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Lincoln's Farewell Address: address delivered from the rear platform of his train on the forenoon of February 11, 1861, at the old Wabash passenger station, as Lincoln was leaving Springfield for Washington to become president

Abraham Lincoln

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LINCOLN'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

Address delivered from the rear platform of his train on the forenoon of February 11, 1861, at the old Wabash passenger station, as Lincoln was leaving Springfield for Washington to become president.

MY FRIENDS: No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I can not succeed. With that assistance, I can not fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.



Born July 15, 1848

Greetings and Best Wishes from,

(Only living person to have had the privilege,)

ROBERT C. KEYES, at the age of thirteen, in company with his father, shook hands with and bade goodbye, to:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

February 9th, 1861, two days prior to Mr. Lincoln's departure, from Springfield, Illinois, for Washington, D. C., to assume the duties of the presidency of the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. C. Keyes", written over a horizontal line.

(Not genuine unless bearing personal signature)

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