A President-elect in Western Pennsylvania

February 11, 1861. A cold rain dripped down, chilling the people gathered at the Springfield depot. A tall gentleman appeared and spoke a few simple words of farewell to his neighbors; the locomotive lunged forward and slid slowly along the rails; a President-elect had begun the long journey to Washington City.

Three days later, the train drew to a stop at Steubenville, Ohio. It was boarded immediately by a committee from the council of Allegheny City, which had come to meet the noted traveler, and accompany him to Pennsylvania. The Keystone State wished to see Mr. Lincoln, and Mr. Lincoln wished to see the people of Pennsylvania. They had proved stanch supporters in the campaign of 1860; he could not ignore such loyalty.

The gentlemen from Allegheny City were introduced to the President-elect, and cordial relations established in a few minutes. The Steubenville jurist, Judge Lloyd, welcomed Lincoln to the city in a speech longer than that desired by the President-elect, who replied in a brief and simply worded address. A locomotive blast cut the speech short, and the train moved rapidly on to Wellsville, Ohio. At this small town, Lincoln addressed the crowd with a few remarks interlarded with his famous wit. The train paused but five minutes; as it rolled on toward western Pennsylvania, Ohio was left behind.

The sprawling village of Rochester, Pennsylvania, was the next stop. It boasted a population of fourteen hundred people, but many farmers swelled the crowd at the station. Rochester had prepared for the distinguished son of Illinois: American flags stirred in the breeze; a band played martial airs, and cannon stood ready to salute the President-elect. Late in the afternoon, the eerie blast of a train whistle cut the air; the people craned their necks forward in expectation, as cannon boomed forth an announcement that Mr. Lincoln was coming to town. As the train drew into the station, committees
from Pittsburgh and the Pennsylvania legislature boarded Mr. Lincoln's special car. They were received by him in his usual pleasant manner. Shortly afterward, the President-elect stepped out onto the rear platform of his car. A volley of cheers met him. He stood silent a moment, and then, in response to repeated calls for a speech, addressed a few pleasant remarks to the people. No newspaperman recorded the exact words of Lincoln, but a reporter for the Beaver Argus wrote this account of the brief extemporaneous speech:

He remarked that he had no speech to make, as it was impossible to speak at every point where his fellow citizens greeted him, and thanked them for this their expression of their wishes toward him. He was now on his way to Washington, and about the 4th of March he would speak to all who chose to hear him. A voice in the crowd enquired "What will you do with the secessionists then?"—Turning toward the direction of the voice, Mr. Lincoln replied, "My friend, that is a matter which I have under very grave consideration."

The brief remarks were received by the crowd with wild applause, although they constituted a stock speech made to rural audiences in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Faced with a direct question as to policy, Lincoln had remained secretive. The people of Rochester were left in the dark as to the probable policy of the Lincoln administration. In Rochester, as in other places, the President-elect held firmly to a policy of greeting the people, while revealing little or nothing of the course to be pursued by him.

The schedule of the Lincoln train called for a stop of but fifteen minutes, but a train wreck near Baden, Pennsylvania, delayed immediate departure. After a two-hour delay, the train steamed rapidly on the way to Allegheny City.

It was nearly eight o'clock in the evening as the train headlight winked through the darkness of the winter night. The large crowd which had gathered in the afternoon at the station had melted away, dispersed by a heavy rain which had fallen during hours of waiting. As the train drew to a stop, men and women rushed toward the cars, making it difficult for the police to force a passage for the tall man who stepped from the rear coach. Inclement weather made a formal reception impossible; the President-elect was hurried to a waiting carriage, in which he listened to a brief speech of welcome from Mayor Drum of Allegheny City. The crowd called for a speech, the

1 Beaver (Pa.) Argus, February 20, 1861.
tall guest rose and replied, that "owing to the lateness of the hour (caused by the unavoidable detention), he would be unable to respond, but all would have an opportunity of hearing him in the morning."2

His military escort formed into line at once and started on the way to the noted Monongahela House. The rain had not driven stout-hearted Republicans to cover, and a large crowd greeted the President-elect at the famous hostelry. Lincoln, tired and talked out, made his way at once to his room. But he could not disappoint the people who had waited in the rain to hear his voice. After a brief period of rest, he appeared before the crowd. Cheers greeted him; calls for a speech became a chorus of popular demand. As answer to this chorus of voices, Mr. Lincoln said:

