

## THE PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU.

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### Lincoln and Washington.

Never since the creation of man were two human beings so unlike, so nearly extremes or opposite to each other, as Washington and Lincoln. The one an aristocrat by birth, by breeding and association, the other in every sense and by every surrounding a democrat. As the richest man in America, a large slave holder, the possessor of an enormous landed estate and the leader and representative of the property and the culture and the college of the Colonial period, Washington stood for the conservation and preservation of law and order. He could be a revolutionist and pledge life and fortune and honor for the principles which his judgement safe guarded the rights and liberties of his country. But in the construction of the Republic and in the formations of its institutions and in the critical period of experiment until they could get in working order he gave to them and implanted in them conservative elements which are found in no other system of government. And yet millionaire, slave holder and aristocrat in its best sense that he was, all his life so at any time he would have died for the immortal principle put by the Puritans in their charter adopted in the cabin of the Mayflower and reenforced in the Declaration of Independence, of the equality of all men before the law, and of equal opportunity for all to rise.

Lincoln on the other hand, was born in a cabin among that class known as poor whites, in slave holding times, who held and could hold no position and whose condition was so hopeless as to paralyze ambition and effort. His situation so far as his surroundings were concerned, had considerable mental but little moral improvement by the removal to Indiana, and subsequently to Illinois. Anywhere in the Old World a man was born amid environment and teachings and possessed of unconquerable energy and ambition and the greatest powers of elegance and constructive statesmanship, would have been a socialist and the leader of a social revolt. He might have been an anarchist. His one ambition would have been to break the crust above him and shatter it to pieces. He would see otherwise no opportunity for himself and his fellows in social or professional or political life. But Lincoln attained from the log cabin of the poor white in the wilderness the same position which George Washington reached from his palatial mansion and baronial estate on the Patomac. He made the same fight, unselfishly, patriotically, and grandly for the preservation of the Republic that Washington had made for its creation and foundation.

Widely as they are separated, these two heroes of the two great crisis of our national life stand together in representing solvent power, inspiring processes and the hopeful opportunities of American liberty. The one coming from the top and the other from the bottom, to the Presidency of the United States, the leadership of the people, the States, they superbly illustrate the fact that under our institutions there is neither place nor time for socialist or the anarchist, but there is a place and always a time notwithstanding the discouragements of origin or youth, for grit, pluck, ambition, honesty and brains.