ADDRESS.

Delivered at the unveiling of the Soldiers' and Sailors'
Monument, New York City.

May 30, 1902.

No. 11, Vol. 9.

SUBJECT.

Appropriateness of a Monument to the Soldiers and Sailors of New York.

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New York

THE APPROPRIATENESS OF A MONUMENT TO THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF NEW YORK.

---- 1. New yorki Planding.

New York City has always been a proud metropolis, too conciously great for her citizens to boast. And surely the enlargement which makes it possible to name her "Greater New York" has not lessened her conscious superiority, nor her reputation at home and abroad. The city is already dotted with monuments erected to her great men. In her parks, small and great, from the Brooklyn Heights to White Plains you find them, and they give in the concrete something historic and something representative in every department of public service and private philanthropy. Patriotism is exemplified in granite and in bronze by the figures of great leaders in war and in peace. Here we find representatives in the business world, in the forum, in the press, in literature, in science, in art. By these insignia the history from its feeble beginnings on to its present world-wide expansion is synthetically set forth. Teeming multitudes pay daily tribute to our greatest leader in the Civil War by visiting his magnificent monument erected upon the eastern bank of our great river and calling to mind something of his marvelous career.

Lately I have been pleading, not against monuments, but that we should make them, if possible, more useful, better adapted to fulfil the object we have in view in their erection. Grant's I would have moulded into an institution in the interest of the arts of peace - the peace which became his strongest wish and

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highest hope for his country. Lincoln's best monument will be a group of schools in his own mountains, whose people he seemed to love more than any other associates of his life - a memorial institution to him in those mountains where he was born will bespeak something of the singular loving-kindness of the man. And Washington's greatest tribute will be found in that grand institution which is to be established at the capital of the nation which is to foster the highest reaches of human culture and put the English in its purity and simplicity at the head of the numerous languages of the earth that are to be taught therein.

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But history would lack completeness and patriotism would miss a high exemplification without this proper tribute to the soldiers and sailors of New York who have given the epitome of sacrifice on many a hard fought field that New York might continue to exist and be the foremost city of this nation and probably before its expansion shall cease become indeed and in truth the metropolis of the whole world. There is no boasting in this thought. Such a result is hardly a prophecy - only the direct fulfillment of a present promise, a promise that will be verified to our children or children's children if our governors, the people, remain true to the principles of our great republic.

I may illustrate a little of what the soldiers and

sailors of New York have accomplished by one battle for the republic on the land and another of much smaller proportions but
of hardly less importance, upon the sea. I refer to Gettysburg

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Gettysburg ranges through three days of terrific conflict. No man can depict what the New York soldiers did or how much they contributed to prevent the Confederates from passing what has been called the "high water mark of the Rebellion." There is no part of the field from Willoughby Run past the Chambersburg Pike, the Lutheran Seminary via. Oak Ridge to the east of Barlow's Hill; from the right of Culp's Hill, by the Cemetery Ridge, the Umbrella Trees on to Little and Big Round Top, including the broad front of Devil's Den and the Peach Tree Grove - no part whatever where Union soldiers fought which does not include valiant patriots from the State of New York. were in every corps, in every brigade and division and battery of infantry, artillery and cavalry, so that it may be justly said that without them the army would have been incomplete and insufficient for the great task that Robert E. Lee, with his brave hosts, put upon it. And if you come to commanders a mind the least conversant with the history of that battle will find that wherever there was the heaviest loss, the greatest danger, and the greatest sacrifice there some New Yorker, whose name is now national, was present and exerted no small influence, no subordinate part in scoring for human freedom and national unity a (4) A pieliminon, some 1 18 Days Balle. victory.

