



Ostendorf collection O-110

LINCOLN HOLDS A SINGLE PAGE on which is printed his entire inaugural address. Photograph, probably by Gardner, east front of Capitol Building, Washington, D. C., Saturday, March 4, 1865. As the President kissed the Bible, affirming his oath of office, the sun burst forth like an omen of peace.

Reading from a galley proof of two broad columns on a single sheet, Lincoln delivers to a rapt audience one of the briefest and best known of Presidential inaugural addresses. Next to him, Andrew Johnson, slightly tipsy from a medicinal drink, shields his face from the sun with his top hat; John Hay stands behind the President's empty chair; on Lincoln's right sits Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase, followed by Associate Justices Wayne, Nelson, Clifford, Swayne, Miller, and Field. The blurred figure of Lincoln is retouched. Above him, Booth is visible under the arm of the statue on the railed balcony.