



The Gettysburg Address

Delivered at Gettysburg on November 19, 1863

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Transcript of the "Nicolay Draft" of the Gettysburg Address

(Differences between the texts of the two drafts are indicated by **emphasis** type. Please note that the Nicolay and Hay versions of the Gettysburg Address differ somewhat from the generally printed Bliss version.)

Four 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 have come to dedicate a portion of it, as a final resting place for those who **died here, that the** nation might live. **This we may, in all propriety do.** But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow, this ground -- The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have **hallowed** it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; **while it** can never forget what they **did** here.

It is rather for us, **the living, we here be** 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 these dead shall not have died in vain; that **the** nation, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people by the people for the people, shall not perish from the earth.