When, with a small escort of cavalry, I was approaching that historic field in advance of my troops which were marching from Emmitsburg by two routes, I halted for a few minutes near the high, rough hill now known as Big Round Top. Exhattedx

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I paused as I saw two horsemen riding toward me in order to take in the situation and have some clear conception of my surroundings and what was taking place. Troops were marching across the open fields toward the west, - batteries located here and there were occasionally firing, the smoke puffing up like the steam of a locomotive; flags and bright uniforms were in motion; and the peculiar rattle of musketry, sounding like that of the rapid skirmish, could be heard between pauses; the mounted men coming up, one of them an aide-de-camp of Reynolds', helped me to understand the situation. Buford's cavalry with a few cannon beyond the Seminary had been during the night and the early morning holding in check Lee's advance. It was Hall's battery near the Chambersburg Pike that was firing and giving the locomotive puffs A battery supported by the gallant Wadsworth and his of smoke. division of infantry. The troops crossing the fields westward and passing over the ridge were a part of Doubleday's division, and the others in plain sight, which seemed to be halting to take breath before going into action, were commanded by my friend General John C. Robinson. After Reynolds' aide had left me I sent Captain Daniel Hall, accompanied by an orderly, to go in search of Reynolds himself with a view to join him that I might on its arrival. Meanwhile I was recommoitering the Peach Orchard and the Cemetery and had ridden into the town and ascended to the belfry near the court house which was called Fahnestock's Observatory. Meanwhile the battle had been going on and the wounded were carried back past me and prisoners marched to the

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rear. My officers were bringing me information while I was diligently studying a map of Gettysburg and its surroundings.

I was on that belfry when I got the news of Reynolds' wounding and then a little later, through Captain Hall returning, of his death. I well apprehended the situation when these words were spoken to me, "General Howard, you are the senior officer on this field." I remember well the intensity of my feelings when I said, "God helping me, I will stay here till the army comes."

As soon as I assumed command Doubleday, being the ranking officer, commanded the 1st corps. Here is what is said of him: **atx@extxx** "At Gettysburg General Doubleday distinguished himself by the signal ability which he displayed in the conduct of the 1st day's battle, succeeding to the command of the field on the death of General Reynolds which occurred at the opening of the fight. He directed all the movements in that engagement until the arrival of General Howard who outranked him." Of course the time was not long for I was already near at hand, not more than three-quarters of a mile from the spot where the gallant Reynolds fell. The **akax** official story proceeds: "During the first epoch of that eventful day a desperate conflict was successfully waged by the 1st corps alone, which under Doubleday's command repulsed a superior force, capturing at the same time in different parts of the field positions of three Confederate brigades."

But before Doubleday had this command another most generous, most noble and patriotic New Yorker, General James S. Wadsworth, happened to be at the very heart of the conflict. Here is the official story in his case: "General Wadsworth's

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As soon as Robinson's division could be brought forward it was posted on the right of Wadsworth and extended nearly to the Oak Ridge. Here is the published account in brief: "At Gettysburg his division took a prominent part in the hard fighting of the 1st corps during the battle on the first day, his troops holding the right of the corps line. Robinson manoeuvred his troops rapidly and skillfully, holding a superior force in check for hours and capturing in an open field fight a large part of Lyerson's North Carolina brigade."

While this struggle was going on along the Seminary Ridge the 11th army corps was approaching the field. I took my head-quarters for the battle where General Hancock's manument now stands across the way from the famous Cemetery. Here I met General Carl Schurz who took command of the 11th corps. He was instructed to leave Steinwehr's division at the Cemetery to support all the batteries located there and to guard the reserve-

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artillery of the corps. Steinwehr may be reckoned as a New Yorker for he came out as the Colonel of the 29th volunteers of that state. As a division commander at Gettysburg he did his duty nobly and I gave him credit for bravery, faithfulness and efficiency in the discharge of duty. The New York Record says of him that he displayed on every occasion, whether in disaster or victory, a high order of military ability and generalship. It was my personal privilege to ride with Barlow at the head of his division from the Emmitsburg road through the town out to the point where he deployed his command and went into action. The monuments are now there to mark the spot. His division and the division of Schimmelfennig just to his left, were placed by General Schurz en echelon with two regiments of Robinson's which had been drawn back to guard his right. Francis C. Barlow was an eminent New Yorker and a thorough military man. Tactics were his delight. He was always so near the front that he was wounded in nearly every engagement in which he participated. Gettysburg was no exception. His general says of him at Gettysburg: "Unfortunately General Barlow who had been directing the movements of his troops with most praisworthy coolness and intrepidity, unmindful of the shower of bullets around, was seriously wounded." This is sufficient to indicate what the fepresentatives of New York State were doing that memorable first day of July, 1863. By unthinking minds the first day has been called a defeat. We would hardly call it a victory but notice what was done. The Cemetery Hill was selected, covered with

