

Newsletter of the Cape May County Civil War
Round Table



July 2015

2015 Meeting Dates

16 July: Mike Plunkett : Paddy's Gone To Be A Soldier Refreshments: Lisa & Wendy

20 August: John Michael Priest will be telling us about *The Battles of South Mountain*. Refreshments:

17 September: Tracy Evans will be telling us about *The Lost Orders of General Lee*. Refreshments: Tim Keely

15 October: Craig Caba will be discussing the J Howard Worth Collection of Civil War Artifacts from Gettysburg as well as anti-slavery efforts in Gettysburg.

19 November: To Be Announced

?? December (date for Christmas dinner meeting to be determined)

LIST OF LOCAL EVENTS!!!

Members are encouraged to participate; if you have Civil War garb / uniforms, please feel free to wear it! We would also appreciate members attending helping by handing out flyers as well as telling folks about our group. MAC says we can have people at non-Civil War oriented events too, and some of them are listed herein.

13 June, 10am – 4pm: MAC Civil War event (Physic Estate)

20 – 21 June: *Military Time Line* at Cold Spring Village

16 – 18 July: 4H Faire at Cape May County Park

8 Aug: MAC Craft Beer and Crab Festival

12 – 13 Sept: Civil War Weekend at Cold Spring Village
19 Sep: MAC = *Harvst Brew Festival*

11 Oct: MAC = Special Family Event at end of Victorian Week

16 Oct: Cape May County Historical Museum begins winter hours, tours only by appointment.

12 & 19 Dec: Christmas Open House at the Cape May Historical Society Museum

The County Historical Society and Museum would like us to add that they are looking for volunteers to help with many aspects of their work – from helping in the library, working in the gardens, to acting as tour guides/docents in the museum.

Round Table Officers

President: Marty Runner

1402 Rt 9 South, Lot 193, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
609-536-8235
pat_mar1136@yahoo.com

Vice President: Lou Bishop Jr.

21 Schoolhouse Ln, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210
609-463-9277 or 741-5438
southwiltiriseagain@aol.com

Secretary: Pat Munson-Siter

42 Franklin Ave., Villas, NJ 08251-2407
609-287-5097
patms1766@outlook.com

Treasurer: Jim Marshall

202 Bartram Ln., Ocean City, NJ 08226
609-602-3243

Minutes of the Business Meeting

18 June 2015

President called the meeting to order. We saluted the flag and held a moment of silence for those serving our country. Treasurer Marshall was not present so there was no Treasurer's report.

Pres. Runner reminded the membership of the various events local groups are holding and urged them to show our support for them, especially the Museum as well as Cold Spring Village, by attending the events.

Pres. Runner also reminded the members that we have a sign up list for refreshments (he currently has the list) and that we have several dates where no one has signed up for refreshments. He also mentioned that in general it is the same 10 or 12 people who keep on signing up and providing refreshments, and there are others who attend, partake, and never bring any refreshments in themselves. It is also much easier if TWO people sign up for each meeting as that way the cost and burden can be shared around.

There being no further new or old business, the business meeting was adjourned so the presentation could begin.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Munson-Siter, Secretary

Civil War Related Events in August 2015

1 **PA** Living history, "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free. candlelightatchrist.org

1 **MD** Talk, "The Mummified Arm," at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick. 2:30 pm. Free. civilwarmed.org

1 **VA** Walking tours, music and more at the annual "Fisher's Hill Picnic" recreating a veterans' event at the Fisher's Hill battlefield north of Strasburg near Route 11. 4-8 pm. Free. shenandoahatwar.org

1 **VA** Walking tour, "The Lives of Petersburg's Enslaved and Free Black People," meets at the Petersburg Courthouse in downtown. Tour size limited. Call 804-732-3531 extension 222 to reserve a spot. 10:30 am and 2:30 pm. Free. nps.gov/pete

1 **VA** Living history walking tour, "Battle of Smithfield," begins at the Isle of Wight Museum, 103 Main St, Smithfield. 2 pm. Free. historicisleofwight.com

1 **VA** Walking tour, "Fort Huger," 17146 Monument Circle, Isle of Wight County near Smithfield. 10 am. Free. historicisleofwight.com

