



# INSIDE THE VAULT

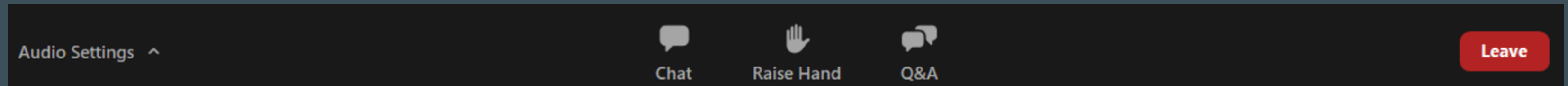
*The Gettysburg Address*  
with Dr. Jonathan White

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025





# How to Participate



- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.
- The views expressed here are those of the historian.

## For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.

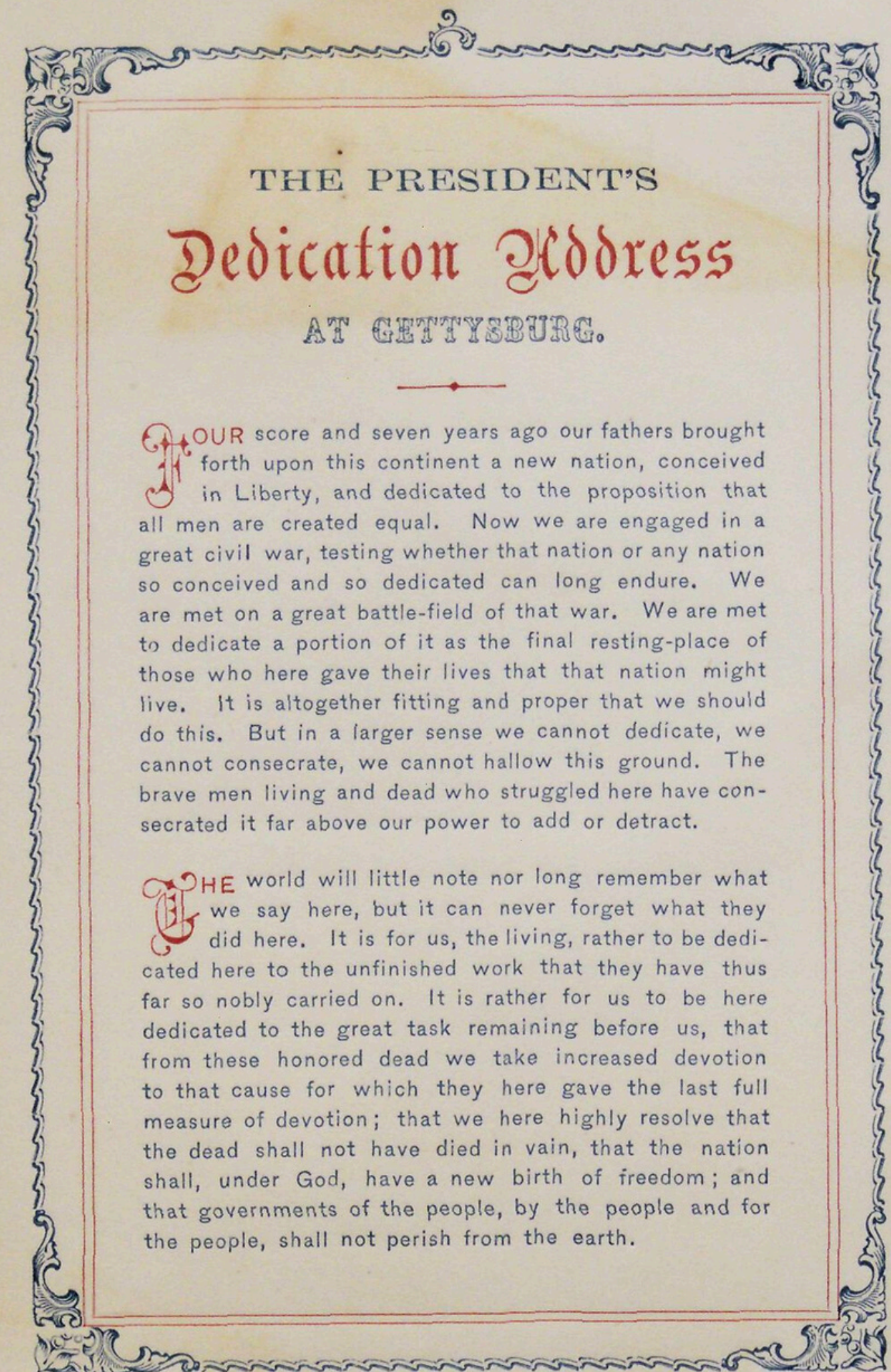




# Today's Document



*The President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg,*  
Miller & Mathews, New York, ca. 1863.  
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)



PUBLISHED BY MILLER & MATHEWS, 757 BROADWAY.



