



Sept 22, 1915.

S.S. KROONLAND.

We come together this evening to celebrate the memory of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln - the two great men highest in the esteem of the American people, the first the founder of our nation and the second its preserver.

I have the honor of speaking to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. ~~I am~~

I am no orator and I feel that it would be impossible ^{for me} to do justice to that great man, whom providence raised up to guide our nation through the most trying period of its history.

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To the everlasting credit of
the American people the
animosities of the Civil
War have ceased. Both
sides were fighting for
what they conscientiously
believed to be a principle,
but we all are glad that
we have remained a
united nation,

My remarks will be brief, as
others more competent than I
will follow me, and I shall
limit myself to an historical
incident in which
I played a humble part.

Early in the month of Feb
 1861 Abraham Lincoln
 left his home in Springfield
 Illinois on his way to Wash-
 ington to be inaugurated as
 President of the United States.
 On his journey he was,
 what was termed at the
 time, "swinging around
the circle" delivering
 addresses at various
 state capitals, and ^{other} centres;
 Indianapolis, Columbus,
 Harrisburg and Philadelphia.
 The country was in a high
 state of tension, and
 apprehension for his safety,

and his movements were ⁴
watched with intense interest.
He arrived at Philadelphia
in the evening of February
21st and put up at The
Continental Hotel.

At the time, I am describing,
I was Train Despatcher
and Secretary to George C.
Franciscus, Superintendent of
the Philadelphia Division
of the Penn^a R. R., which
extended ^{from Phil^a.} to Harrisburg.

On the evening of Mr. Lincoln's
arrival ^{in Phil^a.} I accompanied
Mr. Franciscus to The Con-
tinental Hotel, and remained
in The Lobby. lobby-

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Mr. Francis was shown
to Mr. Lincoln's room, where
in addition ~~to~~ Mr. Lincoln,
he met, Alan Pinkerton, the
famous detective, Samuel
M. Felton, the President of
the Phila. Wilmington and
Baltimore Rail Road, and
one or two intimate friends
of Mr. Lincoln;

There had been rumors of
a plot to assassinate Mr.
Lincoln, and Alan Pinkerton
had detectives on the Northern
Central Railroad, (which was
the route Mr. Lincoln was
to take from Harrisburg, ^{on his way} to
Washington) and had positive

evidence of the conspiracy. 6

Mr. Felton also had independent evidence from private detectives employed by him confirmatory of the conspiracy.

The plot was disclosed to Mr. Lincoln and he was urged to go direct from Phil^a to Washington ^{incognito,} omitting Harrisburg. This Mr. Lincoln positively declined to do, saying that he would keep his engagement at Harrisburg, where he was to deliver his last address, after which he was at their disposal. Arrangements were then made to go to Washington incognito.

At eight o'clock — 7
On the following morning,
(54 years ago today) Mr.
Lincoln raised a flag &
delivered an address in
front of Independence Hall,
immediately after which we
left for Harrisburg by a
special train consisting of
two cars in which were
Mr. Lincoln and quite a
number of prominent poli-
ticians. I carried with
me an ~~telegraph~~ instrument
to attach to the ^{telegraph} wires in
case of necessity. He arrived
at Harrisburg ^{about noon} without incident.
~~Mr. Francis directed me~~
~~to have a locomotive and~~

After the reception and address before the Penn^a legislature, Governor Curtin the war Governor, as he was afterwards called, retired with Mr Lincoln to his mansion ostensibly to enable Mr Lincoln to rest. Towards dusk a closed carriage was taken to a public road crossing about a mile East of Harrisburg where I was waiting with a locomotive and ordinary passenger car. The only person with me was B. F. Garrett, the

General Baggage Master of
the Penn: R.R. who acted
as flagman to protect our
Special train.

At the appointed time
a carriage drove up out
of which stepped Mr.
Francisius, Enoch Lewis
Gen'l Supt of the Penn: R.R.
Mr. Lincoln and his
^{Ward H} intimate friend Col. Lamont,
^{all of} whom entered the car.

I called in the flagman
and we ~~proceeded~~ started
for Philad: The only light in ~~the~~
the car was ^{from} ~~not~~ lighted
^{the only light being} a lantern
which I carried.

Mr. Lincoln wore a light brown felt hat, and a traveling shawl, which was customary for gentlemen to wear in those days.

The first stop we made was west of Lancaster for water for the Locomotive.

The next stop was at Downingtown to take water, and

where all the gentlemen ~~excepting Mr. Lincoln~~ stepped out for a sandwich and a cup of coffee.

I asked Mr. Lincoln if I could bring him anything, and he requested me to bring him a cup of tea.

We then proceeded to West
Philad^a where Allan Pinkerton
was waiting with a carriage,
into which Mr. Lincoln,
~~stepped~~ Col. Lamont and
Mr. Pinkerton ^{stepped} ~~entered~~ and
were driven to Broad
and Prime Street Station.
Mr. Lincoln occupied a
section of a Woodruff
Sleeping Car arriving, ~~incognito~~
incognito, in Washington
early the following morning,
greatly to the relief of the
few persons who were in
the secret, as well as to
the public at large.