REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
Hodgenville, Kentucky
June 14, 1936

I have visited the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born. I have come here individually, as one of many millions of Americans whose lives have been influenced for the good by Abraham Lincoln.

I live, temporarily, in the same house and the same rooms once occupied by him. The very window from which he gazed in the dark days is the same.

But this cabin is even more personal than the scenes of his official life; for here was born and lived the child. Here is the promise, later to be so splendidly fulfilled.

I have taken from this cabin a renewed confidence that the spirit of America is not dead, that men and means will be found to explore and conquer the problems of a new time with no less humanity and no less fortitude than his.

Here we can renew our pledge of fidelity to the faith which Lincoln held in the common man -- the faith so simply expressed when he said:

"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of Democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy."
This is a transcript made by the White House stenographer from his shorthand notes taken at the time the speech was made. Underlining indicates words extemporaneously added to the previously prepared reading copy text. Words in parentheses are words that were omitted when the speech was delivered, though they appear in the previously prepared reading copy text.

I have always been interested in the same house and the same man. I live, of course, in the same house and the same man. But not always to have my parents yesterday. That's all right. If you want me to love you. I want to be here, and I want to be here now. It's not possible for me to be here, and I want to be here now. If you want me to love you. I want to be here, and I want to be here now.

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I have visited the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born. To each of us this cabin must bring its own message.

I personally could not but think as I stood before this shrine of the great memorial that stands on the Potomac. It seems to me that this cabin is even more noble and more touching than the Memorial, because here was born and lived the child. Here is the promise unpromising; where the fulfilment, after the event, not so difficult to comprehend. I have taken from this cabin a renewed confidence that the pioneer spirit is not dead, that men and means will be found to explore
and conquer the problems of a new time with no less
fortitude and no less self-reliance, than those
possessed who first came across the mountains, with
their wagons, their goods, their families and their
hopes.

Here we can renew our pledge of fidelity to the
faith which Lincoln held in the common man — the faith
so simply and so beautifully expressed by him when he
said:

"As I would not be a slave, so I would not be
a master. This expresses my idea of Democracy.
Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the
difference is no democracy."
I have come here as one of many millions of Americans whose lives have been influenced by the work of Abraham Lincoln.

If I die, thousands, in the lower house and the upper rooms, were occupied by the windows from which he gazed in the dark days of the Union.
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