

The Athenian Cemetery in the Age of Pericles

Gresham Lecture in Classics



Edwin Lutyens' cenotaph, unveiled at Whitehall 11th November 1920



Anzac Day commemorations annually on 25th April at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra.



Annual Commemorative speech on Remembrance Day in Australia: Paul Keating in 1993

“It was a lesson about ordinary people – and the lesson was that they were not ordinary.

“It is a legend of free and independent spirits whose discipline derived less from military formalities and customs than from the bonds of mateship and the demands of necessity.

“It is a democratic tradition, the tradition in which Australians have gone to war ever since.”



10th May 1871: Treaty of Frankfurt. The French and German governments agreed in the treaty to allow the military dead of either nation to be taken back to their national soil for burial.



Germanicus buries the remains of the Roman legionaries killed in the Battle of Teutoburg Forest (AD 9) six years later.



Theban tomb and memorial at Chaeronea



A MONUMENT OF GREEK PATRIOTISM: THE RESTORATION
OF THE LION OF CHAERONEA.

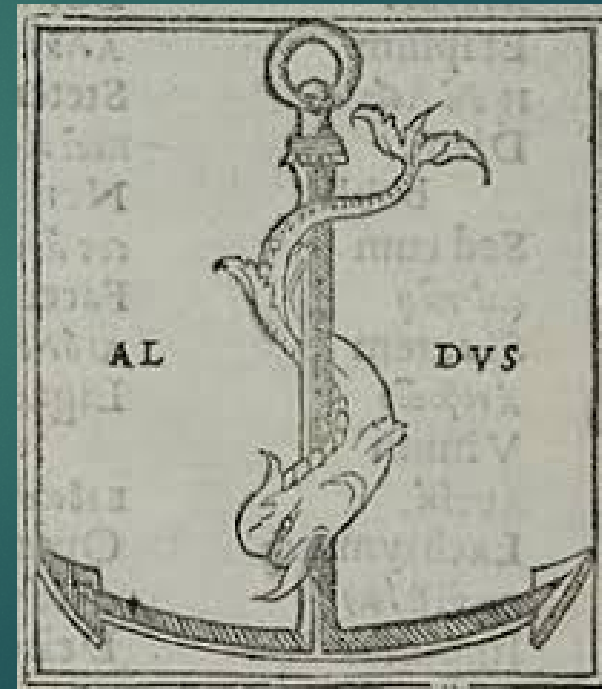
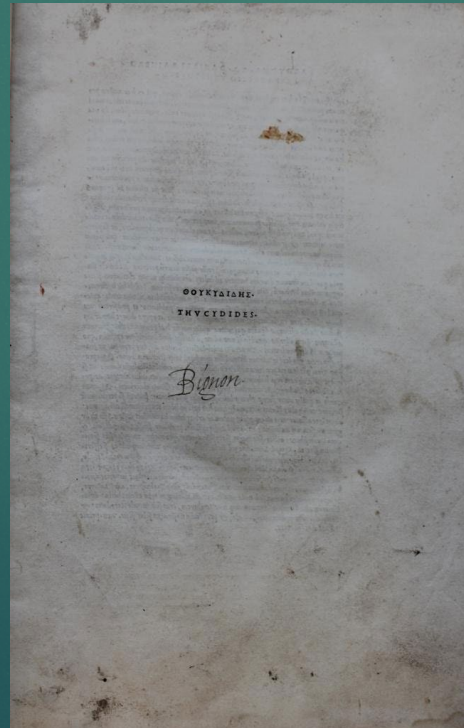
The lion was erected to commemorate the Theban leader, Alcibiades, who fell in a war between Philip of Macedonia and his son. The fragments were unearthed in 1885. The head is intact, and the fragments of the body are now assembled in the Lion of Chaeronea, the monument to the hero.



