

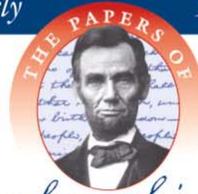
LINCOLN EDITOR

The Quarterly

Newsletter of

April - June 2004

Volume 4 Number 2



Abraham Lincoln

"a great honor and a great labor" A. Lincoln, October 26, 1863

NEH AWARDS FIRST FEDERAL FUNDING

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency received the first federal funding for the expanded Papers of Abraham Lincoln from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The NEH awarded the project a three-year grant totaling \$170,000. The grant—\$150,000 in outright funds and \$20,000 in matching funds—will help greatly with the progress of capturing images of Lincoln documents at various repositories across the country. Since 1991, the NEH has awarded the Lincoln Legal Papers three separate grants totaling \$353,000.

NEH relies heavily on expert review of grant applications, and its awards are important to a project's credibility and budget. All reviewers agreed that a new edition of Lincoln's papers is an important endeavor, and one commented that our "proposal looks exceptionally

well thought out, and well planned." Several reviewers commented on the long-lasting effects of the project; that a "digitized edition of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln will revolutionize Lincoln scholarship" and that "It would be difficult for anyone to dispute the importance of Lincoln's papers or to deny that their publication would not have great benefits for historians and the general public." Finally, one reviewer noted that "In short, the Papers of Abraham Lincoln promises to be the most important documentary effort, in terms of both discovery and presentation, of our time."

We are very grateful for the kind words of encouragement from our reviewers and for the Endowment's endorsement of the work plan, budget, and overall scope of the project.

BOSTON ACCEPTS POSITION AS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Kelley Boston, the project's graduate assistant for the past two years, has accepted a full-time position as a research associate with the project. She will begin work in July.

Boston has a Bachelor's degree in history from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She completed a Master's degree in history at the University of Illinois at Springfield, graduating in May. She wrote a thesis about an antebellum utopian socialist community west of Springfield, which was involved in a complex legal dispute in the Sangamon County Circuit Court.

During her graduate assistantship with the project, Boston played an important role in double proofing document transcriptions and in fact-checking case presentation chapters for the selective book edition of Lincoln's legal papers. She also participated in the

initial search phase of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln by helping to construct a document-control database, capturing digital images of documents, and assisting with the mail survey.

In her new capacity as a research associate, Boston will play an active role in the search and collection phase of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, maintaining the database and traveling to various research repositories to collect digital images of Lincoln documents. She will also assist the other editors in completing the four-volume selective book edition of Series I: Legal Papers.



THE UNCERTAIN SUMMER OF 1864

In the late spring of 1864, the United States had entered its fourth year of Civil War, and the Confederate Army, which had suffered terrible losses in the summer of 1863 and endured a harsh winter with limited rations, appeared rejuvenated. The Confederate Congress had ended the privilege of soldier substitution and had lengthened enlistment times; and although Confederate forces still numbered less than half the number of troops in the Union, problems within the Union Army loomed large. The three-year enlistment terms of many Union veterans were scheduled to end in 1864, and the army had reassigned many soldiers from the front to areas under Union military occupation.¹

In early June 1864, the Union army suffered devastating losses at Cold Harbor, Virginia, and rebel guerrilla fighters continued to plague Union troops. Northerners were increasingly frustrated and discouraged, and there was growing reluctance to recruit new troops for the war effort.²

Not only were northerners becoming disillusioned over the war, but many of them were disillusioned with their president as well. Lincoln's chances for nomination for a second term were threatened, as his candidacy was hotly contested. Many northerners opposed Lincoln, arguing that he was a tyrant, that his administration was corrupt, and that he had misused the powers of his office. Despite the strong opposition, however, the Republican Party nominated Lincoln for reelection on June 8, 1864. Lincoln had the nomination, but his election was far from certain, and the success of the Union army in the coming months would play a role in Lincoln's chances for reelection.³

Despite uncertainty about Lincoln's reelection and the Union military setbacks, there was still northern support for the war. In July, Isaac N. Arnold, a Republican Congressman from Illinois, wrote to Lincoln, asking him to request more soldiers and pledging the support of Illinoisans.⁴

Image courtesy of Chicago Historical Society.