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cannon and guarded with infantry. The Confederates were kept at bay from early morning until late in the afternoon. retreat was made and the new position occupied with what remained of the 11th Corps holding the stone walls from Culp's Hill to Ziegler's Grove, having Wadsworth's indomitable division on Culp's Hill and Doubleday and Robinson on the left. To further extend the line John Buford's division of cavalry stretched away toward Little Round Top supporting its own artillery. HAnd meanwhile two other New York commanders come into view. General Sickles with his 3rd corps whom I had called to my aid from Emmitsburg was sufficiently near our left flank to guard against any renewal of Lee's attack, and Slocum, a New Yorker, the mention of whose name in any New York audience always excites enthusiasm, - he sent two divisions, one to guard the right between Culp's Hill and McAllister's Mill, and the other, if need our Extreme be, to strengthen the left. Robert E. Lee did wisely when he refrained from further attack the first day because of the New York men with other gallant patriots were already on hand to meet and repulse any effort whatever to take possession of the Cemetery bristling with the guns of its defenders. What could we have done better that first day when we had at least two to one against us than to have held back the strong forces, siezed the strongest position behind us and held it as a good position, as a nucleus on which the entire army of the Potomac could form and did form the next day? For the part that New York soldiers

bore in this preliminary battle from the humblest private to the

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to raise and uncover this grand monument.

But we are not done with Gettysburg. The work of General Sickles the second day and the controversy about it is familiar to every student of military history. One day not many years ago Generals Longstreet and Sickles were standing near me not far from Little Round Top. I asked General Longstreet one question the purport of which is, Did Sickles, after your attack. near, the Peach Orchard, keep you back twenty minutes. He answered, "Yes, a full hour." This answer was very satisfactory or our haces to me for I saw then that this delay enabled the clear sighted and clear headed General Warren to do what he did. As the chief engineer of General Meade, Warren, your own Warren, did his commander a wonderful timely service. He brought up the troops from the 5th corps just in time to seize and hold Little Round Top whose loss would have been fatal to the our position there. All honor to his work. I am glad his monument in lifelike proportions stands where it does like a sentinel possessed of eternal vigilance for the safety of the Republic. The part, however, that General Sickles and his command performed is absolutely essential to the subsequent success. The holding of the Peach Orchard and of the Devil's Den was to Gettysburg what the holding of Hougoumont by the Scotchmen was to Waterloo. Of course Little Round Top could have been fortified and held by the 3rd corps but it would have extended Meade's line the morning of the second day altogether too far, making an uncomfortable break in it. All Warren's friends, and I am one of them, greatly enjoy New York's tribute to him:

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Not where our Warren fell but where he stood,

And where he always stood - and will forever standIn the front rank of heroes of our land."

Just behind him fell a class-mate of mine who was born in this City of New York, General Stephen H. Weed. "While in the flush of triumph with the victorious shout of his regiment ringing in his ears, General Weed was struck by a well aimed bullet and fell dead on the ground that he and his men had so gallantly won."

New York's distinguished sons bore a prominent part. It was the evening when the Louisiana Tigers broke through one of my brigades and into a battery at the nearest point to the village. The sudden attack was a surprise and though met with vigor by such troops as were at hand, yet I was greatly pleased

The second day had another episode in which another of New York's distinguished sons bore a part. When the battle was raging fiercely over by the Round Tops and for a time seemed to be uncertain in its issue, General Slocum was ordered to bring over from the extreme right his two divisions, Geary's and Williams'. He wisely obtained permission to leave behind General George S. Greene who if anybody could, would make some show in holding the works in the woods between Culp's Hill and McAllister's will. Greene had a brigade which I re-enforced later by three first regiments. There were so New York regiments in the division

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thus formed. Greene was a young man at sixty-two years of age. How he managed it is difficult to tell, but he succeeded in keeping back the entire Confederate division of Ed Johnston. It was a night fight which did not end till about ten o'clock. Johnston's men were within a stone's throw of the Baltimore Pike and our supply trains', but Greene by maneuvers, by firing down the line and creating the impression that he had at least ten times the numbers that he had succeeded in keeping back the Confederates till slocum's two divisions returned and took up their position in a harrow shaped order with plenty of cannon at the vertex to recommence the fierce battle at dawn. And O, what a battle! I heard the roar of the cannon and the rattle of musketry from half past five in the morning till half past ten. Ewell's corps of veterans met the corps of Slocum under Slocum's command, each starting simultaneously like two giants about equally matched to decide the fate of Gettysburg. Slocum succeeded and New York scored another honor to be well marked on that bloody field and to be emphasized again on the banks of the Hudson.

