

Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Wilson's Creek Foundation, and Springfield-Greene County Library Acquire and Digitize Rare Civil War Manuscript

NPS, Jeff Patrick 3/7/2022

REPUBLIC, MO — Wilson's Creek National Battlefield recently received a donation of previously unpublished Mary Whitney Phelps papers through a purchase made by the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation at a nationally advertised auction. These papers have been added to the museum collection at Wilson's Creek, and the battlefield has partnered with the Springfield-Greene County Library District to place the items online in the Community & Conflict digital collection at ozarkscivilwar.org.

Mary Whitney Phelps (1812-1878) is one of Missouri's Union heroines of the Civil War. The Battle of Wilson's Creek, fought on August 10, 1861, was the first major battle west of the Mississippi. It was a defeat for the Union and resulted in the death of Union commander Nathaniel Lyon. Rather than flee with other prominent Unionists, Mrs. Phelps remained behind in Springfield to see to the burial of the fallen General Lyon and to care for wounded soldiers who had been left during the retreat.

The Mary Whitney Phelps papers include a significant unpublished memoir. Although extensive, it is missing at least three leaves that discuss the Battle of Wilson's Creek. It does, however, include Mary Phelps' discussion of the burial of General Lyon. The collection also includes a letter written by Mary's husband John Smith Phelps to

their daughter Mary Phelps Montgomery, as well as a letter written by Mary Montgomery. John Smith Phelps (1814-1886) of Springfield represented Missouri in the United States Congress but returned home to fight for the Union and later served as governor of Missouri from 1877-1881.

"The Library District is excited to work with Wilson's Creek National Battlefield to place this historically significant collection online," said Brian Grubbs, Local History and Genealogy Manager at the Springfield-Greene County Library District. Grubbs led the development of the Community & Conflict digital collection, which explores the impact of the Civil War in the Ozarks. The digital collection consists of Civil War documents, photographs, and artifacts from across the United States. "Wilson's Creek National Battlefield has multiple collections already online at ozarkscivilwar.org," said Grubbs, "and we look forward to adding even more content to this rich digital collection."

"This rare eyewitness account from an important figure in southwest Missouri will help us tell the story of the war's impact on the civilian population," said Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Superintendent Sarah Cunningham. "It's important for us to share these priceless primary sources with the public."

"An important mission of Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation is to help preserve historical resources like the Mary Whitney Phelps papers," said Garin Ferguson, Foundation President. "We are very pleased that we were able to acquire these papers and partner with Wilson's Creek National Battlefield and the

Springfield-Greene County Library District to make them available to the public.”

Established in 1950, the Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield Foundation is one of the oldest private non-profit support groups associated with the National Park Service. Administered by the National Park Service, Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield preserves the site of the first major battle of the Civil War in the West. The Confederate victory on August 10, 1861, focused greater national attention on the war in Missouri, leading to greater federal military action.

0-0

National Park Service awards \$820,612 to protect Civil War battlefields in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia



Fussell's Mill, Virginia NPS

NPS, August 2, 2022

WASHINGTON - The National Park Service’s American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) today awarded \$820,612.66 in Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants to state and local government agencies in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia to protect an additional 73.21 acres of Civil War battlefield lands. These three

grants support the agencies’ ongoing partnerships with their nonprofit partners to preserve sites of historical significance while also conserving open space and natural resources. The awards are made possible by the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which reinvests revenue from offshore oil and natural gas leasing to help strengthen conservation and recreation opportunities across the nation.

“These grants to state and local governments represent an important investment in public-private conservation efforts across America,” said **NPS Director Chuck Sams**. “They support partnership efforts that thoughtfully consider the needs, concerns, and priorities of communities inextricably connected to these unique places and stories.”

