

**LINCOLN
ADDRESSES
AND LETTERS**

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Lincoln addresses and letters by Abraham Lincoln & Charles W. Moores

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN & CHARLES W. MOORES

**LINCOLN
ADDRESSES
AND LETTERS**

ECLECTIC ENGLISH CLASSICS

LINCOLN
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ADDRESSES AND LETTERS

EDITED BY

CHARLES W. MOORES, LITT.D.

AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY

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INTRODUCTION

ONE who appreciates the Gettysburg address and the two inaugurals is not content unless he can go further. There is much in Lincoln's writings of the highest literary quality. There is much more that justifies the student of American history in continuing his study of Lincoln. In the preparation of this collection the editor has had in mind the chief value which it should possess for the reader. That value is to be found in the revelation which his writings give of the personality of one of the greatest public characters in all history. So those speeches and letters have been chosen which reveal the most of the man, Lincoln. With this in view, the notes are meant to explain the man and the occasion, and with the letters give such information as will enable the reader to understand better why the letters were written and who Lincoln's correspondents were. The few obvious errors in grammatical or rhetorical form are not noted. The "split infinitive" is one of Lincoln's commonest failings, but the critical student can find better use for his time than in hunting for faults.

The autobiography with which the volume opens gives us the man's own story and his own modest estimate of himself. It should be read with the other two autobiographies which the book contains. To these may be added the following facts: Lincoln was a candidate for senator in 1854 as an anti-Nebraska Whig, but was defeated by Lyman Trumbull. In 1858 he was again a candidate for the senatorship to succeed Stephen Arnold Douglas, the Democratic leader. In this campaign he debated the slavery question with Douglas in every part of Illinois. Lincoln's party won a popular majority, but Lincoln was defeated because of inequalities