

"They have reverence akin to awe for Washington, they admire the military prowess of Dewey or Grant, but Lincoln they love." There is certainly no morbid craving for the lachrymose in the small boy's eagerness for a new book about Lincoln, which when he has found and read with approval he recommends to the other boys with a "Gee, it's great!"

. . .

THE FOUNT OF FICTIVE TEARS, in which the sane and sensible Katie Willows was not wont to dabble, has nevertheless a certain undeniable charm for many other equally normal and healthy representatives of young girlhood. Juvenile readers take their fiction in tremendous earnest, and rather resent than enjoy any appeal to their still undeveloped sense of humor. Those who have had experience in reading or telling stories to children will appreciate an article in the current "Library Journal" on "The Foreign Child and the Book," by Miss Aniela Poray, who evidently knows whereof she writes. "Both boys and girls," she has observed, "care very little for humor in their reading, for it hardly comes in their scheme of life. A common request from girls is for weepy stories. They like 'Sara Crewe' for many reasons, but the fact that it is sad and pathetic is the greatest attraction. When books of appealing human sympathies can be found which combine also literary merit, all is well; but when this craving for weepiness seeks satisfaction in such lollipop books as those of Nina Rhoades, the librarian has a hard task before her. It is not easy to persuade and convince the little girl that not having Nina Rhoades there may be something else that she would like as well. With apologies to Dickens, I found him an excellent alternate for Nina Rhoades and others of her kind. The stories of little Paul Dombey, David Copperfield, Oliver Twist, and Little Nell are pathetic, and the strange English setting is forgotten in the meeting of a familiar type." With both boys and girls of foreign extraction this authority has found Lincoln to be a prime favorite in biography.