

ARTICLE,
published in the National Magazine
Boston, April 1905.

No.26 Volume 9.

Subject:
Last visit to Lincoln Monument in the mountains.



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Last visit to Lincolnwood in the morning.

Pub: "National Magazine" Boston
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General Howards last visit to Lincoln Monument in the
Mountains.

My readers asked me what sort of a monument is there erected to Abraham Lincoln in the mountains?

I answered that the monument to which I refer is a young University with ~~all~~^{over} the vigor and virility of youth in it. I think ~~and~~^{and} the people generally think that a school, a college, or a University is the the best possible monument to Abraham Lincoln. The people do enjoy looking at the rugged features of Abraham Lincoln as they appear in paintings^s all over the land, and in busts carved out or moulded to represent him such as one that I saw yesterday which is just finished here in New York by A Lincoln Seligman. The artists endeavor to portray the features of this noblest of men. Some catch peculiar phases of his being; - peculiar characteristics often singular and striking. The bust of Mr. Seligman shows what a great strain was put upon him to create those deep lines on his haggard back ground. The curves around his mouth show something of the gentleness of his nature and how he cared for suffering humanity while he was forced to carry on the great war when he was loving peace better than war, and when he loved even his enemies. But after all no monument in stone or in bronze or in marble or on the canvas can ever do more than indicate the superb man whom now all nations praise and all parties ~~revere~~^{revere}. I once wrote and love to repeat it that the word University is a ~~proper~~^{deserved} honor to Lincoln, and it is a proper place to set it up in that corner of three states which is called Cumberland Gap. The gap itself not the village is in the states of Tennessee, of Kentucky and Virginia. It is in the hill country on the edge of which Lincoln was born.

An old log-church about as big as Lincoln's log house, the house where Lincoln ~~was born~~^{first saw the light} stands near the bright little village of Cumberland Gap. It is old ~~indeed~~^{indeed} and decaying and will not last much longer. Beside it, when I was young more than ~~fifty~~⁶⁰ years ago, at least once a year during his political life, Henry Clay with features as strange and marked as those of Lincoln himself stood there. The little church was ~~close~~^{close} behind him. The lofty hills and mountains rose all around him, the mists

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General Howard's last visit to Lincoln Monument in the Mountains

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^{where there} the mists and the sunshine making beautiful pictures to half ^{veil} and crown their crests. The Gap across the well defined range was high up to his right hand.

What a remarkable place for the orator. There were not two hundred people in the village at that time, men, women, and children ^{all} together. Prior to ^{Clay's} his coming the mountaineers had come down into that valley from every direction. They came on

horses and mules. There were no roads for wagons and the trails were rough, in places almost impassible. I can see them now ^{then} illustrated ^{before my mind's eye} from my varied mountain

experience with never less than two persons on a horse or on the back of a mule and often three and four clinging to each other, ^{and to the maul} father, mother and children. Their

dress was peculiar, the broad hats the color of the earth drawn down over the eyes of men with ^{hony} figures and long limbs, the women with deep sun-bonnets, hiding themselves within them with their white capes floating over their shoulders and the children often hatless and always barefooted. Sometimes five thousand came and sometimes

more. Henry Clay ^{stretched} forth his hand and told them of the future when wagon roads would exist and in time ^{mail-rails} creep in under the mountain ranges and telegraph lines bring to them all the news of America.

A little more than eight years ago five ^{is} friends sat upon the porch of what is now Harrow-Hall, this was within six hundred yards of the spot ^{which} Henry Clay consecrated with his patriotic appeals and wondering predictions. The roads had come

^{armies} The ^{armies} of the Union had met the ^{armies} of the Confederacy right there, sometimes one prevailing and sometimes the other for all ^{more} Americans; they were ^{about} equally matched.

They cleared out the stones for their wagons and they dug ^{deep} trenches to cover their men from the rifles and cannon of their adversaries. The railroads ^{two} have come ⁱⁿ running under the mountain range, and branching ^{off} close to the little log church;

and the wires, ^{stretching} from post to post are heavy with the news not only of America but of all the world every hour of every day. The Harrow Hall is filled with young pupils and is a part of the academic and ^{university} normal instruction of the Lincoln Memorial

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pupils and is a part of the academic and normal instruction of the Lincoln Normal

