

Executive Mansion
Washington, Nov 21, 1864

To Mrs Bixby, Boston, Mass.

Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully

A. Lincoln

The Celebrated "Bixby Letter."

Facsimile of the Original Manuscript on Exhibition at Huber's Museum in New York City.

▲ Letter of Condolence Written by Abraham Lincoln to Mrs. Bixby, of Boston, Mass., November 21, 1864.

Executive Mansion
Washington, Nov 21, 1864

To Mr. Dix, Boston, Mass.
Dear Madam.

I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may merge the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the sweet memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn promise that our brave dead will be truly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully
Abraham Lincoln

The Collected "Dixy Letter."
Facsimile of the Original Manuscript on Exhibition at Hagar's Museum in New York City.
A Letter of Condolence Written by Abraham Lincoln to Mrs. Dix, of Boston, Mass., November 21, 1864.