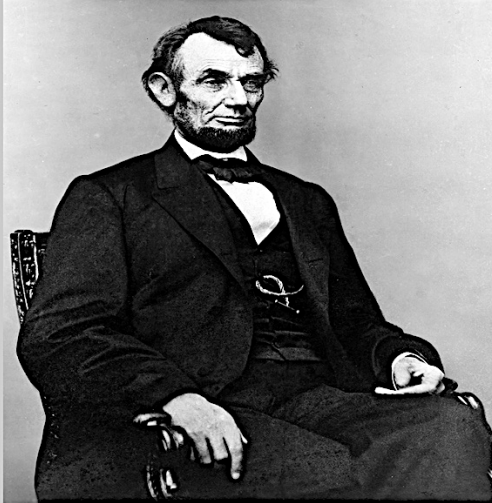
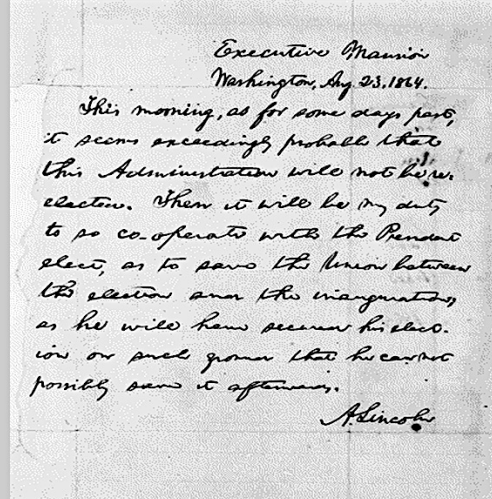


Understanding Lincoln's "Blind Memorandum"



Abraham Lincoln in 1864



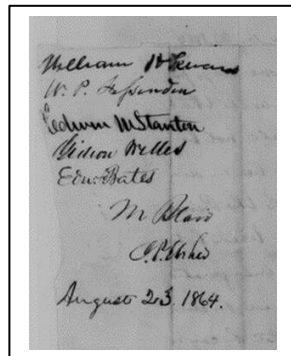
Lincoln's "Blind Memorandum"
(Aug. 23, 1864) Images courtesy of
Library of Congress

Executive Mansion
Washington, Aug. 23, 1864

This morning, as for some days past, it seems exceedingly probable that this Administration will not be re-elected. Then it will be my duty to so co-operate with the President elect, as to save the Union between the election and the inauguration; as he will have secured his election on such ground that he cannot possibly save it afterwards.

A. Lincoln

This document was then folded up tightly, and signed and dated on the reverse side in the following manner:



William H. Seward
W.P. Fessenden
Edwin M. Stanton
Gideon Welles
Edw. Bates
M Blair
JP Usher
August 23, 1864

