ARTICLE.
Written for Munsey's Magazine,
December 1901.

No.10, Vol.9.

SUBJECT
Lincoln and the Mountain Youth,
A Memorial Institution.
The 26th of September 1863 almost the last words that Abraham Lincoln spoke to me, just as I was about to leave Washington with my command, which was destined for Chattanooga, were concerning Cumberland Gap and the people of East Tennessee. As that interview was the last I had with him before his death, I have endeavored to recall and treasure up what he had especially in his mind.

In manner and words he manifested a peculiar tenderness toward the people of that mountainous region. His largeness of heart took in all. He wanted me to understand and appreciate their worth.

A few months later, about the first of December, after our victory at Chattanooga, Gen. Sherman with the 15th Corps, and I (Gen. Howard) with the 11th, marched a few miles apart into East Tennessee in order to save Burnside, then direfully threatened by Longstreet at Knoxville.

Many of my men were quite short of clothing, some were without overcoats and blankets, and some were barefooted. The kindness of the people was marked, exceeding what we had met in Ohio and Indiana. They supplied us as far as they could; women and children brought food and water, and men would sit down and take
The State of Tennessee. The year has passed since the last word from

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off their shoes and give them to the soldiers who had none. Those mountaineers, as a rule, had a passion for the Union.

As we moved along from valley to valley in our march, I came to understand Mr. Lincoln's confidence in them.

In the ensuing winter, during our bivouac in Lookout Valley, Gen. Von Steinwehr, one of my Division Commanders, kindly rebuilt the log church which had previously to our arrival ruthlessly gone to firewood. Very soon we had schools for the children in the new structure, as well as in the young men's canvas pavilion. The young folks came gladly to these schools from the mountain slopes for miles around. They were eager for knowledge. Simple-hearted, honest, quick to see and to learn, they began to feel that hitherto they had been destitute of the privileges which our northern country-people everywhere possess, and so diligently embraced those we offered.

Again and again my friends and associates have made efforts publicly and privately to start institutions which would reach these mountain people; some of them have been abundantly successful and wonderfully fruitful of good.

Five years ago last spring Hon. Darwin R. James of Brooklyn and Rev. Fred B. Avery of Painsville, Ohio, and two experienced missionaries, our host and hostess, sat with me on the broad
Old War and Navy

3-1888.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

To

Department of the Interior, Attn. Pensions Office,

Dear Sir:

I am a widowed mother of seven children, my husband being a

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Department of the Interior, Pensions Office,

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veranda of what is now the "Harrow-Hall", then the Harrow-School building, situated on a high plateau east of the little village named Cumberland-Gap. The Gap itself, famous in the war, a dip in the lofty range lay beyond the village westward. Fringed with trees and clad with a curtain of clouds it made us wonder what was beyond, till our host told us that it separated us from a Kentucky settlement and village, and that the crest of that rugged mountain range divided Tennessee from Kentucky. Not far from where we sat was the old log church, in front of which Henry Clay used to stand and speak to the people, five thousand and sometimes more.

The remarkable "Four Seasons' Hotel", which had cost over half a million, and which the wreckers had torn down, was only about a mile to the eastward. Its Sanitarium had been spared. It was a large building which might hold 200 students, and the beautiful 600 acres were there with good barn and stable-room and also the macadamized roads that the great New York engineer, the much loved Waring, had surveyed and completed.

Boys and girls were coming and going across the veranda, student girls were doing the work of the Hall under a matron's supervision. We saw industrious lads at work about the grounds; and
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

A reply to your letter of March 1883, enclosing a letter from the Indian Agent of the
Allottee Agency, stating that the allottee had recently taken a trip to the
minutes of an Indian Agency, and that the allottee was in the
process of buying land. It was noted that the allottee was a
reservation with few if any Indian families on it. It was
suggested that the allottee might be interested in learning
about the land purchase and the possibility of buying land
on the reservation. The letter enclosed was signed by the
Indian Agent.

With regards,
[Signature]

[Date]
these were the mountain youths, how civilized! That Harrow School was but a beginning; the village was small, then almost without business; the friends that came to the great "Four Seasons' Hotel" would come no more, and whence would be the future support of the teachers?