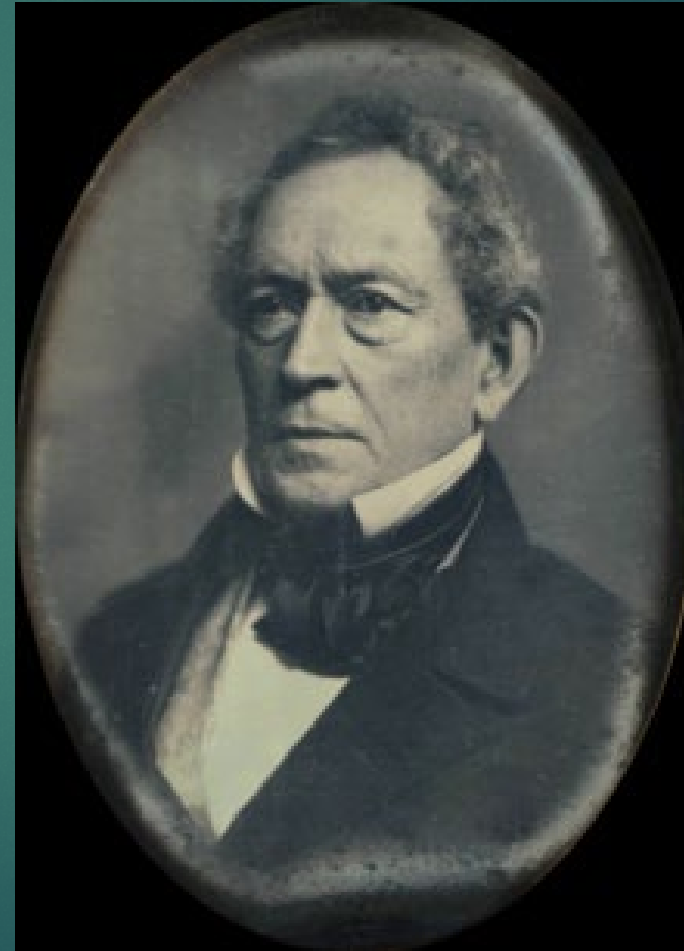
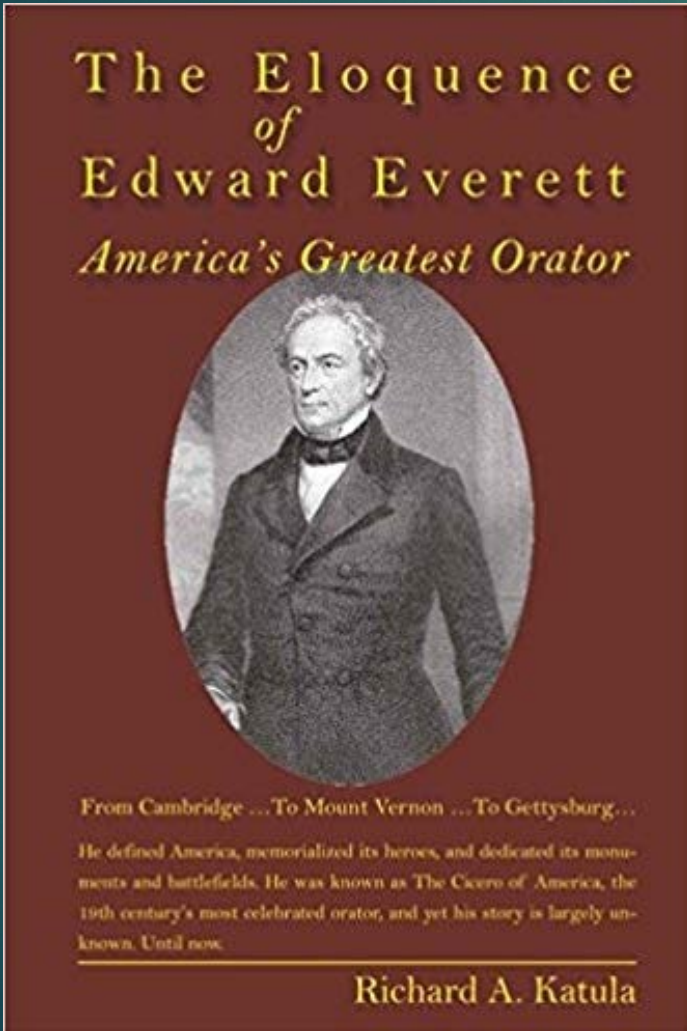
The tumulus and memorial stone of the 192 Athenian men who were killed at the Battle of Marathon in 490 BCE