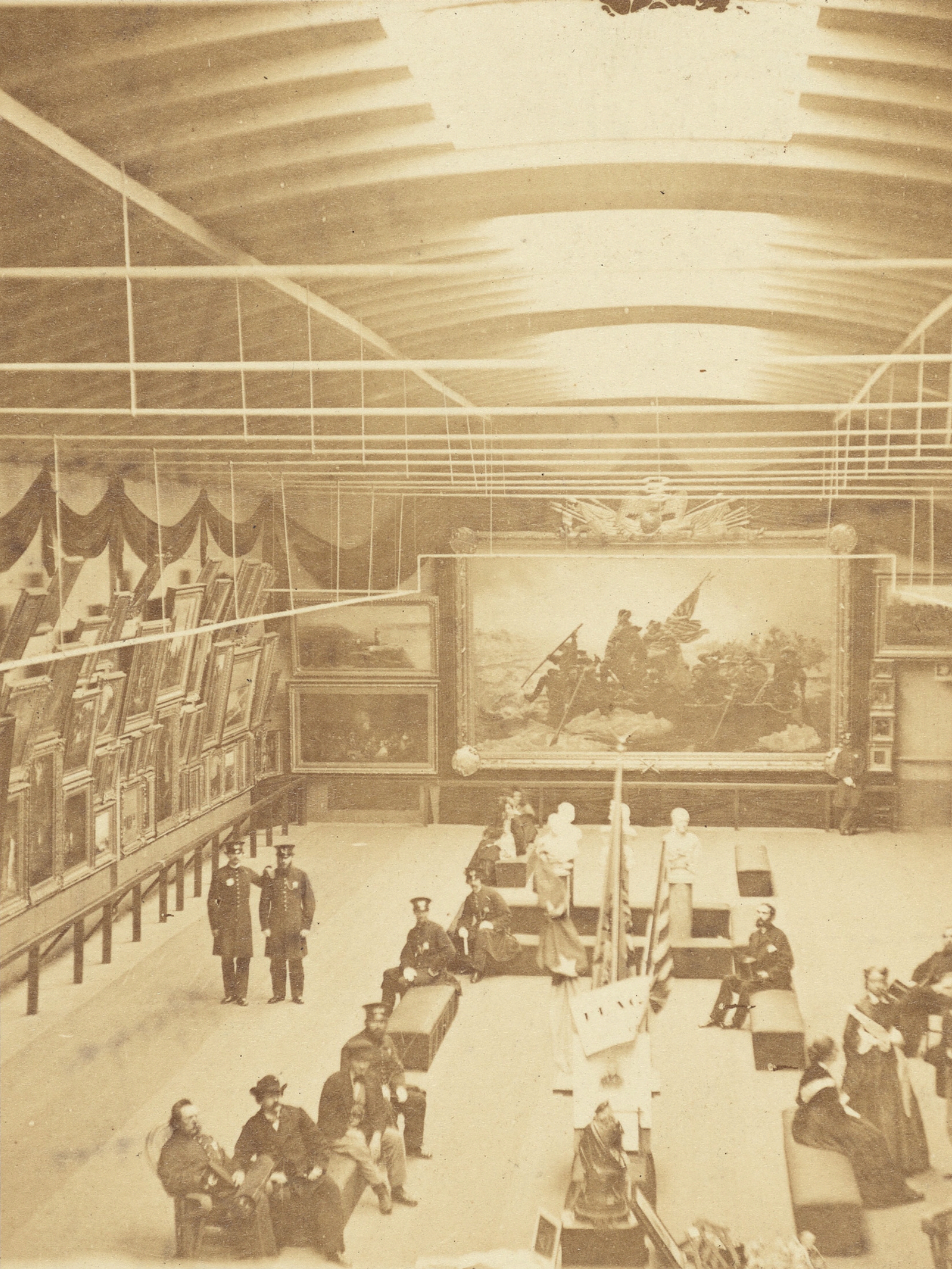
# Dr. Jonathan White



Jonathan W. White is a professor of American Studies at Christopher Newport University. He is author or editor of 21 books and more than 100 articles, essays, and reviews about Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, slavery and emancipation, and the US Constitution. Among his awards are the 2019 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia's Outstanding Faculty Award—the highest honor bestowed upon college faculty by the Commonwealth of Virginia. His books include *A House Built by Slaves: African American Visitors to the Lincoln White House*, which received the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize; *Shipwrecked: A True Civil War Story of Mutinies, Jailbreaks, Blockade-Running, and the Slave Trade* (2023); a children's book, *My Day with Abe Lincoln* (2024); and *Measuring the Man: The Writings of Frederick Douglass on Abraham Lincoln* (2025), which he co-edited with Lucas E. Morel.



# 1864 Great Metropolitan Fair



*A Record of the Metropolitan Fair, New York, 1867.* (John Shaw Pierson Civil War Collection)



# Lincoln and Washington



*Columbia's noblest Sons*

*Columbia's Noblest Sons*, Kimmel and Forster,  
New York, 1865. (The Gilder Lehrman  
Institute, GLC02597)

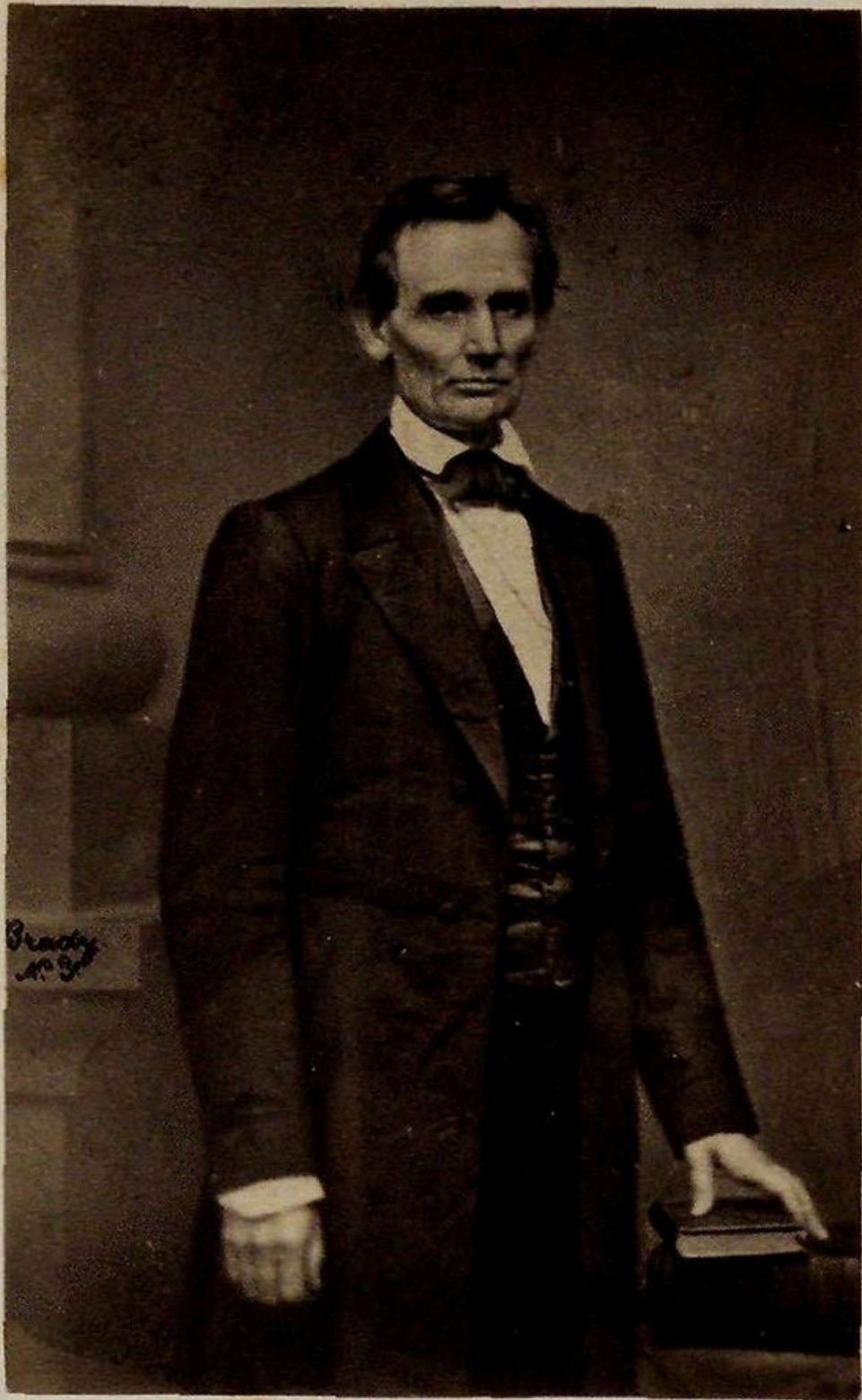


# Lyceum Address (January 27, 1838)



“This task of gratitude to our fathers, justice to ourselves, duty to posterity, and love for our species in general, all imperatively require us faithfully to perform.”

Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. Volume 1 [1824-Aug. 28, 1848].” In the digital collection Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. <https://name.umd.umich.edu/lincoln1>. University of Michigan Library Digital Collections.



*Lincoln*

Photograph of Abraham Lincoln, by Mathew Brady, February 27, 1860. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC05111.02.0001)





# Abraham Lincoln

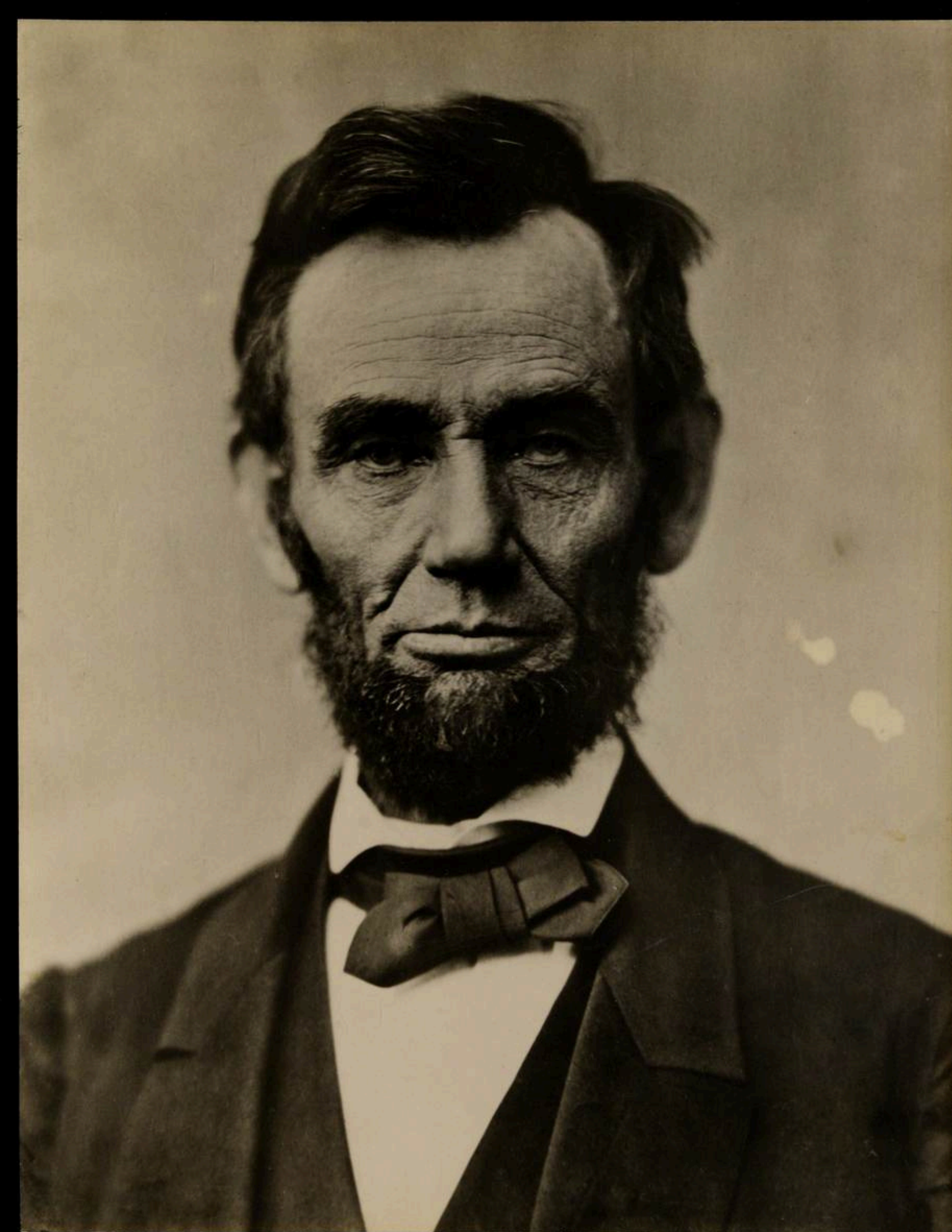


“As the patriots of seventy-six did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and Laws, let every American pledge his life, his property, and his sacred honor...”

Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. Volume 1 [1824-Aug. 28, 1848].” In the digital collection Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. <https://name.umdl.umich.edu/lincoln1>.

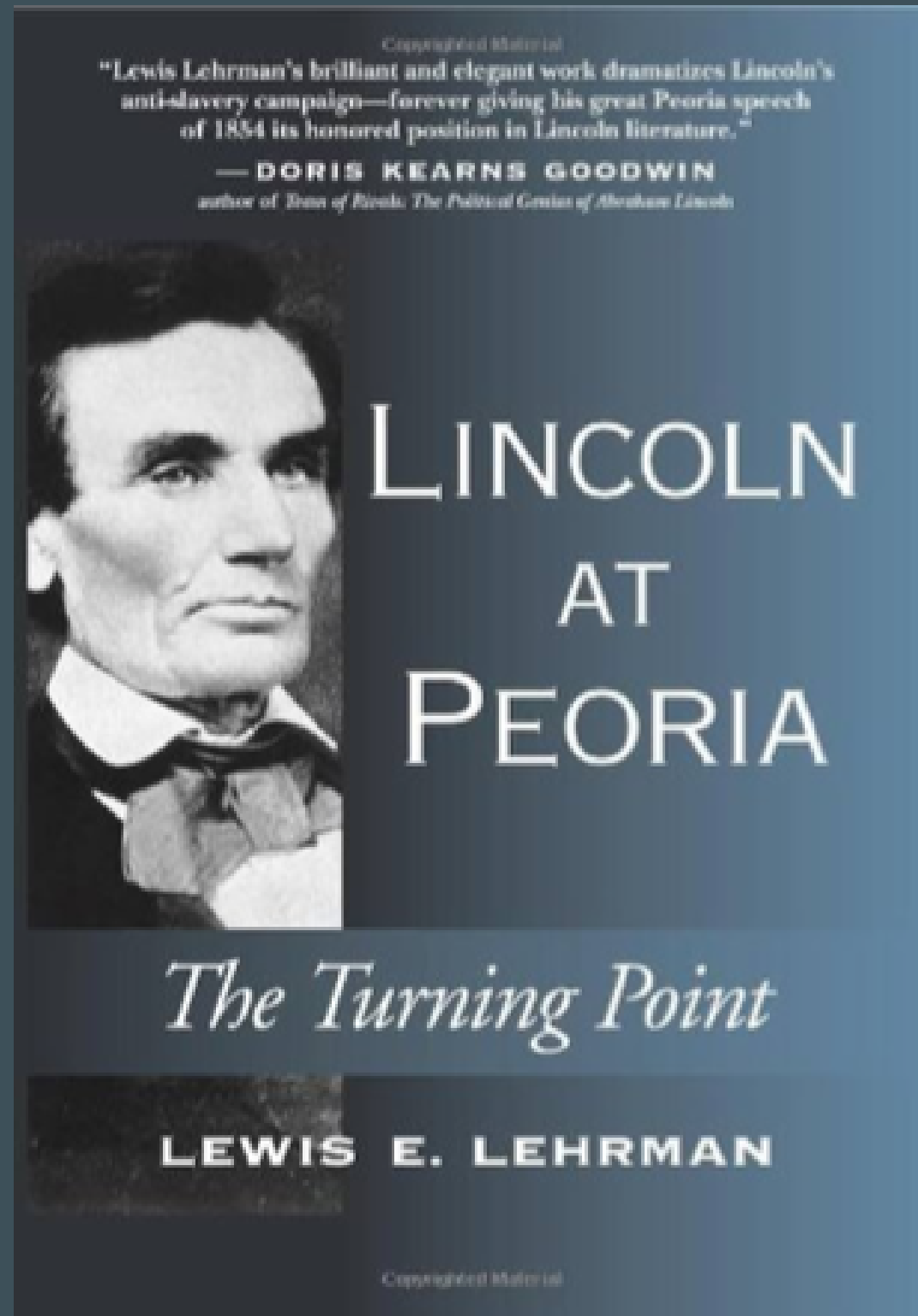
University of Michigan Library Digital Collections.

