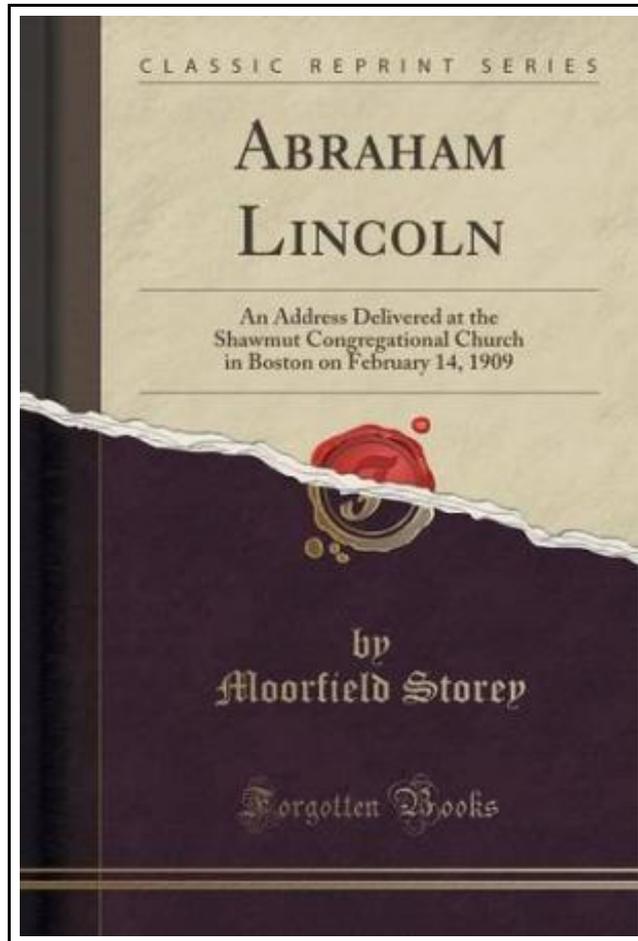


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(Marlin Bergstrom)

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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Abraham Lincoln: An Address Delivered at the Shawmut Congregational Church in Boston on February 14, 1909 We are met to commemorate the birth of him whom Lowell called the first American. The phrase was well chosen, for Abraham Lincoln was the first great leader of this people who sprang as it were straight from American soil and grew to manhood under purely American influences. He stands preeminent in our history because he was true to the cardinal principle of American freedom upon which our existence as a nation is founded, the great truth that all men are created equal, and lived to make his countrymen adopt and apply it in dealing with slavery, the greatest evil that ever afflicted this country. I am not here to sketch his biography, but I should like to make you realize the conditions of his childhood and youth, for they emphasize the lesson of his life. He knew little of his ancestors, and apparently owed nothing to inheritance. In his first recorded address, made at the age of twenty-three, he said truly: I was born, and have ever remained, in the most humble walks of life. I have no wealthy or popular relations or friends to recommend me. His father was an ignorant and shiftless carpenter, while of his mother s family he only knew that they belonged to the class known as poor whites ; and he was not tempted to inquire further. He was born in Kentucky, but his father was a wanderer, and by successive moves carried his family to Indiana and finally to Illinois. His poverty may be gathered from the fact that, when Lincoln...

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