

1809

1911

Lincoln Memorial Anniversary

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

OUR COUNTRY'S OPPORTUNITY AND DESTINY

"It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this."

— *Gettysburg*

Lincoln Memorial Sunday

February 12, 1911

For reference:

"Christian Reconstruction in the South."—*Douglass*

"A Crusade of Brotherhood."—*Beard*

Commemorating the One Hundred and Second
Birthday of

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

OUR COUNTRY'S OPPORTUNITY

SUPERINTENDENT.—This February 12, is the Birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The United States holds a commanding position in bringing Christian civilization to the entire world. To meet this great opportunity will be impossible unless the whole body of American citizens are earnest, Christian patriots.

SUPT.—What is Lincoln Memorial Sunday?

ANS.—It is the one day in the year upon which special attention is given in our Congregational Sunday School thought and study to the work of thoroughly Christianizing our own country.

Great crises bring to a nation large opportunities for service and progress which result either in marked advancement or sad disaster. The life of Abraham Lincoln marked a great crisis in our country's history.

Abraham Lincoln's life shows that he was prepared through the providence of God to meet such a great crisis in our nation's history. In a mountain cabin in Hardin County, Kentucky, on February 12, 1809, just one hundred and two years ago today, he was born. The conditions of his early life were humble and narrow. He had only three books in his entire list, little paper or pens, and only a few months of schooling. He learned to write by tracing his name in the soft earth between rows of corn which he was hoeing.

SCHOLAR.—Abraham Lincoln, a name written upon the great state papers of the nation and on the Emancipation Proclamation which released from bondage four million people, was probably first traced *in the ground on the mountainside*. Think of it!

Who can not win out, American boy or girl, with such an example as this? It is really worth while, every year at least, to study the life and character, with its humble beginning and its tremendous influence, of this mountain lad from the Highlands of the South—Abraham Lincoln.

From clerk, flatboatman, grocer, surveyor and lawyer, by steady development Abraham Lincoln rose to the Presidency, Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of this great nation. His simple, honest, unselfish life was his greatest contribution and that to which every one may attain.

OUR COUNTRY'S DESTINY

THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION is doing much to complete the great work which President Lincoln began. This Association is the recognized representative of our Congregational Sunday Schools and churches in the patriotic and Christian work among eight races in our own country.

SUPT.—Who are these people represented in the schools and missions of the American Missionary Association?

FIRST ANSWER.—The Negroes in the South, among whom the Association has 68 schools with 13,449 pupils, and 152 churches.

SECOND ANSWER.—The Mountaineers, or American Highlanders, in the hill country of the South, where 8 schools with 1,777 pupils, and 20 churches are established. These Mountaineers are “The people of Abraham Lincoln.”

THIRD ANSWER.—The work among the Indians on the prairie is also carried on by the Association. This missionary work reaches twenty-two different tribes.

FOURTH ANSWER.—The Chinese and Japanese in our own country, especially on the Pacific Slope, and a considerable number of Hindus who have broken through the caste superstition of India, present the great problem of Oriental immigration. The Eskimo in Alaska are also reached by our churches and Sunday Schools through the A. M. A. A reindeer herd is one of the unusual features of this important and romantic work of the Association, and adds greatly to its value.

FIFTH ANSWER.—The island territories of Hawaii and Porto Rico present another picturesque and needy field reached by the A. M. A.

How can we help? To do this work at all well means a large increase in our gifts this Lincoln Memorial Sunday which, in a sense, will be the thermometer of our patriotism and Christian loyalty.

What More Can We Do?

We can study the life and character of Abraham Lincoln, whose birthday we commemorate today.

We can study the thrilling and wonderful history of the American Missionary Association in its planting of shops and schools and churches and the encouragement of Christian homes among the many races in this far-reaching field stretching from the icebergs of Alaska to the palm groves of Porto Rico. It is all a part of our own nation, our flag floats over it and the people are depending upon us for help through the American Missionary Association.

We can help by filling the Lincoln Memorial Envelopes to the brim and bringing them on Sunday for this offering. Also by making the Lincoln Memorial Offering at least \$25.00 from this school. If a thousand schools should meet this splendid, patriotic opportunity of Lincoln Memorial Sunday by each giving this amount to the A. M. A. to complete his life work it would mean \$25,000, a noble offering of the patriotic young people of America to the millions of our own fellow citizens who need your help. There are more than four thousand Congregational Sunday Schools in our fellowship!

SUPERINTENDENT.—Shall we not do our share here and today toward this

Lincoln Memorial Offering

on the One Hundred and Second Anniversary of his Birth?

Taking collection, gathering Envelopes and pledges for the

LINCOLN MEMORIAL OFFERING

AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

287 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK
815 CONGREGATIONAL HOUSE, BOSTON
153 LA SALLE STREET, CHICAGO
21 BRENHAM PLACE, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA