

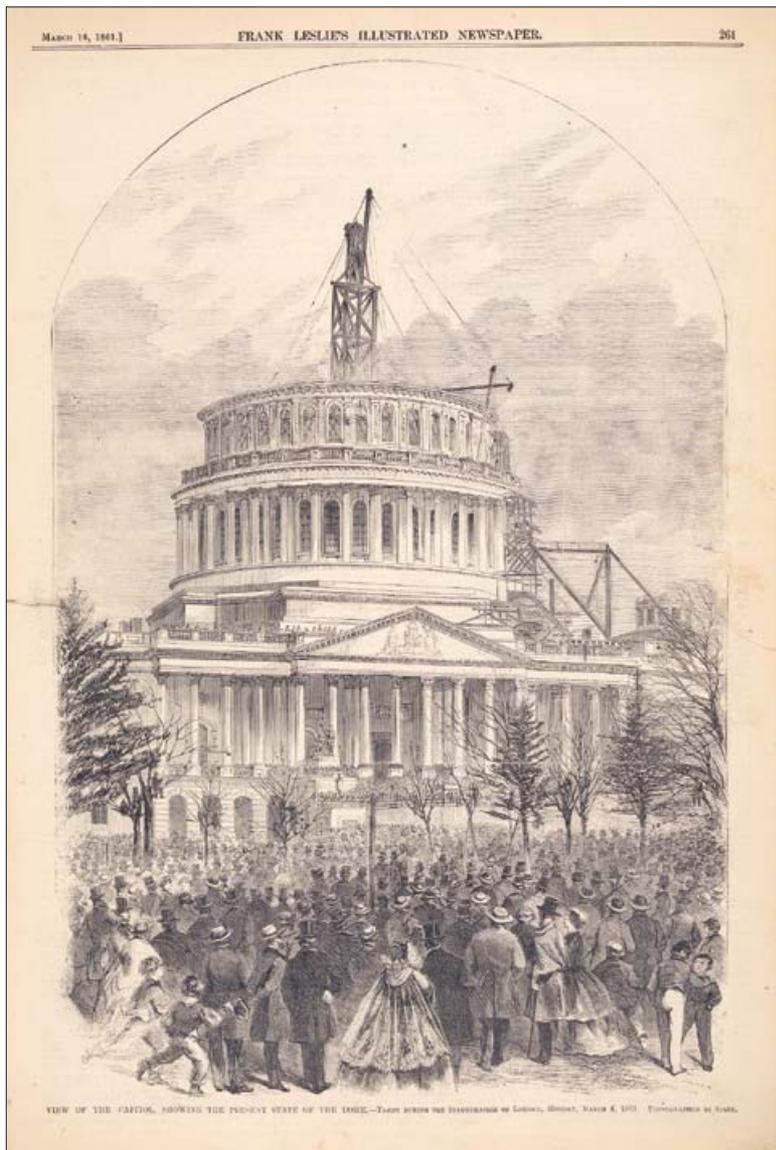


Since March 4, 1801, when Thomas Jefferson walked the short distance from his boardinghouse to the nearby Capitol to take his oath of office as president of the United States, the building has served as the grand stage for almost all presidential inaugurations. While early inaugurations were small, local affairs, by Abraham Lincoln's first inauguration the crowds had swelled from thousands to tens of thousands, lining the parade route and packing the Capitol grounds. The entire nation shared in the excitement thanks to illustrated weekly newspapers, which delivered images within days of the event to homes across the country. With the nation on the brink of civil war, Abraham Lincoln feared that violence would mar his inauguration day. For the first time during an American presidential inauguration, the primary duty of the military units escorting the president was to protect him rather than to serve a ceremonial role. The inauguration was held on the east front of the Capitol, with the unfinished dome providing a symbolic image of the fragmented nation. 🌀



