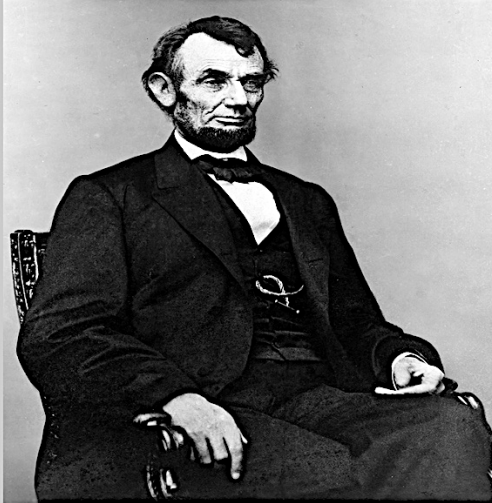
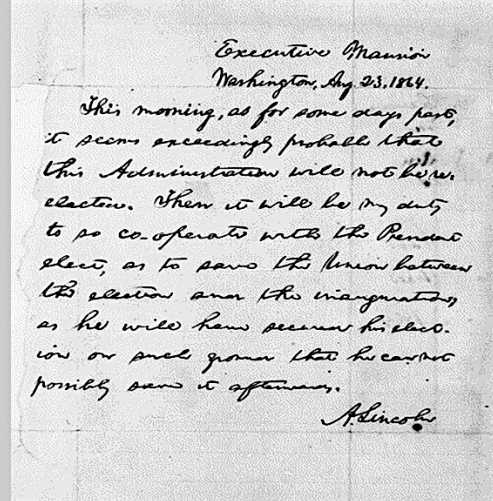


## Understanding Lincoln's "Blind Memorandum"



Abraham Lincoln in 1864



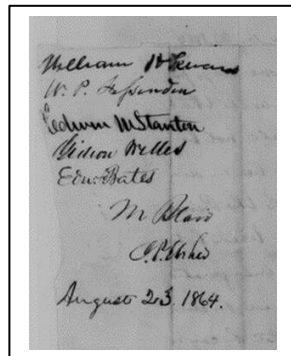
Lincoln's "Blind Memorandum"  
(Aug. 23, 1864) Images courtesy of  
Library of Congress

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

