

1901

Address upon the assassination of President William McKinley

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11. Wm McKinley

Brother, the shadow of a
great calamity rests
upon our land. The
sound of mourning is to
be heard from sleeping
pines of our north to our
clads of hills of our south.
In every household, there
are is sadness & sorrow,
our our chieftain has
fallen upon his shield
cut down by the assassin
bullet in the strength of
middle manhood & in the
day of his power. The
blow has fallen upon us
like a flash of lightning
from the sky. It seems

inevitable that so great
 & true a man, one who
 had risen from people
 of whose administration
 was characterized not only
 by a love for liberty
 but an effort to throw
 off the bands of tyranny
 of an oppressed people
 who was one of the first
 men in history to inaugurate
 a war for humanity, that
 this man should be
 murdered for assassination
 took place in a day of
 social depression when
 the work shops were closed
 & the smoke of the factories
 did not reach the sky &
 when the
 being born of miseries

was still, were we in
 a day when labor was
 had to find a wage
 were low, were poor
 hungry & naked, we could
 understand how 'evil spirit
 in men might arise, &
 seek vengeance on society &
 'nation by a stroke which
 'gov. would feel 'heavenly.
 But 'reverse is true, when
 have ~~we~~ ^{the} ~~forgot~~ ^{forgot} at a
 people, ^{forgot} ~~them~~ fully at
 table of prosperity than
 to-day, under ~~the~~ the
 administration of what President
 has the commercial
 interests of our land gone
 a head at such a
 rapid pace, or work
 been run abundant,

or money more four than
 under the ~~former~~ administration
 of Pres. McKim? And yet
 notwithstanding the propriety of
 'land, notwithstanding the
 service he has been to the
 cause of justice & liberty
 notwithstanding his high
 personal qualities he is
 cut down & 'nation, yet
 world is plunged into
 grief. The man will be
 alarmed at some of the
 product which the board
 authorized of ²¹⁸ 79 it. Century has
 given up. It said 'assassination
 of ²⁰ 79 million in civilized lands, 11
 of whom were Presidents of
 Republics, but on only
 in '22. being '1st year of

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'2nd half of '1st year of '20th
cent. & already 'long list of
hours is added to by ^{murder} one of
'greatest heads of gov. on 'earth.
The cry has risen crush
out anarchy. Trample it
under 'heel of 'police. But
my friends, no permanent
~~results~~ results can be secured
~~by~~ in this direction by the
surveillance of 'law. It may
make anarchy more secret
but not more deterrred &
murderous. Our relief is in
the education of all the
people in the justice of
government, 'value of our
social institutions & 'inestimable
blessings of civil liberty. We
must see to it th. all
'young are sent to school

to the ⁶ ch. of XT permeate
all strata of Society with
the principles & spirit. It
cannot come in a day, but
c. 'extension of justice in god,
& enlightenment through our
schools, & virtue through
aggressive propagation of Xian
relig. it will eventually
become impo. to maintain a
theory of society whose end
is to plunge 'hungry into 'hands
of rulers.

President McKim is dead
but he has left 'Am. people
an inheritance, & of him more
than next men it can
be said th. his works
will follow him. I do
not think he is the
greatest man who has occupied

our Presidential chair. He
did not have ~~the~~ the
~~wealth of qualifications~~ breadth,
the genius, the wealth of
self sacrifice & patriotic
devotion of Washington, our
1st & still our greatest President,
He did not have 'intel-
power of John Adams, or
rich ~~depth~~ ^{unity} of intellect, &
feeling wh. so distinguished
Lincoln, ~~making him almost~~
he was not as ripe a
scholar as Jefferson, or a
man of as grt independence
of admin as Grant, but
take him altogether, his
judicial deliberations, his
patriotic convictions, his
personal virtues, his domestic
devotion, he ~~is~~ ^{is} still a

typical American, worthy of
 love & devotion of every
 true citizen & his name
 can ~~be~~ well be handed
 down to our children's children
 with honor & respect. I
 do not say that his
 administration was without
 errors. ~~I~~ ~~was~~ ~~to~~ speak
 frankly ~~I~~ believe he ~~made~~
 by listening too much to the
 Council of others, ^{he made} some grave
 mistakes, which cost human
 lives & treasure, but no one
~~would~~ ~~see~~ who defied e,
 his policy would say th.
 he did not act for what
 he believed to be 'national
 honor & nat. good. How
 high a place history may
 give him, it is entirely to

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early to predict, but one
thing cannot be doubted
& that is that he will always
be endeared to 'Am. people
as one of its ^{best} noblest & truest
men, & as one of its most
eminent & ^{able} statesmen
& Presidents.

Pres. Mc Kinley was
'incarnation of 'Am. spirit. He
was ambitious, enthusiastic,
devoted to his country, &
in sympathy with his fellow
men. He came from people &
belonged to people. He was
not inflated by 'dignity of
office. He was great enough
not to be swung out of balance
by 'voice of popular applause.
As a youth he had been
brought up in 'humble home

of a hard headed man of toil.
 He has struggled in early life
 for a place in his profession,
 He had gone up ladder
 attainment a round at a time,
~~he really~~ he had touched
 'people so many years
 elbow to elbow, etc. When he
 came to highest position an
 American citizen can hope
 to reach, he did not become
 as many of men do, exclusive,
 but preserved his warm citizen's
 sympathy for & confidence
 in the citizens of humble
 life. He was 'embodiment of
 integrity & cordality. He loved
 'people & people loved him,
 & it is safe to say because
 of this there are now
 weeping eyes to day in

hours of toil as well as in
palaces of rich, than would
have been occasioned by
death of any other man now
prominent in Am. life.