In 2009, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the non-profit American Battlefield Trust began partnering to acquire portions of the Second Deep Bottom Battlefield, in Henrico County, with the support of matching ABPP funds. Today’s award to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation adds an additional 50.47 acres to the more than 141 acres protected through this public-private partnership at Second Deep Bottom. During the Richmond-Petersburg campaign in the long, hot summer of 1864, Ulysses S. Grant’s Army of the Potomac kept Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia on the defensive with repeated attempts to dilute Confederate strength around Petersburg and to threaten their capital at Richmond. In mid-August, the two armies skirmished near Fussell’s Mill, on lands today protected with grant funding. The 9th Regiment Infantry United States Colored Troops were among the Union forces who attacked enemy lines in the stifling heat. The Federal assault,

though driven back at a cost of 2,900 casualties, siphoned off Confederate strength in Grant’s relentless push to isolate Richmond and, in the words of President Abraham Lincoln, to “hold on with a bulldog grip, and chew and choke as much as possible.”

NPS ABPP’s Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants empower preservation partners nationwide to acquire and preserve threatened battlefields on American soil. In addition, the program administers three other grant programs: Preservation Planning, Battlefield Interpretation and Battlefield Restoration Grants. Financial and technical assistance support sustainable, community-driven stewardship of natural and historic resources at the state, tribal and local levels.

Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants are available on a rolling basis. To learn more about how to apply, head to NPS ABPP’s website.

Recipient	Battlefield	Acreage	Award
North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources	Bentonville Battlefield	15.14	\$50,916.00
City of Chattanooga, Tennessee	Chattanooga Battlefield	7.6	\$353,522.19
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Second Deep Bottom Battlefield	50.47	\$416,174.47

	Total:	73.21	\$820,612.66
--	--------	-------	--------------

0-0

**American Battlefield Trust,
National Park Foundation
Contribute Toward Gettysburg
Battlefield Restoration**

\$2 Million gift will enable the National Park Service to improve visitor experience at Little Round Top, one of the battlefield’s most popular and iconic spots

ABT, April 21, 2022

Mary Koik, & Alanna Sobel,

(Gettysburg, Pa.) — A major rehabilitation project to upgrade facilities and increase safety on one of the most popular areas of the Gettysburg Battlefield have received a major boost with a \$2 million gift from the American Battlefield Trust and the National Park Foundation. The joint contribution to restore historic Little Round Top was facilitated through philanthropist John L. Nau, III, who serves on the boards of both organizations and is the former chairman of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

“There is power in place, a unique ability to inspire and teach that comes from being physically present at a site where great events transpired,” said Nau. “Ensuring that such locations are well-situated to offer visitors a meaningful and pleasing experience materially advances that goal.”



Work at Little Round Top will relieve chronically overcrowded parking areas, address erosion concerns, create accessible trail alignments, install new interpretation and otherwise make the area more functional and appealing to visitors. The extensive project is expected to close the area to visitors for approximately 18 months, beginning in late spring of this year. Separate but related rehabilitation work to address erosion issues closed nearby Devil’s Den in late March.

“The American Battlefield Trust is committed to safeguarding the unique resources within battlefield parks,” said organization president David Duncan. “The very popularity of certain areas of the park can compound how forces of nature wear upon historic landscapes, and ongoing effort is required to keep these places looking as they did when the battle occurred.”

“Gettysburg National Military Park is the most visited battlefield park,” said National Park Foundation President and CEO Will Shafroth. “Improving visitor access to this hallowed ground is an investment in the future that protects and pays honor to our past. I am grateful for the generosity of John L. Nau, III and the partnership of the American Battlefield Trust for making it possible.”

About the National Park Foundation
The National Park Foundation works to protect wildlife and park lands, preserve history and culture, educate and engage youth, and connect people everywhere to the wonder of parks. We do it in collaboration with the National Park Service, the park partner community, and with the generous support of donors, without whom our work would not be possible. Learn more at www.nationalparks.org.

About the American Battlefield Trust
The American Battlefield Trust is dedicated to preserving America’s hallowed battlegrounds and educating the public about what happened there and why it matters today. The nonprofit, nonpartisan organization has protected more than 54,000 acres associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War. Learn more at www.battlefields.org.

0-0



Major General Benjamin Butler will never be accused of cutting a dashing figure. But there is far more than meets the eye to the man who enraged New Orleans.

