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*National Museum of American History*  
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***America's New Birth of Freedom:  
Documents from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library***

**DOCUMENT TRANSCRIPT**

**Abraham Lincoln to Amanda Hall, March 20, 1865**

Executive Mansion,  
Washington, March 20, 1865.

Mrs. Amanda H. Hall

Madam: Induced by a letter of yours to your brother, and shown me by him, I send you what follows below.

Respectfully A. Lincoln

" Fondly do we hope — fervently do we pray — that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, 'The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.' "

Abraham Lincoln

Source: *Uncollected letters of Abraham Lincoln* by Abraham Lincoln, Gilbert Tracy, Francis H. Allen, 1917.