Fellow Citizens: We had an accident upon the road to-day, and were delayed until this late hour. I am sorry for this inasmuch as it was my desire and intention to address the citizens of Pennsylvania, briefly, this evening, on what is properly styled their peculiar interest. And I still hope that some arrangement may be made to-morrow morning which will afford me the pleasure of talking to a larger number of my friends than can assemble in this hall. ["Go on now; there's enough here."] I have great regard for Allegheny county, it is the "banner county of the Union," [cheers], and rolled up an immense majority for what I, at least, consider a good cause. By mere accident, and not through any merit of mine, it happened that I was the representative of that cause, and I acknowledge with all sincerity the high honor you have conferred on me. ["Three cheers for Honest Abe," and a voice saying, "It was no accident that elected you, but your own merits, and the worth of the cause."] I thank you, my fellow citizen, for your kind remark, and trust that I feel a becoming sense of responsibility resting upon me. ["We know you do."]

I could not help thinking, my friends, as I traveled in the rain through your crowded streets, on my way here, that if all that people were in favor of the Union, it can certainly be in no great danger—it will be preserved. [A voice—"We are all Union men." Another voice—"That's so." A third voice—"No compromise." A fourth—"Three cheers for the Union."] But I am talking too long, longer than I ought. ["Oh no! Go on; split another rail."] Laughter. You know that it has not been my custom, since I started on the route to Washington, to make long speeches; I am rather inclined to silence, ["That's right"] and whether that be wise or not, it is at least more unusual now-a-days to find a man who can hold his tongue than to find one who cannot. [Laughter and a voice—"No railery Abe."] I thank you sincerely, for the warm reception I have received, and in the morning, if an arrangement can be made, of which I am not yet certain, I may have something to say to you of that "peculiar interest of Pennsylvania" before mentioned. ["Say it now, we are all attention."] Well my friends, as it is not much I have to say, I will utter it now, if you will permit me to secure a few notes that are in my overcoat pocket. ["Certainly we will," and cheers.]3

2 Pittsburgh Dispatch, February 15, 1861.
3 Pittsburgh Dispatch, February 15, 1861. The notes are listed as one of the items in Folder No. 10 of the Robert Todd Lincoln collection.
The President-elect disappeared to get the important notes, but returned empty-handed. The committee had dissuaded him from speaking further that evening, arguing that the hour was late, and the weather bad. Lincoln agreed good-naturedly with them, but felt he owed the people an apology. He stepped forward, and offered these Lincolnesque pleasantries to his audience:

Fellow citizens, I have been prevailed upon by your committee, to postpone my intended remarks to you until to-morrow, when I hope for more favorable weather, and I have made my appearance now only to afford you an opportunity as clearly as may be, to see my beautiful countenance! [Loud laughter and three cheers.] In the morning at half past eight o'clock, I purpose speaking to you from this place. Until then, I bid you all good night.

President-elect Lincoln should have been a hoarse and weary man at the conclusion of these brief remarks. This strangely “silent man” had made more than forty speeches of varying length in the three-day trip to Pittsburgh. A cheery “good night” sent the people to their homes, and Lincoln to his bed. Morning might bring better weather and a larger crowd.

The “peculiar interest of Pennsylvania” was no new subject to Abraham Lincoln; he had thought on it, and prepared notes for the address of the following day. The problem had plagued him in days when he first loomed a presidential possibility. At the time, Dr. Edward Wallace had written him, asking that he set forth his views on the tariff. It was a cautious man who penned this reply:

I was an old Henry Clay-Tariff-Whig. In old times I made more speeches on that subject than any other. I have not since changed my views. I believe yet, if we could have a moderate, carefully adjusted protective tariff, so far acquiesced in as not to be a perpetual subject of political strife, squabbles, changes, and uncertainties, it would be better for us. Still it is my opinion that just now the revival of that question will not advance the cause itself, or the man who revives it.

The Illinoisan played the game of politics wisely and well; he refused to “cross Fox River until he came to it.” He asked that the reply to Dr. Wallace be held as a confidence; when the time came to speak out, he would declare himself.

