. Don't get the idea that his was a plan of thought its suggestion would for the location of the seat of government little company of enthusiasts for the new for place and power.

BY SHELBY M. CULLOM.

who, with a great majority of the people,

places inplicit faith in him and felt cer-

tain that he would carry the country

save the union. This was especially true

I called upon him at the White house a

through the awful crises' and eventually

"For," says the worth-while young man advantage by the alchemy of steady de- fireless-mere forms of words; they might as strong as you can make yourself in happiness. The man who has tasted pate significant whisperings of this moral countries. (Copyright, 1939, by the Chicago Tribune.) to himself, "what any man has done I termination and the elemental virtues. Lin- as well have been spoken by phonographs, every way if you survive the struggle with de froi gras commonly has a calloused sellor the voice of our conseience becomes HEN a man child is born into can do," and when the young man says coin, too, like you, young man, had little The accepted platform of the hour aroused it. It is too bad, and I do not like it a bit. palate which really tastes nothing at all softer, more indistinct and finally we canthe world this should be the that he says rightly and has taken the opportunity for education-far less, indeed, not even the listening interest of the dele- But the scientific truth is that the world that is normal. The blase man never has not hear it even in the largest things. prayer of all who hole well for first step to prove it. So Abraham Lin- that the poorest circumstanced of any of gates who voted for it. Not one out of ten has no more use for weaklings any real fun. These months and years of him: May be be honorable, in- coin becomes to us as much of a type and you, and yet by sheer intelligence persist of them knew what it contained. But the among human being than the jungle bitter hard work which Lincoln's example which lincolness a model as Caesar and Alexander were to tently applied made his lack of schooling other men did know what their proposed has for weaklings among animals, bids you do will make your daily pleasure, Napoleon—a new type and a better model, the foundation for a real and effective platform was. They believed in it; they Business and politics, and literature, because they make for your daily health.

> Toiled with His Hands. So by the impulse of industry within his vice.

indifference of the men who unintelligently them, too. No "pull" can haul you to the humor abounds. voted them down. They had Lincoln's higher places and keep you there-never faith, and therefore Lincoln's enthusiasm. forget that an instant.

Things to Remember.

But we are now speaking of the larger Remember that there are hundreds of things of life; let us get down to the more thousands of other young men who mean immediate and practical. Lincoln worked- to have the very place of which you are tolled, I mean, tolled physically, tolled with dreaming. Remember that tens of thoushis hands. He did not do this because he ands of these young men have physical had to. He was a poor boy, of course, had constitutions as strong as exen; that their hardly enough to eat, indeed, and not muscles are like steel wire; that their enough to wear, but the whip of poverty lungs are like leather beliews; their stomnever yet drove an unwilling young man to achs unconscious of indigestion and quite industry. Lincoln's father, for example, able to convert parched corn into brain was poorer than he was, and yet he was and brawn. Remember that their nerves shiftless, and what we would now call are like insulated wires, able to withstand lazy. His neighbors called him "a ne'er any shock; that in stress of necessity they do weel." There was many another boy can go for days and nights without sleep. and young man placed precisely as Lincoln Remember that their wills are as deter- of view of the nicest points of delicate was who preferred to go fishing rather mined and undeviating as the flow of ocean honor Lincoln's life is finer than that of

blood Lincoln chose to work-work persis- How can you expect to win in contest tently and systematically. He never would with this great horde of physical and menhave been president of the American re- tal hardihood unless you are similarly public if he had not done so; or, what is trained and equipped? And I don't know far noble;, the greatest humanist, except- how you can better be trained and equipped ing only Jesus, that the world has ever than by vividly studying Lincoln's life and methods and following them-I mean study-I have observed this curious thing-that ing, actual studying, that will make your sheer physical industry builds character head whirl; not a languid and comfortable not only physical power, but those glorious duties which fate finally called upon him virtues of gratitude, fidelity, truthfulness to discharge. You will find that Lincoln and courage-not always, of course, but worked-worked all the time; that he con-I once attended a national convention generally. So Lincoln's example in this re- trived to make every step he took upward foundly right in that. We all start with pollution of unworthy expediency taints where a new propaganda of sound eco- gard means this to you, young man; That on the ladder manufacture him more than some degree of conscience, some of us with the stream of those noble ideals from which nomic reform was proposed-a program when you work until your tendons almost enough strength to take the next step up-

of course, not popular. Nine-tenths of the but what is far more important you are glum and sullen work. He found infinite convention were mere politicians, there quite unconsciously to yourself building up zest in it. Laughter and fun wove threads EBRASKA'S capital was not consisted of but thirteen members, was only for the purpose of nominating this and strengthening those fibers of character of color through the solid and useful platform that would catch as many groups in a few years you meet the world and hood. Indeed, I thing that that exubercause the men giving the name The act was entitled, "An act to provide of voters as possible. Nobody except the challenge it not only for a livelihood, but ance of life which we call joy comes only to the toller. I have observed as I have arouse the hatred of "copper- of the state of Nebraska and for the erec- set of principles believed in anything at And right here let me say that when you gone along through life that luxury is head" democrats, who were moving the tion of public buildings thereat." It speci- all. The nominating speeches were tame, do meet the world you will have to be just usually the parent of vice, but never of

fought for it; their speakers spoke with and art are all looking for the strongest Only the normal man has that true sense words that burned even through the ley and best equipped and they will have of proportion in which the sunshine of

But "keep everlastingly at it" is not the only thing that Lincoln's life teaches you young men. If that were all it taught it are burgiars who are as steadily industrious, and all of us know of eminent but lect and selfishness.

Splendid Drama of Honor.

your blood you could far more easily commit suicide than do a dishonorable thingyes, even a mean thing. From the point than systematically to labor, earning hon- currents; that their minds are trained and Washington, who in many other respects est money as an instrument of increasing resourceful. And finally remember, above was a greater man than Lincoln. Perhaps power; young men who preferred to go out all, that unaided triumph over years of of our pre-eminent and typically American and hunt wild tu keys rather than split numberless difficulties and obstacles has public characters only Seward is the equal rails or build flatboats or grub stumps, made them resourceful and instant in de- of Lincoln in his exquisite sense of not only large phases, but also the smallest details of honor. As a practical asset it is hard to make you realize how far this goes. By being crafty another man will beat you in this trade in business or that turn in politics, but his very successes are the grave diggers of his ultimate and permanent victory. For do you not see that by a steady and undeviating adherence to the commands of your conscience you build up a public opinion regarding yourself which quite as surely as it builds muscles. I reading of some incidents of this great is more valuable to you, even in a prachave seen that the boy who works, develops man's years of preparation for the lofty tical way, than gold in your coffer or the reins of present power in your hands?

It was Lincoln's idea that conscience can be cultivated and I think he was prolecting this, that and the other to us in- outselves.

In the moral and mental philosophy of the great presidents of Yale university, an illustration is used which burned itself into my memory. Said this remarkably clearly written book: "Neglect your conscience for a month and it becomes debased and all but extinct; cultivate it for a month and it becomes as delicate as a woman's blush."

That is just what Lincoln did. Not that would do very little. It is said that there he was a Miss Nancy or a fool, no No gambler on the stock exchange was shrewder than he; "no "confidence man" far from admirable directors of great af- understood human nature more perfectly. fairs who work to the limit of strength and He dealt with men as he found them; he the point of exhaustion utterly unguided did not go about sermonizing in season and by conscience or by anything except intel- out of season until he became a nulsance and a bore. Quite the reverse. What he did was to live up to his ideal of personal honor every minute of every day, so that Lincoln's life is a splendid drama of even his enemies—and he had hosts of honor. If you get the Lincoln spirit into them, good, hot, hating, red-blooded enemies-were compelled to say that, "Lincoin won't lie or won't cheat; we can depend upon that,"

Real Truth and Real Men.