Portrait of Abraham Lincoln by Alexander Gardner, 1863.  
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC00245)

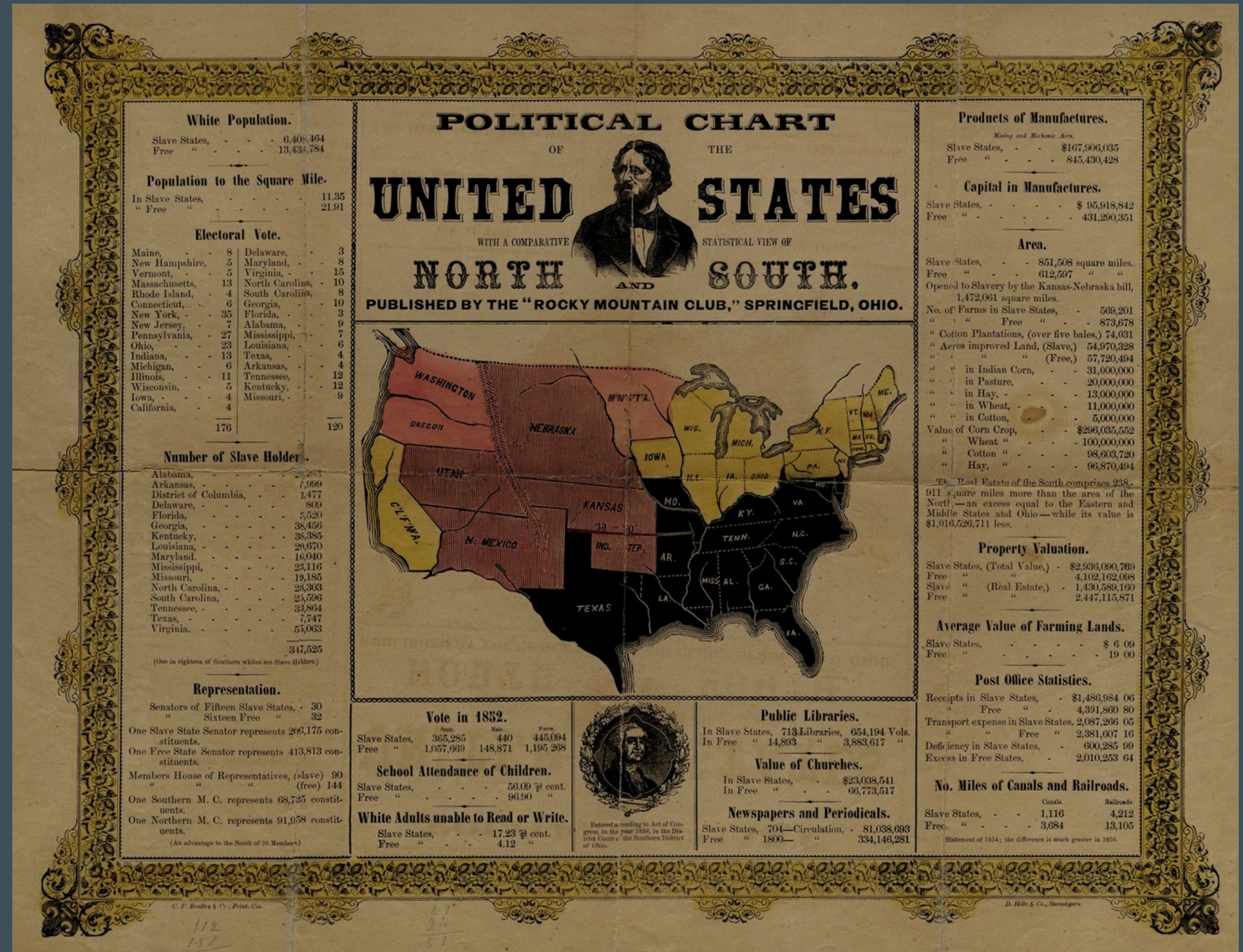




# Lincoln's Peoria Address, October 16, 1854



*Lincoln at Peoria: The Turning Point, 2008.*



Political chart of the United States with a comparative statistical view of North and South, (Springfield, 1856) . (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06143.25)



Work 345  
Finkelman 52-53

# THE DRED SCOTT DECISION.

OPINION OF CHIEF JUSTICE TANNEY,

WITH

AN INTRODUCTION

BY

DR. J. H. VAN EVRIE.

ALSO,

AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING AN ESSAY ON THE

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE PROGNATHOUS RACE

Of Mankind,

ORIGINALLY WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK DAY-BOOK,

BY

DR. S. A. CARTWRIGHT,

OF NEW ORLEANS.

PUBLISHED BY VAN EVRIE, HORTON & CO.,

AT THE OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK DAY-BOOK, 40 ANN STREET, NEW YORK.

1860.

Roger Brooke

# The *Dred Scott* Decision (March 1857)

Supreme Court Ruling: Citizenship did not extend to “the African race.”

