It has been contended that present day constitutionalism in the United States is built upon four written documents: The 1776 Declaration of Independence, the 1787 Constitution, the 1791 Bill of Rights and Lincoln’s 1863 Gettysburg Address. The first three are products of representative assemblies and/or legislative bodies. The fourth is a speech at a military graveyard. Assuming the contention to be true, what is there about Lincoln’s speech that elevates it to such a foundational stature?

Be as detailed and specific as is possible!