1-2 **MD** Living history, "Signal Corps Weekend," at the Pry House Field Hospital Museum in Keedysville (Antietam battlefield). 11 am-5 pm. civilwarmed.org

7 **VA** Tour, "Life of a House: Chatham by Candlelight," at Chatham, 120 Chatham Lane, across the river from downtown Fredericksburg. 8 pm. Free. nps.gov/frsp

7-9 **VA** Symposium, "Emerging Civil War: Civil War Legacies," at Stevenson Ridge, 6901 Meeting St, Spotsylvania. Topics include the surrenders, the assassination and more. Includes tour of Chancellorsville battlefield. \$95. 540-582-6263.

8 **PA** Living history, "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free. candlelightatchrist.org

8 **MD** Lecture, "The United States Colored Troops to the Rescue," at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton. 4 pm. Free. surrattmuseum.org

8 **VA** Anniversary activities at the Cedar Mountain battlefield on Route 15 south of Culpeper. Driving tour covering the approaches to the battle begins 10 am (\$10). Walking tours begin at 4 pm on the battlefield with a 7 pm memorial. friendsofcedarmountain.org

8 **VA** Tour, "From Slavery to Freedom," begins at the Petersburg National Battlefield visitor center. 10 am-2 pm. nps.gov/pete

8-9 **DE** Living history weekend at Fort Delaware near Delaware City with camps and demonstrations. 10 am-6 pm. Free. destateparks.com/park/fort-delaware/programs

8-9 **MD** "If These Walls Could Talk," special archeological programs at the Monocacy National Battlefield in Frederick. Free. nps.gov/mono

14 **VA** Walking tour, "'We shall have graveyards at every door...' Middletown in the Midst of War," meets at NPS contact station, 7712 Main St, Middletown. 7 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe

14 **VA** Campfire program, "Companions in Battle: Animals at War," at Prospect Hill, Tour Stop 6, on the Fredericksburg battlefield. 8 pm. Free. nps.gov/frsp

14-15 **PA** Civil War Music Muster at locations on the Gettysburg NNP and the Dobbin House in Gettysburg. Free. nps.gov/gett

15 **VA** Car-caravan tour, "Expanding the Breakthrough — Generals Under Fire," examines the April 2, 1865 breakthrough at Petersburg. Begins at Pamplin Historical Park near Petersburg. 10:30 am-12:30 pm. Free with park admission. pamplinpark.org

15 **VA** Walking tour, "Civil War Trail and Freedman's Farm," at Montpelier, home of James Madison in Orange County. Begins at parking lot across from Montpelier Station Train Depot. 2 pm. Free. montpelier.org

15 **VA** "Handling History," special opportunity to "touch" artifacts from the USS Monitor, which is undergoing conservation, at the Mariners' Museum in Newport News. 2 pm. marinersmuseum.org

15 **PA** Living history, "Songs and Stories of a Civil War Hospital," at Christ Lutheran Church, 30 Chambersburg St, Gettysburg. 7:30 pm. Free. candlelightatchrist.org

15 **PA** "An Evening with the Painting," an "after-hours" experience with the Gettysburg Cyclorama at the Gettysburg NMP visitor center. 6 pm. \$20/adult. gettysburgfoundation.org/18

17 **VA** Lecture, "'Sons of a Common Country': Postwar Reconciliation in Winchester and Frederick County, Virginia," at the Handley Regional Library, 100 W Piccadilly St, Winchester. 7 pm. Free. shenandoahatwar.org

18 **VA** "The Fight for the Weldon Railroad," ranger program at the Petersburg National Battlefield (Stop 1, Western Front). 3 pm. Free. nps.gov/pete

21 **VA** Walking tour, "Recalled to Life: Star Fort in War and Peace," meets at Star Fort, Fortress Drive and US 522 in Winchester. 7 pm. Free. nps.gov/cebe

21-23 **VA** Living history programs and more, "Civil War Weekend," in downtown Manassas. Includes the burning of a reproduction of a railroad car. Free. manassasmuseum.org

22 **VA** Lecture, "Escaping Detection: Women in the Civil War," at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 2 pm. Free. 703-591-0560.

