


1862

A proclamation.

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865

 Part of the [Archival Science Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Disclaimer

The African American Legacy: The Carol Mundy Collection, 1794-2010 contains materials, graphics and artifacts that may be offensive and disturbing. Librarians and archivists strive to preserve this history in a sensitive manner, providing historical context and updating biased terms in metadata description. The University of Central Florida Libraries recognizes the description of digital and archival materials is an iterative and imperfect process and will continue to consult the misrepresented and underrepresented communities for updated language.

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/carolmundy-text>

University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This None is brought to you for free and open access by the African American Legacy: The Carol Mundy Collection, 1794-2010 at STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in African American Legacy: The Carol Mundy Collection – Text by an authorized administrator of STARS. For more information, please contact STARS@ucf.edu.

Recommended Citation

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865, "A proclamation." (1862). *African American Legacy: The Carol Mundy Collection – Text*. 29.

<https://stars.library.ucf.edu/carolmundy-text/29>

A P R O C L A M A T I O N

By The President Of The United States Of America

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, 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 then, thence forward, 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 afore-said, 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 States 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 the 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 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, Terre Bonne, LaFourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans including the city of Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and 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 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 said 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 services.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgement 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.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln

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.