Aldus Manutius and his 1502 text of Thucydides

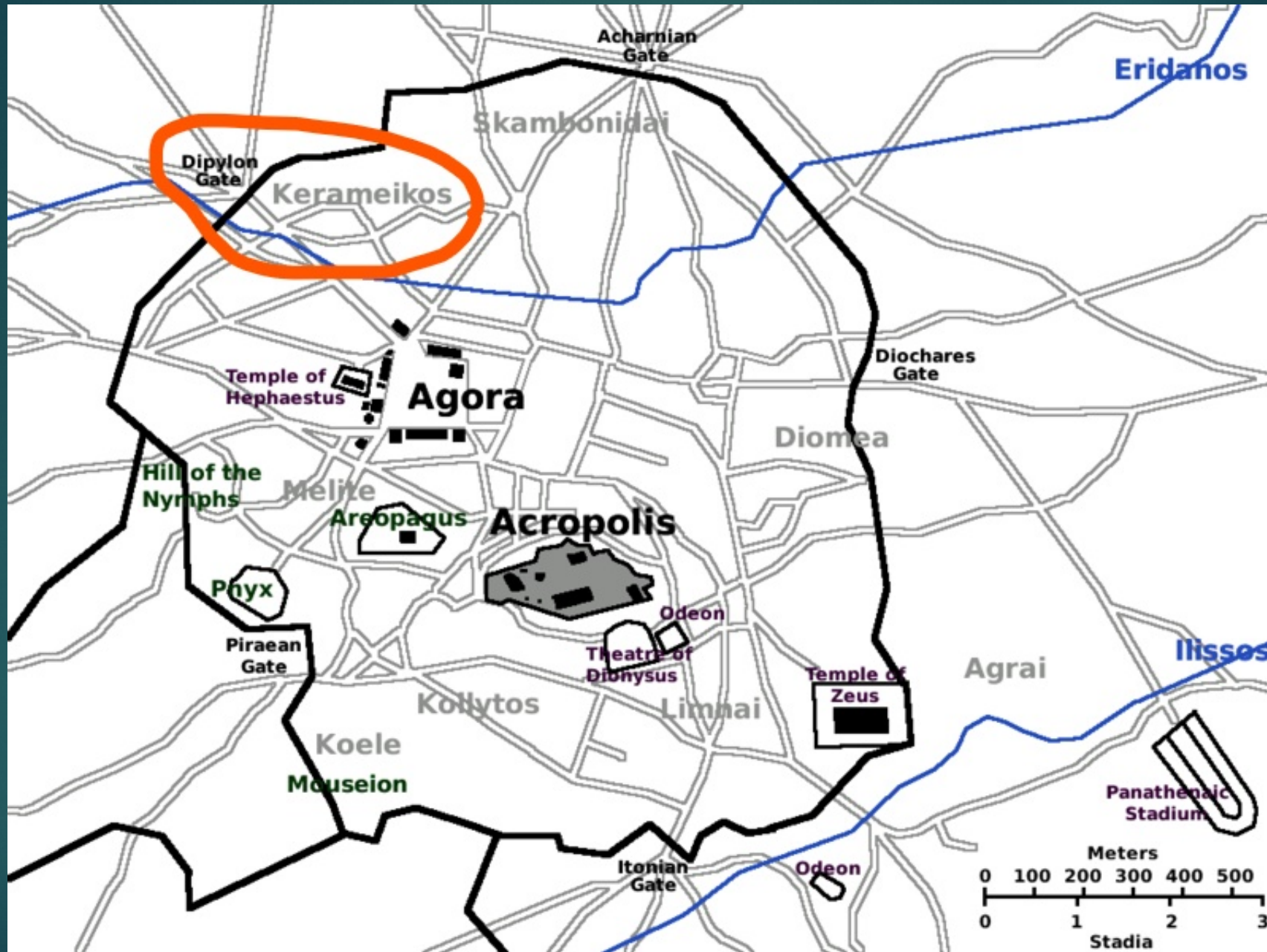


Edward Everett (former Greek Professor, Secretary of State and Senator) spoke for 2 hours immediately before Lincoln and described Athenian funeral in great detail.



‘Pericles’ Funeral Oration’ by Philipp Foltz (1852)

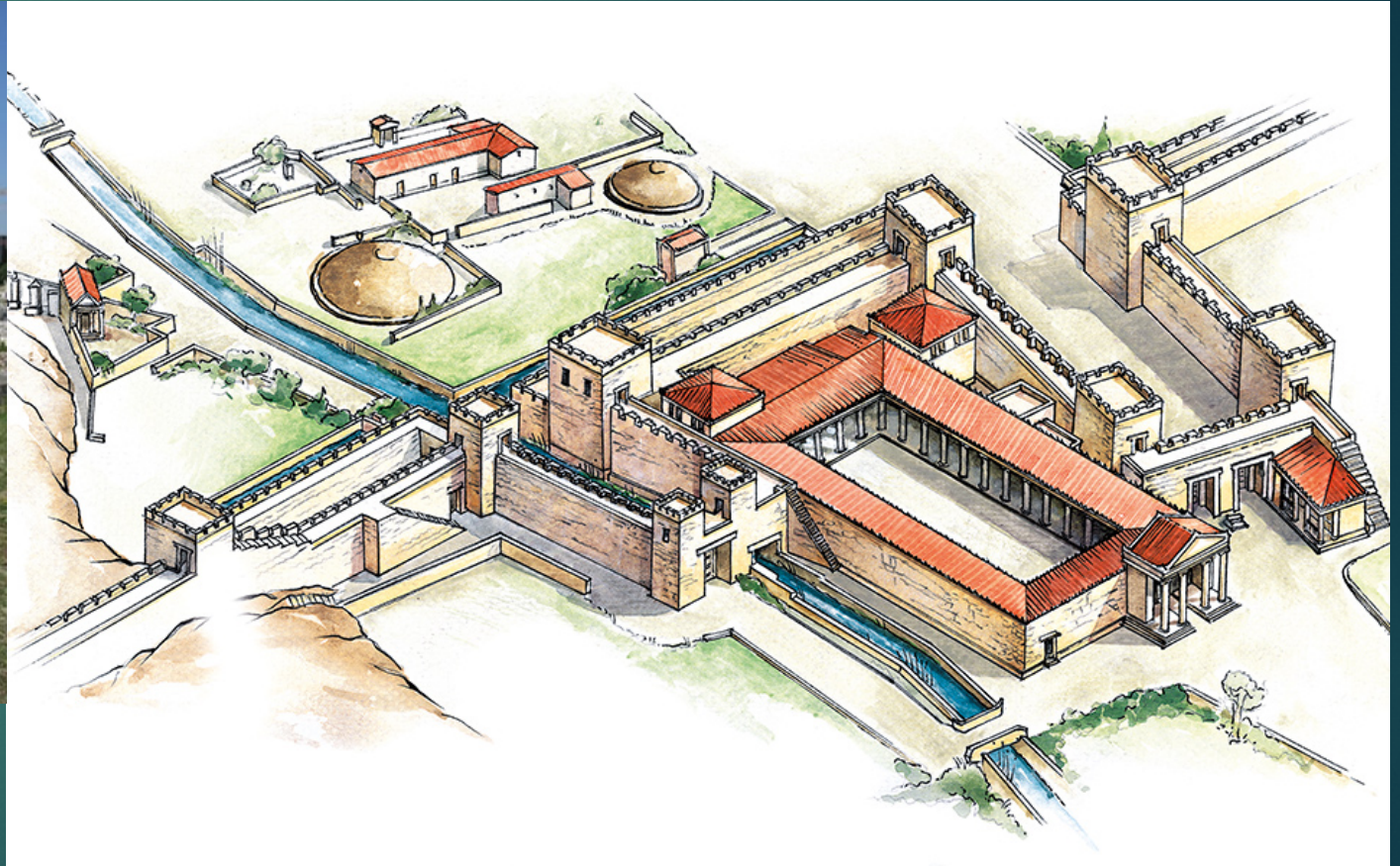




The Street of Tombs



