FACSIMILE OF THE Emancipation Proclamation

Executive Mansion.

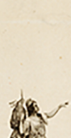
Washington, Oct. 26, 1863

Gladies having in charge
the 16th Nation Fair
For the Sanitary Commission
Chicago, Illinois.

According to the request made in your letter, the original draft of the Emancipation proclamation is herewith enclosed. The formal words at the left, over the signature, except the signature, you perceive are not in my handwriting. They were written at the dictation of Mr. Chase, who I have not, the printed facsimile cut from a copy of the preliminary proclamation, even position or money to do some worthy.

I have some doubts to return the paper, but if it shall contribute to the relief of one pang of the sufferers, there will be better.

Yours Obt. Servt.
A. Lincoln



The Soldiers' Home.
LET LOYAL HEARTS
AND WILLING HANDS
Cherish, Comfort and Care
for my
WOUNDED HEROES.

By the President of the United States of America:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State, or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be free, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

"That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be, in good faith, represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State, and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States."

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-in-Chief, of the Army and Navy of the United States, in time of actual armed rebellion against authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia, (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts are, for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free, and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known, that such persons of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

(L.S.)

Abraham Lincoln

By the President:
William H. Seward
Secretary of State

Now May it please
with the compliments
Abraham Lincoln

Every Orphan Cost $50 for Publication
Each Attested Impression Genuine.

has purchased this Facsimile, contributing thereby to the comfort and relief of Sick and Disabled Soldiers.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS AN EXACT FAC-SIMILE OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION, PURCHASED BY ME FROM THE NORTH-WESTERN FAIR. THIS PUBLICATION IS UNDERTAKEN IN BEHALF OF THE GENERAL TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES SANITARY COMMISSION, AND ALSO TO CREATE A FUND FOR THE ERECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A PERMANENT HOME FOR OUR SICK AND DISABLED SOLDIERS. PURCHASERS OF THIS FAC-SIMILE OF THE PROCLAMATION OF FREEDOM, WILL THUS INVEST THAT IMMORTAL INSTRUMENT WITH A NEW INTEREST, AS CONTRIBUTING TO NOBLE INSTITUTIONS WHICH SHALL PROVE A JUST TRIBUTE OF A NATION'S GRATITUDE TO HER PATRIOT DEAD.

By an arrangement with Rev. T. B. Taylor, the U. S. Sanitary Commission obtain a liberal share of the Profits from the sale of each of this Facsimile.

Printed and Published by E. B. Bolles & Co., Chicago.

Henry W. Bellows, President U. S. Sanitary Commission

Fred S. Bryan, President of the Soldier's Home, Chicago, Illinois.