

itself through your being without obstruction, then you are with the Giants of the race."

"To dare is the thing that I have always enjoyed most. I wrote free verse because I could write no other; did not have the kind of education. Technique failed me when I desired it most; I am not sorry and I wrote in the pure, native, glistening state as it came from the mine of my mind, and lived as poetry what the world, in some cases justly and in other cases unjustly, has immortalized."

"I feel the solemnity of the moment greatly, and in parting, I will say a few words to the Soul of the Universe:—Father, Lover of all children, though we are encased in physical garments that obstruct the wider, more intense and clear light with which we hear and see, bend a little closer to all of us. Never have I seen from this pale of existence, more serene and worthy souls than those who hear my words at this moment, so beneath the fitful light of yonder Star, as it enmeshes itself in the substance of the children who are sons and daughters of Yours, Father, be with them so that they may know that at the helm of life is a Captain whose name is Love. Amen. Goodbye."

After a few minutes rest with a violin solo, "Meditation," Dr. Watson's mother, who was chairman of the program, asked what further we wanted, and tributes to Whitman from Ingersoll, Emerson, Dr. Bucke, Bryant and Lincoln were requested. I give only quotations from these:—

Lincoln:—"But Walt, called the Poet of Democracy, through his writings, blew the clarion call on the bugle of poetry, that wakened the sleepy hearts and minds of the people in your world, so when the last great fight, 'The Armageddon,' was encountered, many sons of Adam, in the true spirit of the teaching of Walt, rose in serried ranks and made possible that social Era of Justice and Love, a time in which little children will be suffered to come unto him who is true—and will he not have given to him all the fruits of the earth and the sustaining power of time, which evolution can give to the climbing souls of men. Not the least among the prophets who were interested in engendering this in the human race, was Walt Whitman, so I bow before him."

Emerson:—"In heroic times, there surged from the heart of nature, a leaven which made men, when they thought and loved, great as a star, wonderful as a lake, broad as a force and strong as Gibraltar. I did indeed, in a simple, insignificant way, compared with what I should have done, try to teach the heart of America, that when you hitch your wagon to a Star, you have to come out of the valley and are on the mountain heights, but laws, philosophy, religion, literature, all life experience, comprehensive and inclusive, are of no value unless you have a worthy guide, and I say that Walt Whitman, through his life and his writings was, perhaps, the most worthy guide that the continent of America has yet produced. The sky was his roof-top, the whole world his window, and his vision grasped and took note of all the elements of his time. Thus, his footsteps will ever echo down the avenue of progress, as the good departing, wakes to higher altitudes."