

THE FUGELMAN

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SECOND
WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
ASSOCIATION**

THE BLACK HAT BRIGADE---THE IRON BRIGADE

1861-1865

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FU-GEL-MAN: A well-drilled soldier placed in front of a military company as a model or guide for others.

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PASS IN REVIEW

From the quill of Lt. Colonel Pete Seielstad



As we near July 1st, I am always drawn by the action that took place at Gettysburg. General Buford's men holding the ground against the confederate force, General Reynolds surveying the land, agreeing with Buford that the enemy must be fought on this ground and ordering his men to hurry along and "Drive those fellows out of the woods."

The men of the Iron Brigade take General Reynolds' last orders seriously and loading at the run meet Archer's Brigade head on. We all know the story about these Western men and their brave dash to meet the enemy and dish out deadly fire upon the gray-clad rebels. What can we say about the 6th Wisconsin and their ability to hold their fire and shout out "Surrender" to those trapped in the Railroad Cut?

To reflect on that 1st day in July of 1863, is to consider the fact that these men lost the day's battle as they retreated through the town of Gettysburg but purchased precious time for the Federals to assemble. If our heroes were not there on the first day, the 2nd and 3rd day at Gettysburg wouldn't have happened. No Peach Orchard, no Little Round Top, and no Pickett's Charge. (Here I go, writing about counterfactual history.)

Focus on these men as they retreat to the Seminary and hold another defensive position. June 30th started out like any other when the Black Hats camped at Marsh Creek on the Chambersburg Pike near the town of Gettysburg. But by early afternoon the next day many would be dead or wounded. The day is hot; the rifle is fouled but is quickly cleaned and ready. Many take a drink from their canteen or a bite from what is left in their haversack. A quick look down the firing line a man is quick to see who has survived to this hour. Another look out into the field the Federals see the first signs of the confederate line advancing. With sweat and exhaustion, his rifle aimed and a finger on the trigger, a man says under his breath, "Come on, God damn you!"

Imagine for a moment the deep sense of devotion these men had to protect and preserve the Union from secession. Heroes? They are definitely heroes in my book.

Your obedient servant,

Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad

EDITORIAL

THIS CRUEL WAR IS OVER!

THE WAR IS OVER! How this news must have swept through the armies as they encamped within view of their old enemies. Lee had surrendered and the fighting was over! And soon the same news would be delivered from Bennet's Place in North Carolina where Sherman faced off with the troops of General Joe Johnston. Historians may argue about when the war actually ended (or if it ever has), but we know from written accounts how the men in uniform viewed these events. For them the war was over. Peace once again reigned in the Union and for the Northern soldiers their efforts and sacrifice was crowned with victory!

Shouts of joy and victory raced through the ranks. And this joy had to be the first reaction of the soldiers as they received the glad tidings of the end of the fighting. This was the natural expression from the soldiers, but General Grant tried to subdue the celebratory outburst to avoid humiliating the defeated Army in Northern Virginia. They had been worthy adversaries, but they were no longer the enemy, but the brethren of the victorious Union forces.

However, after the first immediate flush of victory and the attempt to instill the idea of common unity among the men of both armies, there must have been a strange current of rejection of this idea among the soldiers. The war had been vicious and personal. The men had seen too many deaths and lost too many friends and relatives to the fighting to easily forget the role of their enemy over the preceding four years. They were going home and that made them happy, but they knew they would not soon forget the events that had been the focus of their lives for so long. Oliver Wendell Holmes may have said it best when he wrote "In our youth our hearts were touched with

fire.” These men would never be the same! They had been on a great crusade that formed them and made them different from the callow youths who had marched away to war. They had no idea how hard it was going to be to lay aside all the trials and tribulations of soldiering and return to their civilian lives!

Thousands would be going home disfigured and maimed by terrible wounds. How would they earn a living once they were home? How was it possible to return to the factory, the farm or other livelihood missing an arm or leg? There was no Veterans Administration to prepare them for the future. There wasn’t anything like the psychological treatment for post-traumatic stress that we see today. Not only were these men dealing with terrible physical scars, but many were coming home addicted to opiates and alcohol. Civilians at home would view these men not as damaged warriors, but as weak and maladjusted men who would be left to their own devices to deal with these ravages of war. To these men going home to an uncertain future must have been a daunting experience!

The soldiers not only came home with physical and mental scars, but they found that things at home had changed in ways that they had a hard time accepting. One example is the case of James Dupray as set out below:

James S. Dupray served honorably with the 12th Iowa Volunteer Regiment, he returned home to “find neither wife or children to greet me.” But that was not the truly stunning news for his “children [were] scattered one in one place and [one] another” and his “Dear wife in her grave.” The loss was almost more than James could bare, “I had nothing to live for and I wanted to lie down in the grave by her side...” Still for his children he soldiered on, selling all the property he had left (totaling \$600) and putting it all into an investment property.” When home, one of the more difficult adjustments involved dealing with those who did not “do their duty” and fight for the Union. Dupray noted how those “loyal men [who] enlisted & gave in defence of their country, leaving the traitors at home to rule matters there.” (<http://www.soldierstudies.org/blog/2011/06/what-happened-to-civil-war-soldiers-after-the-war/>)

It wasn’t just losses within the family unit that impacted soldiers when they got home. Technological changes had swept the country during the war. The roles of women had changed drastically as well. All these things would make adjustment for the returning soldiers more difficult.

Pride of unit and military organizations which these men had shared was another emotion that gripped them as they returned home. They would form veterans groups, attend reunions, and participate in civic activities that touched on their military service. They had formed unbreakable bonds with their comrades in the army. It was extremely difficult to let go of those relationships once the men returned to civilian life. Some would turn to writing about these events that changed them forever. These men would create regimental histories and stories of experiences only they could share with other veterans. These written documents preserved a history of those days for future generations. It was clear that the returning veterans did not want their sacrifices to be forgotten with the passage of time. The sacrifice of their colleagues should not be forgotten and they were determined to see that the service of their fellow veterans were not lost to the future generations of Americans.

These veterans were also proud of what they had accomplished. The Union had been preserved. Democratic government had been upheld. And as time passed there would be a growing recognition that a race had been freed from the evils of human bondage. There would be a growing recognition that the results of the war had been worth the costs.

Another emotion that must have racked these returning veterans was what we now call survivors remorse. "Why did I survive the carnage and devastation of war? Why me and not some other soldier from my unit?" Many would rely on their Christian faith to answer this question. "It was God's will. God had some purpose, some goal for me to achieve and that is why I was spared". Certainly individual soldiers had to be grateful they had survived the war, but they also had to wonder at the randomness of death and wounds during the fighting.

As we end the 150th anniversary cycle of the Civil War it is easy to say the war is over and the troops are finally going home. Although it is not something that anyone will likely deal with at our events, one must keep in mind that the war didn't end politically for the nation or physically for the veterans when the shooting stopped. When the war ended is a matter of current debate. Certainly there were numerous issues to be resolved after four years of fighting. There was the status of the political reconstruction of the seceded states, the future of the newly freed slaves, and what to do with the leaders of the rebellion to be resolved. These questions would plague the country for decades after the surrender of the rebel armies. Some of them continue to this day. But for the vast majority of the civil war soldiers

the fighting was over and they were home facing the challenges of recovering their lives as civilians in a new Union.

CAMPAIGN SCHEDULES OF THE COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATION

JULY

11th & 12th	Wauconda Reenactment (Assoc Max Effort Regional Event)	Wauconda, IL.
18th	Camp Randall Living History	Madison, WI.
18th & 19th	56th VA & 2nd WI (Skirmish team)	Bristol, WI.
		Menominee
18th & 19th	Old Falls Village Reenactment (Co.E, Co.K, Bty B.)	Falls, WI.
25th & 26th	Fort Wilkins Living History (Co.E)	Copper Harbor, MI.
25th, 26th	Sweet's Civil War Encampment (Co.K)	Lumbard, IL.
31st-Aug		
2nd	1 USSS, 15th WI, 8th WI & 2nd WI (Skirmish team)	Boscobel, WI.

REGIMENTAL DISPATCHES

“RETURN TO CAMP RANDALL” EVENT DETAILS

A very special event is in the planning stages for a commemoration of the end of the Civil War and the return to Wisconsin of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry to be mustered out of the service. This is an addition to our regular schedule of events, but one that received Association support at the Association annual meeting in January.

If you want to stay on top of developments you can go to the following link to keep track of developments.

<http://www.wisvetsmuseum.com/events/?ID=121>

The infantry impression will be based on Companies G & H of the 6th Wisconsin, which included men from the old Second Wisconsin who had served out the remainder of the war with the boys of the 6th Wisconsin Volunteers. Kevin Hampton, the organizer of this event, sent the following information for those who will participate in this special event:

“Those attending for just the day are requested to still bring their tent with them since we'd like there to be as much going on in the park throughout the day as possible, and the public are always drawn to the soldier's camp area as a focal point. This will be completely a living history event, so everything we usually do to engage the public is encouraged - discussion of how much a soldier carries, what they eat, perhaps a company drill demonstration, etc.”

“You'll notice in the Draft Program Plan that one of the proposals is for a camp scenario that will recreate the final mustering. As part of that scenario, each participating reenactor will receive a replicated muster out form and their final pay. I will also be circulating a list of names for those veterans from the 2nd Wisconsin that did muster out on June 14, 1865 as part of Companies G & H (hopefully in the *Fugelman* - or a "special edition" there of) in case any individuals wanted to take on a first person impression”.

***The Fugelman* will publish a special edition with all the last minute details for the event a week before the scheduled event. Below you will find a news release on the event and a schedule of activities for the day.**

The Editor would like to encourage all men of the Association to pitch in to help with this event. Mr. Hampton not only works for the Veterans Museum (which alone deserves our support) but he is the president of the Association. It behooves us to remember that these men were coming home after long and hard service during the late unpleasantness. And the 6th Wisconsin was a part of that glorious Iron Brigade during its heyday in the Army of Virginia and the Army of the Potomac.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WISCONSIN VETERANS MUSEUM
HOSTS
“RETURN TO CAMP RANDALL”
CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT
AND MONUMENT DEDICATION**

MADISON, WIS. (JUNE XX, 2015) – The [Wisconsin Veterans Museum](#) today announced that it will host “Return to Camp Randall,” a Civil War encampment and monument dedication, on July 18 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Camp Randall Memorial Park in Madison.

During the free event, the public is invited to commemorate the end of the Civil War and enjoy re-enactments of Union troops, a 1st Brigade Band Concert, a Grand Review, campfire stories and more. Additionally, a new monument memorializing Wisconsin’s role in the Civil War and the sacrifices of more than 80,000 Wisconsin Civil War veterans will be unveiled during a special ceremony at 11 a.m.

“Camp Randall holds special significance in the hearts of Wisconsinites,” said Michael Telzrow, director of the museum. “While today it is the home of Wisconsin football, 150 years ago it was the primary training ground for Wisconsin’s Civil War soldiers. This year marked the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War and it is fitting to remember the significance of this site with a new monument and this encampment event.”

Camp Randall Memorial Park is located at 132 N. Randall Ave. in Madison. For more information and a schedule of activities, visit www.wisvetsmuseum.com/events.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is an educational activity of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and is located at 30 W. Mifflin St., across from the State Capitol. For more information, visit www.wisvetsmuseum.com.

RETURN TO CAMP RANDALL

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT & MONUMENT DEDICATION

Where: Camp Randall Memorial Park, Madison, WI

Date: Saturday July 18, 2015

Draft Schedule of Events

Friday

1700 Registration and Camp opens to Reenactors

Saturday

0900 Camp Opens to the Public

1100 - 1130 Commemorative Ceremony

- **Unveiling of the Monument**
- **Grand Review of the troops by VIPs**

1130 - 1230 1st Brigade Band Concert

1400 Camp Activities

- **The troops assemble to receive their final pay before receiving official notice of being mustered out**

1600 Camp Activities

- **Public is invited to gather around the campfires in small groups and listen as reenactors tell campfire stories (either stories of Wisconsin's role in the Civil War or stories of reenacting and why they do what they do)**

1730 Camp Activities

- **Soldiers bid farewell to each other after having served a long and hard 4 years of war together**

1800 Camp Closes to the Public

Sunday

1100 Camp closes to Reenactors

POINTS OF CONTACT

Overall Program Coordinator:

- **Kevin Hampton, Wisconsin Veterans Museum**

Ceremony:

- **Welcome: Michael Telzrow, Director, Wisconsin Veterans Museum**
- **Remarks: Tad D. Campbell, National Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**
- **Keynote address: John A. Scocos, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs**

Concert:

- **1st Brigade Band**

Reenactor Organizational Command:

- **2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association**

Special Guests:

- **John A. Scocos, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs**
- **Tad D. Campbell, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**
- **Lance Herdegen, Chair of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission**

Media Contacts:

- **Carla Vigue, Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs**

ANOTHER LETTER HOME FROM A SOLDIER IN COMPANY E

Dear Sally,

It has bin a spell since I last rit to you, hope all is well with you and the family. The Company is still featherbedn here at Ft Howard. Not much new regardn our esquires cept 2 new corporals; Todd St John and Scott Blood. Neither puts on airs so I reckn they will be a credit to ther chevrons. The weather has bin mild as winters go in these parts, very dry spring as well.

My health has bin tolerable cept me prolongd prostrashuns at the sinks in early March. Another bout of nasty flux to which Doc Jameson had prescribd his "Irish Strength Laudanum" to supplement the "blue mass" which Pa lovingly calls "Doc's Blue Bowel Busters!" I tell ya Sally, a week of that libashun liked to kill or cure ya. Me hats off to Doc and modern medicine as I is fit as a fiddle now - bring on the secesh! We have had a number of new recruits join the ranks and time will tell them as soljers.

The esquires conductd 2 well attended drills in the hopes to prepare ther way. Like we all was at one time, they is sure eager to see the elephant! They best be keepn things in order for ther inspecshuns tho as our Hessian Captn and First Sgt will have 'em diggn Dutch and not for ovens either! Not much else to rit bouts, your brothers are all passn muster - even Ebenezer! Also, despyt drinkn the profits, Doc and Pa's laudanum enterprise still thrives!

Your Brother,

Stephan

P.S. My pard Jubal rec'd a letter recently from his lovely Irish wife telln of how ther family "Sugar Shack" had burnd down this spring. Sadly they lost a bumper harvest of maple syrup, but Ole Jubes is frettn most bouts the set back of ther moonshine operashun. He is hopn for a furlough so he can have a good old fashun "Sugar Shack" rasin party. When I told Pa bouts Ole Jubes mishap..... he wept!

ATTENTION TO ORDERS

“MUSKETS & MEMORIES” EVENT IN BOSCOBEL

The time has arrived for one of the best events of the year for our members. The Boscobel “Muskets & Memories” event will take place from August 1st through the 2nd. The Second Wisconsin contingent is always made up of troops from all our companies! It is also a weekend when we share the schedule of events with our comrades from the skirmish teams.

The Boscobel community makes every effort to welcome reenactors and make them feel at home. And this is the largest event on our calendar in Wisconsin. The battle scenarios are always interesting and creative. It also is a time of comraderie with our colleagues from the various companies in the Association. Finally, the men have always found this event to be fun and entertaining.

This year one of the battle scenarios will come from the eastern theater. The battle at Fort Stedman was the final effort by Confederate forces to break the seige of Petersburg. After troops led by General John B. Gordon had achieved some success during his pre-dawn attack, including the capture of the Union’s Fort Stedman, the rebel forces were finally driven back into their defensive works by a Union countercharge. The battle took place on March 25th, 1865. It was the last effort by General Lee to drive off the beseiging Union forces under Ulysses S. Grant. Robert E. Lee was now left with two choices; surrender or abandon the defenses around Petersburg and Richmond.

The battle for Fort Blakely was part of General Edward Canby’s Mobile, Alabama, Campaign. General Canby and the XVI and XIII Corps had enveloped Spanish Fort allowing Canby to draw troops from the seige and move to surround the works at Fort Blakely. The buildup of troops and siege of Fort Blakely lasted from April 2nd until April 9th, 1865. Spanish Fort fell on April 8th, allowing Canby to concentrate 16,000 troops against

Fort Blakely. On April 9th, Canby attacked, breached the defenses and captured the fort.

In both of these campaigns black troops played a significant role.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES, JULY 31, AUGUST 1 & 2, 2015

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

KRONSHAGE PARK, 1515 WISCONSIN AVE., BOSCOBEL WI

SPORTSMAN'S CLUB, 4982 WI HWY 133, BOSCOBEL WI

(SEE MAPS)

Fri July 31	Activity	Location
9:00 am	Reenactor Registration begins	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:30 pm	GAR Hall open to public	GAR Hall
5:00 pm	ACWSA Mortar Competition	Sportsman's Club
5:00 pm	Officer's call	Kronshage Park
Sat Aug 1	Activity	Location
Dawn to Dark	View Field of Flags	Kronshage Park
8:00 am	Reenactor Registration continues	Kronshage Park
8:30 am	Officer's call	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Camp opens to public/Living history demonstrations	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - noon	Guided Encampment Tours - every ½ hour	Kronshage Park

9:00 am - 4:30 pm	GAR Hall open to public	GAR Hall
9:00 am - noon	ACWSA Indvl.Comp. "Hands on history" public participation	Sportsman's Club
9:15 am	ACWSA Revolver Team Competition	Sportsman's Club
10:00 am	Infantry drills and Cavalry drills	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Mrs. Betsy Witherspoon	Event Tent
10:15 am	ACWSA Smoothbore Team Competition	Sportsman's Club
11:00 am	Artillery drills	Kronshage Park
11:00 am	Generals' Presentation	Kronshage Park
11:30 am	9th VA Cav/McGreagors Bat. Mail Call in camp	Kronshage Park
12:00 noon	Period music and Family Dance Lessons	Event Tent
12:30 pm	Safety inspection	Kronshage Park
12:30 pm	ACWSA Team Commanders Meeting	Sportsman's Club
12:45 pm	ACWSA Carbine Team Competition	Sportsman's Club
12:30 pm	Alonzo Cushing Medal of Honor Memorial	Event Tent
1:00 pm	<u>Battle Reenactment</u> - Battle of Fort Blakely	Battlefield
2:15 pm	Medical scenarios at encampment hospitals	Kronshage Park
2:30 pm - 4:00	Ladies' Garden Party (period dress required)	TBA

pm		
3:30 pm	ACWSA Battle Royale	Sportsman's Club
4:00 pm	Period Wedding	Kronshage Park
4:00 pm	ACWSA Cannon competition	Sportsman's Club
5:00 pm	Camp closes to public	Kronshage Park
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Pie & Ice Cream Social	Tuffley Center Downtown
8:00 pm - Midnight	Military / Civilian Ball (period dress)	Downtown
9:45 pm	Grand March	Downtown
Sun Aug 2	Activity	Location
8:30 am	Officer's call	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Camp opens to public / Living history demonstrations	Kronshage Park
9:00 am - 4:30 pm	GAR Hall open to public	GAR Hall
9:00 am	Church Call, 1860's Ecumenical Service	Event Tent
9:00 am	ACWSA Team Commanders Meeting	Sportsman's Club
9:15 am	ACWSA Opening Ceremonies	Sportsman's Club
9:30 am	ACWSA Musket Team Competition	Sportsman's

		Club
10:00 am	Guided Encampment Tours	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Pay Call	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Infantry drills and Cavalry drills	Kronshage Park
10:00 am	Orphan Train	Kronshage Park
11:00 am	Women on the Battlefield	Event Tent
11:30 am	9th VA Cav/McGreagors Batt, Pay Call	Kronshage Park
11:30 am	ACWSA Closing Ceremony and Awards	Sportsman's Club
12:00 noon	Generals' Presentation	Kronshage Park
12:00 noon	Artillery drills	Kronshage Park
1:00 pm	Safety inspection	Kronshage Park
1:30 pm	<u>Battle Reenactment</u> Battle of Fort Stedman	Battlefield
2:15 pm	Medical scenarios at encampment hospitals	Kronshage Park
4:00 pm	Camp closes until August next year.	