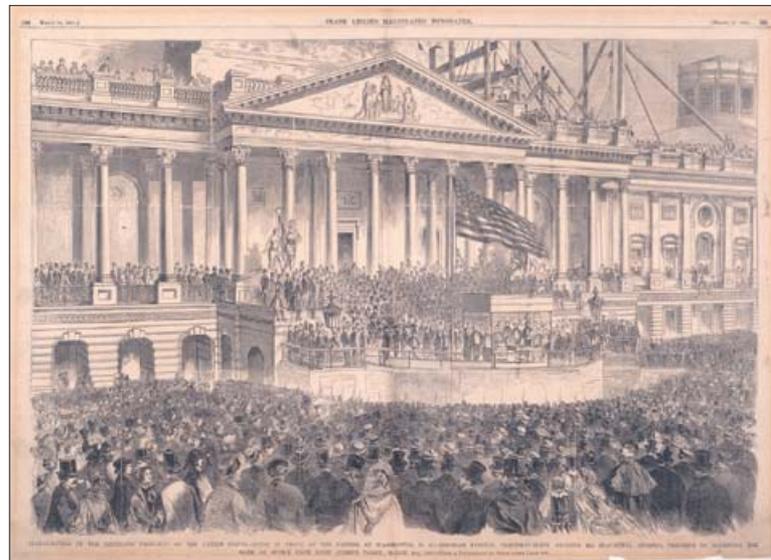
**View on Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, Monday, March 4th, 1861—Mr. Lincoln, Accompanied by President Buchanan, on His Way to the Capitol to Be Inaugurated.**

Unidentified  
*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, 03/16/1861  
 Wood engraving, black and white  
 9 ¼ x 14 inches (23.5 x 35.6 cm)  
 Cat. no. 38.00006.004



**View of the Capitol, Showing Present State of the Dome.—  
Taken during the Inauguration of Lincoln, Monday, March 4, 1861.**

Unidentified after photograph by George Stacy  
*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, 03/16/1861  
Wood engraving, black and white  
14 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 8 <sup>15</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inches (36.0 x 22.7 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00009.004



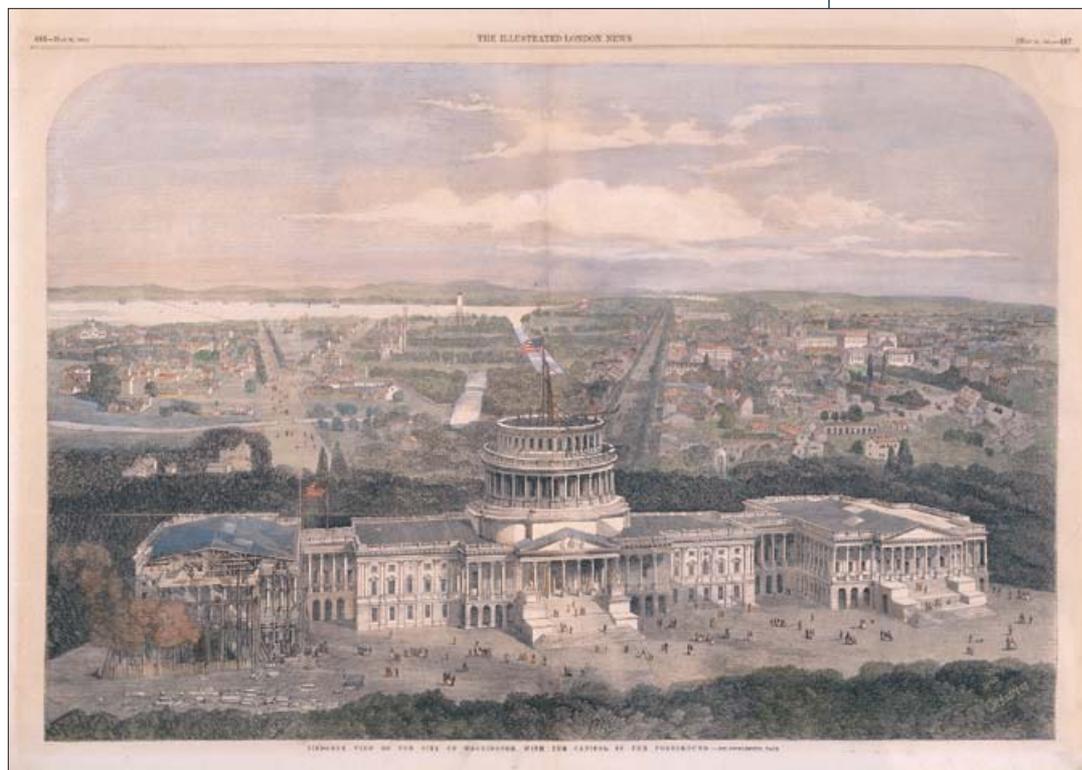
**Inauguration of the Sixteenth President of the United States—  
Scene in Front of the Capitol at Washington, D.C.—Abraham Lincoln,  
President-Elect, Reading His Inaugural Address, Previous to Receiving  
the Oath of Office from Chief Justice Taney, March 4th, 1861.**