But many Pennsylvanians of 1860 were impatient of cautious

4 Pittsburgh Dispatch, February 15, 1861.
answers; they wished a forthright declaration from the President-elect on the tariff. One group went so far as to choose J. E. Harvey, Washington correspondent for the Philadelphia North American, to sound out Lincoln on the subject. In reply to a letter from the Philadelphia newspaperman, Mr. Lincoln wrote:

In 1844 I was on Clay's electoral ticket in this State (i.e., Illinois) and, to the best of my ability, sustained, together, the tariff of 1842 and the tariff plank of the Clay platform. This could be proven by hundreds—perhaps thousands—of living witnesses; still it is not in print except by inference. The Whig papers of those years all show that I was upon the electoral ticket; even though I made speeches, among other things about the tariff, but they do not show what I said about it. The papers show that I was one of a committee which reported, among others, a resolution in these words:

"That we are in favor of an adequate revenue on duties from imports so levied as to afford ample protection to American industry."

But, after all, was it really any more than the tariff plank of our present platform? And does not my acceptance pledge me to that? And am I at liberty to do more, if I were inclined? Such answer was hardly satisfactory to men who planned to make Pittsburgh the iron and steel center of the world. They had hoped for the appointment of their man Cameron to the Cabinet, but President-elect Lincoln appointed him, unappointed him, apologized for his action and left the wily Simon dangling in mid-air. Pennsylvanians waited anxiously for the coming of the morning, which would bring word from Abraham Lincoln.

On the morning of February 15, 1861, President-elect Lincoln rose at an early hour. The members of the Pittsburgh Councils waited on him at eight o'clock, and he received visitors until eight thirty. At that hour, as promised, he stepped out before the largest crowd ever assembled in Pittsburgh. Mayor Wilson welcomed him to the city in a brief and appropriate speech. Abraham Lincoln stood silent a moment, gazing on the faces of his people; he had come to Fox River. Slowly, deliberately, he began to speak:

Mayor Wilson and Citizens of Pennsylvania: I most cordially thank his honor Mayor Wilson, and the citizens of Pittsburgh generally for this flattering reception. It is more grateful, because I know that, while it is not given to me alone, but to the cause which I represent, yet it is given under circumstances which clearly prove to me that there is good will and sincere feeling at the bottom of it.

And here, fellow citizens, I may remark that in every short address I have made to the people, and in every crowd through which I have passed of late, some allusion

6 Nicolay and Hay, Complete Works, VI, 61–62.
has been made to the present distracted condition of the country. It is naturally expected that I should say something upon this subject, but to touch upon it would involve an elaborate discussion of a great many questions and circumstances, would require more time than I can at present command, and would unnecessarily commit me on matters which have not yet fully developed themselves. (Immense cheering and cries of "good!" "that's right.")

The condition of the country, fellow citizens, is an extraordinary one, and fills the mind of every patriot with anxiety and solicitude. My intention is to give this subject all the consideration which I possibly can before I speak fully and definitely in regard to it—so that, when I do speak, I may be as nearly right as possible. And when I do speak, fellow citizens, I hope to say nothing in opposition to the spirit of the Constitution, contrary to the integrity of the Union, or which will in any way prove inimical to the liberties of the people or to the peace of the whole country. And, furthermore, when the time arrives for me to speak on this great subject, I hope to say nothing which will disappoint the reasonable expectations of any man, or to disappoint the people generally throughout the country, especially if their expectations have been based upon anything which I may have heretofore said.

Notwithstanding the troubles across the river, (the speaker pointing southwardly and smiling) there is really no crisis, springing from anything in the government itself. In plain words, there is really no crisis except an artificial one! What is there now to warrant the condition of affairs presented by our friends "over the river"? Take even their own view of the question involved, and there is nothing to justify the course which they are pursuing. I repeat it, then—there is no crisis excepting such a one as may be gotten up at any time by designing politicians. My advice, then under such circumstances, is to keep cool. If the great American people will only keep their temper, on both sides of the line, the troubles will come to an end, and the question which now distracts the country will be settled just as surely as all other difficulties of like character which have originated in this government have been adjusted. Let the people on both sides keep their self-possession, and just as other clouds have cleared away in due time, so will this, and this great nation will continue to prosper as heretofore. But, fellow citizens, I have spoken longer on this subject than I had intended to at the outset—and I shall say no more at present.