Home-cooked breakfast & lunch, Sat. & Sun. at camp entrance.

Admittance to the encampment by the public during "closed" hours is by invitation only.

Note: Everyone is invited to honor the Civil War Veterans by visiting their gravesites, which are marked with flags, during daylight hours in the Boscobel Cemetery, east of the encampment area.

**FROM THE CAMPS OF THE
COMPANIES OF THE SECOND
WISCONSIN**

INFANTRY



COMPANY B

Below you will find some attractive photos from Company B's Memorial Day commemorations. The first photo was taken at the Oak Grove Cemetery in LaCrosse. The second photo is of the men of Company B lining up for the Memorial Day parade. The last photo was taken at the gravesite of Jeremiah Moore, from the original Company B. The men looked resplendent in their commemorative attire and they certainly did the Second Wisconsin proud during the days activities. Our thanks to John Dudkiewicz for passing along these photos and sharing the events of that day with all of us!







COMPANY K



Student busses arrive for the Company K School Day event in Milton, Wisconsin

ONE OF OUR COMRADES HAS SUFFERED A PERSONAL LOSS

One of our young colleagues has suffered the loss of his father to the ravages of cancer. It was reported that the father of Kyle Shimniok of Company K passed away June 8th. To Kyle and his family the members of the Association extend our sincerest condolences. While your sorrow may now seem unbearable, as Abraham Lincoln once advised a young girl on the death of her father, in time the pain will leave and all you will have are the good memories of the loved and lost.

Below is the obituary for Kyle's father. The editor would only add that this man seems like someone we all could have benefitted from knowing him!

OBITUARY FOR JESSE SHIMNIOK

Jesse Shimniok, a humble servant of God, joined his Heavenly Father on Monday, June 8, 2015. A loving and giving husband, father, son, brother and friend, many will miss his gentle smile and the twinkle in his eyes. Jesse courageously battled aggressive cancer for a year, and inspired many whom he witnessed to along the journey set before him. He prayed constantly for

strength. He was born September 2, 1962 in Sauk City, WI, and was a light on this earth for 52 years. Jesse married Rita Weber on October 14, 1989 and they celebrated 25 wonderful years together in their Cross Plains, WI home. His children, Kyle, age 17, and daughter Abby, age 12, will carry on their father's legacy, having "trained a child in the way that he should go" as directed in the book of Proverbs. When one of his children would ask a question, often Jesse would reply, "Let's see what the Bible has to say about that." Jesse was an amazing father, guiding in his gentle spirit, with an occasional "zinger" - a quiet wit.

Jesse worked for many years at Electronic Theatre Controls in Middleton, and is very grateful for the support he received in the past year. Jesse was an encourager and had a listening ear. He served in One to One Ministry at Blackhawk Church, where he was a member. Jesse was a lover of the outdoors, and took his family hiking and bird watching. Jesse enjoyed using his hands, making wood furniture and bird houses. Jesse is survived by his wife Rita, children Kyle and Abigail, mother Eileen (John) Bonine, brother Matt (Peg) Shimniok, sisters Nola (Paul) Reynolds, Lona (David) Steiner, Daleah (Mark) Wright, in-laws, and many nieces and nephews, whom all brought great joy to his life. He was preceded in death by his father Harry Shimniok. Jesse's gentle soul is united with his Maker, and he is reunited with his spiritual mentor, Marv Knipfer, who passed five years ago and a day, to the same cancer. His faith was unshakeable through his trial. A memorial service will be held at BLACKHAWK EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH, 9620 Brader Way, Middleton at 6 PM on Thursday, June 11, 2015. A reception with light refreshments will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in care of the family for the children's education fund. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN WATERTOWN JULY 4TH PARADE

An invitation has been extended to the members of Company K to participate in the annual Watertown parade on the 4th of July. This parade is a very good event. The members will serve as the color guard and march with the 1st Brigade Band—which is always a treat! The assembly point for the event is Memorial Park. The spot is across the street from the Memorial Hall where the 1st Brigade Band makes their headquarters. The parade begins at 9:00 a.m. so try to arrive by 8:30 a.m.

The uniform of the day should be your Iron Brigade uniform. Sky blue trousers, frock coat and dressed Hardee Hat. This is a ceremonial event and you should wear white gloves if you have them.

A link locating the site for the gathering of the troops can be found below.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Memorial+Park/@43.1908692,-88.7228542,17z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x88042b68fb64554b:0x522f783f78556ff1>

COMPANY E

The Old Falls Village event on the schedules of Company K, Company E and Battery B is set for the weekend of July 18th and 19th, 2015. This is a small but fun event for attendees. Below you will find the schedule of events planned for the weekend.

Consider joining your comrades for a great weekend. Mingle with visitors in the camps and engage the enemy in a desperate struggle for victory and to bring Lee's dejected army to heel!

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2015 (10AM-5PM)

10:00 Flag raising (10 11 am FREE ADMISSION)

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Art Show

10:30 Infantry Drill

11:00 Artillery Drill with Cannon Fire by the Battery

11:30 Speaker: GAR - Grand Army of Republic of WI by Mike Wozny "Highlights of the GAR of Wisconsin" (Gazebo)

12:30 Shooting Competition (S. Side of Steichen House)

1:00 Period Fashion Show by Historical Timekeepers (Gazebo)

1:30 Pickets Posted (Troops get ready for battle)

2:00 Battle Re-enactment

3:00 Speaker: Jaclyn Theis "Victorian Courtship" (Gazebo)

SATURDAY EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

- Children's Scavenger Hunt
- Visit Union and Confederate Camps
- Historic Buildings open all day
- Food and Memorabilia Booths. Food by Holy Smokers and Kettle Corn
- Art Show

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2015 (10AM-4PM)

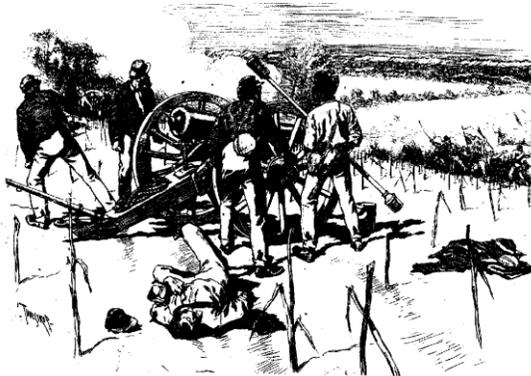
10:30 Infantry Drill (10 - 11 am FREE ADMISSION for Veterans)
10:30 Speaker: Debra Keinert "Lady Columbia" (Gazebo)
11:00 Regimental Volunteer Band of Wisconsin (Gazebo)
11:30 Artillery Drill w/ Cannon Fire by the Battery
12:00 Speaker: Jaclyn Theis "Language of the Fan" (Gazebo)
1:00 Silent Auction Ends (Public House)
1:00 Speaker: Jessica Michna as Cordella Harvey "Angel in a Gray Bonnet" (Gazebo)
1:30 Pickets Posted (Troops get ready for battle)
2:00 Battle Re-enactment

31ST ANNIVERSARY FORT WILKINS CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT

The boys of Company E will be packing up their gear and marching off to participate in the 31st annual Fort Wilkins living history event the weekend of July 26th and 27th, 2015. The event is held on the shore of Lake Fanny Hooe in Copper Harbor, Michigan, in Fort Wilkins. Fort Wilkins is a restored 19th century army post. The event is organized by Battery D of the 1st Michigan Light Artillery.

The event is a living history event with drills and artillery firings. The event is open to the public from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

ARTILLERY



6TH WISCONSIN LIGHT ARTILLERY AT MILTON SCHOOL DAY

During the May 15th school day event in Milton, Wisconsin, the following photo essay was developed. The photos were received after the publication of the June newsletter from our correspondent in the field, Lyle Laufenberg. During the event over 2,000 students were exposed to the civil war experiences of the military and civilian populations from 1861 through 1865.





A large group of students at the battery station for the Milton School Day





A 5th grade student named Kirk with the members of the Battery at Milton Scool Day

SKIRMISHERS



The following interesting information was provided by Gary Van Kauwenbergh for inclusion in this month's *Fugelman*:

The following link will take our readers to a great promotional video for the North-South Skirmish Association. <https://vimeo.com/131454187>

The following link will take you to an interesting site. There are a series of civil war photographs with a contemporary view of the same location. The editor took the opportunity to view them and the thing that struck me most was the modern beauty of these locations in comparison with the locations as they appeared during the 1860's. This is indeed well worth the time to investigate on your own!!

<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/ng-interactive/2015/jun/22/american-civil-war-photography-interactive>

Members of the Skirmish teams should save the dates of June 10th through the 12th, 2016. This is the scheduled dates for the American Civil War Shooting Association (ACWSA) National Competition set for next year.

The event will take place at the Chief Wa-Ke'-De Range near Bristol, Indiana. More details will be released as they become available.

CIVIL WAR MILESTONES

JULY

July 1, 1863

A. P. Hills troops encounter John Buford's cavalry along the Chambersburg Pike and the Battle of Gettysburg commences. Late in the afternoon and long into the night reinforcements under General Hancock's and General Meade's direction arrive on the battlefield.