Unidentified after photograph by George Stacy  
*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, 03/16/1861  
Wood engraving, black and white  
14 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 19 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches (36.2 x 50.2 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00134.001



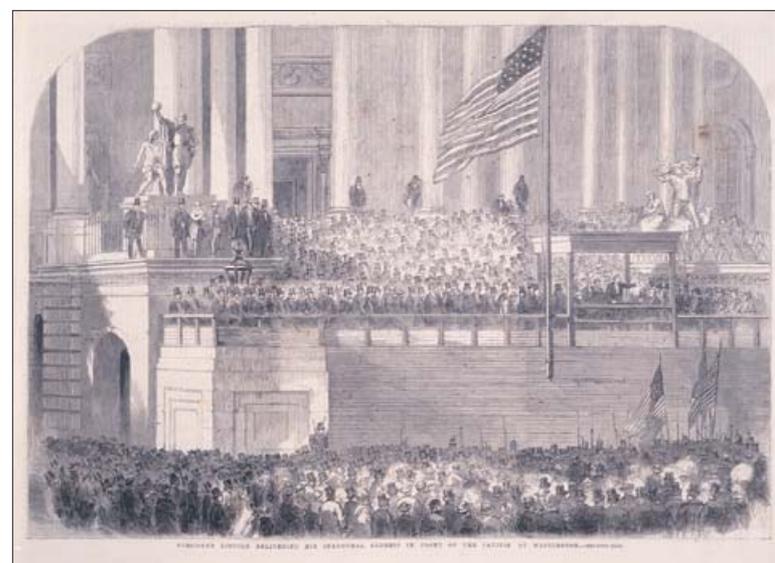
**Anficht des Capitols in Washington, D.C.**

Unidentified [after photograph by George Stacy]  
*Frank Leslie's Illustrirte Zeitung*, ca. 1861  
Wood engraving, black and white  
10 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 8 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches (26.0 x 22.5 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00414.001



**Birds Eye View of the City of Washington,  
with the Capitol in the Foreground**

Unidentified after George Henry Andrews  
*The Illustrated London News*, 05/25/1861  
Wood engraving, hand-colored  
13 ¾ x 20 inches (34.9 x 50.8 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00012.001