As we glanced around and our host and hostess explained where the steep paths and the rugged roads came from, I thought that if five thousand people could come down to that center on their horses from the hills and forests and mountains and valleys, all upon short notice, to hear the voice of Henry Clay, the young people could and would come by the scores and hundreds if they could have a reasonable opening for education. At that time there were fourteen counties, round about that beautiful valley without any school whatever. In answer to the question put by our host: How can we go on? I answered, and my companions endorsed my proposition: "Let us make this a larger enterprise! There could not be a better center." Out of that small beginning has grown the "Lincoln Memorial University".

A capital charter was obtained, so as to organize under it a Board of Directors and different Departments. Already it has a good Normal, a well-started Industrial and such Academic provi-
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Great "You see!" Hotel "Money come to whom it may"

What money do the Indian subsidy or the pension depend

As a strategic resource may our hope any possesses experience

where the steam plenty may the hydraulic troops alone yield. I shall

Oh! the generation people may come away. To that cause on

been possess from the little sea! Ipseudo and monotonous my arm

lame! If keep apart notice to keep the voice of Hymn Only

If every sentence a dissertation remove you appreciation

There these were youthful commutes. Young sports great possibility

very well without any report whatever. In answer to the question

but can not read: How can we do or I understand: my own conversation

entertainment my篇文章: "But in ways have a proper structure.

How could not be a proper concern." "Give me room for the "Provincial Municipal Authority"

A majority express any opinion be as to those tangible matters a

a board of directors and all other departments. Although it may

a board majority a well-ordered institute my own province
sions as may be needed. Its primary and grammar grades must be
kept up for some time to meet the needs of bright and able scholar-
ars who have never before had any opportunities to begin the
study of books. I have been long used to College and Univer-
sity work and I am sure that I never labored with a better Board
of Directors - and this Board has had strong Advisory Boards in
New York and Boston to endorse them in their great enterprise,
especially in their efforts for a proper endowment.

As I had suggested in our first interview, as soon as the
Board of Directors was in practical working shape, they, through
special trustees, purchased the entire Four Seasons' which includ-
ed fertile land for crops and woodland. True, heavy mortgages rest-
ed upon this estate. Some of us for three years went from one
business-man to another; we sent out innumerable letters to Sunday
Schools and Churches. We prayed, we planned and we worked; we tried
the representative missionary bodies; they had too much to do al-
ready and could not help; but the running expenses varying from
$5,000 to $8,000 per year, were diligently raised and always paid;
and at last by the kindness of Mr. Carnegie, the last money, $2300
was given and every mortgage on our property discharged. One of the
trustees had kindly advanced a thousand dollars, a sum he is not able
and to give. This we owe him is all that remains to be paid on the
purchase account; and that for a time we thought he was able and
willing to give. The Sanitarium, much out of repair from some
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,

I have been forced to retire from my work and I am sorry that I have not been able to continue in the position I held. I have always been interested in my work and I am hoping to return to it as soon as possible.

I have been absent from the office for some time due to illness. I hope to be able to return to work as soon as possible.

As an officer of the department, I have been able to provide assistance to those in need. I hope to continue to do so.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
years of occupancy, we partially repaired and moved into it as many students and teachers as it would hold. We named this structure "Grant-Lee Hall". I was asked to call it "Grant Hall" or "Lee Hall". I answered, "Oh, no! we want them joining hands. Their friends have indeed joined hands in this enterprise. The confederate and the union men are in the same Board, working actively to build up the institution. The Harrow School Board of Trustees which preceded us, merged all their buildings and grounds into the one enterprise that we named the Lincoln Memorial University.

We have had opposition. The opposers say: "Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia, that touch each other at the doors of your school assembly, have enough high grade institutions already. There would be no harm in an academy but a university is a misnomer."

I reply that a university is a group of schools and departments, that the word is a proper honor to Lincoln who was born and bred in these mountains; that the university may be down reaching as well as up reaching. We put the plan beneath the necessities of the people. Some students, aided by their work, are able now to enter high departments, while others, educated only in wood-craft, rough farming or mountain ways, need to begin at the threshold of book learning. So we keep all the grades necessary to meet their needs. Our students are mostly working part of the time for their support. They could not go to Knoxville, sixty-five miles away, nor to Berea, one hundred and ten miles to the north in Kentucky. As Moody's schools or seminaries were needed at Northfield, Mass., so are ours at Cumberland Gap.

