

General Grant said of General Wallace in the Battle of Monocacy that out of defeat came greater benefits to a cause than often come from victory. And so, from whatever vantage we look at it, the War between the States, judged by its ultimate consequences, the preservation and the strengthening of our Union, was a victory for all Americans. After 100 years, we no longer think of a victorious North and a vanquished South; we think of a triumphant United States of America.

It is in that spirit that we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Civil War. It is in that spirit that we dedicate this marker to the Union soldiers and the Confederate soldiers who fought so gallantly along the banks of this beautiful river.

ADDRESS, DEDICATION OF CIVIL WAR
CENTENNIAL PLAQUE

ANNAPOLIS

October 5, 1964

We have met here this afternoon to unveil and dedicate a plaque in solemn tribute to the gallant Maryland men who fought with the Union and the Confederate forces in the War between the States.

The events which have occurred here today in Annapolis conclude Maryland's part in a nationwide observance of the 100th anniversary of the battles and other occurrences in that titanic struggle which temporarily rocked the foundations of our great nation. It is fitting that we end the observance by installing in this historic State House a memorial to the some 63,000 Marylanders who served in the Union forces and the some 22,000 who fought on the side of the Confederacy in that war.

I am proud to have had a small part in the four-year commemorative program of the Civil War in Maryland. The numerous battle re-enactments and other activities which I attended inspired me as they did others, I am sure—to a renewed resolve that “these dead,” as Lincoln said, “shall not have died in vain.” It was my happy privilege, as the Governor of the State, to sign into the law the legislative measure creating this Maryland Civil War Centennial Commission and setting in motion this period of commemoration. And may I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and my commendation to the many hundreds of men and women who have devoted their time and