THIS CIVIL WAR GENERAL WAS KNOWN AS ‘THE BEAST.’ BUT HIS LEGACY IS SO MUCH MORE.

Ben Butler was brilliant strategist—and a civil rights leader, says the author of a new biography.

By SARAH RICHARDSON, HistoryNet

Elizabeth Leonard's interest in General Benjamin Butler was piqued when she was tasked to write a description for a large portrait of the alumnus of Waterville College (now Colby College) when it was reinstalled in the college's alumni center. What she found paints an entirely new portrait of the politician and general in *Benjamin Franklin Butler: A Noisy, Fearless Life*. In fact, the book's cover image is an unfamiliar photograph of Butler. "That's exactly what I want you to feel," Leonard says. "It's him but it's not him. You think you know him, and you do, but you don't."



Elizabeth Leonard (Photo by Thom Blackstone)

CWT: TELL US A BIT ABOUT HIS EARLY LIFE.

EL: He was born in New Hampshire, born into a situation of relative poverty, and very soon his father was gone. His mother wanted him to be able to do well and sent him off to school and she went down to Lowell, Mass., to become a boardinghouse-keeper in those

early days of the Lowell mills. He soon joined her there. And that was his home for most of his life.

CWT: HOW DID HE BECOME A GENERAL?

EL: He had wanted very much to go to West Point. It was not possible for him to do so. His mother sent him up to Waterville College in Maine, where his portrait hangs in our alumni center here. When he was back in Massachusetts pursuing his career as lawyer, he joined the Massachusetts volunteer militia. That would serve him well when the war came and he was able to position himself as someone who had previous military and leadership experience.

CWT: HE WAS INVOLVED IN THE WAR FROM THE START.

EL: His ego was never weak. A combination of true patriotism and a desire, always, for glory and military opportunity. All those things combined to make him one of the first—he and his regiments—to be involved in the defense of Washington in those early days. He's everywhere: he's in [Baltimore](#) when the first troops are being shot at; he's at [Fort Monroe](#) when the enslaved people are coming for protection.

CWT: YOU DESCRIBE HIS TALENTS AS AN ADMINISTRATOR, AND THAT HE HELPED FOUND THE VETERANS' HOMES.

EL: Some people have a natural ability for organization. He seemed to have it in spades. Even people who didn't like him couldn't say he was a bad administrator. It seemed to allow him to survive—people realized he had too much talent, but sometimes too much is threatening. He did so much in New

Orleans that people were begging him to come back and keep New Orleans clean.

CWT: PEOPLE KNOW HIM AS THE GUY WHO STOLE THE SPOONS. DID YOU KNOW ABOUT HIS COMMITMENT TO BLACK CIVIL RIGHTS AND SUPPORT FOR THE POOR?

EL: Absolutely not. It's really interesting how much I didn't know about him and how powerfully the repressive influences have extracted all of his contribution to Black rights he strove so hard to make. But I had two clues: Harold Raymond, my predecessor at Colby, wrote in 1964 that Butler deserves a reappraisal, and I knew this wonderful historian wouldn't say that if it wasn't so. Then Gary Gallagher suggested I look into his story more deeply. The comparison between the Beast Butler/Spoons Butler mockery, including the images and illustrations of him that had been so common, and what I saw from this other group of people was stunning. Frederick Douglass sent a massive floral display to his funeral and his son was a pall bearer at his funeral.

CWT: SPELL OUT THAT COMMITMENT.

EL: The first thing he did was not to return the three enslaved men who came to him at Fort Monroe. The news spread like wildfire, and hundreds soon came. For him, it was a big step on his journey. There was his experience in New Orleans: He turned the Louisiana Native Guard into Union soldiers and had this ongoing contact with enslaved people and their desire for freedom and the sacrifices they were willing to make. Then there's his work with the Army of the James and its Black regiments. After the war he

never looked back. He rode past the dead bodies of his Black soldiers at Chapin's Farm in the fall of 1864, and I just imagine that as a moment that he promised to himself "I will never abandon you." And he didn't while others did. His political career after the war has often been treated as if he's been fickle or that he was just about his own power. He always said "these parties are shifting around me and I'm clinging to these principles. I don't care what the party's name is." That's what you see in his correspondence: dump the Republican Party if they're not going to help Black people.