Some so-called truths disappear even as they are uttered, just as some men are old at the hour of their birth. Such truths and men are not the real truths and the real men. The real truths are those that are always youthful; the real men are those who are as vital in mind and in spirit when their bodies approach the grave as they were youthful in mind and spirit when they first encountered the world. The problem of life is youthfulness; the search for the philosopher's fountain of youth has been amending and yet the fountain of youth for brain and heart is near to every one of us. We may drink and be immertal so far as the spirit is concerned if we be sure that the waters we quaff are those of the elemental virtues of industry, henor, and courage; and if we make certain that no a great deal less than others, but by neg- it should be our daily practice to refresh

How City of Lincoln Got Its Name

This is the view of an historic event in the state's chronicle of events, advanced for the public buildings had to be furnished by Albert Watkins of Lincoln, editor of by the promoters and this is the reason "The History of Nebraska," who has made Mr. Watkins says "Lincoln was financed careful research in the early legislative by Otos county." records and who has corroborated his story

days. Mr. Watkins believes the removal of the certain the naming of the city was a mere shrewd financiers. incident and not a token of respect and The Washington county representatives

acclaim and the bill went through the house and senate as if on greased ways. It was quickly signed and the work of exploitation in Lancaster county was begun

Legislature procedure was fully as lively in the beginning of Nebraska's history as It is sometimes at present. Members played for time in much the same way, used devious methods to accomplish their ends and often played for high stakes. Mr. Watkins is confident that the removal of the capital city from Omaha was engineered by members from Otoe county with a view

Bellevue, where I. Sterling Morton first dent of the air line which later was the heard. Before leaving Washington I called as the successor of Congressman John T. resided. Governor Burt, after whom Burt nucleus of the Northwestern road in Ne- upon the president, and asked him: "Mr. Stewart. I boldly entered the room of of government. He was there two days features of the location of the new city. sit down." I told him I wanted to talk visits to Washington, and found, much to few words that passed between them. They when he died, and when his successor, Thomas B. Cuming of Iowa, was named, influences from Omaha were instrumental in his selection of the then, as well as Sheldon, father of ex-Governor Sheldon. The strong men were against him. He replied, me, as I was about to withdraw, said. Mr. Chase would do his duty, and so the Nebraska a present of two immenses now, metropolis of the state for the seat of government. The location remained in from Bellevue to Nebraska City and retained his home there until he died.

Otos county interests were never sallsfied after their defeat and repeated at- were chosen a commission to select the name was marked, and as he went down location to a point northeast of Lincoln and to call it Douglas City. This failed. Other attempts were without result until finally the Otoe people mustered enough strength in 1867 to win. They thought then by removing the site to a point away from Omaha and also a short distance from their own county seat, that Nebraska City would be the chief city of Nebraska and would continue to remain the supply depot for the interior settlement and especially of the newly created town.

The removal bill was introduced in both house and senate—in the house by Mr. Crowe and in the senate by William A. Presson, who lived in the tenth district, which was Richardson county. Governor Butler had called a special session for May 16, 1567, especially to take up this matter.

Mr. Presson introduced his bill June 4; it passed the senate June 11; passed the house June 13; and was signed by the chief

While the strife was on the anti-removalists exercised every art known to the legislators for delay, but the majority was sinst them, as the record reveals determined and certain action. When the measure was about to come up for third reading the name of the new capital, which in the bill was designated "Capitol City" be changed to "Lincoln." He had lost in every attempt to stay the removalists and was fighting for every possible advantage. however small. A delay of a day in debating the name, he thought, might give opportunity to devise some scheme whereby

To Mr. Patrick's surprise the "copper heads" from Otoe county, who despised Lincoln as a man and had supported their home papers in abuse of him, received the new and much more euphonious name with willingness. The dilatory motion prove no delay at all. The only stop it provided was that taken to pass it by acclamation.