22-23 **MD** Living history, "Artillery Weekend" at the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Camp and demonstrations. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti

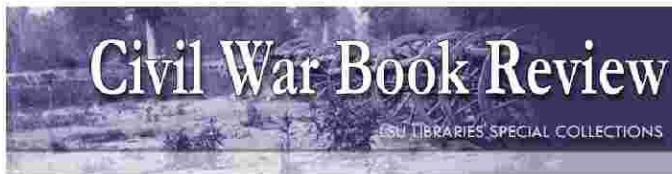
22-23 **VA** Civil War Weekend with living history, tours, talks and more in Winchester and Frederick and Clarke counties. Tours, living history, talks and more. visitwinchesterva.com

23 **VA** Living history and tours, "Eyewitness to War," at the Mt. Zion Historic Park, 40309 John Mosby Highway, Aldie. 1-5 pm. Free. 703-327-9777.

27 **VA** Anniversary walking tours, "Battle of Kettle Run," at the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park in Bristow. 1-4 pm. \$5 donation welcome. 703-366-3049.

29 **MD** Living history, "Ship's Company," life in "Mr. Lincoln's Navy" at the USS *Constellation* in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. 10 am-4 pm. Free with admission. shipscompany.org

29-30 **MD** Anniversary of the formation of the Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg. Special programs at the site. Free with park admission. nps.gov/anti



The Gettysburg Cyclorama: The Turning Point of the Civil War on Canvas. By Chris Brenneman, Sue Boardman, and Bill Dowling. Illustrated, photos, notes, bibliography, index, 220 pp., 2015, Savas Beatie, www.savasbeatie.com, \$34.95.

Generations of Gettysburg visitors have marveled at Paul Philippoteaux's cyclorama of Pickett's Charge — perhaps the most recognized artistic representation of the battle. Yet surprisingly little has been written about the painting or its creation.

Historians Chris Brenneman and Sue Boardman, with the assistance of photographer Bill Dowling, have filled that void with this highly original, handsomely designed and well-researched volume. The book is worthy of its dazzling subject. Philippoteaux and his artistic team actually painted four Gettysburg cycloramas. The first, commissioned by entrepreneur Charles Willoughby, went on display in Chicago. Before putting brush to canvas, the artist spent many months interviewing generals, poring over maps, and touring the field with veterans.

Philippoteaux also engaged Gettysburg's William H. Tipton to photograph the battlefield for reference purposes. One of this book's many achievements is Dowling's recreation of the old Tipton photographs.

Aided by these modern images, beautifully reproduced on the book's glossy pages, the authors conduct the most detailed analysis of the painting ever attempted. Encouraged by early success of the Chicago exhibition, Willoughby contracted Philippoteaux to produce a second Gettysburg cyclorama for display in Boston. For nearly five years, visitors examined the painting in a rotunda on Tremont Street.

Two additional copies were produced for short-lived exhibitions in Philadelphia and New York City.

Relying on newspapers, advertisements and exhibition programs, the authors painstakingly track the history of each painting. They point out new discoveries along the way. It was the Boston version, the authors conclude, that was on display at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.

It was also the Boston version that ended up in Gettysburg. In 1910, a Newark department store magnate purchased the painting, which, retired from public display, had been carelessly consigned to a "wooden crate" and exposed to the elements. A few years later he leased the painting to Gettysburg investors, who housed it in a structure perched on East Cemetery Hill. It remained there for nearly a half century.

The canvas was moved to the Cyclorama Center on Cemetery Ridge in 1962. Badly in need of repair, the painting was exhibited in that edifice until the major, multi-year conservation effort that culminated in its relocation to the new Gettysburg Visitor Center. The book offers the first history of the painting's historic conservation.

The authors report a number of original findings — chief among them is the relationship between Union veterans and the cyclorama. Veterans not only flocked to the exhibits in Chicago, Boston and elsewhere, swapping battle anecdotes on the viewing platforms, but reported errors or omissions that were later addressed in paint by Philippoteaux.

The authors devote a remarkable chapter to the changes that were made to the Boston version in 1889. In a sense, veterans joined the artistic team.