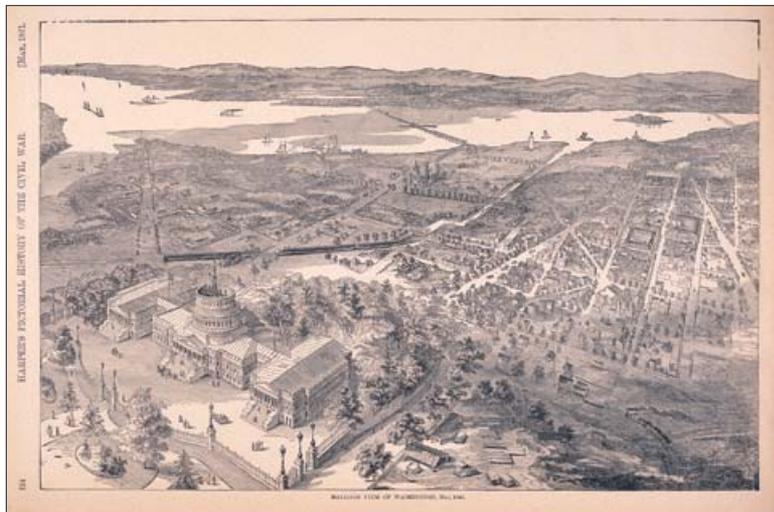
**President Lincoln Delivering His Inaugural Address in Front of the  
Capitol at Washington.**

Unidentified  
*The Illustrated London News*, 03/30/1861  
Wood engraving, black and white  
9 ¼ x 13 ½ inches (24.3 x 34.3 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00434.001



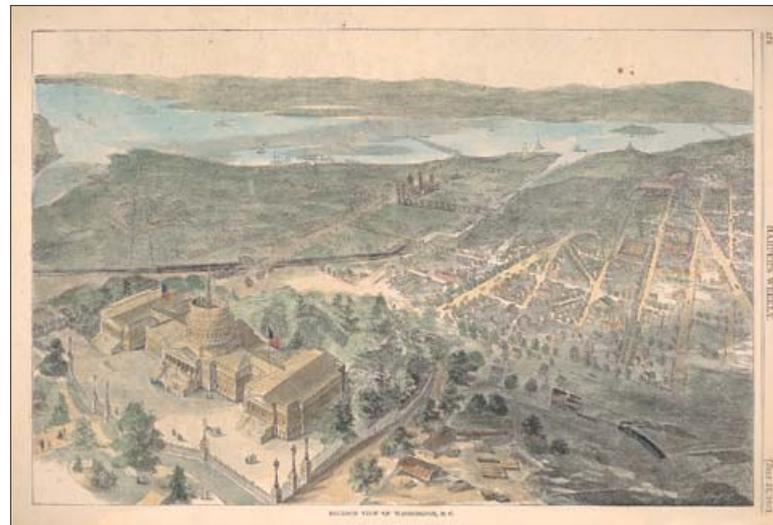
**The Troops in Washington, D.C.—Drilling in the Grounds on the  
North Side of the Capitol.**

Unidentified  
*Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, 05/25/1861  
Wood engraving, black and white  
9 ⅜ x 14 inches (23.8 x 35.6 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00260.001