named Lincoln for love of the eight to five. The house passed the bill man or defeating that one, of fixing up a which will be the determining things when monotony of his youth and young manemancipator-president, but be- by twenty-five to fourteen.

seat of government from Omaha in 1867 and fied that at once a university and agriculmight result in slight advantage in the tural school combined should be provided legislative fight and possibly prevent re- as well as a portion of a new capitol building and the state penitentiary, the latter in a location adjoining the city. Money

Augustus F. Harvey, a strong and bitter by views of living men, prominent in early democrat member of the legislature, was the surveyor who laid out Lincoln. All the Otoe members were of his type, unhestcapitol from Omaha was purely for pur- tating in denunciation of anything repubposes of real estate speculation and he is lican or of any man, republican, but

reverence for the name of the president. Who deserted to the removalists were Mem-J. N. H. Patrick of Omaha, recently de- bers Unthank and Slater, Senator Davis ceased, was responsible for the name. He was the third Washington county member. suggested it while the bill providing for Besides Senator Patrick the other mem-removal was pending third reading in the ber from Douglas county was Isaac S. senate and did it in the hope that Otoe Hascall. Senator Patrick gained national county democrats, who despised Abraham prominence in the fight to secure the Orecounty democrats, who despised Abraham on elector for Tilden, and he was a strong the war dragging its bloody trail the entired as much as the republicans of the gon elector for Tilden, and he was a strong the war dragging its bloody trail the entired as much as the republicans of the gon elector for Tilden, and he was a strong the length of his administration, the loved him, would rebel at the title partisan. Knowing the minds of the Otos other means. The name was accepted with red flag, but it had the effect of the olive branch. Mills S. Reeves and W. W. Wardell

were leading Otoe senators. Every wire was pulled to induce the members to favor the new location. It was fight of members living north of the Platte river and those living in the south which was won by votes of the two house one senator and by one member from Dakota and one from Dodge deserting and ment. sidng with the members from south of the

Shortly after the project was accom- a short time after my election as a member plished, a grant of seventy-five sections of the house of representatives. I had land in Washington county was made by been visiting in Washington and spent conreal estate that would follow. How it was ern Nebraska Air line, which was to run members and senators, and it seemed to soon." scheme of removal, however, originated in with a smile. "It is not quite so bad as the brains of the Otoe county men and they that," and with that he took up a copy of cabinet out come. T. P. Kennard of Lincoln was mark that there were many congressmen secretary of state and then lived in Wash- on his side, and turning to the list of ington county. John Gillespie was auditor senators and representatives he went over and David Butler was gove nor. These three it for my benifit. I saw that nearly every

Lincoln's Relations With the Congress friend I have:" "He's not for me now, but thing of a radical in the house, and al-(Copyright, 1909, By the Chicago Tribune.) I can win him over," and so on, I found though his radicalism had in a way aided ONGRESS in the days of Eincoln that he knew almost positively how every Lincoln, there were times when it grew too

ing body, jealous of its preroga- were for him. tives, just as it has always been An Interesting Catalogue. today. Prisident Lincoln was freely criti- had not larged when he went to Washing- and do about as I wanted." as he had outside; but there were others

proved to be true.

national credit poor, taxes mounting solved by congress, it can be readily seen pened that I was called upon to announce that it was exceedingly important that the the terrible news to the great crowd as president should know intimately and judge sembled in the old state house square in correctly the men whose support he must Springfield. seek in nearly every project he was called

was seldom, if ever, mistaken in his judgnewly elected speaker of the Illinois house few months before he was assassinated and which I took delight in using.

