

Abraham Lincoln,

President of the United States of America.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, it appears to my satisfaction that John C. Gaut, a citizen of the State of Tennessee, was elected to the office of Circuit Judge of one of the Judicial Districts in said State and under the laws thereof, after the pretended Ordinance of Secession of the said State from the Federal Union and before the passage of the Act of Congress of the United States approved July 17, 1862, entitled "An Act to suppress Insurrection, to punish Treason and Rebellion, to seize and confiscate the property of rebels, and for other purposes," the said District being one of the Judicial Districts in East Tennessee;

And whereas, the said John C. Gaut accepted said office at the urgent solicitation of the loyal citizens of said District, and for the purpose of protecting their rights of person and property against the tyranny and oppression of the rebel authorities, and not as a means or with the view of aiding or abetting said rebel authorities, he being then and now, a true, faithful and loyal citizen of the

United States of America;—

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, ^{and} divers other good and sufficient reasons ————— ^{hereby} do, freely offer and grant unto him, the said John C. Gaunt, a full and unconditional release, discharge and remission of all the pains, penalties and liabilities incurred, or that may have been incurred by him, by virtue of the acceptance of said office, or the exercise of the functions thereof, or by otherwise having participated, by implication in the existing rebellion; with full restoration of all his rights of property except as to slaves.

In testimony whereof, I have herewith signed my name and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done, at the City of Washington, this Eighth day of March, A. D. 1864, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

Abraham Lincoln

By the President:

William H. Seward,

Secretary of State.



Spencer Jordan

March 8, 1864