July 2, 1863

Late in the afternoon the rebels under General James Longstreet attack Meade's left wing. After a desperate struggle the attack is blunted and the Union troops hold their positions on Cemetery Ridge. Troops under General Ewell's command attack the right wing on Culp's Hill but to no avail as the Union forces hold.

July 3, 1863

The battle at Gettysburg comes to a conclusion when the Pickett-Trimble-Pettigrew attack on the Union center fails with the rebels suffering great losses in the attempt. The attack was preceded by a huge artillery contest for over an hour.

July 4, 1863

Grant compels the surrender of Vicksburg after a siege of over a month on the fortified city.

- July 5, 1801** **Admiral David G. Farragut, U.S.A., born.**
- July 7, 1863** **Union Conscription Act becomes effective, creating
discontent, especially in New York.**
- July 9, 1863** **Port Hudson surrenders.**
- July 13, 1821** **Gen. Nathan B. Forrest, C.S.A., born.**
- July 13, 1861** **Union forces secure West Virginia.**
- July 13, 1863** **A mob in New York City storms a draft office beginning 4
days of riots in which hundreds were killed or injured
and caused 1.5 million dollars in damages to the City.**
- July 18, 1863** **The famed black regiment, the 54th Massachusetts leads
an unsuccessful attack on Battery Wagner, suffering
heavy losses including its colonel, Robert Gould Shaw.**
- July 21, 1861** **THE FIRST BATTLE OF BULL RUN—this is the 150th
anniversary of the battle.**
- July 29, 1862** **The CS Alabama sails out of England.**
- July 30, 1864** **The Battle of the Crater.**

What This Cruel War Was Over

The meaning of the Confederate flag is best discerned in the words of those who bore it.



This afternoon, in announcing her support for removing the Confederate flag from the capitol grounds, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley asserted that killer Dylann Roof had “a sick and twisted view of the flag” which did not reflect “the people in our state who respect and in many ways revere it.” If the governor meant that very few of the flag’s supporters believe in mass murder, she is surely right. But on the question of whose view of the Confederate Flag is more twisted, she is almost certainly wrong.

Roof’s belief that black life had no purpose beyond subjugation is “sick and twisted” in the exact same manner as the beliefs of those who created the Confederate flag were “sick and twisted.” The Confederate flag is directly tied to the Confederate cause, and the Confederate cause was white supremacy. This claim is not the result of revisionism. It does not require reading between the lines. It is the plain meaning of the words of those who bore the Confederate flag across history. These words must never be forgotten. Over the next few months the word “heritage” will be repeatedly

invoked. It would be derelict to not examine the exact contents of that heritage.

This examination should begin in South Carolina, the site of our present and past catastrophe. South Carolina was the first state to secede, two months after the election of Abraham Lincoln. It was in South Carolina that the Civil War began, when the Confederacy fired on Fort Sumter. The state's *casus belli* was neither vague nor hard to comprehend:

...A geographical line has been drawn across the Union, and all the States north of that line have united in the election of a man to the high office of President of the United States, whose opinions and purposes are hostile to slavery. He is to be entrusted with the administration of the common Government, because he has declared that that "Government cannot endure permanently half slave, half free," and that the public mind must rest in the belief that slavery is in the course of ultimate extinction. This sectional combination for the submersion of the Constitution, has been aided in some of the States by elevating to citizenship, persons who, by the supreme law of the land, are incapable of becoming citizens; and their votes have been used to inaugurate a new policy, hostile to the South, and destructive of its beliefs and safety.

In citing slavery, South Carolina was less an outlier than a leader, setting the tone for other states, including Mississippi:

Our position is thoroughly identified with the institution of slavery—the greatest material interest of the world. Its labor supplies the product which constitutes by far the largest and most important portions of commerce of the earth. These products are peculiar to the climate verging on the tropical regions, and by an imperious law of nature, none but the black race can bear exposure to the tropical sun. These products have become necessities of the world, and a blow at slavery is a blow at commerce and civilization. That blow has been long aimed at the institution, and was at the point of reaching its consummation. There was no choice left us but submission to the mandates of abolition, or a dissolution of the Union, whose principles had been subverted to work out our ruin...

Louisiana:

As a separate republic, Louisiana remembers too well the whisperings of European diplomacy for the abolition of slavery in the times of annexation not to be apprehensive of bolder demonstrations from the same quarter and the North in this country. The people of the slave

holding States are bound together by the same necessity and determination to preserve African slavery.

Alabama:

Upon the principles then announced by Mr. Lincoln and his leading friends, we are bound to expect his administration to be conducted. Hence it is, that in high places, among the Republican party, the election of Mr. Lincoln is hailed, not simply as it change of Administration, but as the inauguration of new principles, and a new theory of Government, and even as the downfall of slavery. Therefore it is that the election of Mr. Lincoln cannot be regarded otherwise than a solemn declaration, on the part of a great majority of the Northern people, of hostility to the South, her property and her institutions—nothing less than an open declaration of war—for the triumph of this new theory of Government destroys the property of the South, lays waste her fields, and inaugurates all the horrors of a San Domingo servile insurrection, consigning her citizens to assassinations, and, her wives and daughters to pollution and violation, to gratify the lust of half-civilized Africans.

Texas:

...in this free government *all white men are and of right ought to be entitled to equal civil and political rights*; that the servitude of the African race, as existing in these States, is mutually beneficial to both bond and free, and is abundantly authorized and justified by the experience of mankind, and the revealed will of the Almighty Creator, as recognized by all Christian nations; while the destruction of the existing relations between the two races, as advocated by our sectional enemies, would bring inevitable calamities upon both and desolation upon the fifteen slave-holding states....

None of this was new. In 1858, the eventual president of the Confederacy Jefferson Davis threatened secession should a Republican be elected to the presidency:

I say to you here as I have said to the Democracy of New York, if it should ever come to pass that the Constitution shall be perverted to the destruction of our rights so that we shall have the mere right as a feeble minority unprotected by the barrier of the Constitution to give an ineffectual negative vote in the Halls of Congress, we shall then bear to the federal government the relation our colonial fathers did to the British crown, and if we are worthy of our lineage we will in that event redeem our rights even if it be through the process of revolution.

It is difficult for modern Americans to understand such militant commitment to the bondage of others. But at \$3.5 billion, the four million enslaved African Americans in the South represented the country's greatest financial asset. And the dollar amount does not hint at the force of enslavement as a social institution. By the onset of the Civil War, Southern slaveholders believed that African slavery was one of the great organizing institutions in world history, superior to the "free society" of the North.

From an 1856 issue of Alabama's *Muscogee Herald*:

Free Society! we sicken at the name. What is it but a conglomeration of greasy mechanics, filthy operatives, small-fisted farmers, and moon-struck theorists? All the Northern men and especially the New England States are devoid of society fitted for well-bred gentlemen. The prevailing class one meet with is that of mechanics struggling to be genteel, and small farmers who do their own drudgery, and yet are hardly fit for association with a Southern gentleman's body servant. This is your free society which Northern hordes are trying to extend into Kansas.

The last sentence refers to the conflict over slavery between free-soilers and slave-holders. The conflict was not merely about the right to hold another human in bondage, but how that right created the foundation for white equality.

Jefferson Davis again:

You too know, that among us, white men have an equality resulting from a presence of a lower caste, which cannot exist where white men fill the position here occupied by the servile race. The mechanic who comes among us, employing the less intellectual labor of the African, takes the position which only a master-workman occupies where all the mechanics are white, and therefore it is that our mechanics hold their position of absolute equality among us.

Black slavery as the basis of white equality was a frequent theme for slaveholders. In his famous "Cotton Is King" speech, James Henry Hammond compared the alleged wage slavery of the North with black slavery—and white equality—in the South:

The difference between us is, that our slaves are hired for life and well compensated; there is no starvation, no begging, no want of employment among our people, and not too much employment either. Yours are hired by the day, not cared for, and scantily compensated, which may be proved in the most painful manner, at any hour in any street of your large towns. Why, you meet more beggars in one day, in

any single street of the city of New York, than you would meet in a lifetime in the whole South.

We do not think that whites should be slaves either by law or necessity. Our slaves are black, of another and inferior race. The status in which we have placed them is an elevation. They are elevated from the condition in which God first created them, by being made our slaves. None of that race on the whole face of the globe can be compared with the slaves of the South. They are happy, content, unambitious, and utterly incapable, from intellectual weakness, ever to give us any trouble by their aspirations. Yours are white, of your own race; you are brothers of one blood. They are your equals in natural endowment of intellect, and they feel galled by their degradation.

On the eve of secession, Georgia Governor Joseph E. Brown concurred:

Among us the poor white laborer is respected as an equal. His family is treated with kindness, consideration and respect. He does not belong to the menial class. The negro is in no sense of the term his equal. He feels and knows this. He belongs to the only true aristocracy, the race of white men. He black no masters boots, and bows the knee to no one save God alone. He receives higher wages for his labor than does the laborer of any other portion of the world, and he raises up his children with the knowledge, that they belong to no inferior cast, but that the highest members of the society in which he lives, will, if their conduct is good, respect and treat them as equals.

Thus in the minds of these Southern nationalists, the destruction of slavery would not merely mean the loss of property but the destruction of white equality, and thus of the peculiar Southern way of life:

If the policy of the Republicans is carried out, according to the programme indicated by the leaders of the party, and the South submits, degradation and ruin must overwhelm alike all classes of citizens in the Southern States. The slave-holder and non-slave-holder must ultimately share the same fate—all be degraded to a position of equality with free negroes, stand side by side with them at the polls, and fraternize in all the social relations of life; or else there will be an eternal war of races, desolating the land with blood, and utterly wasting and destroying all the resources of the country.