"Good-bye, Mr. President," said I. "I will be down in Washington with you one reaping a rich reward in the sale of the state for the construction of the North-

accomplished will make one of the inter- from DeSoto to Fremont, but which was me that scarcely any of the strong men After a few years I kept my promise, esting chapters in the narrative he is never actually constructed for more than were in favor of the president. I was and immediately following my election to five miles out of DeSoto. The land was greatly impressed and concerned on account the house I took a trip to Washington to The capitol city was for two days at traded to John I. Blair, who became prest. of the number of adverse criticisms I had look over the field of my coming labors, county was named, on arriving from South brasks. Real estate in Lincoln also was Lincoln, do you allow anybody to talk to Secretary Nicolay at the White house, as boomed and the sale of lots was one of the you about yourself." He said, "Certainly, I had been accustomed to do during my In the legislature at the time there was with him a little about what I had seen and my surprise, that I had broken in on a one member of the present legislature, heard around congress since coming here, conference between the president and Sec- thanked him in a few words, and the presi- Tennessee for the marble from which to J. Majors. There was also Lawson and said it seemed to me that most of the retary Seward. President Lincoln, seeing dent simply responded that he hoped that cut the statue and the southern state made "Come in, Cullom,' and, turning to his interview closed. term? Well, he was beaten for re-election

Brilliant Crowd. senden of Maine, who succeeded as secre-P. Chase, whom many people (including ceeded him in the office so well that the gard to it is not here induiged." himself) thought indispensable, and succountry never felt the change. There was John Sherman in the senate, even then one greatest secretaries of the treasury; Thaddeus Stevens in the house, who wielded an influence second to none; Charles Sumner, one of the great men of his day, who filled a peculiarly important place in the history of his time, then serving as chairman of the foreign relations committee. Senator Trumbull of Illinois was one of the leaders of the upper house and was recognized as one of the great lawyers of the nation. Hendricks of Indians, Wilson of Massa-Missouri, Chandler of Michigan, were then he became the foremost volunteer officer of

Some of His Colleagues.

I regarded Thaddeus Stevens as the domican political life later. There was Voorhees of Indiana, William B. Allison of elbow during his fierce struggle in debate with Biaine some years later. Owen Loveof his death was brought to Mr. Lincoln, se spoke of him. Lovejoy had been some dark days as a guiding angel.

was a conservative, hard work- man stood, and the great majority of them strong for the good of the cause in hand. Speaking of Lovejoy on this occasion Mr. Lincoln said: "He was one of the best men but there was far more intense. It was an interesting catalogue of per- in congress. If he became too radical I -excitement, bitter feeling, and sonal characteristics, and I knew then that always knew I could send for him and talk general interest in congress than there is Abraham Lincoln's habit of studying men it over and he would go back to the floor

cised; he had bitter opponents in congress, ton, and I saw, too, that he had a perfect Shortly before Mr. Lincoln was nominated knowledge of congress and its personnel. as a candidate for a second term Salmon P. I well recall a comment I heard him Chase, a member of his cabinet, had quietly make, concerning James G. Blaine, who undertaken to secure the nomination for was then in the house. Blaine had made himself. I was in Washington when the sea speech that day that had attracted at- cret letter written by Senator Pomeroy urgtention. Lincoln said of him, "Blaine is ing politicians to support the Chase candi-

That was his way of looking at things. He was of too kindly a dep sition, too great Five years previous he had departed a man, to punish snyone for being against upon to undertake. Lincoln knew his men. from Springfield for Washington, never him, but at the same time he was more far-There was never a president of the United to return. I clasped hands with him at seeing than others. He knew that to re-States who could so well and so correctly parting, and there passed between us a move Chase would only make a martyr of members from Washington county had the judge men as Abraham Lincoln, and he conversation which strengthened my de- him; to send him back to Ohio would only Curry, a local sculptor, engaged to make termination to go to congress. I was the place him in a position to make trouble for the statue. That was back in 1893, and for the administration, and so he simply let all these years the marble has rested on of representatives, and Mr. Lincoln had him alone, which was by far the wisest the capitol grounds, understurbed except the officers of the association that the just attained his title "Mr. President," thing to do, until Mr. Chase resigned once the once. too often, and then, one day, much to the chagrin of his secretary of the treasury, monument to Lincoln was undertaken in of Holt county has introduced a bill in the he accepted his resignation.

