WEST VIRGINIA BLUE BOOK

2017-2018

LEE CASSIS, SENATE CLERK Charleston, West Virginia

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FOREWORD

West Virginia Blue Book 2017-2018

It is my honor to present the 2017-2018 West Virginia Blue Book, Volume 94. As with every Blue Book published since 1916, this edition will serve as an extensive guide of historical, statistical, departmental, and geographical information about the State of West Virginia and its government.

During the years 2017 and 2018, West Virginians witnessed, for the first time in our State's history, a sitting Governor change political parties during a term, and watched as the Senate tried its first impeachment case since 1876. These historical events, and much more, are documented in this book.

In keeping with the times, I am pleased to announce that every volume of the West Virginia Blue Book is now available for viewing in a PDF, searchable format on the Legislature's website at https:// www.wvlegislature.gov/Senate1/clerk.cfm.

Lastly, publication of the Blue Book would not be possible without the unparalleled dedication and commitment of the Senate and Joint Committee staff, along with the willing cooperation of various local and state government agencies. I would like to extend a special thanks to Kristin Canterbury, Assistant Clerk of the Senate, and Jake Nichols, Parliamentarian of the Senate, for their work on this edition.

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LEE CASSIS Clerk of the Senate

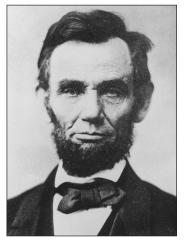
President Abraham Lincoln, the Emancipation Proclamation & the Eventual End of Slavery

Kristin Canterbury Assistant Clerk of the Senate

At the start of the Civil War in 1861, President Abraham Lincoln was careful to frame the war as an

effort to preserve the Union instead of ending slavery. While personally against slavery, Lincoln declared during his first inaugural address that he had "no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with slavery in the States where it exists." As President of the United States, Lincoln was bound to uphold the Constitution which protected slavery in any state where its citizens wanted it. Lincoln was also concerned over the support of four border slave states and Northern Democrats, both groups which would have turned against the Union if Republicans made any effort to end slavery in 1861.

By 1862, however, most Republicans became convinced that the war should be seen as a means to end slavery and they put pressure on Lincoln to issue an emancipation policy. Despite being concerned with alienating half the Union constituency, Lincoln was convinced the Union would lose the war effort if he did not act against slavery. Lincoln decided to use emancipation as a military strategy. He took the drastic position of freeing all slaves only in states waging war against the Union. He told a cabinet member that emancipation had become, "a military necessity...We must free slaves or ourselves be subdued...The Administration must set an example,



President Abraham Lincoln. West Virginia State Archives Collection

and strike at the heart of the rebellion." While the cabinet agreed, Secretary of State William Seward convinced Lincoln to hold off issuing the Proclamation until a major Union victory could be used to give it added weight. In a letter to the New York Tribune on August 22, 1862, Lincoln stated his "paramount object in the struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save nor destroy slavery." In a way, Lincoln forewarned opponents of emancipation that they had to accept its use as a necessity in order to win the war.

The preliminary Emancipation Proclamation was issued on September 22, 1862, after the Battle

at Antietam. While historically considered a draw, the Union did drive the Confederates out of Maryland, providing Lincoln with enough of a "victory" to issue the preliminary Proclamation. It stipulated that if the southern states did not cease their rebellion by January 1, 1863, then the proclamation would go into full effect. The Confederacy did not yield and on January 1, 1863, Lincoln issued the final Emancipation Proclamation which stated, "that all persons held as slaves...within any state...in rebellion against the United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free." Slavery remained legal in loyal border states and the Proclamation also exempted parts of the Confederacy which had already come under Union control.

The issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation turned the tide of the Civil War. Backing the confederacy was now seen as favoring slavery. Anti-slavery countries such as Great

Britain and France, which had been friendly toward the Confederacy,



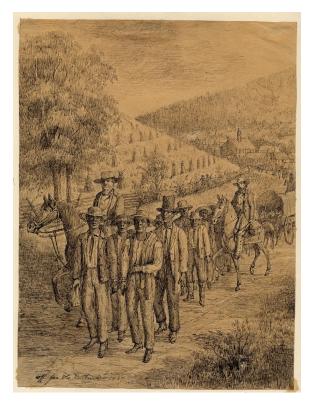
Slaves of Aaron Boggs, Pendleton County, undated. Myrtle Phares Collection, West Virginia State Archives



SIGNING THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

President Abraham Lincoln presenting the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet, July 22, 1862. (Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War, Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, President Lincoln, Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Caleb B. Smith, Secretary of the Interior, William H. Seward, Secretary of State, Montgomery Blair, Postmaster General, and Edward Bates, Attorney General) Boyd B. Stutler Collection, West Virginia State Archives refused to get involved on behalf of the South. The Proclamation also authorized the recruitment of freed slaves into the Union military ranks. Over the next two and a half years, close to 200,000 Black soldiers and sailors fought for the Union army and navy. The Proclamation also bolstered the popularity of Lincoln's party, helping the Republicans remain in power for the next 20 years.

Since the Emancipation Proclamation was an Executive Order used as a war measure



and not a Congressional law, Lincoln and his cabinet realized that once the war was over, the Proclamation likely would have no Constitutional validity. Therefore, Lincoln and the Republican party pushed for a Constitutional amendment to abolish slavery. The Senate passed the 13th amendment on April 8, 1864, however it was not until January 31, 1865, before the House would pass it. When the 13th Amendment was ratified by the necessary three-fourths of states in December 1865, it ensured that, "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude... shall exist within the United States."

Sketch of slaves being transported to Kentucky, 1847, sketched by Joseph H. Diss Debar. Joseph H. Diss Debar Collection, West Virginia State Archives

OPPOSITE: Sketch of President Abraham Lincoln at the Willard Hotel, 1864, sketched by Joseph H. Diss Debar. Joseph H. Diss Debar Collection, West Virginia State Archives