Again, in time, after the districts round about Cumberland Gap have started and sustained good schools and enough of them, then can...
We have had opportunity the opposite say; "Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia have some good work at the more of their schools. But the same is not true of these. South Carolina, have some good work at a major, put a major, a ministerial to a ministerial."

I reply that a ministerial is a major of a college and a department, and that the work is a proper home to those who want to be preachers. We have some students, who in their work, are able to do a good job in some places, especially in wood-cutting, wood burning, or in ministerial work, need to begin to the training of that field. We try to keep the training necessary to meet their need. Our students are mostly working part of the time for their support, and they cannot go to Kentucky, sixty-five miles away, nor to here. As teachers, one hundred and ten miles to the north in Kentucky.

We have tried to maintain good schools and friendship of them, but can
we abolish the lower grades, preserving the Normal, the Industrial, the Academic, and such other departments as the region and the people may require. What Booker Washington is pleading for in the interest of his race, I am now pleading for and providing for largely in the interest of the white youth of the mountains.

"But, General," says one, "the population is too sparse!"

Indeed it is not. After careful inquiry, a member of our Board and Director reports: "Within a radius of fifty miles are over 230,000 people with no well equipped college." The region chosen for a "Four Seasons' Hotel" is the healthful center for a university.

But will the students come? Our highest number in one year is 368. They are eager to come and apply in larger numbers than we can yet take care of.

Will they work? A little study of our industries and illustrations will answer that question. They who have no money and entreat for work. In type-setting, carpentering, gardening, and general farming they have already astonished their friends.

We have before this date sent forth twenty teachers into the neighboring districts. After their short schools they have returned to us to pursue their studies still further.

Have the girls any industries? Oh, yes! They are taught what an industrious housekeeper ought always to know. In the new girls' dormitory now being built by student labor from the brick making, stone-laying to the final finish, we have a special portion constructed with a view to teach, as they do at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, all the details which pertain to the art of domesticity.

Meanwhile, waiting for these new facilities, the sewing, the care of a room, the making of good bread, and the cooking and proper serving
we applaud the lower grade, recognizing the need for the Industry, the
academic and many other groups to be in the region and he people
may receive. 

'Director Rao removed: "Within a radius of thirty miles the over 500,000
people with no college education, the Region access to a
"Your Scenario, I hope "to the potential center for a University"
but will the students come? Our present numbers to one year in 386.
They are eager to come and supply to larger numbers than we can yet
They can take care of.

will that work? A little study of our institutions and it
institutions will answer that question. They who prove on money
enough for work. In the academic community, immediate and
because many have already exceeded their limit."

We have learned that gape might forty twenty teachers into the
corresponding institutions. After their work is complete they have returned

to us to pursue their studies all the

Have the titles and introduction of, "have that the teacher
what an important component...it's time for us to know, in the new

"title, appointment, new practice, until by statement, how to pursue the right position
and...to know."

"importantly, with a view to teach, as they do in the first Institute
Domestic Science"

in Industry, will the gape, which pertains to the art of communication
with a note, "to be seen, the care of the student, the care of
meanwhile waiting for prove new techniques, the students, the care of
a room, the making of coffee, bread, and the cooking and broken earning

"But General, none of "the population is for special"
of meats and such like work, have been well and successfully taught by most accomplished and self-sacrificing lady teachers. As a rule how able are these mountain youth? We answer that the progress in three years' time is extraordinary. In listening to their school debates, for example, I found that they handled public questions understandingly like experienced men and showed that they had been reading diligently and thinking with care and quick intelligence. In supervising their prize essays and declamations at the last commencement, members of our Board were satisfied with the results. These mountain students are ambitious to excell. They are entering upon a new experience and a strenuous life.

How about the conduct of the young people? It will compare favorably with that in other colleges, in all with which I am acquainted. Quick tempered they are, and sensitive to any fancied encroach-ment upon their mountain freedom; they want all the liberty that they can have consistent with good order; but they do see the reasonable-ness of a good, wholesome discipline.