Chase came to the White House to thank promulgated his order in conformity justice. The door was ajar and I heard the youd the starting point. were both extremely dignified. Mr. Chase Mr. Curry negotiated with the state of

The message to congress the year I was were the ones chiefly interested in the the congressional directory, with the re- my old friend Stewart, who was here last elected was, as I recall it, a marvel of succinciness and frankness as to actual con- house from Lincoln, introduced a bill apditions prevailing in the land. A sunny propriating \$16,000 for a monument to Linand optimistic view of every situation was There were many great and interesting taken, however, and if the people wished nen in both the house and senate in those to take a gloomy view of even disastrous terrible days during the civil war, and war episodes it was their own doing. At many of them continued leading figures the time the message was written General during the days of reconstruction immedi- Sherman was attempting his famous march ately following. With many of these I of 390 miles directly through the insurwas personally and later became more or gents' region. There were plenty of foreless intimately acquainted. There was Fes. bodings at Washington as to the eventful tary of the treasury the dignified Salmon ject in his message with these few words, after stating the undertaking: "The result not yet being known, conjecture in

In other words, Mr. Lincoln intimated to

bridges until they were reached. However, there was contained in that message to congress, when the war was nearly over, a note of determination which left no doubt Lincoln still believed the sentiments he had expressed in his great speech wherein he not stand," a speech which I heard him deliver, by the way, and I must confess that it was an utterance which was a bulwark to me in those trying days when determination only gave way to doubt and fear. Those were dark days, but how soon was

in their prime. John A. Logan was during to come vindication of Lincoln's diagnosis the early part of Lincoln's administration that the issue could only be tried by war a member of the house, resigning in 1861 and decided by victory. In the early days of spring came the campaigns around Rich. stand, where he accepted bitter and unconditional surrender.

To Lincoln was given but a glimpse were others who became famous to Amer- power of rebellion broken, but was sent to his eternal reward before he saw the authority of the union established in all the rebellious states. He was permitted to go up into the mountain, Nebo, and to catch pied a seat and was practically at his a glimpse of the promised land of a repermitted to cross the border that separated it from the wilderness of civil war. joy represented one of the Illinois districts With his gentle but firm manner he had previous to my own term in the house. I led congress to do his bidding. The rising was at the White House when the news curtain of succeeding years has only served to show the soul of wisdom which that legand I recall the kindly manner in which islative body had before it during those

HOUGH Nebraska is a soldier be transmitted to his successor in office state and its early history is the if not used during his term of office.

No Monument at Nebraska's Capital

monument to the general of its

Many efforts have been made to erect a monument to President Lincoln on the state capitol grounds, but every effort has Appropriations have been made for the terprise. No salaries are to be paid to the

feated. Once the work proceeded sufficiently far funds when necessary. that the stone was delivered to the state house grounds and there for years served as a bench for capitol visitors. Until finally one day, about three years ago, the State soliciting and all are asked to contribute Board of Public Lands and Buildings concluded to clean up and the marble blocks had to go. A horse was hitched to them one of the rising young men of our coun- dacy came out, and I was among those who place in the rear of the boiler house, where and they were dragged over the grass to a amongst those who knew him best. With try," an assertion which succeeding years urged that Chase be turned out of the cabinet, and I so expressed myself to the presi- ple and recalled only by those who have I well recall the morning when the mes- dent. He replied: "Let him alone; he can in season and out of season labored for a fund payable at the call of the treasurer.