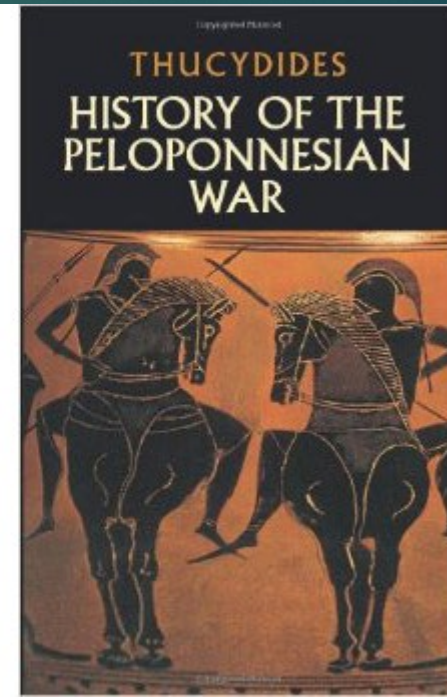
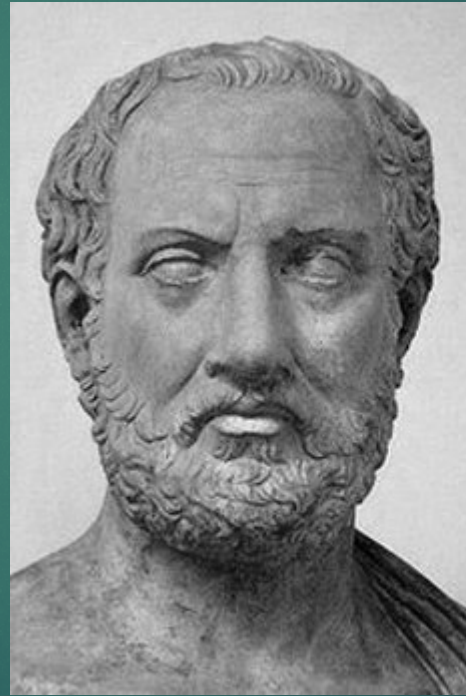
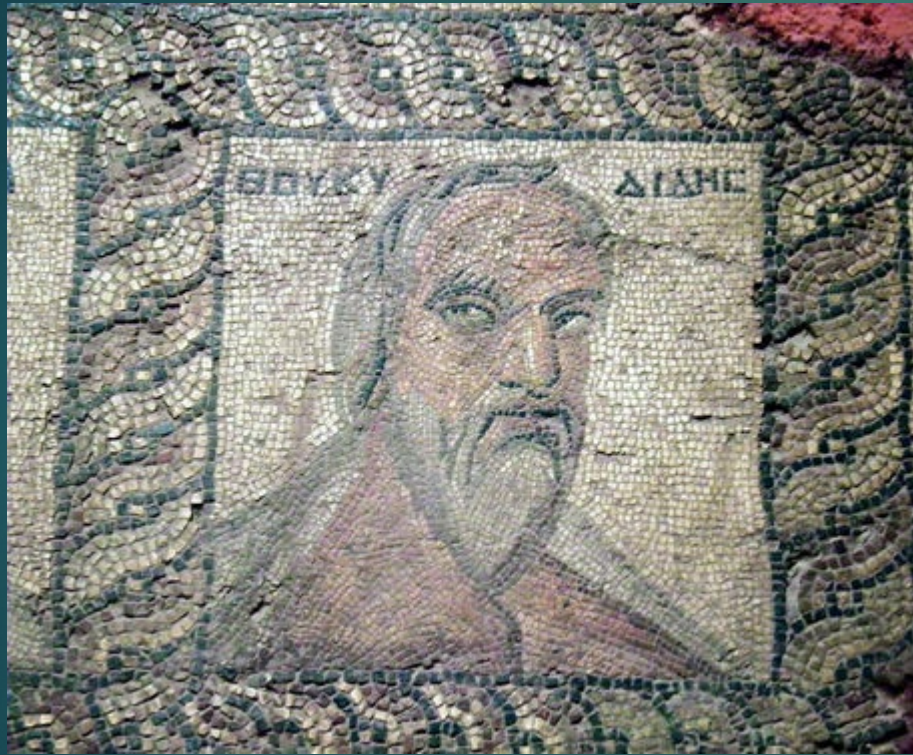
Pompeion, wall and gates