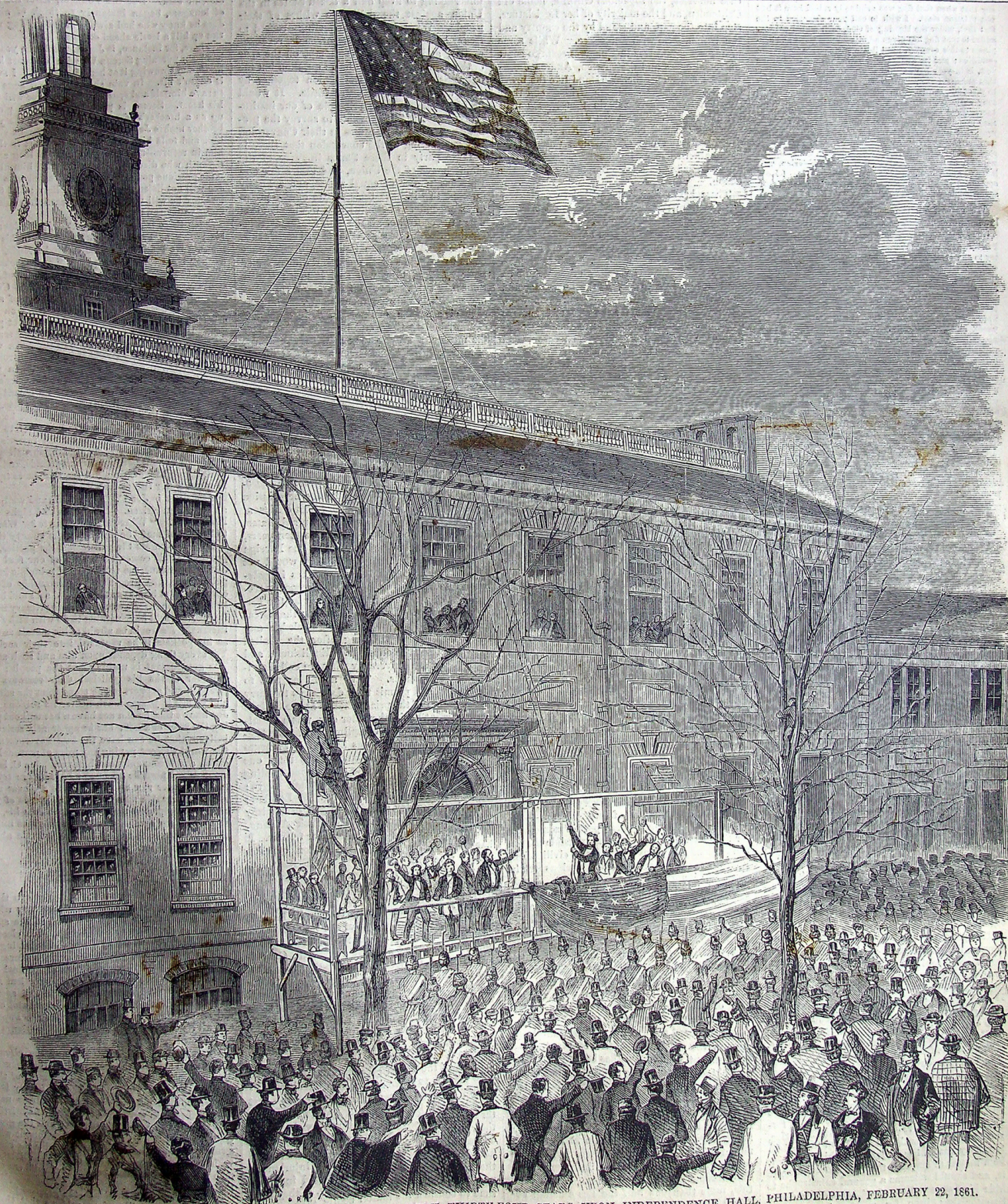
“I had thought the Declaration contemplated the progressive improvement in the condition of all men everywhere; but no, it merely ‘was adopted for the purpose of justifying the colonists in the eyes of the civilized world in withdrawing their allegiance from the British crown, and dissolving their connection with the mother country.’ Why, that object having been effected some eighty years ago, the Declaration is of no practical use now--mere rubbish--old wadding left to rot on the battle-field after the victory is won.”

“Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. Volume 2 [Sept. 3, 1848-Aug. 21, 1858].” In the digital collection Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. <https://name.umdl.umich.edu/lincoln2>. University of Michigan Library Digital Collections.

*The Dred Scott Decision. Opinion by Chief Justice Taney*, New York, 1860.  
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC04393)







PRESIDENT LINCOLN HOISTING THE AMERICAN FLAG WITH THIRTY-FOUR STARS UPON INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 22, 1861.  
FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY F. D. RICHARDS, PHILADELPHIA.—[SEE NEXT PAGE.]

## Independence Hall



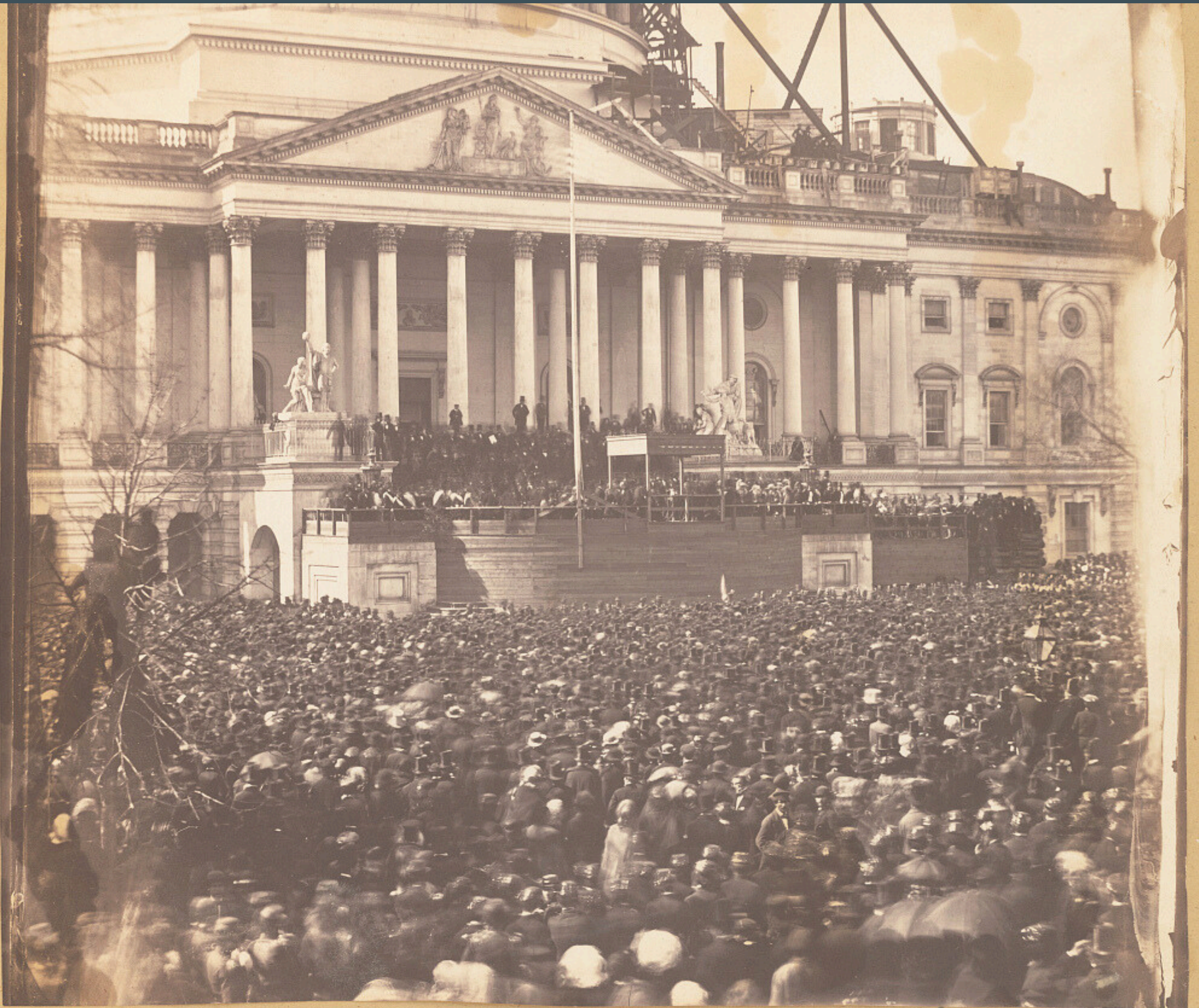
“I have often pondered over the dangers which were incurred by the men who assembled here, and framed and adopted that Declaration of Independence. I have pondered over the toils that were endured by the officers and soldiers of the army who achieved that Independence. I have often inquired of myself what great principle or idea it was that kept this Confederacy so long together. It was not the mere matter of the separation of the colonies from the mother land; but something in that Declaration giving liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but hope to the world for all future time. It was that which gave promise that in due time the weights should be lifted from the shoulders of all men, and that *all* should have equal chance. This is the sentiment embodied in that Declaration of Independence.”

“Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. Volume 4 [Mar. 5, 1860-Oct. 24, 1861].” In the digital collection Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln. <https://name.umdl.umich.edu/lincoln4>. University of Michigan Library Digital Collections.

“President Lincoln Hoisting the American Flag with Thirty-Four Stars upon Independence Hall, Philadelphia, February 22, 1861,” *Harper's Weekly*, March 9, 1861. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC01733.03)



# Lincoln's First Inauguration (1861)



Inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, photograph by John Wood, March 4, 1861.  
(Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, LC-DIG-ppmsca-07636)



## INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

ON

*The Fourth of March, 1861.*

MARCH 8, 1861.—Ordered to be printed.

FELLOW-CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES: In compliance with a custom as old as the Government itself, I appear before you to address you briefly, and to take in your presence the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the United States to be taken by the President "before he enters on the execution of his office."

I do not consider it necessary at present for me to discuss those matters of administration about which there is no special anxiety or excitement.

Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so." Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. And, more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read :

# Lincoln's First Inaugural Address



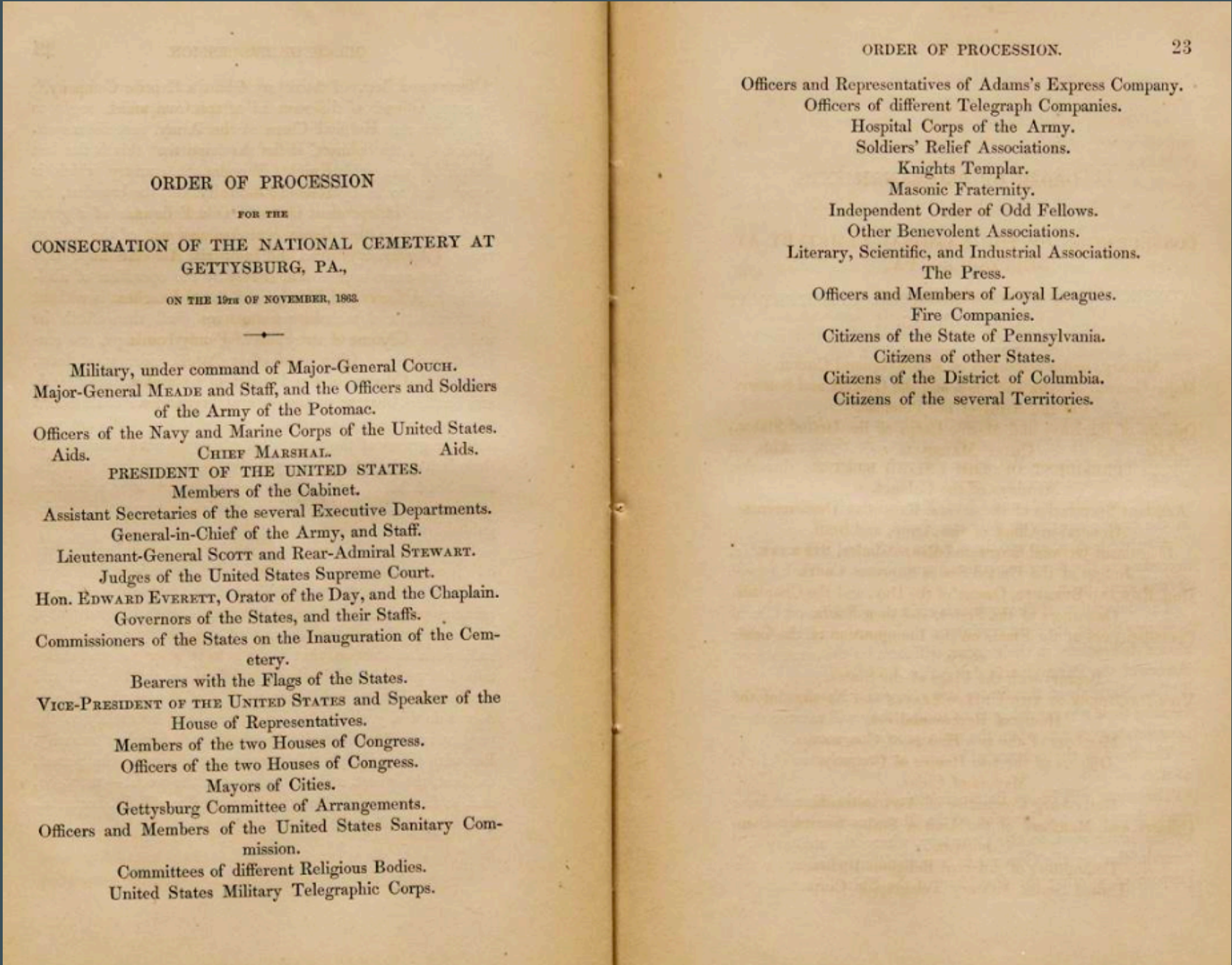
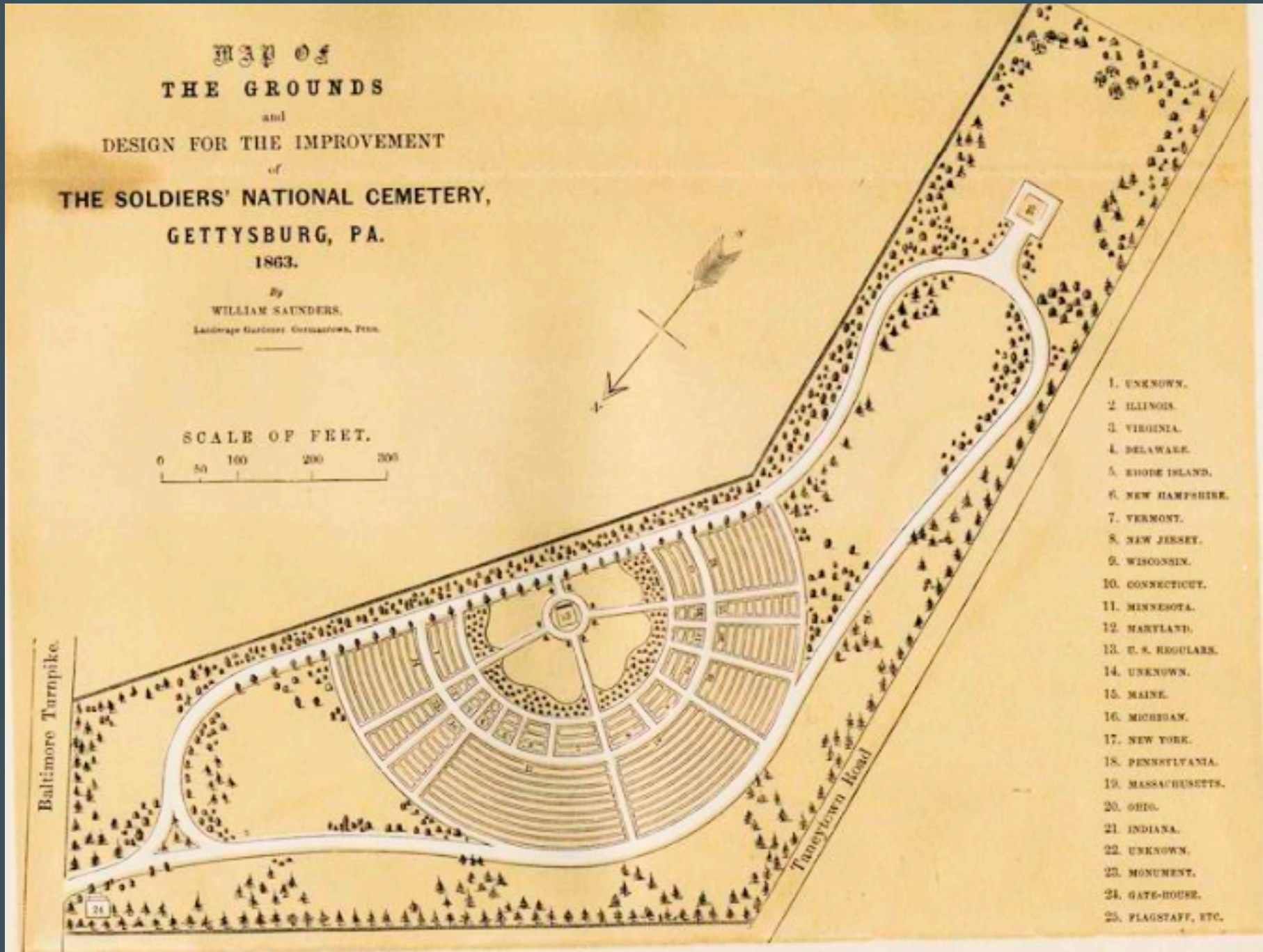
"I am loth to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle-field, and patriot grave, to every living heart and hearthstone, all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Abraham Lincoln, First Inaugural Address, March 4,  
1861, page 10. (Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC01264)