Slaveholders were not modest about the perceived virtues of their way of life. In the years leading up to the Civil War, calls for expansion into the tropics reached a fever pitch, and slaveholders marveled at the possibility of spreading a new empire into central America:

Looking into the possibilities of the future, regarding the magnificent country of tropical America, which lies in the path of our destiny on this continent, we may see an empire as powerful and gorgeous as ever was pictured in our dreams of history. What is that empire? It is an empire founded on military ideas; representing the noble peculiarities of Southern civilization; including within its limits the isthmuses of America and the regenerated West Indies; having control of the two dominant staples of the world's commerce—cotton and sugar; possessing the highways of the world's commerce; surpassing all empires of the age in the strength of its geographical position; and, in short, combining elements of strength, prosperity, and glory, such as never before in the modern ages have been placed within the reach of a single government. What a splendid vision of empire!

How sublime in its associations! How noble and inspiring the idea, that upon the strange theatre of tropical America, once, if we may believe the dimmer facts of history, crowned with magnificent empires and flashing cities and great temples, now covered with mute ruins, and trampled over by half-savages, the destiny of Southern civilization is to be consummated in a glory brighter even than that of old, the glory of an empire, controlling the commerce of the world, impregnable in its position, and representing in its internal structure the most harmonious of all the systems of modern civilization.

Edward Pollard, the journalist who wrote that book, titled it *Black Diamonds Gathered In The Darkey Homes Of The South*. Perhaps even this is too subtle. In 1858, Mississippi Senator Albert Gallatin Brown was clearer:

I want Cuba, and I know that sooner or later we must have it. If the worm-eaten throne of Spain is willing to give it for a fair equivalent, well—if not, we must take it. I want Tamaulipas, Potosi, and one or two other Mexican Stats; and I want them all for the same reason—for the planting and spreading of slavery.

And a footing in Central America will powerfully aid us in acquiring those other states. It will render them less valuable to the other powers of the earth, and thereby diminish competition with us. Yes, I want these countries for the spread of slavery. I would spread the blessings of slavery, like the religion of our Divine Master, to the uttermost ends of the earth, and rebellious and wicked as the Yankees have been, I would even extend it to them.

I would not force it upon them, as I would not force religion upon them, but I would preach it to them, as I would preach the gospel. They are a stiff-necked and rebellious race, and I have little hope that

they will receive the blessing, and I would therefore prepare for its spread to other more favored lands.

Thus in 1861, when the Civil War began, the Union did not face a peaceful Southern society wanting to be left alone. It faced an aggressive power, a Genosha, an entire society based on the bondage of a third of its residents, with dreams of expanding its fields of the bondage further South. It faced the dream of a vast American empire of slavery. In January of 1861, three months before the Civil War commenced, Florida secessionists articulated the position directly:

At the South, and with our People of course, slavery is the element of all value, and a destruction of that destroys all that is property. This party, now soon to take possession of the powers of the Government, is sectional, irresponsible to us, and driven on by an infuriated fanatical madness that defies all opposition, must inevitably destroy every vestige or right growing out of property in slaves.

Gentlemen, the State of Florida is now a member of the Union under the power of the Government, so to go into the hands of this party.

As we stand our doom is decreed.

Not yet. As the Late Unpleasantness stretched from the predicted months into years, the very reason for the Confederacy's existence came to threaten its diplomatic efforts. Fighting for slavery presented problems abroad, and so Confederate diplomats came up with the notion of emphasizing "states rights" over "slavery"—the first manifestation of what would later become a plank in the foundation of Lost Cause mythology.

The first people to question that mythology were themselves Confederates, distraught to find their motives downplayed or treated as embarrassments. A Richmond-based newspaper offered the following:

'The people of the South,' says a contemporary, 'are not fighting for slavery but for independence.' Let us look into this matter. It is an easy task, we think, to show up this new-fangled heresy — a heresy calculated to do us no good, for it cannot deceive foreign statesmen nor peoples, nor mislead any one here nor in Yankeeland. . . Our doctrine is this: WE ARE FIGHTING FOR INDEPENDENCE THAT OUR GREAT AND NECESSARY DOMESTIC INSTITUTION OF

SLAVERY SHALL BE PRESERVED, and for the preservation of other institutions of which slavery is the groundwork.

Even after the war, as the Lost Cause rose, many veterans remained clear about why they had rallied to the Confederate flag. “I’ve never heard of any other cause than slavery,” wrote Confederate commander John S. Mosby. The progeny of the Confederacy repeatedly invoked slavery as the war’s cause.

Here, for example, is Mississippi Senator John Sharp Williams in 1904:

Local self-government temporarily destroyed may be recovered and ultimately retained. The other thing for which we fought is so complex in its composition, so delicate in its breath, so incomparable in its symmetry, that, being once destroyed, it is forever destroyed. This other thing for which we fought was the supremacy of the white man’s civilization in the country which he proudly claimed his own; “in the land which the Lord his God had given him;” founded upon the white man’s code of ethics, in sympathy with the white man’s traditions and ideals.

The *Confederate Veteran*—the official publication of the United Confederate Veterans—in 1906:

The kindest relation that ever existed between the two races in this country, or that ever will, was the ante-bellum relation of master and slave—a relation of confidence and responsibility on the part of the master and of dependence and fidelity on the part of the slave.

The *Confederate Veteran* again in 1911:

The African, coming from a barbarous state and from a tropical climate, could not meet the demands for skilled labor in the factories of the Northern States; neither could he endure the severe cold of the

Northern winter. For these reasons it was both merciful and “business” to sell him to the Southern planter, where the climate was more favorable and skilled labor not so important. In the South the climate, civilization, and other influences ameliorated the African’s condition, and that of almost the entire race of slaves, which numbered into the millions before their emancipation. It should be noted that their evangelization was the most fruitful missionary work of any modern Christian endeavor. The thoughtful and considerate negro of to-day realizes his indebtedness to the institution of African slavery for advantages which he would not have received had he remained in his semi-barbarism waiting in his native jungles for the delayed missionary.

And in 1917, the *Confederate Veteran* singled out [one man](#) for particular praise:

Great and trying times always produce great leaders, and one was at hand—Nathan Bedford Forrest. His plan, the only course left open. The organization of a secret government. A terrible government; a government that would govern in spite of black majorities and Federal bayonets. This secret government was organized in every community in the South, and this government is known in history as the Klu Klux Klan...

Here in all ages to come the Southern romancer and poet can find the inspiration for fiction and song. No nobler or grander spirits ever assembled on this earth than gathered in these clans. No human hearts were ever moved with nobler impulses or higher aims and purposes....Order was restored, property safe; because the negro feared the Klu Klux Klan more than he feared the devil. Even the Federal bayonets could not give him confidence in the black government which had been established for him, and the negro

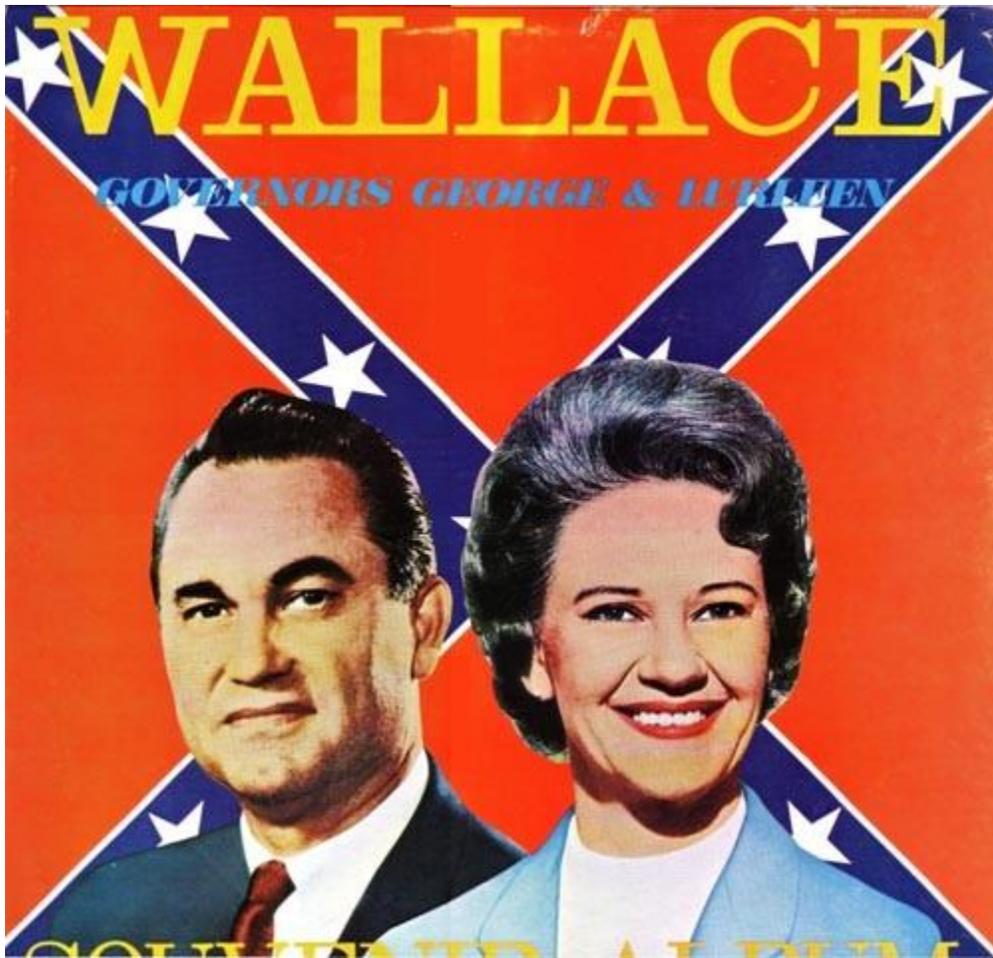
voluntarily surrendered to the Klu Klux Klan, and the very moment he did, the “Invisible Army” vanished in a night. Its purpose had been fulfilled.

Bedford Forrest should always be held in reverence by every son and daughter of the South as long as memory holds dear the noble deeds and service of men for the good of others on, this earth. What mind is base enough to think of what might have happened but for Bedford Forrest and his “Invisible” but victorious army.

