

Executive Mansion,

Washington, April 5....., 1864.

Mrs Horace Mann,

Madam,

The petition of persons under eighteen, praying that I would free all slave children, and the heading of which, ^{petition} it appears you note, was handed me a few days since by Senator Sumner. Please tell these little people I am very glad their young hearts are so full of just and generous sympathy, and that, while I have not the power to grant all they ask, I trust they will remember that God has, and that, as it seems, He will, to do it.

Yours truly
A. Lincoln