Pericles' building programme



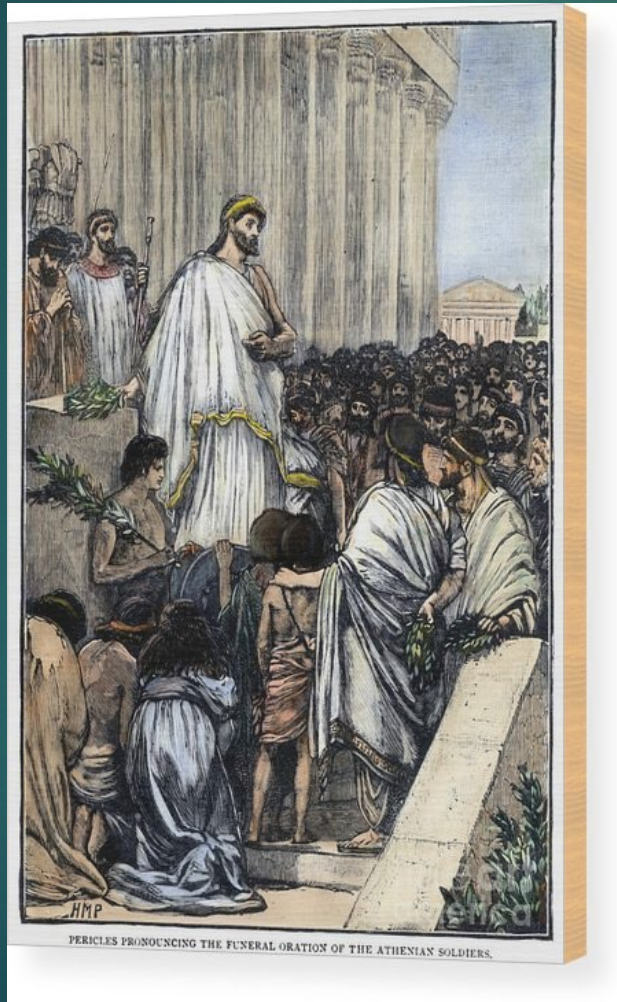
Thucydides and his *History*



The Six Sections of Pericles' *Epitaphios Logos*

- 1 Discussion of the tradition of the annual speech itself.
- 2 Plan of the speech: rather than past battles, he will describe the greatness of Athenian principles, institutions and lifestyle.
- 3 The merits and beauties of the Athenian democracy.
- 4 The principled views and courage of the fallen.
- 5 Address to parents, sons and brothers, and widows.
- 6 Summation and formal dismissal.

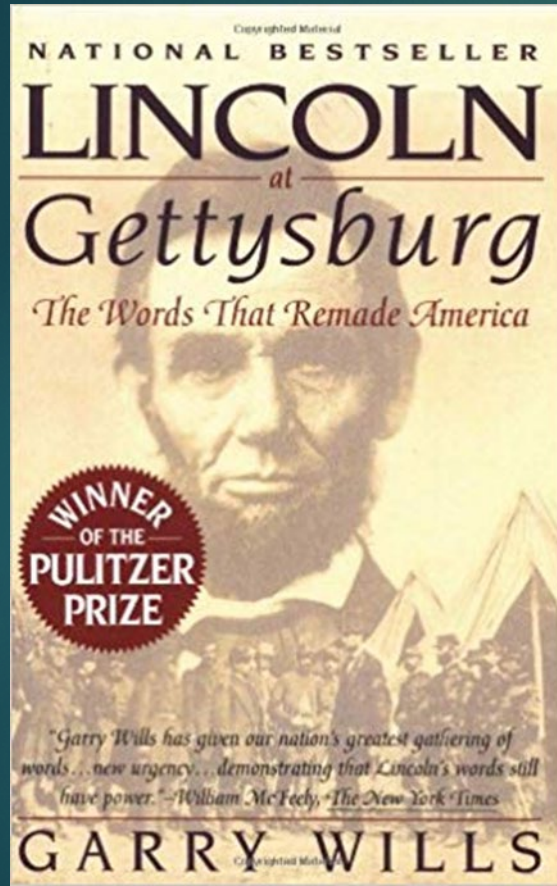
J.F. Kennedy's Inaugural address



Women had traditionally led the mourning



19th November 1863, Gettysburg Address



Michael Sweerts, 'The plague of Athens'.
c. 1652-1654



A mass grave of the right date for the plague was recovered in 1994-5 during excavations prior to construction of Kerameikos subway station. Efi Baziotopoulou-Valavani found ninety skeletons, ten belonging to children, hastily interred. Many of these people will have heard Pericles' funeral speech