The marble blocks were a present from not later than February 12, 1909. eled. The gift signified truly the union of was done, some effort made to collect funds to complete the work, and John

The first organized effort to secure a 1887, when Mr. Sargent, a member of the house appropriating \$15,000 for the erection No more striking illustration of Mr. Lin- Abe Lincoln post, Grand Army of the Re- of the monument, which added to the coln's magnatimity can be given than his public, of David City, proposed that \$10,000 which will re raised by the efforts appointment of Mr. Chase to be chief jus- be raised among the old soldiers for the of the association, will make \$25,000 for tice of the United States a few months after erection of the monument on the grounds the work. However a prominent Lincoln he had accepted his resignation as secre- of the state. It was intended then to have lawyer had agreed to raise \$15,000 provided tary of the treasury. It so happened that the monument on the grounds of the State the state appropriated \$25,000 which would I was in Mr. Nicolay's office when Mr. university. The department commander buy for Nebraska the finest Lincoln monuthe president for his appointment as chief the resolution, but it was never pushed be-

Then came the John Curry project in 1893.

The legislature of 3903 made the third atcoln to be erected on the state house grounds. In its meanderings through the legislature there was attached to the bill an amendment providing that this appropriation should become available only when the city of Lincoln contributed a like Notwithstanding this amendment was sufficient to kill the bill, its sponsors never gave up hope and even carried the reasure to the supreme court to establish its legality, when it was attacked. The bill passed both houses regularly, but in the confusion incidental to final ajournment, the bill failed to receive the signature of the speaker of the house, and the president of the senate. When Governor Mickey signed the measure he made a notation to this effect, but he held it legal and after him the supreme court also es tablished its validity. But the city of Linin the minds of those who read it that coin was too busy with other matters to raise its share of the money necessary, so Nebraska never had to make good on its

Since that failure there has been a quiet agitation going on among the old soldiers and others and this took final shape at the banquet given by the Young Men's Republican club of Lincoln just one

Addison Walt, deputy secretary of state introduced a resolution which was adopted by the ciub, providing for the incorpora tion of the Abraham Lincoln Centennial Memorial Association of Nebraska. The governor of the state at that time, George L. Sheldon, was made president, and the and the days of reconstruction, but there the promised land. He lived to see the state treasurer, L. G. Brian, the treasurer of the association, with Mr.-Wait as secretary. Following is the plan adopted by this association:

First. This monument to be erected on the state house grounds in the city of Lincoln, the site to be designated by the officers of the association

Second. The funds for the erection of the same shall be raised jointly by individual contributions and appropriations by the legislature.

Third. The state treasurer is hereby made the custodian of all funds subscribed and paid for this purpose and said funds are to

story of the soldier ploneer, as Fourth. The secretary and the corresa state it has builded no lasting ponding secretary are authorized to use such methods as they may deem expedient

armies, the great emancipator. for raising the funds and promoting the success of the association. Fifth. The officers of the association are been futile. Old soldiers who followed the hereby authorized to expend a sum not to flag through the great war of the rebellion exceed 10 per cent of the amount of the tried it. State legislatures have tried it. contributions for the promotion of this en-

purpose, but always and every time there officers and no money expended except for has been in these appropriation bills some plans and specifications, postage, stationproviso whereby the attempt has been de- ery, printing, stenographic work, necessary clerk hire and commissions for raising Sixth. The raising of this fund is in no sense to be considered a partisan or local undertaking, but shall be state wide in its

regardless of political or religious affiliation, age, color or sex. The officers of this association are to be succeeded as their successors to the various state offices are Seventh. Pladges may be made to this

It is desired that all contributions be made the state of Tennessee and they were de- Eighth. If for any reason the money

livered to Nebraska, and out of them the subscribed and paid cannot be used for the above purpose on or before July 4, 1910, the same shall be refunded (unless otherwise the blue and the gray. Some little cutting agreed), less 10 per cent of the amount which may be used for necessary expenses as provided for in section five.

So far the response of the public has been very generous, but it was thought by public treasury should be drawn upon to complete the fund. So Representative Henry

On the birthday of Lincoln, February 12, the Grand Army of the Republic of the state and the schools will by special programs do honor to the martyred president and at the same time they will take up a collection to add to the fund already raised.