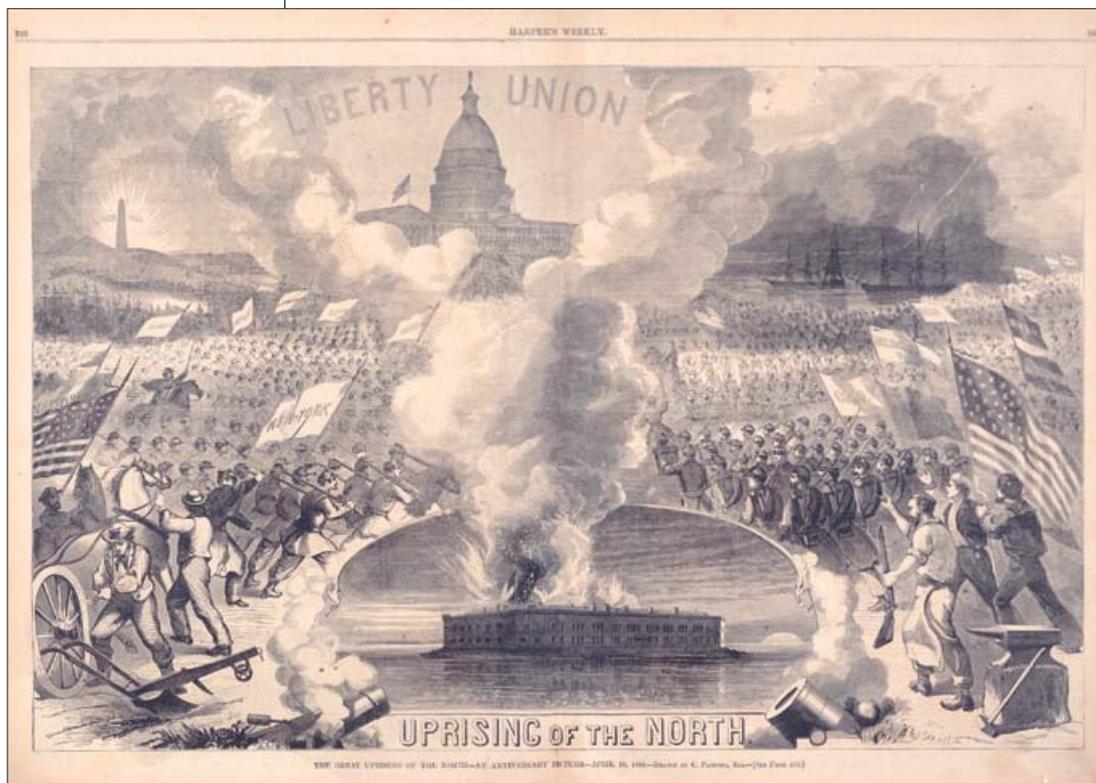
**Balloon View of Washington, May, 1861.**

Unidentified after Jacob Wells  
*Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War*, 05/1861  
Wood engraving, black and white  
9 1/2 x 14 inches (24.1 x 35.6 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00253.001



