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ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Few events amid the many thrilling incidents of these times have awakened deeper interest than the sad, startling, and direful tidings of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, on the evening of Friday, the 14th of April last. Throughout Canada it has excited a wide spread feeling of intense sympathy and grief. Skilful hands have woven a chaplet for the grave of Lincoln, leaving little room for our humble tribute to the worth of one enshrined henceforth in the hearts of his countrymen and destined to live on the page of immortal history. We feel it right however to add our expression of admiration and love to the memory of this great Statesman and Chief Magistrate of the neighbouring republic, foully murdered in the midst of events of unspeakable importance to millions. It seems to us that the loudest crash in the long thunder storm of these four years of blood, broke over us in the painful news of the fall of that mighty Cedar of Lebanon, and as we hope that the horrible tragedy in Washington on the Good Friday of 1865 was the culmination of the storm, the ear of hope is opened to catch the murmurings of its retiring footsteps. Ardently do we long for the return of peace and order to America; meanwhile in this dark day of her history, may her citizens learn righteousness.

This event has lessons.

The perpetration of such a horrid crime, should be viewed with the deepest repugnance. The Bible makes no secret of its condemnation of blood-shedding, it sets the most solemn sanctions around human life. Since it is thus with private individuals, there are great truths regarding persons in authority which are trodden in the dust by this fiendish act. The powers that be are ordained of God, the Magistrate is the servant of God for good; for the punishment of evil doers and the praise of them that do well. This aggravates the crime of murder, and gives it an intensity of malignity. The chosen President of millions is struck down by the hand of an assassin, whose bloody deed is an assault on the majesty of law, an unparalleled atrocity destined to live in the memory of coming generations as a fitting memorial of the spirit engendered by the accursed system of slavery. Barbarism has its confidence in personal revenge, in the free use of the pistol and bowie-knife, weapons that played a distinguished part in this sad catastrophe; but civilization relies on the vindication and maintainance of law. Lincoln's death was not that of a tyrant, but of one whose blood has been shed on the altar of liberty. A life sacrificed to the principle of upholding law and social order; a life all the more valuable in our esteem since mercy shone out calm and clear amidst the firm administration of justice in sadly troubled times.