One mile northward in the direction of Knoxville, which is sixty five miles off, we find the main part of the great University. Henry Clay could hardly have dreamed of such a thing. Begun as a hotel we find there now a most beautiful stretch of land of about six hundred acres, ^{with a pretentious name of our seaboard} ~~beautiful~~ ^{excellent} land, like a rolling prairie dotted with handsome buildings, and in the season covered with crops of all kinds of farm produce, with a garden of ten acres with macadamized roads left there by the hotel people, ^{roads} ~~roads~~ that the great engineer Waring left there. There is the Grant-Lee Hall with its high tower which was once a hotel-sanitarium. There are the barns and out houses which go with the farm land. There are the mills for grinding the corn, for sawing the logs and for cutting out the shingles. There is the new dormitory for young women put up by the Honorable Samuel P. Avery and his wife, ^{of New York} a generous and noble gift to the mountain youth. There are several points of view from which you can take in pictures of this consecrated country, consecrated as a monument to Abraham Lincoln and dedicated to purposes that were near to his heart. The mountain people were cut off for a hundred years from the ordinary privileges which the rest of us have ^{enjoyed} ~~had~~. They were talked against by aristocratic men and women. Even the slaves because they owned not slaves contemned them and laughed at them giving them names which were calculated to depress them. They had also themselves the old ^{customs} ~~costumes~~ of the Scottish highlanders. The feuds, the ^{patriarchal} ~~patriarchal~~ method of clans and of the heads of households where ~~there~~ the chief always has defended his interests, his family, or his clans with the rifle. Never mind how it came about they fought for us in the Revolution at Kings mountain. Thousands of them came to our help when we most needed them in the great ^{civil} ~~war~~ ^{for} the preservation of the Union. They gave up to us all they could. They stripped themselves, sacrificing their homes, often their families and their lives. No wonder ^{that} the Abraham Lincoln praised in his last interview with me ^{then so} ~~in~~ the fall of 1863, when I was going out ^{there} ~~there~~ to campaign in that vast mountain country I learned to love them myself; they came to meet me by the thousands ^{during} ~~as~~ I marched northward from Chatanooga. But those days are over they are with us now, confederate

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and Union together. We are in the same board of directors. We have worked night and day to ~~make an~~ ^{build up an} institution where those can come who have never had any opportunities for knowledge from books. ^{now} they do come and we have ~~now~~ four hundred and twenty five of these young people getting their knowledge in Harrow Hall, in Grant and Lee Hall and in Avery Hall, and in the ^{out} gardens of an industrial kind, ^{knowledge} and on the farm learning how to do farming as it ^{ought} to be done, and in the mills. It ~~seems~~ ^{they are} like an ^{immense} beehive of activity. ^{our} The commercial department covers every instruction necessary for commercial knowledge both for boys and girls. The typewriting, the type setting are models of industrial enterprise. The work for the girls keeps ^{pace with} the work for the boys so that we begin to be proud of what we call our "industrial department".

My last visit showed me a teacher, a young lady who had just returned from a school which she had been teaching for twelve weeks. She came back for more knowledge and I watched one of our teachers for some time as she instructed this ^{young} teacher in normal methods. I learn ^{that} the young lady had had eighty three pupils, ^{the} most of whom began their education with her. I wish my readers could see her log school house ^{out there} in the mountains where the eighty three boys and girls were eagerly at work trying to make the most of themselves in their simple way. Over one hundred and fifty of such teachers have gone out ^{into the various valleys} from us already to teach in districts more or less destitute. My last visit revealed to me several things, how the ^{really} president, Dr. Stooksbury, and his goodwife, his first assistant ~~I should say~~ went from Grant-Lee Hall to Avery Hall about ~~an~~ eighth of a mile to be at breakfast with their students every day before sun-rise, how professors and teachers were thus early on hand and worked all day at their several tasks; how the Prof. of hygiene a young woman from North Carolina cared for the health of the institution and of the country where the teachers went. The hospital was not quite done but it was much needed whenever the measles approached

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 day to make certain that those who have never had any opportunities
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or any other contagious disease. The young people have the right sort of religious exercises in their chapel; the brief reading of the scripture, the sacred music and the prayers. All denominations are represented and it is indeed a high tone institution in every moral and spiritual aspect.

Our readers will enjoy knowing that the mountaniers are very fond of music. They have had under different competent teachers an excellent orchestra. Teachers & scholars working together. and the mountain voices are clear & resonant. Mrs Patterson, Miss Lang & now Miss Edwards have ^{each} showed what can be done with instruments & with the voice. The results are highly gratifying.

Our Collyer societies (two in number) gratify the boys love for debate. The students of the Newton High School ^{of Massachusetts} & our young men will soon have a joint discussion of the important question - ~~is~~ ^{is} a classical educational course an essential part of a Collyer curriculum. The Lincoln & Newton scholars will come together at Newton Mass.

(6)

about the 22nd or 23rd of May next. I
am glad of this. I wish to see the grand
children of those mountaineers whom
Abraham Lincoln loved & trusted
demonstrate their ability to cope with
our New England youth, and show
how worthy they are of all the
contributions which the Eastern
people have made & are
making to their intellectual
& industrial upbuilding.

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about the 2nd or 3rd of May next.
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Abraham - business card & notes
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