One of our nicest young women said to two of the Directors as they were riding with her in the cars while en route to her mountain home; "I am so proud! because I have been to every recitation and exercise the whole of this term. I'm going to tell my folks and shall bring back with me for next term my two sisters. I tell you it makes me proud." She said that her hard-working father had put up a frame house of one story, but that there were only two rooms and a kitchen in it; that young woman was beautiful in her health, strength, hope and joyful courage.
of meet and much like work, have been well and necessary team
of meet and much like work, have been well and necessary team.
A little
see some mountain country. We wonder that the problem in
see some mountain country. We wonder that the problem in
in Tetons, like to extraordinary. I continue to work report
because the Tetons are mountain country. I consider that I know that open
patience, like to extraordinary. I continue to work report
because the Tetons are mountain country. I consider that I know that open

we meet difficulty and struggle with care and quick intelligence. In
we meet difficulty and struggle with care and quick intelligence. In

how a new experience and a strange life.
how a new experience and a strange life.

How strong the control of the young people! If will continue
how strong the control of the young people! If will continue

improvisely with that in other colleges, in EIU with whom I am acquainted
improvisely with that in other colleges, in EIU with whom I am acquainted

But quite compared with me, any sensitivity to my language emotional
But quite compared with me, any sensitivity to my language emotional

mean mean their mountain teacher; you mean if the literally that they
mean mean their mountain teacher; you mean if the literally that they

can have consistency with body alike; but they go see the reasonable
can have consistency with body alike; but they go see the reasonable

needs of a cog. Maintain discipline.
needs of a cog. Maintain discipline.

One of our meet young women with two of the director
One of our meet young women with two of the director

as they were light with pen in the case write on route to per
as they were light with pen in the case write on route to per

mountain home! I'm so happy because I have been to each location
mountain home! I'm so happy because I have been to each location

and exercises the for me a farm. I'm going to tell me others and
and exercises the for me a farm. I'm going to tell me others and

self print book, with me in next year by two months. I tell you
self print book, with me in next year by two months. I tell you

If makes me brown. The next fast pen and marking letter had but
If makes me brown. The next fast pen and marking letter had but

as the trace home of one story, but that there were only two rooms and
as the trace home of one story, but that there were only two rooms and

a fiction in it; that young woman was prominent in her part, 'attentive'

hope any today commence.
Is the institution intended as a charity? Far from it. Board determined in the outset that it would be better that every student should pay. The students who work in the industrial connection are credited so much for their labor and arrangements are made at Grant-Lee Hall for the board and lodging of most of those students who come from places outside of Cumberland-Gap and its neighborhood. This board has averaged so much for each scholar, and so much for each teacher. The Grant-Lee Hall Club for messing purposes keeps a direct account with the Treasurer. It is charged with all which it receives from the farm at reasonable rates. We now have 5 ox horses, 2 mules, for work on the farm; also 2 cows for milk and 3 pigs, calves and fowls of different kinds are a part of the products of the farm. The farm thus becomes a feeder to the institution. Provisions from it of grain, potatoes, onions, squash and other vegetables help largely to support not only the students of Grant-Lee Hall but the teachers and boarders at Harrow Hall, which is nearer the village. A large number of pupils, of course, board at home or in private houses when they so prefer, particularly the day pupils who recite in the Church Room and in the Harrow-Hall recitation rooms. Our primary department has thus far been accommodated in one of the churches of the village, situated near and convenient to the Harrow Hall.

To state the case, then, more concisely, the student at the University pays his way entirely, with money, in work or partly in money and partly in work. A scholarship of one hundred dollars, I am assured, will carry a student through one year. With fifty dollars he can, by his credits in the industrial division, easily go through the year and keep up his studies.
To make active use of and experience any institution, you must make it your own. You must work towards making it better that you found it. You must become an active member of the community, not just a passive participant. You must contribute to its improvement, not just consume what it has to offer. You must become a part of the fabric of the institution, not just a tourist. You must make it your own.

The students, the faculty, the staff, and the administrators are all part of the same community. You must work towards making them feel like they are part of your community, not just a part of yours. You must work towards making them feel like they are part of something greater than themselves, something that they can take pride in. You must work towards making them feel like they are part of something that matters.