Fellow citizens, as this is the first opportunity which I have had to address a Pennsylvania assemblage, it seems a fitting time to indulge in a few remarks upon the important question of a tariff—a subject of great magnitude, and one which is attended with many difficulties, owing to the great variety of interests which it involves. So long as direct taxation for the support of the government is not resorted to, a tariff is necessary. The tariff is to the government what a meal is to the family; but, while this is admitted, it still becomes necessary to modify and change its operations according to new interests and new circumstances. So far there is little difference of opinion among politicians, but the question as to how far the imposts may be adjusted for the protection of home industry, gives rise to various views and objections. I must confess that I do not understand this subject in all its multiform bearings, but I promise you that I will give it my closest attention, and endeavor to comprehend it more fully. And here I may remark that the Chicago platform contains a plank upon this subject, which I think should be regarded as law for the incoming administration. In fact, this question, as well as all other subjects embodied in the platform, should not be varied from what we gave the people to understand would be our policy when we obtained their votes. Permit me, fellow citizens,
to read the tariff plank of the Chicago platform, or rather to have it read in your hearing, by one who has younger eyes than I have.

Mr. Lincoln's private Secretary then read section twelfth of the Chicago platform, as follows:

"That, while providing revenue for the support of the General Government by duties upon imposts, sound policy requires such an adjustment of the imposts as to encourage the development of the industrial interest of the whole country, and we commend that policy of national exchanges which secures to the working men liberal wages, to agriculture remunerating prices, to mechanics and manufacturers an adequate reward for their skill, labor, and enterprise, and to the nation commercial prosperity and independence."

Mr. Lincoln continued—Now, fellow citizens, I must confess that there are shades of difference in construing even this plank in the platform. But I am not intending to discuss these differences, but merely to give you some general ideas on this subject. I have long thought that if there be any article of necessity which can be produced at home with as little or nearly the same labor as abroad, it would be better to protect that article. Labor is the true standard of value. If a bar of iron, got out of the mines of England, and a bar of iron taken from the mines of Pennsylvania, be produced at the same cost, it follows that if the English bar be shipped from Manchester to Pittsburgh, and the American bar from Pittsburgh to Manchester, the cost of carriage is appreciably lost. (Laughter.) If we had no iron here, then we should encourage its shipment from foreign countries; but not when we make it as cheaply in our own country. This brings us back to our first proposition, that if any article can be produced at home with nearly the same cost as abroad, the carriage is lost labor.

The treasury of the nation is in such low condition at present that this subject now demands the attention of Congress, and will demand the immediate consideration of the new Administration. The tariff bill now before Congress may or may not pass the present session. I confess I do not understand the precise provisions of this bill, and I do not know if it can be passed by the present Congress or not. It may or may not become the law of the land—but if it does, that will be an end of the matter until a modification can be effected, should it be deemed necessary. If it does not pass (and the latest advices I have are to the effect that it is still pending) the next Congress will have to give it their earliest attention.

According to my political education, I am inclined to believe that the people in the various sections of the country should have their own views carried out through their representatives in Congress, and if consideration of the Tariff Bill should be postponed until the next session of the National Legislature, no subject should engage your representatives more closely than that of a tariff. And if I have any recommendation to make, it will be that every man who is called upon to serve the people in a representative capacity, should study this whole subject thoroughly, as I intend to do myself, looking to all the varied interests of our common country, so that when the time for action arrives adequate protection can be extended to the coal and iron of Pennsylvania, the corn of Illinois, and the "reapers of Chicago." Permit me to express the hope that this important subject may receive such consideration at the hands of your representatives, that the interests of no part of the country may be overlooked, but that all sections may share in the common benefits of a just and equitable tariff. (Applause.)

But I am trespassing upon your patience—(Cries of "no!" "no!" "Go on—we'll
The "coal and iron of Pennsylvania, the corn of Illinois, and the 'reapers of Chicago'" were not words attributed to Abraham Lincoln by his secretaries, John G. Nicolay and John Hay. These were words heard by newspapermen on the morning of February 15, 1861, and pose the question: what did the President-elect say at Pittsburgh?

Unlike many speeches given on the trip to Washington City, the tariff address was prepared before its delivery. Lincoln made notes for an address he considered to be important, and the Pittsburgh press referred to it as his first "set" speech on the trip. The Pittsburgh newspapers may have been in error, for the catalogue of the Robert Todd Lincoln collection reveals the existences of notes for the addresses at Indianapolis and Cincinnati, as well as those mentioned by Lincoln at Pittsburgh. Despite the existence of notes, the tariff address presents the same problem as many extemporaneous speeches given on the journey to Washington: what were the words of Lincoln?