In praising the Klan’s terrorism, Confederate veterans and their descendants displayed a remarkable consistency. White domination was the point. Slavery failed. Domination prevailed nonetheless. This was the basic argument of Florida Democratic Senator Duncan Fletcher. “The Cause Was Not Entirely Lost,” he argued in a 1931 speech before the United Daughters of the Confederacy:

The South fought to preserve race integrity. Did we lose that? We fought to maintain free white dominion. Did we lose that? The States are in control of the people. Local self-government, democratic government, obtains. That was not lost. The rights of the sovereign States, under the Constitution, are recognized. We did not lose that. I submit that what is called “The Lost Cause” was not so much “lost” as is sometimes supposed.

Indeed it was not. For a century after the Civil War, White Supremacy ruled the South. Toward the end of that century, as activists began to effectively challenge white supremacy, its upholders reached for a familiar symbol.



Invocations of the flag were supported by invocations of the Confederacy itself. But by then, neo-Confederates had begun walking back their overt defenses of slavery. United Daughters of the Confederacy Magazine claimed that...

Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, Thomas Jonathan Stonewall Jackson, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Raphael Semmes and the 600,000 soldiers and sailors of the Confederacy did not fight for a “Lost Cause.” They fought to repel invasion, and in defense of their Constitutional liberties bequeathed them by their forefathers...

The glorious blood-red Confederate Battle Flag that streamed ahead of the Confederate soldiers in more than 2000 battles is not a conquered banner. It is an emblem of Freedom.

It was no longer politic to spell out the exact nature of that freedom. But one gets a sense of it, given that article quickly pivots into an attack on desegregation:

Since the Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954, reversed what had been the Supreme Law of the land for 75 years and declared unconstitutional the laws of 17 states under which segregated school systems were established, the thinking people have been aroused from their lethargy in respect to State's Rights.

In this we see the progression of what became known as the "Heritage Not Hate" argument. Bold defenses of slavery became passé. It just happened that those who praised the flag, also tended to praise the instruments of white supremacy popular in that day.

And then there were times when the mask slipped. "Quit looking at the symbols," South Carolina State Representative John Graham Altman said during a debate over the flag's fate in 1997. "Get out and get a job. Quit shooting each other. Quit having illegitimate babies."

Nikki Haley deserves credit for calling for the removal of the Confederate flag. She deserves criticism for couching that removal as matter of manners. At the present moment the effort to remove the flag is being cast as matter of politesse, a matter over which reasonable people may disagree. The flag is a "painful symbol" concedes David French. Its removal might "offer relief to those genuinely hurt," writes Ian Tuttle. "To many, it is a symbol of racial hatred," tweeted Mitt Romney. The flag has been "misappropriated by hate groups," claims South Carolina senator Tom Davis.

This mythology of manners is adopted in lieu of the mythology of the Lost Cause. But it still has the great drawback of being rooted in a lie. The Confederate flag should not come down because it is offensive to African Americans. The Confederate flag should come down because it is embarrassing to all Americans. The embarrassment is not limited to the flag, itself. The fact that it still flies, that one must debate its meaning in 2015, reflects an incredible ignorance. A century and a half after Lincoln was killed, after 750,000 of our ancestors died, Americans still aren't quite sure why.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2015/06/what-this-cruel-war-was-over/396482/>

THE LIVES OF EMMA EDMONDS

BY [CARL SENNA](#)
APRIL 21, 2014, 9:22 PM

In 1864, with huge casualties from battles in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, the Union enlisted thousands of volunteer nurses from the North, among them a reclusive 23-year-old woman named Sarah Emma Edmonds. But this wasn't the first time Edmonds had volunteered for service. Nor was there any indication that this shy woman nursing soldiers in West Virginia had spent years behind enemy lines as a spy

Much of that story came out earlier that year, when Hurlburt, Williams & Co., a publisher in Hartford, announced that Edmonds had written an account of the war, the cumbersomely titled "Nurse and Spy in the Union Army, Comprising The Adventures and Experiences of a Woman in Hospitals, Camps, and Battle-Fields, Illustrated." It went on to sell 175,000 copies, the proceeds from which Edmonds gave to help disabled veterans.

Edmonds begins her wartime narrative with a threadbare account of her early life in New Brunswick, Canada, leaving out, for example, her birth name, Emma Edmondson. The fifth daughter of a dirt farmer, she grew into a “lithe, hard-muscled, wiry girl,” attending a log-house school in her rural Anglican parish. The Maritime’s harsh winters, seasonal harvest and farm demands often interrupted her class work in the few months reserved for the school calendar.

She related how her favorite fictional heroine, the protagonist of “Fanny Campbell, The Female Pirate Captain, A Tale of the Revolution,” inspired her preference for wearing homespun trousers. Sitting fully astride farm horses, she jockeyed them through the woods, and she learned to take game with one shot.

When Edmonds’s father, deep in debt, announced an arranged marriage between Emma and his creditor, she ran away from home. At first she concealed her identity as Emma Edmonds, but just as her father and his relatives closed in on her, she vanished, exchanging her vulnerable identity as a single young white female to that of a white gentleman, Franklin Thompson, a young traveling book salesman.

“Frank Thompson” migrated across a then-porous international border to work and live in the United States. She closely guarded her true identity while selling books in New England, until she ran into a youthful Canadian boy on her trips. His identity has been lost to history, but she allows in her memoir that he was James R., someone she grew up with. When war broke out in 1860, he volunteered in Co. F. Michigan Ninth Regiment. She followed him to Washington, where she claims he fell to a sniper.

After the death of her friend, Edmonds revealed her identity as a woman, volunteered as a nurse for the Army of the Potomac, treating wounded Confederate prisoners. That work brought her to the attention of Allan Pinkerton, the founder of President Lincoln’s Secret Service.

As a former police detective in Chicago, Pinkerton had found that some spies, just as some criminals, often trusted women with secrets that they were reluctant to reveal to male associates. And those women often gossiped

about the secrets to other women, even strangers. He immediately recruited her.

Later, when he needed her to pose as a man, he had her go back undercover as Pvt. Franklin “Frank” Thompson, volunteer, Co. F, Ninth Michigan Infantry. Edmonds spent the next two years eliciting information from wounded Confederate P.O.W.s. In 1863 Pinkerton had her change her identity again, this time as “Ned,” a free black man, who roamed the rebel-held roads of Virginia – an episode that makes for the most spectacular, and barely credible, parts of Edmonds’s memoir.

Edmonds assumed other disguises as well: At one point she masqueraded as a spying debonair gentleman so effectively that a Southern belle pursued her romantically. In one moving encounter, she tends to a dying soldier whose last wish is not to be medically examined but to simply be buried right away without being disrobed. The dying soldier, Edmonds guesses, is a woman, like Edmonds and an estimated 1,500 other disguised soldiers on both sides.

In her retelling, Edmonds never flinches from combat; indeed, as one rebel soldier menaces her with his pistol, she shoots him at point blank range in the face. But in one harrowing adventure she swims a river and contracts malaria. Unwilling to reveal her gender in a military hospital, she soldiers on through several episodes of malarial attacks, until she almost dies during one of them. She recovers just enough to abandon her male disguise as Frank Thompson, in order to seek treatment in an Ohio hospital. During her convalescence, she penned her memoir. When her manuscript was first published, she volunteered for service in the West Virginia hospitals.

After the war, Edmonds applied for military benefits, but she found the Army unwilling to award them for her service under the name Franklin Thompson. Military records did show that a soldier named Franklin Thompson deserted his post April 22, 1863 – and, as a deserter, he was ineligible for veterans’ benefits or pension. Since the identity of Union spies remained classified, the Army could not verify records of a female spy known to have served in combat under that name.

Fortunately, when officers from the regiment learned of Edmonds's true identity, they petitioned the government on her behalf. Despite additional pleas by supportive representatives, it took a private bill passed by vote of Congress to force declassification of Army records to confirm her military service.

Edmonds settled in La Porte, Tex., where she died in 1898. She was laid to rest with full military honors in Houston's Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery - the only woman to receive such treatment.



Carl Senna is an author.

An Explosion in Washington

By [JOHN GRADY](#)

June 15, 2014 9:18 pm

The timing could not have been more eerily ironic. On June 17, 1864, an official read a letter thanking the girls and women who worked at Washington's federal arsenal for a donation to a monument for the 78 victims of a deadly 1862 arsenal blast in Pittsburgh. Then, just hours later, an explosion - like "a sudden flash of lightning," in the words of one survivor - went off inside the arsenal's 100-foot-long wooden laboratory.

Almost immediately, the fire engulfed the building at the south end of the arsenal where the women worked. The alarm was sounded, and some of the arsenal's 1,500 workers raced to help contain the blaze. Many ran from the scene, fearful that more blasts were coming as the fire spread. Indeed, the fire threatened to spread to the magazines, where several tons of gunpowder was kept. It took more than an hour to extinguish the fire.

The arsenal was located on "The Island," actually a peninsula jutting out into the Anacostia River, south of the Capitol. Frantic citizens descended upon the arsenal on the site desperate to know what had happened to their sisters, wives and daughters. Scores did not make it: The young women

working in the east part of the building escaped by jumping from windows or fleeing through doors away from the fire, but a number on the west side, who were charging artillery shells, died immediately in the blast or were killed in the blaze.

A dozen or so women who were burned or injured in their escape made it to a tugboat wharf and were treated at the Armory Hospital, already filled with the wounded from the battles of Spotsylvania, the Wilderness and Cold Harbor.

A death count was never conclusively reached: many fled in the chaos and never returned, while the remains of those who died were difficult to identify. Their hoop skirts, worn at the insistence of government officials to preserve the women's modesty and not distract the male workers, not only restricted their movement to escape, but held in place the fabric that so easily ignited. What was thought to be 17 to 19 bodies were laid out in five-foot boxes with as many as five sets of remains inside — body parts actually, on boards or in tin pans on the grass. A few were identified by scraps of clothing, a piece of jewelry or a shoe, but most were burned beyond recognition.