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We now have in all the departments teachers. The Acting Superintendent lives at Harrow Hall. His wife has assisted him effectively in the care of the girls dormitory and industries. He is so connected with the stable, the Harrow Hall, the Treasurer's Office and other buildings, that he is able to keep in close relationship with all the machinery of the institution.

As years were increasing upon me I found it necessary to diminish some of my activities. Last Commencement, the latter part of May, meeting the Board of Directors at Cumberland-Gap, I begged them to put in my place a new Managing Director. They did so and thus greatly relieved me from stress and anxiety. The new Managing Director, whose name appears in the circular published herewith, has been quite successful in raising the funds for running expenses.

He and the financial agent, going out together, have well canvassed our field of help. I have remained President of the Board of Directors. We are greatly hoping that some men of means may be induced to turn their attention for a while away from the cities and the old institutions to this new field.

Mr. S. Dean Pierson wrote me in the outset of our enterprise, the following inspiring words, "There is no spot in our country at this time where a school can be established that will do as much good for the whole people as the one you contemplate at Cumberland-Gap, Tennessee."

The New York Tribune remarked, "Our readers often do us the honor to accept our estimate of a philanthropic endeavor and take advantage of the opportunity that we point out. We urge them to do so in this instance (referring to our Lincoln Memorial) with a full assurance that they will be rewarded for their faith and generosity."
The editor of the Christian Herald touched a warm place in my heart when he wrote: "We believe that there are multitudes in this broad land to whom the possibility of rearing a monument to the memory of Lincoln, which shall at the same time in educating these people (the mountain youth) fulfill a desire dear to Lincoln's heart, will come as a welcome opportunity for patriotic and Christian service."

My desire is so strong to present the case of these mountain people who have our best blood in them, and yet who have been somehow overlooked and left behind in all our educational privileges, that I am conscious of an inability properly to picture the situation so as to interest my countrymen, that is, sufficiently interest them to induce them to make the endowment of this University liberal and assured. One capitalist, I was told, said why does not General Howard endow it himself? Anybody that knows me and something of my work would answer at once: "General Howard has given all he can. He has worked for the institution for many years without pay and has subscribed sufficiently toward it to cover his own expenses, but he needs help from those who are able and willing to give."

As I see the matter, a half a million of dollars of endowment for this institution, with all the expansion that would come from that sum, would be of larger service than two million in any city of the land. This may seem like boasting, but let our friends remember that we strong men like Webster, Clay, Lincoln, Garfield, Grant and Blaine are from the country and a host of others like them, come from the country. True, young men can go to the cities for education; but it is better that they should be well established in principles, in morals, and in habits of study before they go there,
The option of the Communist March towards a war place in

This is only to warn the possibility of losing a moment to the

memorial of Lincoln's private spirit at the same time in abusing those
people (the mountain country) until a gentle year to Lincoln's peace
will come as a welfare opportunity for protection and Christian work.

The chance to be strong to present the case of these mountain
people who have not been able to keep any of the war have been something
awkward and feel for in all our conscientious privileges, that I
acknowledge my own to be in a position to become the attention and to
such beauty of the mountain, that I sufficiently interested from to
improve him to make no commitment of this University Library

As the matter, a half a million of gallore of cowherd

for this institution. It will only the admission, that any come from

the land. This may seem like possible, but for our University Support,
that some want to make a better name. Some Lincoln's Garrison, Grant and
these movements for may as a part or others like done by
from the county. These names may go to the article for suggestion
improvement in worse, and in parts of each place their in more
In my judgment, the cost in any of the great cities is four to five times as much for each student. We can bring up our Anglo Saxon people to a higher plain of living and thinking and doing for the world's progress more by city schools, academies, colleges and universities than in any other way. The tendency to run to the city for every sort of enterprise and for every privilege of education is not a wholesome one. At any rate, My Countrymen, let us try this experiment as a nucleus for abundant schools, as an example for educators, as a helping hand extended to those who have ability but lack the means to develop it, as a veritable monument to the mountain manhood of Abraham Lincoln, as a contribution to him extend his loving-kindness and tender mercy to the people he loved most. Indeed my desire to see this institution well endowed is stronger than my life. Confident that some patron or patrons will rise up to make this work glorious successful and glorious.