To reiterate my own expression; Slocum's resolute insistance on the 2nd of July upon leaving General Greene and his brigade as just a little precaution when General Meade asked that the whole 12th corps be sent to the assistance of his left two miles away, this insistance followed by Greene's marvelous night fight, and more still Slocum's organized work and engagement of the ensuing early morning, in my judgment, prevented Meade's losing the battle of Gettysburg.

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To reiterate my own expression; "Slocum's resolute insistance on the 2nd of July upon leaving General Greene and his brigade as just a little precaution when General Meade asked that the whole 12th corps be sent to the assistance of his left two miles away, - this insistance followed by Greene's marvelous night fight, and more still Slocum's organized work and engagement of the ensuing early morning, in my judgment, prevented Meade's losing the battle of Gettysburg."

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tinguished during the war, and who was with his brigade in the very eye of the storm which came with Pickett's charge was whom I have always counted not only as a comrade but as a strong personal friend. We were together as cadets at the military academy. We were associates as instructors in the same institution for three years, and we served, meeting nearly every day, in McClellan's Peninsular Campaign. He distinguished himself, as he naturally would, in all the engagements where he was permitted to bear a part. At Gettysburg he commanded a brigade in the 2nd corps and was standing by the colors whose soldiers guarding them were every one killed or wounded in the onset. He then passed in front of all his men in order to direct their fire, just as Confederate Armistead, with the remnant of his brigade, sprang over an intervening wall. Thus Armistead and he were both between the lines of troops and both dreadfully The record is that, "By this act of gallantry he kept his men up to their work until more than half were killed or wounded." Surely no general officer was more exposed or did more signal service to our cause. That officer is today the President of the College of the City of New York and the name as you have already anticipated is General Alexander S. Webb.

I might mention many other New York men who are high up the for example, General Joseph B. Carr, mentioned for his

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Among the New York officers who were remarkably distinguished during the war and who was with his brigade in the very eye of the storm which came with Pickett's charge was one whom I have always counted not only as a comrade but as a strong personal friend. We were together as cadeta at the military academy. We were associates as instructors in the same institution for three years, and we served, meeting nearly every day, in McClellan's Peninsular Campaign. He distinguished himself, as he naturally would, in all the engagements where he was permitted to bear a part, At Gettysburg he commanded a brigade in the 2nd corps and was standing by the colors whose soldiers guarding them were every one killed or wounded in the onset. He then passed in front of all his men in order to direct their fire, just as Confederate Armistead, with the remnant of his brigade, sprang over an intervening wall. Thus Armistead and he were both between the lines of troops and both dreadfully wounded. The record is that, "By this act of gallantry he kept To bellis evew list asd evem fitau stow wiedt of qu nem sid wounded." Surely no general officer was more exposed or did end yebod at repillo Jant . sause rue of service fample erom President of the College of the City of New York and the name as you have already anticipated is General Alexander S. Webb. I might mention many other New York men who are high up -jsd jsery tant ni jrag flame on eved one bne emel lo flor end no

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ing to leave the front; General J. H. Hobart Ward, who gloriously met the opening attack of the enemy at the Devil's Den; General J. J. Bartlett, who supported the charge of the reserves, a good representative of Sedgewick's 6th Army Corps; General Samuel Kosciusko Zook, who early commanded the 57th New York. This is ullour the story: "While riding through the wheat field his men driving the enemy triumphantly before them, General Zook fell from his horse mortally wounded. For his fearless gallantry he was promoted by brevet to a Major General, the commission being dated that last day of the great battle; General David A. Russell, another representative of the 6th corps, ever ready under fire with reinforcements for the front; General Charles K. Graham, -he held the key point at the Peach Orchard. In the early part of the struggle he was wounded and soon captured by the on-coming Confederates; General Alexander Shaler .-- His brigade coming from the reserve became remarkable for the assistance ka rendered to General Greene in the night fight of the second day. Kaxakas They also rendered gallant assistance to Slocum in the early morning of the third day of Gettysburg; the last I will mention in this list is by no means the least. It was his division which came up with zest and heartiness upon the call of General Warren; a division which made its mark in defense of that same Little Round Top and participated successfully in the clearance The officer who comof the famous wheat field in front of it. manded it always well and on this field without fault was General Romeyn B. Ayers.