CWT: WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS HIS BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?

EL: Refusing to return the three enslaved men who fled to Fort Monroe was a huge accomplishment in terms of what it meant to the enslaved people and as a prod to the federal government. You better come up with a policy for these enslaved people because they're running away and we need to figure out how we're going to handle this. His importance in holding Maryland, when the loss of Maryland would have been enormous. Then after the war, all of his work in Congress. He was involved in the Civil Rights Act, the KKK Act—and then as governor of Massachusetts also.

CWT: WOULD YOU LIKE TO COMMENT ON HIS CONDUCT IN THE WAR? HE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR CRITICISM.

EL: I think part of it is the New Orleans business. But when we think about the timing and the distance from Washington and the kind of situation he was confronting in New Orleans, I think he was doing the very best he could—and certainly some

New Orleanians thought so too. I think he has been maligned even for his wartime experience not just by White Southerners but by White Northerners who didn't like his attacks on the elite. As Whites in the postwar period North and South sought to make peace with each other to advance a certain vision of America, he was saying "No, no we have to lift up the poor, lift up these freedpeople, we have to protect the rights of black Americans." He ticked a lot of people off, more than just his former enemies in the South. There's a wonderful quote when he was running for president in 1884 and someone brings up the lingering resentment of certain white Southerners. He says, Well you know it's true, when they were my enemy, I fought them tooth and nail, but they should know that when I am their friend, I will be equally their friend and won't they be better off with me than with someone who says he is their friend but doesn't really mean it. I am who I am, I will do what I say.

CWT: HE SUPPORTED WILLIAM MUMFORD'S WIFE, THE SPOUSE OF A MAN HE EXECUTED FOR TEARING DOWN A U.S. FLAG IN NEW ORLEANS.

EL: It is also completely forgotten that he watched out for her over the course of her life. I find him very charming and sweet with his grandchildren and little Ben. We forget how many people loved him so much and how many people he really did extend a hand to. He got kind of tired at the end of his life people asking him for money. Still, he maintained his commitment to high principles. He did believe there was a need for basic fairness and believed in people's capacity to rise up and achieve, as he had done. And he saw that really slipping away.

And it bothered him terribly. I think that is out of his own experience. I think he deserves his time in the sun.

0-0



The Intelligencer's Whitehall Street office stood next to a railroad depot, and by happenstance above and beside liquor stores. George N. Barnard took this photo during the city's Union occupation in 1864. A playbill on one building corner advertises a benefit night featuring the band of the 33rd Massachusetts.

THE ATLANTA DAILY INTELLIGENCER: THE CONFEDERATE PROPAGANDA MACHINE

Straddling the line between reputable news source and cheerleader for the South

HistoryNet 7/28/2022

STEPHEN DAVIS and BILL HENDRICK

Two weeks into the Civil War, students of the Atlanta Female Institute put on a program that included a *faux* bombardment of Fort Sumter. *The Atlanta Daily Intelligencer* covered the event. "It became necessary for one of the smallest of the girls to hoist the United States flag, and to keep it standing until the close of the bombardment," the paper reported. William

P. Howard, a teacher at the Institute who directed the event, apparently had trouble finding a volunteer. One girl of about 10 told him, “No, it is not our flag, and I will never hold it.” Two other young ladies also refused. Finally, a reluctant flag bearer was found. She held the Stars and Stripes, though crying as she did so, saying that she hoped she was not disgracing herself.

This was the face of Confederate patriotism, as reported in Atlanta’s leading daily newspaper.

The *Intelligencer* had been founded as a weekly in 1849, converting to a daily five years later. It was rivaled only by *The Atlanta Southern Confederacy*, another daily. The competitors strove to scoop one another on big stories, such as the Great Locomotive Chase (Andrews’ Raid) of April 12, 1862. Both papers rushed to print on how Anthony Murphy, William Fuller, and others had captured the Yankee train-thieves. *Confederacy* staff interviewed the two pursuit leaders; the *Intelligencer* in turn printed those individuals’ written statements. Both pieces appeared on the 15th. Because the *Intelligencer* got its morning issues out early, it might have scored the scoop. But the long Andrews article was not on the front page, as one would expect today. Readers looked inside the *Intelligencer*’s four-page layout; like most papers of the day, it put big stories on page 2, sometimes page 3 (the one that carried its “Telegraphic” column). The first page was mostly ads, anyway.

