





ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT LINCOLN  
AT THE DEDICATION OF  
THE GETTYSBURG NATIONAL CEMETERY  
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 PRINCIPLE THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.

NOW WE ARE ENGLALED IN A GREAT CIVIL WAR, TESTING WHETHER THAT NATION, SO CONCEIVED, SO DEDICATED, CAN LONG ENDURE. WE ARE MET ON A GREAT BATTLE-FIELD OF THAT WAR. WE HAVE COME TO MARK A SPOT FOR THOSE WHO HERE GAVE THEIR LIVES THAT THAT NATION MIGHT LIVE. IT IS ALMOST FIFTY YEARS SINCE WE SHOULD BE FREE, BUT UNLAMENTEDLY WE CAN NOT HOLD. THE COURSE THE BRAVE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF OUR FATHERS HAVE CONCEIVED IT, THE WORLD WILL LITTLE WOTE OR REMEMBER WHAT THEY DID HERE. BUT IT CAN NEVER FORGET THAT THEY DID IT. IT IS FOR US THE UNFINISHED WORK, WHICH THEY WHO FIGHT HERE HAVE TO DO. WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE GREAT TASK REMAINING BEFORE US—TO TAKE CARE THAT THE DEAD WHO HERE GAVE THEIR LIVES SHALL NOT HAVE BEEN IN VAIN—THAT THE NATION WHICH THEY GAVE TO US—THAT THE NATION WHICH OUR FATHERS BROUGHT FORTH ON THIS CONTINENT—AND THAT CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH.



















