Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth

on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and

dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that

nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long

endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We

have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final

resting place for those who here gave their lives that that

nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that

we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not

consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men,

living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far

above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little

note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never

forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather,

to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who

fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for

us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before

us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion

to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of

devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall

not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall

have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the

people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from

the earth.