Mr. McK. was an
unselfish man. I do not
say he was devoid of ambition,
or th. he did not enjoy
gt honor wh. was placed
upon him. That he certainly
did. He sought office early
& struggle to attain all
public positions open to his
talents, but his ambition
was not a purely selfish
one. It was a right ambition
the desire to succeed, to render
high & distinguished service,
ambition I wish every
youth in Am. had. And

This ambition was sanctified
 & ennobled by a lofty and
 unselfishness & devotion to
 duty, by a purpose to use
 his position not for his own
 advantage but for good of
 country, by determination to
 advance just policies &
 right causes no matter
 what it would cost. I do not
 believe he would ever have
 sacrificed principle to self-
 aggrandizement. His whole
 public career showed
 that he was not only
 patriotic, but sincerely devoted
 to the welfare of his country &
 his countrymen. This was
 manifest in his earlier life but
 became especially conspicuous
 during his Presidency.

The pendant was a
 courageous man. Some have
 said th. he was a pol.
 Turner, that he was
 edly of Herb. Hanna, th-
 he waited to see which way
 wind blew before he spoke,
 I do not believe this is
 a true estimate. He was
 deliberate, very wise man is,
 He did not move in times
 of excitement as rapidly as
 people thought he should,
 but he moved a 1000
 times more safely than
 crowd. He had courage to
 wait, to wait till hour had
 come for action, & often finds,
 it takes more courage to
 wait to act justly, than to
 do almost anything else. ^{very}

a strong & courageous man
 can hold himself down to
 his convictions & wait again
 popular clamor for action
 McKinley showed he did do this
 in notable event wh. precede
 'cuban war. He showed he
 had courage on 'battle field'
 field, he showed he had
 courage in 'maintenance of his
 own opinions & 'firmness
 of his own policies, & he
 showed th. he had courage
 th. during his long pub.
 career, amid 'of temptations
 of public life to laxity of
 morals & indifference to religion
 he kept his character
 pure & his trust in God
 always to front.

The ~~President~~ was a
man of ~~high~~ ethical & relig-
ious sentiment.

The president was a man
of deep emotional nature
& ardent attachments. Like
Washington & Lincoln he had
a big heart & it tie him
to those he loved. Bonds
of steel. He was almost
adored by his friends. Those
who stood close to him were
most devoted. Some men
are ritualist, but superficially
learn. They are impatient,
dominating, self-absorbed, they
can admire & praise but
not love. This was not
true of our fallen president,
his nature was rich in

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feeling, & he grasped ' hard
he shook c, want & effort,
He was a fond of little children
& boys & girls loved him, &
I knew no girl belonging to
'wore' had been of a great man
th. that he is of children's
favorite. His subordinates looked
upon him as a brother. His
old mentor felt less love
to be so warm & true, th - it
anteped all his fame &
achievements, when he was
nearly for 'preuding' 1st
time, a friend suggested
to him, it was probable th.
he would be defeated,
She drew herself up proudly
& said 'let him be
defeated, he will still
be my son - with her

'consciousness of his love &
 not 'dignity of his office
 was 'gt thing. But in his
 domestic life esp. we see
 'wealth of his 'gt affection.
 He did not deem it silly
 to be affectionate & tender, &
 show in 'face & 'word what
 a holy thing a true love of
 man for woman is. Our
 Am. people, in an age
 shameful in domestic
 infidelity & divorce, has never
 had a 'gt example of
 domestic devotion than
 Pres. McKinley showed his
 invalid wife. He did not
 let 'conscience & 'responsi-
 bilities, intrude on his
 tender care & devotion to

her. If we could point
 to nothing else in life of
 this noble & man with
 something, we should have
 in this enough to endorse
 him to us favor.

The President was
 a relig. man. It is a
 matter of pride th - he was
 a member of our own ch -
 But he was more than a
 Unit. That is a little &
 unimportant thing. It
 essential is th. he belonged
 to his nation only & now
 to ch. triumphant. He was
 Catholic in his relig-
 sympathies. When he died
 he did repeat one of John
 Wesley's lines but that
 moved petition on which

all denunciations & broaches of
 Xenon's eyes, no matter how
 dif- their creeds & rituals,
 'Tods prayer. The hymn
 he repeated was written
 by a Unitarian, but it voiced
 'deepest relig. feelings of'
 soul, 'How, my S - to them?
 It was 'emulous religious
 of Wm McKim, begun in
 youth, & constantly cultivated
 in later years, th - gave
 him many of 'greatness &
 th. as so appreciated by
 'Am. people. It ~~was~~
 helped make him patient
 in attack, strong & trusting
 in hours of trial, sympathetic
 & noble & brave in his
 relations w. man, faithful
 in hour of duty, beautiful