Veterans likewise became unofficial custodians of the painting. Battle-scarred Maine artilleryman John Chase, for instance, accompanied the New York version on its late 19th-century tour of state fairs. Using the cyclorama as a prop, other veterans lectured on the battle and relived its drama.

This oversized, full-color book immediately takes its place on the shelf of essential Gettysburg titles. Its encyclopedic, frame-by-frame annotations of the painting, identifying key people, units and farms, will be invaluable to serious students of the battle.

Those interested in art history and Civil War memory will likewise have much to savor. The authors quite literally illustrate that there are still exciting new discoveries to be made about the Battle of Gettysburg and its legacy.

Brian Matthew Jordan

Lincoln on Law, Leadership, and Life.

By Jonathan W. White. Illustrated, photos, bibliography, index, 111 pp., 2015, Cumberland House, www.sourcebooks.com, \$12.99.

This little book is intended for college students interested in law school, law students, practicing attorneys, judges and others interested in Lincoln and the Civil War who seek a general introduction to Lincoln's thoughts on the law and the legal profession.

Although small (it will fit into a coat or jacket pocket), *Lincoln on Law, Leadership, and Life* is packed with numerous selections from Lincoln's writings in which he offered guidance to aspiring attorneys, as well as anecdotes and observations by Lincoln's friends and associates on his career as a lawyer. The book is divided into chapters that highlight Lincoln's advice on several aspects of law practice, including the training required to pursue a legal career, the character traits of a good lawyer, out-of-court settlement versus litigation, preparation for trial, and performance in the courtroom.

Jonathan White also includes a chapter on the thorny and contentious legal issues deftly addressed by Lincoln as president.

He cites Lincoln's own words when examining his controversial decisions regarding habeas corpus, suppression of opposition newspapers, and emancipation. Lincoln's words on the topics covered in this book are complemented by numerous accounts by his contemporaries on his performance as a lawyer and attorney-in-chief.

There have been a number of fine scholarly studies on Lincoln as a lawyer published within the past decade. This work does not add anything new to the subject. This is not a criticism, however.

The purpose of White's *Lincoln on Law, Leadership, and Life* is to provide a general introduction to Lincoln and the law to a broad audience. He succeeds admirably. I highly recommend this well-written and handsomely produced book.

Thomas A. Horrocks

Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad. By Eric Foner.

Illustrated, photos, maps, notes, index, 320 pp., 2015, Norton, www.wnorton.com, \$26.95.

Eric Foner's latest book corrects the misconception that the Underground Railroad functioned as a large, contiguous organization in antebellum America. Indeed, many schools and textbooks teach that the Underground Railroad worked as a single organization freeing slaves.

Foner demonstrates how a collection of organizations and individuals worked to free slaves without a national leader or a board of directors to set and execute policy.

Gateway to Freedom is organized chronologically and traces such various manifestations of the Underground Railroad as vigilance committees, abolitionist groups, and anti-slavery publications.

Foner explains how the Underground Railroad changed through various political crises, including the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 and the Dred Scott case. Most of his research concerns Maryland and New York City.

The book's greatest strength is Foner's meticulous primary source research. He provides a fascinating look into major

Underground Railroad figures such as Sydney Howard Gay and Harriet Tubman.

Through anecdotes and quotations, Foner shows that the Underground Railroad was not merely a system that individuals worked for, but instead a collection of organizations, groups and private individuals who worked for a common cause. These stories humanize and dramatize the exploits of Frederick Douglass as well as lesser-known abolitionists such as Louis Napoleon.

Foner also does a masterful job placing the Underground Railroad in the political, social and economic context of antebellum America. His background information is extremely helpful for understanding the odds Underground Railroad agents faced — especially in New York City.

For instance, once the revised Fugitive Slave Law was in full effect, escaped slaves and free black citizens alike often could be kidnapped and placed in slavery. In spite of the heroic effort of various abolitionist groups, the New York City government was reluctant to assist blacks because so many businesses and merchants depended on slave labor for cheap materials from the South.

This book also includes three sections of black-and-white photographs as well as political cartoons. These graphics are extremely useful because they help readers visualize the actions described.