Conclusive historical evidence does not exist in this matter, but the adduction of a few pertinent facts may lead to possible conclusions. Nicolay and Hay included the better known version of the tariff address in their Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, but cited no source for the speech. A like version is given in the Writings of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Arthur Brooks Lapsley, where the New York Tribune is cited as the source of the address. It might be concluded from such facts that Nicolay and Hay used the Tribune version, or made use of a manuscript not available to others. This latter point is offset to great extent by the failure of Nicolay and Hay to employ the corrected version of the reply to Governor Morton, which was submitted to the Indianapolis Journal by President-elect Lincoln, and the fact that no manuscript version of the tariff address has come to light. It may be that the Lincoln secretaries used the Tribune version, or that of the New York Times, both of which are identical with the Nicolay and Hay version.

Comparison of the Pittsburgh press text with that of Nicolay and Hay does not reveal essential differences in content, but there are variations which are deserving of consideration. The section of the

7 Pittsburgh Dispatch, February 16, 1861; Pittsburgh Gazette, February 16, 1861.
address dealing with the national crisis includes no essential differences of content, for the Pittsburgh press changed but a word here and there. That part of the address treating of the tariff includes several variations in wording from the Nicolay and Hay, and an addition of content not included by the Lincoln secretaries. In the Pittsburgh press, the President-elect is revealed as having spoken of the visit to Pittsburgh as offering him his first opportunity to address a Pennsylvania assemblage. Had he overlooked the brief pleasantries at Rochester, or was the small crowd not an "assemblage"? The Pittsburgh press reported Lincoln as having said that there was little difference in opinion of politicians on the tariff, whereas Nicolay and Hay used the word "people" rather than "politicians." In addition, Pittsburgh reporters listened to Lincoln confess his ignorance of the varied aspects of the tariff legislation, a most unusual confession for a man in politics, and one overlooked by his secretaries.

The concluding paragraphs of the Pittsburgh press version are most unlike those given in Nicolay and Hay. The two secretaries cut Mr. Lincoln short at Pittsburgh, and did not permit him to "trespass on the patience of the people," nor bid them farewell. But the most significant difference in the two versions of the address is included in the clause, "when the time for action arrives adequate protection can be extended to the coal and iron of Pennsylvania, the corn of Illinois, and the 'reapers of Chicago.'"

This apparently unimportant clause offers a clue as to the probable address delivered by Abraham Lincoln at Pittsburgh. It appeared not only in the Pittsburgh Dispatch and Pittsburgh Gazette for February 16, 1861, but in the Cincinnati Gazette, the Cleveland Daily Plain Dealer, the Cleveland Morning Leader and the Philadelphia Inquirer of the same date. The newspapers of Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Philadelphia reported not only the clause, but a version of the address identical with that of the Dispatch and Gazette. The Pittsburgh Post and Pittsburgh Evening Chronicle substituted the "corn of Indiana" for that of Illinois, but they, too, included the clause. The New York Tribune version given by Lapsley does not include the clause, but it is significant to note that the special correspondence of O. H. Dutton, the Tribune correspondent on the Lincoln train, included a report of the address identical with that of the
Pittsburgh Dispatch. It is of like import to note that eight widely circulated newspapers included the clause guaranteeing protection to the coal and iron of Pennsylvania, corn, and Chicago reapers. Many able journalists agreed with the Pittsburgh press version, for it was copied down by S. D. Page, editor of the Cleveland Morning Leader, J. W. Gray, editor of the Cleveland Daily Plain Dealer, and such outstanding correspondents as W. G. Terrill, of the Cincinnati Gazette, O. H. Dutton, of the New York Tribune, and W. P. Painter, of the Philadelphia Inquirer. Painter, a Pennsylvanian, had an interest in a promise of protection for Pennsylvania industries and was not likely to overlook such a promise. The fact that five able newspapermen agreed as to the tariff address is not mere coincidence; such evidence tips the scales heavily in favor of the tariff address as reported in the Pittsburgh Dispatch and Pittsburgh Gazette. As evidence that the Pittsburgh press version had wide circulation, there is this bit of humorous doggerel from the pen of a poetaster in rural Ohio:

There's hope yet, there's hope, for the safety of our land
He's going to have a tariff made to comfort all our souls—
And the first thing he'll protect will be Pennsylvania coals.

The rail splitting hero sniffs the danger from afar;
And has studied out a speedy plan to quench the flames of war.
Protection's now his hobby—it will surely save us boys!
He's going to give protection to the corn of Illinois.

