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Charles Baum

Typewritten edited memoir of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address on 19 November 1863.
Original handwritten copy included
TM 2 pp. Ms. 2pp. Dated 17 December 1935.

Charles Baum was 9 years old when Abraham Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address. He, his father Rev. William Baum, D.D., and his brother John Croll Baum went as guests of Rev. James Allen Brown, D.D., the President of the Theological Seminary, to the Wills house where Lincoln stayed the night before on 18 November 1863 and there they heard Lincoln give a few remarks.

On 19 November 1863, the same party arrived at the cemetery early and watched the parade approach, with Lincoln astride a horse that was humorously too small. The first speaker, Edward Everett, was late, so "the gap was filled by music from the several bands." Everett spoke for two hours, during which young Baum tired and rested on the platform steps. After Everett spoke, a hymn was sung, and as Lincoln approached to speak, Baum remembers, "I looked into his sad face and said to myself "now we are in for it again"." After the brief address, there was "profound silence, followed by hearty applause."

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