Maps are the most helpful graphics in *Gateway to Freedom*.

Foner includes regional and local maps. His maps of Lower Manhattan and Brooklyn are so specific that readers can create their own tours.

Because this book provides considerable context, readers of any experience level can appreciate it. Thanks to Foner's meticulous research and source synthesis, historians interested in the intersection between politics and society will especially enjoy the book.

Additionally, with the 50th anniversary of many important civil rights events, casual readers can learn about powerful precursors to the civil rights organizations of the 1960s.

Evan McLaughlin

Ulysses S. Grant: Triumph over Adversity

1822-1865. By Brooks D. Simpson. Reprint. Maps, notes, index, 560 pp., 2014, Zenith, www.zenithpress.com, \$19.99 softcover.

As part of the sesquicentennial, many Civil War classics have been republished. One such reprint is Brooks Simpson's superb biography of Ulysses S. Grant. First published in 2000, this classic has stood the test of time and remains one of the best Grant biographies.

What makes this publication stand out is the author's portrayal of Grant's human side. Many authors have tried to analyze Grant and present their idea of who he was. Simpson takes a different approach; he presents Grant as a human being with faults and strengths like everyone else.

Nothing in Grant's early life through his four years at West Point indicated any promise of greatness lay in his character. Indeed, an examination of Grant's antebellum life reveals an ordinary man with no apparent greatness.

The first five chapters explore Grant's life with little to show except dedication to his wife and family, as well as a desire never to quit. Grant's father, Jesse Grant, perhaps summed up best his evaluation of Ulysses by stating, "He is a very smart, active boy, capable of making anything." Certainly, the outbreak of the Civil War presented Ulysses with the chance to prove his talent.

The following 15 chapters explore the growth of Ulysses Grant as a commander during the war. Snubs and whispers followed Grant as he rose from colonel of the 21st Illinois infantry in 1861 to command of the Union armies by 1864.

He was considered a drunk by some, many of them jealous competitors, but was strengthened by the fierce loyalty of his family and friends. Then Grant found his calling in life and what he was best at: command.

This is perhaps the best one-volume study of Grant to date.

Numerous notes and a detailed index are a strength of the book. Simpson has produced an in-depth study of Grant and presents this icon of American history in a new light.

Dismissing the worn-out theories that Grant was a drunk and butcher, Simpson presents Grant as a human who made mistakes but learned from them and seldom repeated his errors. Simpson writes, "Grant never became discouraged when circumstances changed or the unexpected occurred. Rather than throw up his hands and blast his bad luck (or go searching for scapegoats), he took things as they presented themselves and adjusted."

An excellent biography of an American icon, this classic deserves a place in your library. Professional and amateur historians, and those wishing to learn about leadership, will not be disappointed. This book is an excellent value. The subtitle says it all, "*Triumph over Adversity*."

Larry Clowers

Pass On Your Love of History With Civil War Trust's 'Generations' Program:

(Washington, D.C.) — The Civil War Trust, the nation's premier nonprofit battlefield preservation organization, is pleased to announce the launch of its *Generations* program, an exciting multidisciplinary initiative designed to provide parents, grandparents and other adults with the tools to share history with young people in their personal lives. From online educational content to special events structured specifically for audiences of all ages, *Generations* showcases ways for families, friends and neighbors to demonstrate that history doesn't only reside in textbooks.

"One hundred fifty years have passed since the Civil War," said Trust president James Lighthizer, "But each subsequent generation of Americans has kept alive the legacy of the brave men and women who lived in that era. Now, it is our turn — and our duty — to teach the next generation about this essential part of our shared national experience."

The Trust has a decades-long tradition of providing top-quality content and programs for classroom educators. The organization's award-winning website is a repository of outstanding scholarship for researchers of all ages. *Generations*, however, marks the Trust's first program specifically designed

to provide history lovers with the tools to share the compelling stories of the past with others beginning to learn about the period.

"Passion and curiosity are keys to success in the classroom, and in life," said Lighthizer. "And who better to instill those critical attributes in a young person than the multigenerational role models already in his or her life? I certainly hope that the Civil War Trust Generations initiative will inspire a few future historians, but I know it will create a wave of thoughtful, engaged and dynamic Americans."

