## FAREWELL ADDRESS,

On leaving Springfield, Ill., Monday, February 11th, 1861, to go to Washington, to be Inaugurated President.

FRIENDS: No one who has never been placed in a like position can understand my feelings at this hour, nor the oppressive sadness I feel at this parting.

For more than a quarter of a century I have lived among you, and during all that time I have received nothing but kindness at your hands. Here I have lived from my youth until now I am an old man. Here the most sacred ties of earth were assumed; here all my children were born; and here one of them lies buried.

To you, dear friends, I owe all that I have, all that I am. All the strange, checkered past seems to crowd now upon my mind. To-day I leave you: I go to assume a task more difficult than that which devolved upon General Washington.

Unless the Great God, who assisted him, shall be with and aid me, I must fail. But if the Omniscient Mind and the same Almighty Arm that directed and protected him, shall guide and support me, I shall not fail—I shall succeed. Let us all pray that the God of our Fathers may not forsake us now. To Him I commend you all. Permit me to ask, that with equal sincerity and faith, you all will invoke His wisdom and guidance for me.

With these few words I must leave you-for how long I know not.

Friends, one and all, I must now bid you an affectionate farewell.

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