

**A MAN OF DESTINY BEING  
THE STORY OF ABRAHAM  
LINCOLN. AN EPIC POEM**

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A Man of Destiny being the Story of Abraham Lincoln. An Epic Poem by Ernest Linwood Staples

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**ERNEST LINWOOD STAPLES**

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**A MAN OF DESTINY.**

# A MAN OF DESTINY

BEING THE

Story of Abraham Lincoln

**An Epic Poem**

By

ERNEST LINWOOD STAPLES.

His heart was as great as the world, but there was no room in it to hold the memory of a wrong. — *Emerson.*

We rest in peace where these sad eyes  
Saw peril, strife, and pain :  
His was the nation's sacrifice,  
And ours the priceless gain.

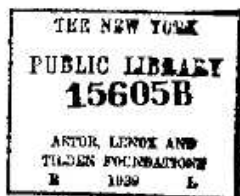
— *Whittier.*

LINCOLN PUBLISHING COMPANY

**Hartford, Conn.**

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## PREFACE.

All will admit that the story of Abraham Lincoln is one of the most remarkable in the history of the human race. His is a unique character, worthy to be made the subject of a grand Epic whenever the inspired genius shall appear who is worthy to write our national poem.

No critic will more readily concede than the author the failure of these lines to do justice to the martyred President whose life they commemorate. Yet if by their imperfections they provoke some master spirit to sing his worth, in fitting verse, they will not have been written in vain.

For whatever of inspiration there may be in these pages, the author freely acknowledges his deep indebtedness to others, especially Messrs. Herndon and Weik, the version in whose inimitable *Life of Lincoln* he has closely followed, believing that the near friend and partner of Lincoln must have been among the best qualified to write the story of his precious life.

SHELTON, CONN., Nov. 7, 1902.



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**To My Loyal Wife**

**MY COMPANION IN JOY AND SORROW,  
BUT FOR WHOSE INSPIRATION THESE LINES WOULD NEVER  
HAVE BEEN WRITTEN**

**I Dedicate This Little Volume.**