Generations will provide a wealth of curated online content selected to foster dialogue among you and old alike. Through videos, articles, photos and other multimedia available at www.civilwar.org/generations, the new initiative will help history buffs share their passion with other age groups.

In addition, *Generations* will host on-site events designed to showcase the importance of historic sites and spark the imagination. The first two inaugural events are scheduled for Gettysburg, in partnership with the National Park Service, and in Petersburg, in partnership with the Pamplin Historical Park and the National Museum of the Civil War Soldier.

Generations at Gettysburg Event: The first *Generations* event will be a hike of Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg, Pa., on July 25, 2015, from 10 to 1 p.m. National Park Service rangers and Licensed Battlefield Guides will lead the tours. The event is free and open to anyone who attends with at least one member of a younger generation.

Generations at Petersburg Event: On the weekend of September 12–13, multi-generational teams are invited to come to Pamplin Historical Park in Petersburg, Va., where they can "Live the Life of a Soldier." The event begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday and runs through 10 a.m. on Sunday. The experience is free to each adult who brings at least one other guest a generation or more younger, but space is limited. Please note that there is a minimum age of 8-years-old for all participants. Please note that registration is required for both events. Register at: www.civilwar.org/generations

The Civil War Trust's education programs span all aspects of the war, targeting a variety of age groups and skill levels. The Trust employs a broad approach to reach millions of people in classrooms, on battlefields, through its website, and in printed media. The popular Teacher Institute series offers free professional development to hundreds of teachers every year. Other resources include: the War Department™ video series, which goes beyond recitation of facts to offer expert analysis of complex topics; the Civil War In4 video series, which highlights basic topics of Civil War study in short segments; the Civil War Lesson Center, which provides hundreds of free lesson plans to educators; and *Civil War Kid's 150: Fifty Fun Things to Do, See, Make, and Find for the 150th Anniversary*, a book designed to help young people experience history in tangible, interactive ways. Learn more about these and other initiatives at www.civilwar.org/education.

The Civil War Trust is America's premier nonprofit battlefield preservation organization. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, through its Campaign 1776 initiative, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust

has preserved 41,000 acres of battlefield land in 20 states. Learn more at www.civilwar.org.

Marching Home: Union Veterans and

Their Unending Civil War. By Brian Matthew Jordan. Illustrated, photos, notes, bibliography, index, 384 pp., 2015, Liveright, www.wwnorton.com, \$28.95.

They were seen daily on dusty streets of small towns and on cobblestone avenues of cities. Many of them hobbled along on one leg and a wooden crutch. From some, an empty sleeve revealed a missing arm. Deeper scars remained hidden. Wearing faded and worn blue blouses and pants, these Union veterans embodied the past in a forward-looking country. To many fellow Northerners who had not served in the army or navy, they were a disturbing presence, living reminders of the Civil War's terrible human costs.

Parades and patriotic speeches had welcomed tens of thousands of them home after the conflict's end. Before long, however, the veterans realized that family members and friends did not understand or appreciate the ordeal through which they had passed, fueling anger and bitterness among the former volunteers and conscripts.

Their common experiences had bonded them together, and this brotherhood sustained them in postwar decades. They formed regimental associations, held reunions, and organized the Grand Army of the Republic.

Once more they waged battles for pensions and veteran homes, and against reconciliation with their former enemies. By writing memoirs and regimental histories, they hoped their sacrifices would be remembered.

This fine book presents a somber portrait of the reality of Union veterans' postwar lives. Many were reduced to poverty and depended on aid from veteran associations and former comrades. Uncounted numbers committed suicide, and veterans' homes were dismal places.

With each passing year, the gulf between those who served and those who remained home deepened, increasing the bitterness felt by veterans.

The book does not address, however, the hundreds, if not thousands, of veterans who used their wartime careers to attain political offices. An appreciation of their service in the Civil War undoubtedly contributed to their success at the polls. The veterans had enough political power to secure pensions for themselves and their widows.

Theirs is a story that had to be told, and Brian Matthew Jordan tells it very well. The research is impeccable, and the writing finely crafted.

