

from the Capitol at Washington to the utmost parts of the Union. We had some experience away up in the mountains in Oregon, where a Southerner knifed a Union man, in the heat of the discussion. The miners held a meeting to see what was to be done with the murderer. It was thought best to send him down to the authorities to be tried and punished, but many desired to try him by Judge Lynch and execute him at once; but before he reached the settlements he made good his escape. Criminals seldom got their deserts in the West in those days.

The passengers on board were mostly Union men and the war was the principal talk during the rest of our voyage to New York. On the 29th we saw another steamer and during the evening we passed Cuba, and in the morning another island was within sight, and before evening a great many sails and quite a number of other islands. The weather was very warm and not the best time of the year to cross the isthmus, although we had no universal sickness on shipboard. By two o'clock in the morning of the 4th of October, 1862, we reached the dock at New York and landed.

We spent the night in the city, which looked like a vast military camp, with soldiers, camp equipments, and everything that indicated that the country was between life and death. We left the city in the afternoon at five o'clock by the Hudson River Railway and arrived at Albany after dark, where we took the New York Central for Suspension Bridge, arriving there at ten o'clock, a.m., on the 5th. We remained there over night and next morning left for Galt, and reached home by noon, after an absence of nearly four years, enjoying the best of health during the whole time, although undergoing many hardships.

From the day I left Galt until my return, I journeyed by rail 1,154 miles, by boat 12,943 miles, on horse and by stage 670 miles, and 640 miles on foot, making a total of 15,461 miles, without an accident of any kind during the whole journey. All who went were not so fortunate, for upon the mountain and in the valley alike rest thousands who met untimely ends in the great western country.

EMANCIPATION OF THE SLAVE

On April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and the man who freed the slaves of America, was assassinated by being shot by John Wilks Booth in Ford's Theatre, Washington, about ten o'clock in the evening, and at twenty minutes past seven the next morning the President breathed his last.

Abraham Lincoln was born on the 12th of February, 1809, in the State of Kentucky. His parents were a plain, unassuming couple. Abraham first attended school when seven years of age. His parents moved to Indiana in 1816, and he built himself and family a cabin—18 feet square, the loft of which was Abraham's bedroom for many years. It was he who afterwards occupied the most exalted position in the gift of the American people and dwelt in the White House at Washington as President of the nation.

In 1837 Daniel Stone and Abraham Lincoln, who were representatives in the Illinois Legislature, refused to vote for a serious resolution, which was adopted, taking the extreme Southern view of slavery. Mr. Lincoln refused to vote and subsequently handed in a protest. Twenty-three years afterwards he was elected to Congress, and on the 16th of May, 1860, he was nominated for President, and on the 6th of November was elected President. On the 4th of March, 1861, he was inaugurated as President of the United States. The Southern States were bitterly opposed to his being elected on account of his opposition to slavery. South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas were in open rebellion against the National Government, having taken up arms. They formed a Government, which they called the Southern Confederacy. On the 13th of April, 1861, a committee was appointed by the Virginia Convention, which was formally received by the President. They presented the resolution under which they were appointed and asked what the Federal Executive intended to do in regard to the Confederate States. The President replied: "At the beginning of my official term, I expressed my intended policy. I now repeat: The power confided in me will be used to hold, occupy and possess property and places belonging to the Government. I chiefly allude to the military posts and property in possession of the Government when it came into my hands. It appears that an unprovoked assault has been made upon Fort Sumter. I shall hold myself at liberty to repossess it."

The first call was then made for 75,000 troops and the blockade of Southern ports commenced. The second was for 42,000 as volunteers and to increase the regular army by eight regiments of infantry, and one regiment of cavalry. An additional 18,000 seamen were also recruited. On August 4, 1862, a draft for 300,000 militia was made, and on the 5th of January another call for 300,000 more volunteers to serve for three years or the duration of the war. On February 1st, 1864, another call was made for 500,000 more men to serve for three years or during the war, and on the 19th of December another call for 300,000 more men. The fall of Richmond, the capital of the Confederacy, soon followed the surrender of General Lee and his army to General Grant.

The murderer of President Lincoln was John Wilks Booth, an actor, and a native of Maryland. He was an ardent Unionist and had frequently threatened to assassinate the President. His threat was made good. He made his escape on horseback, but was overtaken on the 25th of April, and found hidden in a barn. Refusing to surrender the barn was set on fire, and he was shot dead.

Abraham Lincoln will go down to posterity as the person who was instrumental in liberating four millions of the human race from abject slavery.

As the name of Wilberforce is honored and admired throughout the world today for what he accomplished in his own country, in having the slave trade destroyed, so that of Lincoln's for the same cause.