Arsenal blasts were common during the war: Alongside Washington and Pittsburgh, major explosions occurred in Richmond, in 1863, and Augusta, Ga., in 1864. And at each, the bulk of the victims were girls and young women. As in later conflicts, these jobs were filled by women because men were off fighting. The rolls of "government girls" – workers at the arsenal, as well as clerks, printers, sewers and munitions makers – swelled through the war.

Life for these women was hard: As a contemporary correspondent, Lois Bryan Adams, reported, they often were supporting severely wounded or disabled husbands and children. And while many made good wages – arsenal workers made \$50 to \$60 a month – they had a hard time keeping up with rampant inflation that reached a whopping 76 percent, and, according to the economic historian Elden E. Billings, was probably even higher in the capital. Rent, even in poor, remote suburbs like Georgetown, ate up at least

\$25 (though single women often boarded together), and another \$30 went to food. A cord of wood to ward off the winter cold cost between \$12 and \$16.

Life was even harder for the countless girls who represented a large portion of the munitions-factory work force – “little indigent girls,” in the words of a Confederate War Department clerk, J.B. Jones, very often Irish in the case of those killed in Richmond and Washington. It was one of the few ways they could earn a living other than prostitution. Yet they had no real standing in labor negotiations, unlike men.

Despite their precarious existence, the women killed in the blast received a hero’s funeral. The next day “the working men” of the arsenal adopted resolutions calling for the dead to be buried at Congressional Cemetery, to make arrangements for the families to attend the services and interment, to march from the arsenal to the cemetery in what one correspondent called “one of the most imposing and extensive funeral processions ever beheld in the national metropolis,” have Roman Catholic and Protestant clergymen conduct the service and erect “a new and noble monument” on the cemetery’s grounds to those killed in the explosion.

This was different from the funeral after the Pittsburgh blast, when the victims were buried in a mass grave. Washington could not do that. Like residents of Richmond, home front and battlefield had merged; the women were not soldiers, but they were not complete civilians, either. Some 200,000 soldiers camped in the capital, along with thousands of cattle ready to be sent to Ulysses S. Grant’s army in Virginia. And by the summer of 1864, Washington had become a large receiving hospital with tents and temporary buildings erected all over the city to treat the casualties of the Union’s Overland campaign. Near the arsenal were the Sixth Street wharves, where the wounded and those too sick to fight were landed.

Official Washington was forced to respond, too. A hastily called coroner’s inquest traced the cause of the explosion to the decision by the arsenal’s superintendent, Thomas B. Brown, to set out pans of red stars for fireworks to dry in the June day’s heat too close to the building where the women were “choking cartridges,” a process where a machine would attach the end of the cartridge to the ball. The coroner’s jury found Brown, who had more

than 20 years' experience as a "pyrotechnician," guilty of "carelessness and negligence and reckless disregard for life" in placing inflammable substances "so near a building filled with human beings."

As news of what happened spread, Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton ordered the government to pay the funeral expenses for the women who died that day. Stanton, President Abraham Lincoln and one of his sons would serve as "chief mourners" for the thousands who marched to the cemetery to join the thousands already there for the burials.

The next year, a 25-foot monument with a female figure symbolizing grief, inscribed with the names of 21 victims, standing atop was erected, near the western border of Congressional Cemetery, where 17 of them are buried. The four others were buried in Mount Olivet, the city's Catholic cemetery.

Sources: *The Alexandria Gazette (Alexandria, Va.); The Daily Chronicle (Washington); The Daily National Intelligencer (Washington); The New York Times; The Evening Star (Washington); L.B. Adams, Evelyn Leasher, eds., "Letter from Washington"; Brian Bergin and Elizabeth Bergin Voorhees, "The Washington Arsenal Explosion: Civil War Disaster in the Capital"; Elden E. Billings, "Washington during the Civil War and Reconstruction," Records of the Columbia Historical Society 1963-1965; Drew Gilpin Faust, "This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War; Ernest B. Furgurson, "Freedom Rising: Washington in the Civil War"; Judith Giesberg, "Army at Home, Women and the Civil War on the Northern Home Front"; J.B. Jones, "A Rebel War Clerk's Diary at the Confederate States Capital, Vol. 1"; Margaret Leech, "Reveille in Washington"; Allan Nevins, "War for the Union 1863-1864: The Organized War"; [Association for the Preservation of The Historic Congressional Cemetery, Newspaper Clips \(1860-1869\).](#)*



John Grady, a former editor of Navy Times and a retired director of communications at the Association of the United States Army, is completing a biography of Matthew Fontaine Maury. He is also a contributor to the Navy's [Civil War Sesquicentennial blog](#).

IRISH REBELS AND THE BALTIMORE RIOTS

POSTED BY [JOE GANNON](#) ON MAY 3, 2015 AT 10:00PM



F.O.C. Darley.

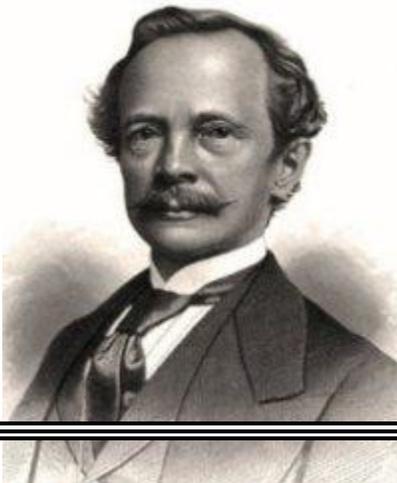
F.F. Walker.

MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA PASSING THROUGH BALTIMORE.

*Avenge the patriotic gore
That flecked the streets of Baltimore,
And be the battle queen of yore,
Maryland! My Maryland!*

---- From "Maryland, My Maryland"
by James Ryder Randall

AS BALTIMORE ERUPTED INTO RIOTS, two of the key figures involved were Irish-Americans, and not long after it was over both of them would be in jail. These riots were not during the present unrest in Baltimore; they occurred in April 1861 at the beginning of the Civil War. And both were men of great authority in the metropolis. One, George William Brown, a 2nd generation Irish-American, was the mayor, and



the other George Proctor Kane, a 1st generation Irish-American, was the Marshal (Chief) of Police.

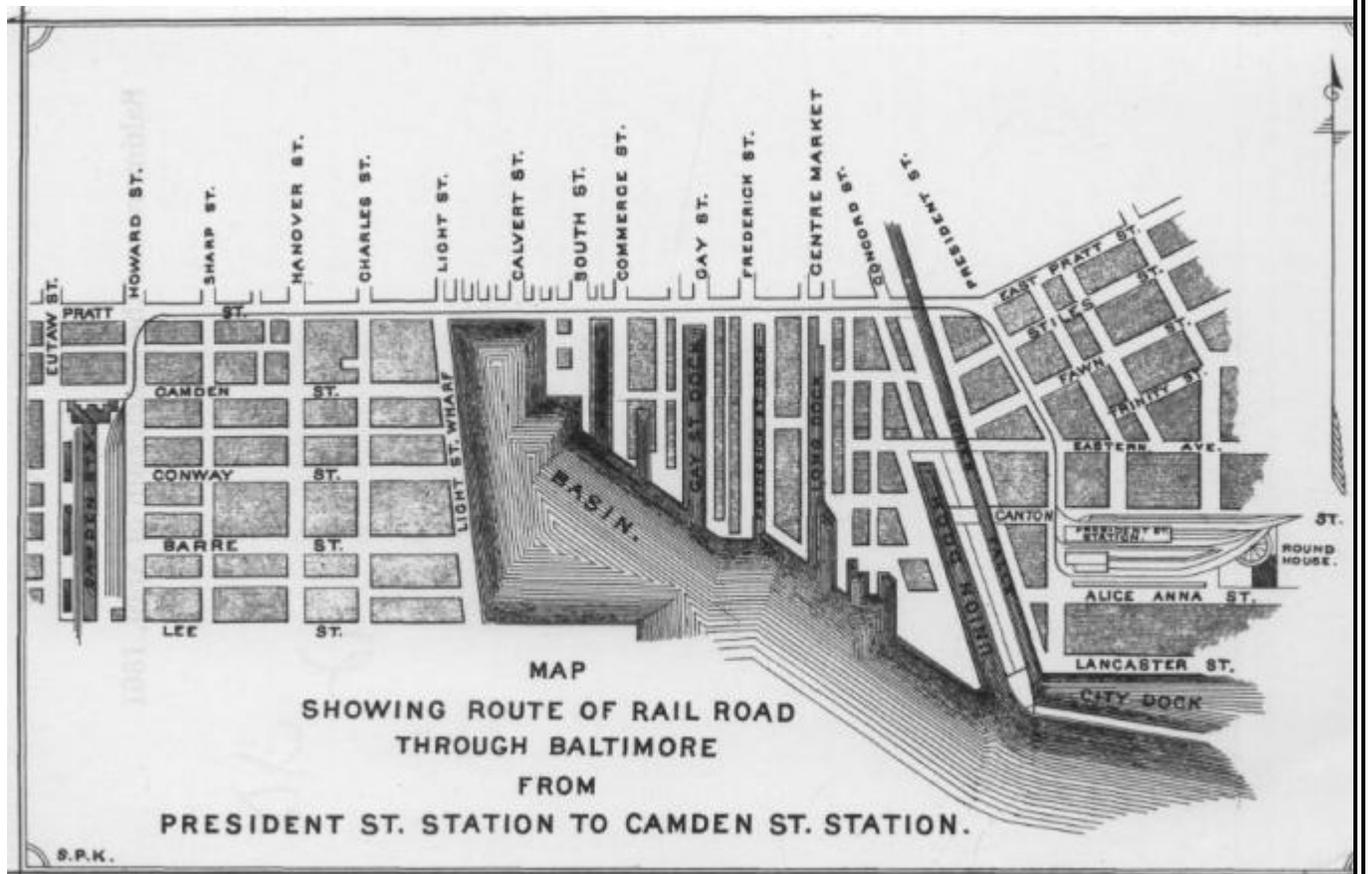
Brown (left), who was born in Baltimore in 1812, had only taken office in November 1860. His paternal grandfather, who was a doctor, was born in Ireland and immigrated to Baltimore in 1783. George began practicing law in Baltimore in 1839. He rose in city politics by opposing the anti-immigrant Know Nothing Party.