For readers who had ancestors in the Union army or navy or are interested in the war's impact on its participants, this excellent work is highly recommended.

Jeffrey D. Wert

Lincoln and the Power of the Press. By Harold

Holzer. Illustrated, photos, notes, bibliography, index, 764 pp., 2014, Simon & Schuster, www.simonandschuster.com, \$37.50.

Harold Holzer is a preeminent Abraham Lincoln scholar, and this book adds to his legacy. In the introduction, Holzer makes clear that his study is not another look at the so-called Bohemian Brigade (battlefield correspondents) nor an examination of newspaper attitudes toward Lincoln.

Instead, in Holzer's words, "this work seeks to explore the broader story of nineteenth-century political journalism through a much more focused lens by tracking the chief political and journalistic personalities of the day to weave together two specific, ongoing, and historically vital competitions."

The political focus is on Lincoln and his political nemesis Stephen A. Douglas. Not only did they oppose each other on many issues, but their speeches filled many newspaper columns. Holzer's research shows that, beginning in the 1850s, the two "ranked among the most widely covered leaders of their age."

When Douglas died in 1861 there had been approximately 6,500 stories about Lincoln and some 6,000 about Douglas that set the tone for wartime political conflicts.

Along with political analysis, Holzer provides a parallel look at three of the best-known Civil War journalists. They were New York Tribune editor Horace Greeley, Henry Raymond of the New York Times and James Gordon Bennett of the New York Herald.

Greeley was an erratic anti-Southerner who generally supported Lincoln, but also a man whose solutions to war issues often defied logic. Raymond was a loyal Republican, mostly supportive of Lincoln.

Bennett was a solid Democrat, whose bigotry against blacks, Jews and Catholics colored his opinions but did not keep him from building a larger readership than any other paper in the country.

Holzer's rationale for focusing on the New York trio is that, even though the city was not representative of the whole country, "no editors anywhere amassed or deployed more truly national editorial power from the 1840s through the 1860s than Greeley, Raymond, and Bennett."

Further, "None maintained their influence longer — cast it wider — or proved more essential to the crusades to preserve the Union and destroy slavery, either in support or in significant opposition, and sometimes a bit of both — than did these three flawed giants."

In addition to analyzing the major newspaper editors, Holzer examines the work of other Civil War journalists. His focus is on their treatment of slavery, sectionalism, propaganda, censorship and the violent civil eruptions the war engendered. He impressively examines the layers of Lincoln's deft handling of reporters. He tells the story of Lincoln's own foray into journalism, an area of Lincoln's prewar years often overlooked or ignored.

That background in the newspaper business aided Lincoln's understanding of reporters' roles and gave him an appreciation of the challenges of writing truthfully about far-flung events that produced more headlines than facts.

Often criticized for censorship, Lincoln received more blame than he deserved, says Holzer. Certainly, he was concerned about safeguarding Union strategy, and editors like Greeley, Raymond and Bennett understood and cooperated as best they could.

Lincoln could not control pro-Union vigilantes who attacked and burned offices of newspapers deemed sympathetic to the Confederacy.

Holzer examines all significant aspects of journalism during Lincoln's presidency. Based on his mastery of primary sources, he reveals an understanding of many nuances regarding the president's relationship with the press.

This book is highly recommended for readers who want to know more about the role of the press during the Civil War.

Michael B. Ballard

Congress Enacts Landmark Legislation to Preserve America's Endangered Battlefields

LEGISLATION EXPANDS SUCCESSFUL FEDERAL CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD GRANT PROGRAM TO INCLUDE PRESERVATION OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 BATTLEFIELDS

(Washington, D.C.) – The Civil War Trust today applauded members of U.S. Senate and House of Representatives for enactment of landmark legislation to preserve America's endangered battlefields.

The legislation, part of an omnibus lands package included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 3979), reauthorizes a highly successful federal matching grant program for the preservation of Civil War battlefields. In addition, the bill expands that existing program to provide grants for the acquisition of land at Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields.

"This is a historic moment for the battlefield preservation movement," remarked Civil War Trust president James Lighthizer. "For 15 years, the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program has been an invaluable tool for protecting the hallowed battlegrounds of the Civil War. Now, for the first time, battlefields associated with America's other formative conflicts, the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, will also benefit from this public-private partnership."