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It seems wonderfully incomplete to mention only the jewells in the crown which is made up of the patriotic soldiers of New York, but my consolation always is that the soldiers are proud of their jewells and delight to have them honored and further that some circle somewhere knows the name and the race nobly run of every brave man who fought or suffered or died that this Republic might live. So much for the army.

The Manpton Roads were the Minnesota, 50 guns; the Roanoke, 50 guns, the Congress, 50 guns; the St. Lawrence sailing frigate, 12 guns; and the Cumberland, 24 guns. The Cumberland and the Congress were off Newport News. The Roanoke and the Minnesota and the St. Lawrence were in the neighborhood of Fortress Monroe. It was the 8th of March, 1862. About noon three strange steamers hove in sight going towards Sewell's Point; after turning that point before one o'clock it was plain to all observers that one of the vessels was the dreaded Merrimack, the great Confederate ironclad and that the other two common gun boats. They were coming straight for our wooden ships which were completing their preparations as well as they could to meet a terrible attack. It seemed to our officers even then to be like a parcel of unarmed burghers meeting a knight of old clad impenetrable armor. Think of it, three hundred and seventy six sailors defended the Cumberland and four hundred and thirty-four the Congress. The battle was joined. A broadside from the Congress striking the Merrimack did no good; the shot glanced off with no penetration. The first shells from the Merrimack

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broke through the sides of the Congress carrying death and destruction to every part of the ship. Like a giant laughing at the blow he had given the Merrimack passed on to try the Cumberland and the sailing ship near at hand. Of course sar officers and crew opened fire, but what was the good of it? Every shot fell off, without doing harm, into the water. It is a compliment to the sturdiness and patriotism of her officers and to the fearless loyalty of the men that the flag was not pulled down. ironclad despised the feeble broadsides of the Cumberland and went straight on. The historian makes her iron prow smash through the side of the Cumberland and at the same time send a shell or solid shot from every gun to break her timbers and explode upon her decks: "Piling splinters, gun carriages, guns and men in one confused wreck." In less than two hours after the first attack the ironclad had done its work. Two hundred and fifty of our men had been slain and the demonstration was complete that wooden vessels must disappear from naval warfare. After this work the great giant turned toward Fortress Monroe aiming for the frigate Minnesota, which at the time was hard aground. The contest of broadsides and pivot guns accomplished little. For a time the safety of XXX of our great frigate consisted in the fact that the Merrimack could not reach her. After the day's work, so full of death and terror, had been done, the Confederate commanders drew off toward Norfolk for rest and a renewal of supplies. How favorable everything looked that night at sun-down for the Confederate cause. There was dismay

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in the dispatches that went northward, and great hope and triumph throughout the South. At nine o'clock that night the little untried Monitor put in an appearance in Hampton Roads and before morning of the next day was at anchor near the sorely tried frigate, the Minnesota. It was Sunday but not to be a Sabbath in that quarter of the world. Before sunrise the Merrimack again hove in sight. Everything was in readiness on the Minnesota and the Monitor, but surely that little sea battery would not be enough to save the frigate and human life! Strange to say, the Merrimack first passed them by then, brave souls that they were like the men of Dewey after their first onset at Manila Bay, they went to breakfast. It was a short breakfast for as soon as the Merrimack got into the channel ## turned down toward the Minnesota. I will not attempt to describe the contest that ensued. In the main the vessels were not more than fifty yards apart. A looker on says, "At first the fight was very furious and the guns of the Monitor were rapidly fired." The Monitor had but two guns to the Merrimack's eight. "Finding that her antagonist was much more formidable than she looked the Merrimack attempted to run her down Once the Merrimack struck her near midships but only to prove that the Monitor could not be run down nor shot down. She spun round like a top and as she got her bearing again sent one of her formidable missele into her hugh opponent In this way the Merrimack received three shots which must have seriously damaged her. Neither of these shots rebounded at all, but appeared to cut their way clear through

