

Executive Mansion,

Washington, ..... 186 .

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 died here.

It is rather for us, the living, <sup>we here be spoken</sup> to stand here,

ted to the great task remaining before us—  
that, from these honored dead we take in-  
creased devotion to that cause for which  
they here, gave the last full measure of dev-  
otion— that we here highly resolve these  
dead shall not have died in vain; that  
the nation, shall have a new birth of free-  
dom, and that government of the people by  
the people for the people, shall not per-  
ish from the earth.