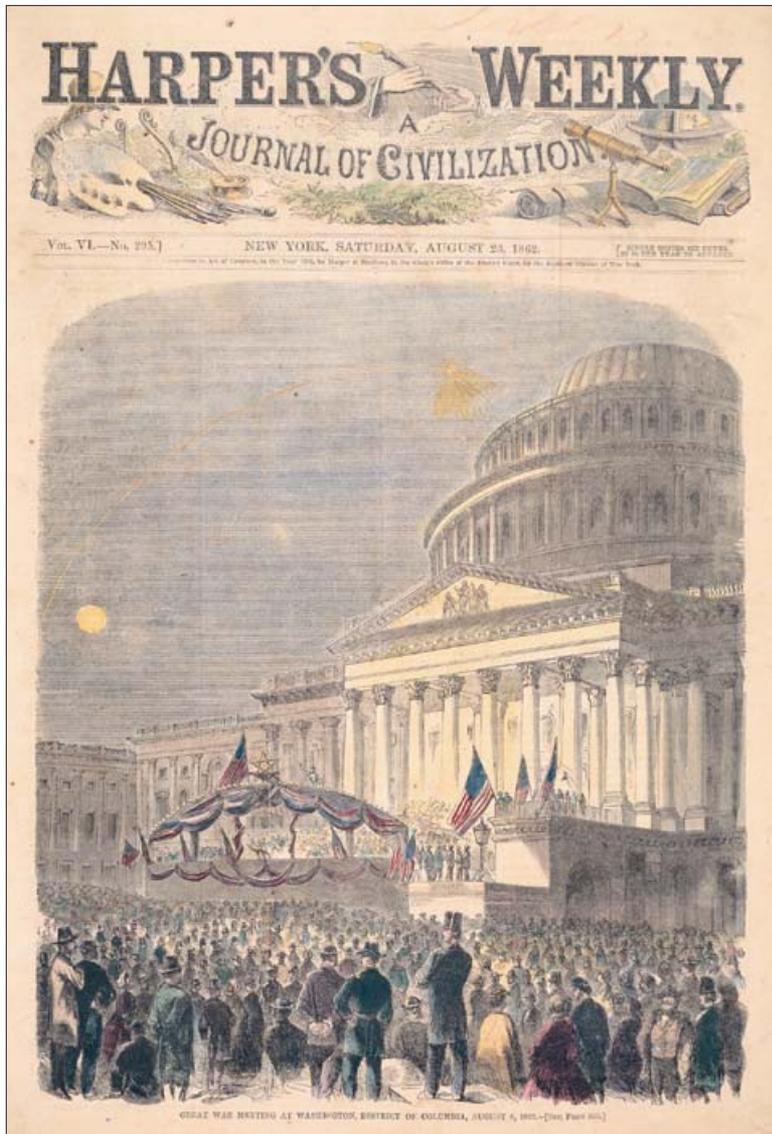
**Balloon View of Washington, D.C.**

Unidentified after Jacob Wells  
*Harper's Weekly*, 07/27/1861  
Wood engraving, hand-colored  
9 3/16 x 13 7/8 inches (23.3 x 35.2 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00002.003



**The Great Uprising of the North—An Anniversary Picture—  
April 12, 1862.**

Unidentified after C. Parsons  
*Harper's Weekly*, 04/19/1862  
Wood engraving, black and white  
13 5/8 x 20 1/8 inches (34.6 x 51.1 cm)  
Cat. no. 38.00264.001



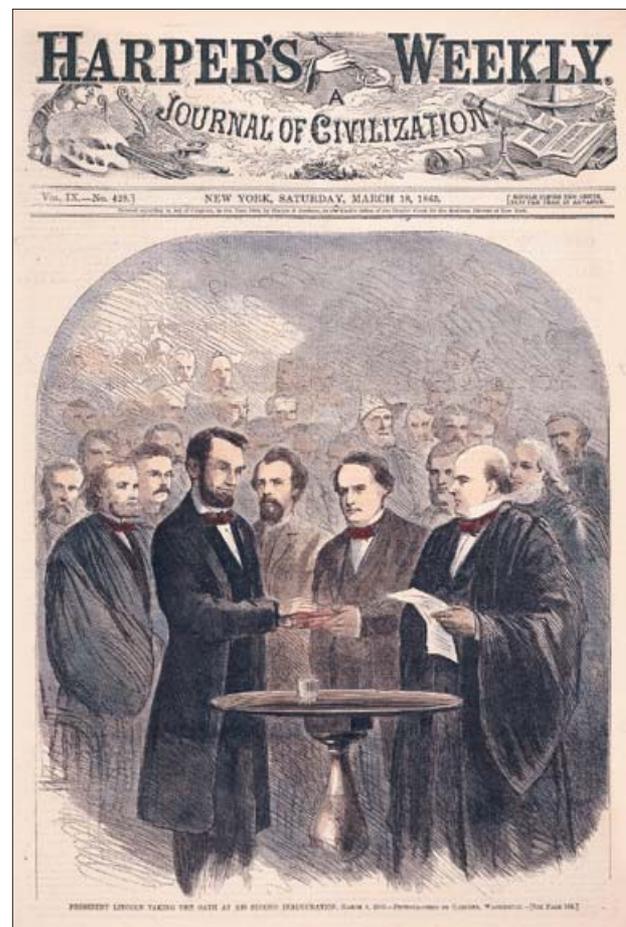
**Great War Meeting at Washington, District of Columbia, August 6, 1862.**

Unidentified  
*Harper's Weekly*, 08/23/1862  
 Wood engraving, hand-colored  
 10 <sup>15</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 9 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inches (27.8 x 23.7 cm)  
 Cat. no. 38.00064.001



**Capitol at Washington.**

Unidentified  
 Unidentified, ca. 1864  
 Photograph, black and white  
 3 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 5 <sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inches (8.1 x 14.4 cm)  
 Cat. no. 38.00466.001



**President Lincoln Taking the Oath at His Second Inauguration, March 4, 1865.**

Unidentified after photograph by Alexander Gardner  
*Harper's Weekly*, 03/18/1865  
 Wood engraving, hand-colored  
 11 x 9 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inches (27.9 x 23.3 cm)  
 Cat. no. 38.00085.001