Kane (left) was born in Baltimore in 1817. Both of his parents were born in Ireland. As a young man he became involved in Whig Party politics. During the years of The Great Hunger in Ireland, he was the president of the Hibernian Society and was active in sending relief. He would also rise to be a colonel in the local militia unit. He dabbled in acting and became part owner of Arnold's Olympic Theater. An actor who made his debut there was John Wilkes Booth, and it would not be the last time Kane and Booth would be in contact. In February 1860, Kane was appointed Marshal of Police for Baltimore.

Neither man held his office long before a crisis of unimaginable proportions was upon them. In April 1861, as many Southern states were seceding from the Union, the state of Maryland was in turmoil. Maryland was a slave-holding state, and many of its residents were very sympathetic to the South. Lincoln had gotten a mere 2,294 votes in Maryland. Among those sympathizers, as later events would prove, was Marshal Kane. Mayor Brown, while certainly not a supporter of newly elected President Lincoln, does not appear to have been in favor of secession, though he was surely an opponent of what Lincoln was doing to suppress secession. Baltimore itself was undoubtedly a hot bed of secession sympathizers. And even before the agitation over slavery, Baltimore had such a history of civil disturbances that it was known by some as "Mobtown."

There is no way to get to Washington, D.C., from the north without passing through Maryland, other than a line that passed through Virginia, which was even more problematic. To make matters worse, it was impossible to simply pass through Baltimore by rail without stopping and changing from one rail line to another. In February, Lincoln had secretly passed through Baltimore at 3:30 a.m. to avoid possible problems. Sneaking through entire regiments of militia units would not be quite as simple.



On April 12th, Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter and on the 15th Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers. Maryland had not seceded, but many in the state and especially in Baltimore surely supported those who had. Mayor Brown and Marshal Kane were facing a crisis of conscience. Neither supported Lincoln's apparent intent to go to war with the Confederate states, but both had a responsibility to uphold the law and to oppose violence. One would hold to that responsibility throughout the crisis and one would not.



PASSENGER AND FREIGHT STATION, PRESIDENT STREET, BALTIMORE.

On April 18th five companies of Pennsylvania militia and a detachment from the 4th U.S. Artillery arrived in Baltimore. They ran into a rock-throwing mob as they made their way through the city to Camden Station. It appears that Kane and his men did their best to protect them. No one was killed on either side, but

the mobs blood was up now. Brown sent a message to Lincoln: "The people are exasperated to the highest degree by the passage of troops, and the citizens are universally decided in the opinion that no more should be ordered to come." But it was too late. The 6th Massachusetts was headed to the city and would arrive midday on the 19th (ironically the anniversary of the Battle of Lexington). The secessionist mob was waiting for them.

(left: President's Station)

When Kane got word the soldiers had arrived at President's Station, around 11 a.m., he alerted Brown, but he didn't move any officers in that direction. There was a horse-drawn trolley system to take people from President St. Station to Camden, running most of the way down Pratt Street. So by then, it may have seemed more prudent to guard Camden St. Station, where a considerable mob had assembled, and hope the troops would make the trolley ride safely.

As the train carrying the 6th Massachusetts approached Baltimore, its commanding officer, Colonel Edward F. Jones, had 20 rounds issued to his men. Kane didn't have any officers waiting at the President Street Station, where the troops would arrive. His officers were all with him, waiting at Camden Street Station, a little over a mile away, where the troops had to go afterwards to get the train south. The troops arrived at Bolton Street Station the day before, and Kane later claimed to not know their destination on this day, so he waited where he knew they had to go afterward. And it may well be that the Federal government was afraid that if he was given the information he would pass it on to the people planning to oppose the passage of the soldiers, and his later actions would tend to back up that fear.

The disaster was very nearly avoided. Most of the regiment made the trip safely, suffering no more than some jeering and a few rocks thrown. But then the mob blocked the rails with a wagon load of sand at Pratt and Gay Streets. The drivers of four of the remaining cars quickly reversed their horses and turned back, but Company K had to leave their cars and move forward on foot.

The riot began in earnest. A pistol was fired from the crowd, and the soldiers, either with or without orders, returned fire. Meanwhile, Brown left Camden St. Station and arrived at the logjam with some police officers. The mayor joined Captain Follansbee at the head of the company and surely risked his life attempting to stop the violence.

The mayor reported that his presence seemed to mollify the mob, but the violence soon commenced again. Follansbee reported that at one point Brown took a musket from a trooper and shot a rioter, but Brown later denied it. Around the time they reached Charles Street, Kane arrived with a large number of police officers, and they formed a cordon around the soldiers and got them to Camden Street Station without further shooting.

When it was over, four soldiers and 12 civilians were dead, with 36 soldiers and an untold



number of civilians, perhaps over a 100, injured. The dead soldiers were Luther Ladd (left: 17 years old and said to be the first soldier killed), Addison Whitney, Sumner Needham, and Charles Taylor, among the North's first martyrs. Among the dead civilians were several with very Irish sounding names -- John McCann, John McMahon, Francis Maloney, William Maloney, Philip S. Miles, and Michael Murphy.



Though Kane had apparently strove to do his duty on the 19th, after the riot he revealed his true feelings when he telegraphed Bradley Johnson of the Maryland militia, later a general in the Confederate army, saying, "Streets red with Maryland blood; send expresses over the mountains of Maryland and Virginia for the riflemen to come without

delay. Fresh hordes will be down on us tomorrow. We will fight them and whip them, or die."

The rest of Kane's life would be quite fascinating. He was arrested in July, after martial law was declared in Baltimore and habeas corpus was suspended, no doubt due to his telegraph message. He was held first at Fort McHenry and then transferred to Fort Warren in Boston Harbor. He was released in the autumn of 1862 and went to Montreal.

While in Canada, Kane wrote to Confederate President Davis several times proposing different schemes to help the Confederacy, including attacks on U.S. cities along the Great Lakes and the freeing of Confederate prisoners from Federal prisoner-of-war camps, none of which came to fruition. And in 1864, Kane was among a group of Confederate leaders in Canada who heard his old acting compatriot, John Wilkes Booth, present a plan for kidnapping Lincoln. It was rejected, but Booth clearly continued to plot against Lincoln.

(Below: Arrest of Marshal Kane, at his home in Baltimore at 3 a.m., by order of General Banks on a charge of treason -- from a sketch by our special artist accompanying General Banks' command. From *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, July 6, 1861, p. 113.)

Kane ran the blockade into Richmond later in 1864 and helped the Confederates in recruiting Marylanders to the cause, as well as helping to provide uniforms for Maryland troops in the Confederate army. After the war he returned to Baltimore where he was elected sheriff in 1873, demonstrating that being an ex-rebel was not detrimental to one's political career in Baltimore. And in 1877 that was affirmed again as he was elected mayor. He would not complete his term, as he died June 23, 1878, of Bright's disease, a kidney disorder.

Brown managed to hold onto his office in Baltimore a bit longer than Kane, but in September 1861, in spite of the fact that he did his best to prevent the violence in Baltimore, he too fell victim to the suspension of habeas corpus and was locked up in Fort McHenry. While Kane had blatantly flaunted his loyalty to the Confederacy, Brown had not. Shortly after being arrested, Brown was offered his freedom if he would take the oath of allegiance and resign as mayor, but he refused. He was later transferred to Fort Warren in Boston Harbor, being held in both places with Kane, a friend. The government continued to offer Brown his freedom with the same conditions, ignoring even the pleading of some members of the 6th Massachusetts on his behalf. But he refused, saying: "I have committed no offense. I want no pardon. When I go out, I want to go out honorably." He was finally released unconditionally in December 1862, after his term as mayor had expired.

Like Kane, however, Brown's troubles during the war were no impediment to his political career in Baltimore later. Although he again ran for mayor and lost in 1885, he was a member of the first Board of Trustees of the Peabody Institute; one of the founders of the Maryland Historical Society; a regent of the University of Maryland; a visitor of St. John's College, Annapolis; a trustee of Johns Hopkins University of Maryland; a visitor of St. John's College, Annapolis; and a member of the State Constitutional Convention of 1867. And finally, in October 1872, he was elected chief judge of the Supreme Court of Baltimore City. He died while on vacation with his wife in New York in 1890.

We can agree or disagree with some of their political positions, but both men were true to what they believed to the end of their lives.

(<http://thewildgeese.irish/profiles/blogs/irish-rebels-and-the-baltimore-riots>)

BOY WAS CARED FOR.



President Lincoln one day noticed a small, pale, delicate-looking boy, about thirteen years old, among the number in the White House antechamber.

The President saw him standing there, looking so feeble and faint, and said: "Come here, my boy, and tell me what you want."

The boy advanced, placed his hand on the arm of the President's chair, and, with a bowed head and timid accents, said: "Mr. President, I have been a drummer boy in a regiment for two years, and my colonel got angry with me and turned me off. I was taken sick and have been a long time in the hospital."

The President discovered that the boy had no home, no father--he had died in the army--no mother.

"I have no father, no mother, no brothers, no sisters, and," bursting into tears, "no friends--nobody cares for me."

Lincoln's eyes filled with tears, and the boy's heart was soon made glad by a request to certain officials "to care for this poor boy."