



# The People of the State of New York

By the  
Grace of God



Free and  
Independent



To William S. Fessenden, Lieut. Col., 161<sup>st</sup> Regt. N.Y.  
By virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the Concurrent Resolutions of the  
Legislature of the State of New York. I hereby appoint and constitute you, Brevet  
Colonel New York State Volunteers for gallant and  
meritorious service in the late war.

And as a testimonial of the ZEAL, FIDELITY AND COURAGE with which you have main-  
tained the honor of the State of New York in her efforts to enforce the Laws of the United  
States, the Supremacy of the Constitution and a Republican form of Government.

In testimony whereof, We have caused our Privy Seal to be hereunto affixed  
Witness: Reuben E. Benton, Governor of our said State and Commander  
in Chief of its Military and Naval Forces, at the City of Albany,  
this fourteenth day of November 1866.



M. S. Fessenden



R. E. Benton