Oh, wisdom is embodied in good old Abraham's head
And his famous Pittsburgh plan of peace on lightning wings he spreads.
Old Pennsylvania's iron, and Chicago reapers too,
As well as Coal and Corn are bound to have their due.8

The Ohio bard might have pointed out that the President-elect was a practical politician, who was having difficulty with the Utopian plank of the Republican platform, a tariff plank designed to catch flies with several kinds of honey. The inclusion of such divergent factors as high prices, high wages, and adequate prices for farm products demanded a sacrifice of group interests not yet attained in these United States. The tariff address at Pittsburgh tried to

8 Western Star (Celina, Ohio), February 28, 1861.
reconcile divergent interests, but at the same time it gave specific guarantee of protection of the interests of Pennsylvania.

The address on the tariff pleased the pro-Lincoln press, but opposition journals were most critical of it. After observing that the President-elect possessed an intelligent face, and "facial angles that would not break a looking glass," the Pittsburgh *Post* censured his tariff address as a device employed to evade the vital issue, preservation of the Union. "Honest Abe" did not impress the *Post* editor with his treatment of the tariff question, for the newspaperman wrote:

> Although the Morrill Tariff Bill has been for three sessions before Congress, Mr. Lincoln does not seem to be thoroughly informed on it—any more than he is upon the geography of Pittsburgh, when he speaks of the South as "across the river."^9

The address which proved displeasing to the editor of the *Post* consumed thirty minutes, instead of the fifteen estimated by Lincoln. It was time to leave for Cleveland. The President-elect was escorted to the Allegheny station, boarded the train, and waved farewell to the large throng. The train sped through Ohio for the next two days, but at noon of February 16, 1861, it drew near the city of Erie. Among the travelers it carried was the noted, but eccentric Horace Greeley, the editor of the New York *Tribune*, who had boarded the train at Girard, carrying his famous red and blue blanket. He was to deliver a lecture at Erie, and had taken this opportunity to offer some sage advice to the President-elect.

Erie had prepared for the coming of Abraham Lincoln, and a large crowd greeted the presidential train. But a hungry President-elect and his suite were not interested in ceremony; they hurried to the dining room. After lunch, the President-elect stepped to the east door of the station, from which point he addressed the people. An Erie reporter failed to catch the exact words of Lincoln, but he wrote this long-hidden account of the visit:

> Being hoarse and fatigued, he excused himself from speaking at any length or expressing his opinions on the exciting questions of the day. He trusted that when the time for speaking, full and plainly, should come, he would say nothing not in accordance with the Constitution and Laws and the manifest interests of the whole country. Counseling all to firmness, forbearance and a patriotic adherence to the Constitution and the Union, he retired amidst applause. Returning to the cars, they

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^9*Pittsburgh Post*, February 16, 1861.
speedily started upon the Eastward course, with Mr. Lincoln on the platform of the last supporting with his right arm the American flag. His noble, manly face was lit up with patriotic fire, while his firm grasp of the flag seemed to indicate an unyielding determination to defend and uphold it.\(^{10}\)

The large crowd cheered the President-elect until his train was out of sight. It had liked the gentleman from Illinois, as had other Pennsylvania assemblages. The Pittsburgh *Post* might criticize the man, his words, and lack of policy, but the majority voice of Pennsylvania found expression in the words of an Erie newspaperman:

In regard to Mr. Lincoln's personal appearance we would say (quoting from the *Buffalo Express*) that we think that the universal opinion of those who saw him here, is that he possesses a much finer countenance than has been represented either in the portraits or the descriptions that have been published. He is certainly not a handsome man, but there is an expression in his face, much due to the eye that lights it, perhaps, which is pleasing in the extreme. There is a blending of gravity and goodness in his look, even when the face is in repose, which wins confidence and affection, and satisfies one of his fitness for the great office, with its weighty responsibilities, to which he has been called by the people of the United States. When he smiles he is handsome, and when he bows he is graceful, notwithstanding the bow is a peculiar one, and the form that bends is not of graceful mould. There is much evident sincerity in the kindness of the smile, and such apparent real courtesy in the bow, that one cannot see either and think again that Mr. Lincoln is homely or awkward as he has been styled.\(^{11}\)

It was fitting tribute and farewell from western Pennsylvania to the giant from out of the prairies of Illinois.

*J. H. Cramer*

\(^{10}\) Erie *Weekly Gazette*, February 21, 1861. The only known unmutilated copy of this newspaper is in the possession of the Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio.

\(^{11}\) Erie *Weekly Gazette*, February 21, 1861.