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iron and wood into the ship." After this terrible execution
the commander of the Merrimack withdrew from the fight and made
off at full speed. "Lieutenant Worden at the time he was injured (in the eyes) was looking out of the eye-holes of the
pilot house which are simply horizontal slits about half an inch
wide. A round shot from the Merrimack struck against these
slits as Lieutenant Worden was looking through, causing some
scalings from the iron and fragments of the paint to fly with
great force against his eyes." The injury was painful and
dangerous to his sight and afflicted him all his subsequent life
but did not make him quite blind nor hinder him from doing efficient duty on shipboard or on shore in his department of the
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All honor to Ericsson who conceived, invented and produced this little, effective sea battery which saved the our navy from utter defeat and revolutionized naval warfare. All honor also to Griswold of Troy, Bushnell of New Haven and others associated with them who had faith enough in Ericsson's invention to build the Monitor and put it at the disposal of the government. Out it needed your New York Commander, your educated and high toned and fearless spirit, a type of the American Navy, sans peur et sans raproche, to use the instrument to conduct it through storm and winds to the battle ground and to take up the challenge like David against Goliath that to fight furiously and well against such extraordinary and gigantic opponent; it required

Lieutenant John L. Worden. Probably No naval vessel who thought not or minself but when he revenue from a thunning blow will out its Mellingshowsafe?

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on the Union side in that engagement was without a bevy of New Yorkers to keep the flag flying; to give evidence of their loyal devotion to our cause and country; they were among the wounded, among the slain and among the living heroes of that great contains thanks to the Monitor and horizonthanks to the Monitor and flict which began in disaster but ended, in a glorious triumph.

How appropriate then to raise a monument not only to the soldiers of New York but to all the seamen who stood by the Republic in the days which tried men's souls.

As Gettysburg ended in success and the fight at
Hampton Roads in triumph, so ended the whole long struggle for
the life of the Republic finally at Appomattox. We do well to
honor knew the actors who struggled for the life of the Republic
in the great drama. On Memorial Days we will ever remind ourselves of what they undertook and of what was accomplished through
their labor and sacrifice. We have gained too much as a nation
to boast or to say such things as will offend the children and
children's children of bold opponents. Peace has returned and
been sealed by another war in which we have fought side by side.

Slavery is dead and buried beyond resurrection and all men and women, North, South, East and West are glad of this result of the conflict. Our domain has been extended and the principles of liberty, like good seed, have been strown by us in every land and we rejoice at the increase of freedom wherever on the face of the earth our flag flies and has loyal support. There appears to be between us and Great Britain a friendly rivalry as to which shall give to government; the best example of liberty

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Megulated by law. The schools, especially the public schools which Charles Summer eloquently advocated and Horace Mann worked to expand, go where the flag goes and it is a delight to every veteran, soldier or sailor, to see the stars and stripes waving above every school-building in the land.

But let not our children think that the work is done.

They must learn for themselves; they must appreciate their fathers' toil and suffering and their mothers' loving, patriotic devotion; every boy and every girl must come on step by step from childhood to maturity and be worthy successors, yes, possibly purer and better, wiser and stronger than those who have gone before them.

In the strife between riches and poverty, between capital and labor I have still great fears of the result. Combine, combine, combine if necessary, but keep the flag flying, the flag and all it represents. Contend for your way as much as you choose but remember to keep within the limit of the grand old constitution of our fathers. The trinity of government which they planted and extended over sea and land cannot be equalled - cannot be surpassed. Our late conduct by argument, by legislation, by regulation and by intense official action against the Chinese people terrifies me because I see in it another strife like that against the African. We ought not, we must not and surely after sufficient education and thought we will not lay. down the principle that we can arrest inhabitants of our country anywhere and everywhere upon simple suspicion and throw them into

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prison and force them to prove themselves innocent most often, of offenses that they did not dream of committing. No, no, I take it for granted that there will be action and reaction in legislation and in the exercise of executive powers and judicial decisions, but surely we must deal with every nation, far or near, great or small, according to the simple principles of justice. For this, My Countrymen, all thinking men among the veterans of the great Civil War were fighting. They scored a success and this monument is a small part of the reward of the New York contingent. Then let our successors in the strife of life be true and loyal to the liberty and the justice which we strove and suffered and many of us died to maintain. Let these fundamental principles be forever sacred and perpetual.

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