Mary Thompson House on the Gettysburg Civil War Battlefield, Gettysburg, Pa. The Mary Thompson House served as General Robert E. Lee's Headquarters during the battle. The 4.14-acre Lee's Headquarters property was acquired by the Civil War Trust in 2014 with a federal matching grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program. (Civil War Trust photo)

The legislation, originally introduced in 2013 as the American Battlefields Protection Program Amendments Act (H.R. 1033), reauthorizes the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program, a matching grants program that encourages private sector investment in historic battlefield protection. Since the program was first funded by Congress in FY 1999, it has been used to preserve more than 23,000 acres of battlefield land in 17 states. The battlefields protected through the program include some of the most famous in the annals of America, including Antietam, Md.; Chancellorsville and Manassas, Va.; Chattanooga and Franklin, Tenn.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Perryville, Ky.; and Vicksburg, Miss.



Colonnade Monument on the Princeton Revolutionary War Battlefield, Princeton, N.J. The Princeton Battlefield is one of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields eligible for federal matching grants from the American Battlefield Protection Program as a result of legislation passed Friday by the U.S. Senate. (Civil War Trust photo/Doug Ullman)

The bipartisan bill was sponsored by U.S. Senators Tim Kaine (D-Va.) and Thad Cochran (R-Miss.) and Congressmen Rush Holt (D-N.J.) and Rob Wittman (R-Va.) in their respective chambers. In addition, the bill was championed by Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chair Mary Landrieu (D-La.) and House Natural Resources Chairman Doc Hastings (R-Wash.). A complete list of House and Senate cosponsors can be found on the Congress.gov website ([Senate](#) and [House](#)).

"We owe our Congressional champions in the House and Senate an enormous debt of gratitude for believing in this program and guiding it through an often complicated legislative process," Lighthizer noted. "Thanks to their tireless efforts, thousands of acres of genuine American history that might have been lost to development can still be preserved for future generations." In addition to reauthorizing the existing Civil War matching grants program, the bill expands the program's authority to provide grants to protect Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields. Similar to the Civil War grants, which are awarded for priority battlefield land identified in a 1993 government report on Civil War battlefields (updated in 2011), funding for Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields will target sites listed in a 2007 study by the American Battlefield Protection Program. Among the battlefields that could potentially benefit from the expanded program are: Bennington, N.Y. and Vt.; Brandywine, Pa.; Cowpens, S.C.; Caulk's Field, Md.; Guilford Courthouse, N.C.; Princeton, N.J.; River Raisin, Mich.; Saratoga, N.Y.; and Yorktown, Va.

In his remarks, Lighthizer also noted that this legislation, by encouraging the protection of battlefield land, also honors the

courage and sacrifices of all who served in America's military. "Preserved battlefields are living monuments – not just to the soldiers who fought in those hallowed fields – but to all Americans who have worn our nation's uniform. There are no better places to learn about the human cost of the freedoms we enjoy today."

The combined Civil War, Revolutionary War and War of 1812 matching program is authorized at \$10 million a year for seven years, through the end of FY 2021. The FY 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Act (H.R. 83) currently under consideration by the Congress includes \$8.9 million for the program.



Slaughter Pen Farm on the Fredericksburg Civil War Battlefield, Fredericksburg, Va. The 206-acre Slaughter Pen Farm was preserved by the Civil War Trust in 2006 with a federal matching grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program. (Civil War Trust photo/Kelly Schneider)

Cape May Civil War Round Table
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In addition to the American Battlefields Protection Program Amendments Act, the lands package in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) also included other important battlefield preservation initiatives, including modest expansions of the national military parks at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, as well as legislation to explore adding Mill Springs Battlefield in Kentucky to the National Park System. President Obama is expected to sign NDAA into law later this month. The Civil War Trust is the premier nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds. The Trust is the principal nonprofit advocate for federal battlefield preservation programs and legislation. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, through its Campaign 1776 initiative, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust has preserved more than 40,000 acres of battlefield land in 20 states. Learn more at www.civilwar.org.