Abraham Lincoln, First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1861, page 1. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC01264)



# National Cemetery at Gettysburg



*Address of Hon. Edward Everett, at the Consecration of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, 19th November, 1863,  
Boston, 1864. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC07743)*



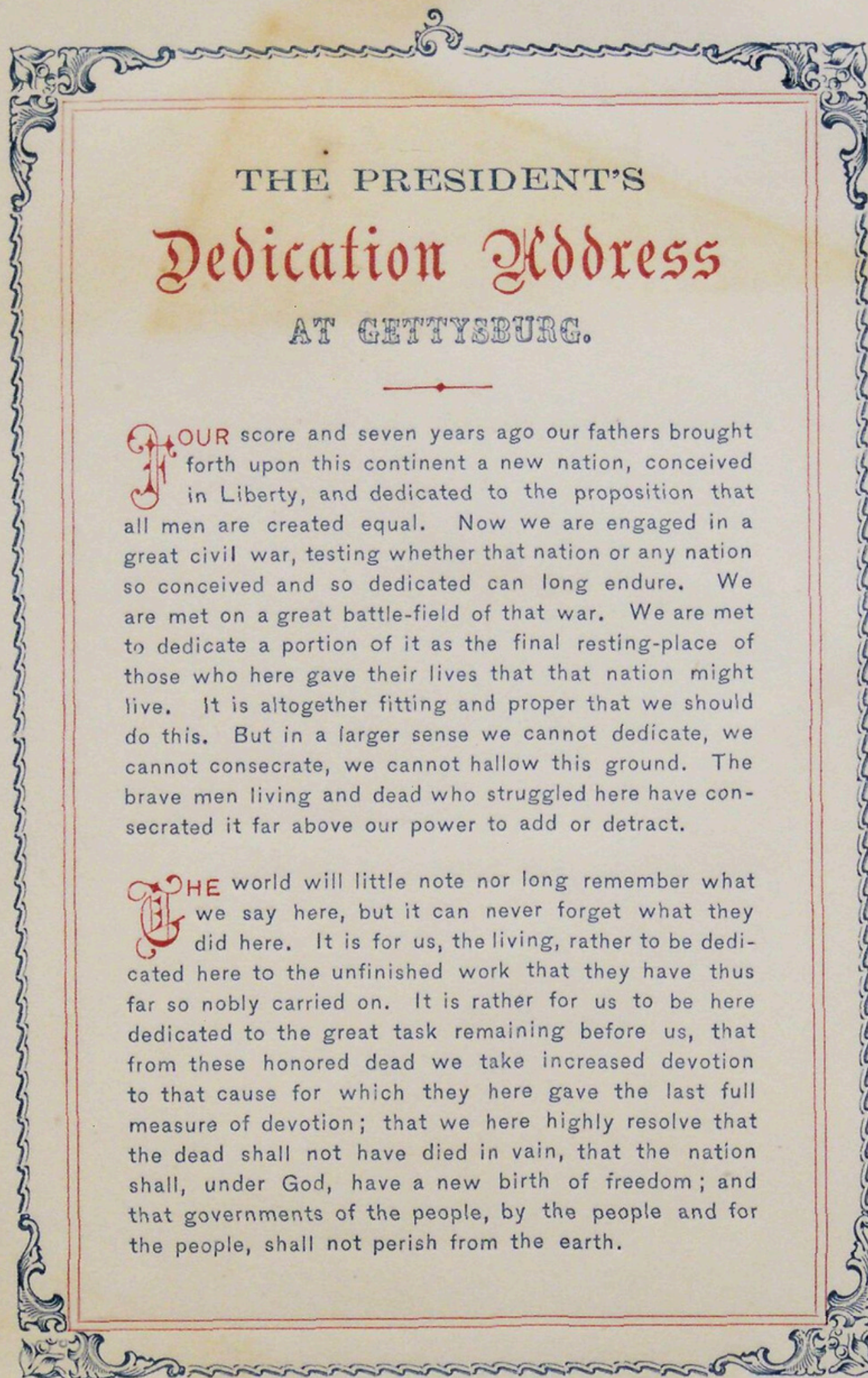
# Gettysburg Address (November 19, 1863)



Reflects the culmination of  
Abraham Lincoln's lifelong  
engagement with the principles of  
the Declaration of Independence.

[Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Gettysburg], 1863. (Library of  
Congress Prints and Photographs Division, LC-DIG-ds-03106)





THE PRESIDENT'S  
**Dedication Address**  
AT GETTYSBURG.

**F**OUR score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We are met to dedicate a portion of it as the final resting-place of those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract.

**T**HE world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work that they have thus far so nobly carried on. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain, that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom; and that governments of the people, by the people and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

PUBLISHED BY MILLER & MATHEWS, 757 BROADWAY.

# Gettysburg Address (November 19, 1863)



“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”

*The President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg*, Miller & Mathews, New York, ca. 1863.  
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)

President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg, circa 1863. (Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)





# Gettysburg Address (November 19, 1863)



## THE PRESIDENT'S Dedication Address AT GETTYSBURG.

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The President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg, ca. 1863.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)

*The President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg*, Miller & Mathews, New York, ca. 1863. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)





# Gettysburg Address (November 19, 1863)



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The President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg, ca. 1863. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)





# Lincoln's Parlor



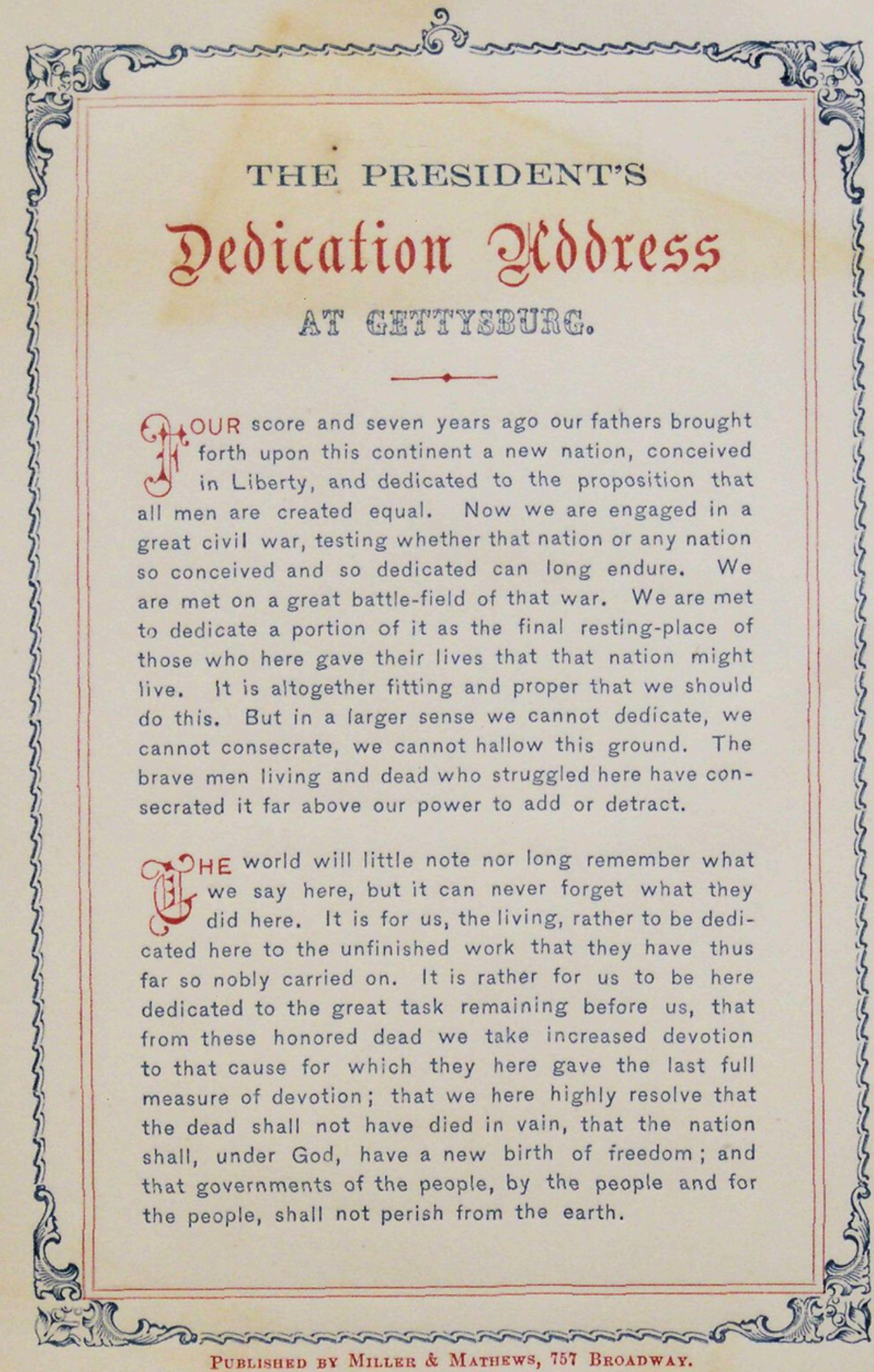
“Parlor of Lincoln” by Ridgway Glover, 1865.  
(The Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection)



# Q&A



*The President's Dedication Address at Gettysburg*, Miller and Mathews,  
New York, ca. 1863. (The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC06811)





# Upcoming Programs

## INSIDE THE VAULT:

December 4 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)

- December 1775: An Expedition to Save Boston with Dr. Phil Hamilton, Professor of History, Christopher Newport University

January 8 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)

- Continental Army Soldiers' Experiences at Valley Forge and Beyond with Rick Atkinson, recipient of the 2020 George Washington Prize.

BOOK BREAKS: November 9 at 2 p.m. ET (11 a.m. PT)

- Ken Burns and Geoffrey C. Ward will discuss their book *The American Revolution: An Intimate History*.





# The Declaration of Independence at 250

## TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

December 11, 2025, at 7–8:30 p.m. ET

- The Abolitionist Origins of the Second American Revolution with Dr. Manisha Sinha, University of Connecticut

January 8, 2026, at 7–8:30 p.m. ET

- The Rediscovery of America: The Declaration of Independence and the Perils of Narrative History with Dr. Ned Blackhawk, Yale University

April 8, 2026, at 7–8:30 p.m. ET

- The Long Arc of Justice: Tracing America's Civil Rights Evolution with Dr. Ashley Farmer, University of Texas at Austin