Isaac N. Arnold to Abraham Lincoln

Chicago
July 13, 1864

To Abraham Lincoln
President of United States

The People of the north-west earnestly **request** that half a million more men may be called to the field, & [---] Illinois is ready to fill her quota at onse.

Isaac N. Arnold

On July 18, Lincoln issued a new call for 500,000 men, threatening a draft if quotas were unfilled. Between July 1 and December 1, 1864, Illinois supplied 13,020 volunteers and 3,062 draftees. By the end of the year, Illinois had exceeded its quota. During the entire war, Illinois furnished 259,092 soldiers, representing 15.1 percent of the state's population. Only New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio supplied more men.⁵

Stacy Pratt McDermott
Assistant Editor

¹James M. McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988), 718-19.

²Margaret E. Wagner, Gary W. Gallagher, and Paul Finkelman, eds., *The Library of Congress Civil War Desk Reference* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002), 39; McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom*, 739-42.

³John C. Waugh, *Reelecting Lincoln: The Battle for the 1864 Presidency* (New York: Crown Publishers, 1997), 182-87.

⁴Isaac Newton Arnold, b. 30 November 1815, in Hartwick, New York; d. 24 April 1884, in Chicago, Illinois. Arnold attended Hartwick Seminary and then taught school while he studied law. In 1835, he gained admission to the bar in New York and practiced in Cooperstown, until he moved to Chicago in 1836. During his legal career, he handled cases in the federal courts, in the circuit courts in northern Illinois, and in the Illinois Supreme Court, where he faced Lincoln as opposing counsel twice. In 1837, he won election as Chicago's first city clerk. As a Democrat, he was

a presidential elector for James K. Polk in 1844. He served in the Illinois House of Representatives (1842-46, 1857-58), and he served two terms in Congress as a Republican (1861-65). John A. Garraty and Mark C. Carnes, eds., *American National Biography*, 24 vols. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999), 1:636-37; John Moses and Joseph Kirkland, *History of Chicago, Illinois*, 2 vols. (Chicago: Munsell & Co., 1895), 2:103, 156; Martha L. Benner and Cullom Davis, eds., *The Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln: Complete Documentary Edition* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2000); U.S. Census Office, *Eighth Census of the United States* (1860), Cook County, IL, Chicago, Ward 9, 229.

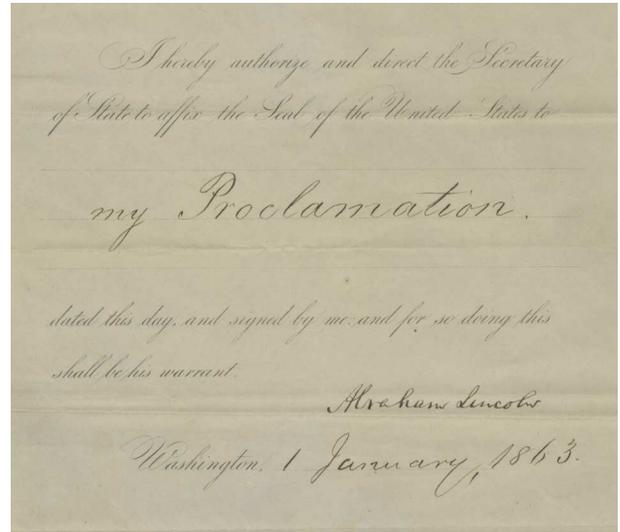
⁵McPherson, *Battle Cry of Freedom*, 758; Brigadier General J. N. Reece, *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Illinois*, 8 vols. (Springfield, IL: Phillips Brothers, State Printers, 1900), 1:61; Robert P. Howard, *Illinois: A History of the Prairie State* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1972), 318; *The Civil War Book of Lists* (Conshohocken, PA: Combined Books, 1993), 22.

PROJECT STAFF CAPTURES IMAGES OF LINCOLN DOCUMENTS AT THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In May, Daniel Stowell, Chris Schnell, and Stacy McDermott traveled to Chicago to capture electronic images of Lincoln documents at the Chicago Historical Society, which has one of the larger collections of Lincoln materials in the country. The staff captured images of 144 documents, including a recently acquired Lincoln endorsement authorizing the Secretary of State to affix the presidential seal to the Emancipation Proclamation.

This trip to Chicago was the second major field excursion to capture images of documents for the Papers of Abraham Lincoln. Staff members from the project traveled to Brown University last summer.

The staff of the Chicago Historical Society were extremely helpful in this effort, making the documents available, making accommodations for our field staff and scanning equipment, and sharing their knowledge of the Society's collections. The Papers of Abraham Lincoln appreciates the assistance of the following staff of the Chicago Historical Society: Russell Lewis, Andrew W. Mellon Director for Collection and Research; Ralph Pugh, Archivist; Clarence Clark, Collections Assistant;



Order to Affix the Seal of the President to the Emancipation Proclamation

Image courtesy of Chicago Historical Society.

Carol Turchan, Paper Conservator; Julie Katz, Registrar; Alison Eisendrath, Senior Collections Manager; and Sam (Kathleen) Plourd, Director of Collections and Exhibitions.

DONORS

The project acknowledges with deep appreciation the generosity of the following contributors:

Mary Ann Armstrong

Lincoln Deathday Association

Daniel W. Stowell

Neyhart, Anderson, Freitas, Flynn & Grosboll Law Firm

STAFF NEWS

On April 15, Daniel Stowell spoke to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, and the Lincoln Deathday Association at the annual observance of Lincoln's death in Springfield.

In May, Daniel Stowell attended a conference at the Newberry Library in Chicago entitled, "The Economics of Digitization: Toward Sustainability and Institutional Collaboration." Stowell met with experts in digitization and with staff members from several libraries that hold Lincoln documents.

Daniel Stowell gave a presentation to the Rotary Club of Springfield about Abraham Lincoln and the common soldier.

Chris Schnell attended the annual meeting of the Manuscript Society in Chicago. He met with manuscript dealers and collectors who have Lincoln documents.

In June, Stacy McDermott attended the "School for Scanning" in Chicago. The Northeast Document Conservation Center sponsored the workshop, which featured presentations regarding various aspects of the digitization of historical documents.

The Center for State Policy and Leadership at the University of Illinois at Springfield, through an appropriation for professional development, provided funding to support both Schnell's and McDermott's travel.

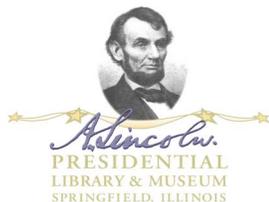
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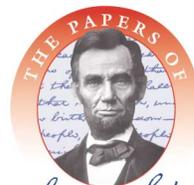
Daniel W. Stowell, Director/Editor; John A. Lupton, Assistant Director/Assistant Editor; Susan Krause, Assistant Editor; Stacy Pratt McDermott, Assistant Editor; Christopher A. Schnell, Assistant Editor; Dennis E. Suttles, Assistant Editor; Carmen Morgan, Secretary; Kelley Boston, Research Assistant; Marilyn Mueller, Graduate Assistant.

Please address inquiries and gifts to:

The Papers of Abraham Lincoln
#1 Old State Capitol Plaza, Springfield, IL 62701-1507
Phone: (217) 785-9130 Fax: (217) 524-6973
Website: <http://www.papersofabrahamlincoln.org>

How You Can Help:

- By advising project staff of known or reported Lincoln documents in your locality. We are seeking copies of any document, letter, or contemporary printed account that relates to Abraham Lincoln's entire life, 1809-1865.
- By making a tax-deductible donation to the Papers of Abraham Lincoln in support of the project. Such gifts provide crucial support in furtherance of the project's objectives.



Abraham Lincoln

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