The *Intelligencer* was one of 844 newspapers, as counted by the Census Bureau, in what would become the Confederate States of America. Georgia had 105 of them—behind only Virginia—but

that number counted dailies, weeklies, and the like. Moreover, in 1860 the U.S. Census posted 3,000 subscribers to the *Daily and Weekly Intelligencer*, thus ranking it among the top three papers in the state.



Unlike today’s papers, the *Intelligencer*’s front page featured ads, with much of the important news relegated to pages 2-3, some of it running in the highlighted “Telegraphic” column. (*The Daily Intelligencer*)

Then, as now, a wartime paper’s chief function was reporting the news—and readers expected lots of it. John H. Steele, the *Intelligencer*’s editor for most of the war, got his information from several sources. Telegraphic dispatches were paramount, especially when received from the War Department in Richmond. To be sure, these were usually very brief—papers paid for wire reports by the word.

Some dispatches proved downright wrong. In its issue of April 8, 1862, this headline blared: “Complete Victory! Great Battle at

Shiloh!” The paper had relied on the message General P.G.T. Beauregard sent from the battlefield the night of April 6, after Confederates had pushed Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant’s Federal army back to the Tennessee River. “Thanks Be to the Almighty” screamed the paper’s editorial on the 8th. Even amid later reports that Beauregard’s army had retreated to Corinth, Miss., the *Intelligencer* continued to crow about 8,000 Union prisoners taken, 70 cannons captured, and so forth.

And the reverse: When bad news came, it was the editor’s job to soften and spin it. Take the *Intelligencer*’s handling of General Joseph E. Johnston’s retreats through northern Georgia in 1864. After word came that Johnston had abandoned Dalton, Steele assured his readers: “General Johnston, with his great and invincible satellites, are working out the problem of battle and victory on the great chess board at the front.”

The *Intelligencer* is notable as well for its staying power. By 1865, there were only 253 newspapers still functioning in the Confederacy—and of them, just 20 were dailies. They had succumbed to loss of manpower when printers ran off to join the Army; the blockade that cut off sources of raw materials; rising costs in an inflationary economy; and—to be sure—enemy occupation of key cities such as Memphis and New Orleans.

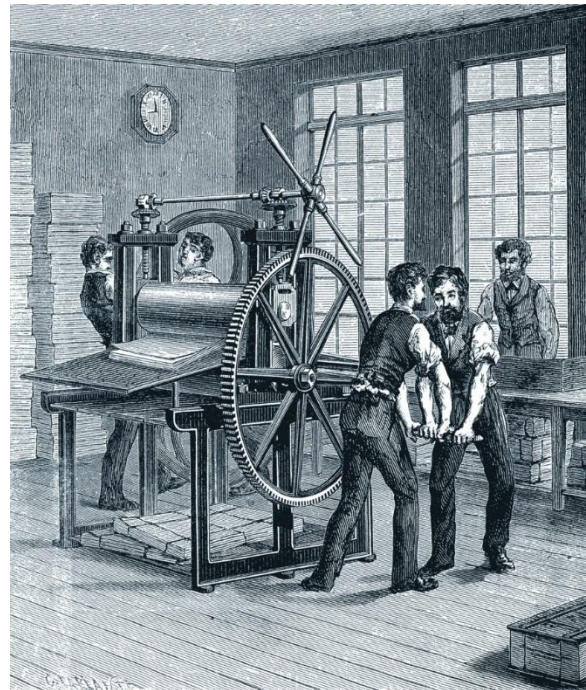
Then there were the strikes by printers, demanding higher wages. In the spring of 1864, after their workers walked out, Atlanta editors visited the city’s conscript office and addressed the printers’ status. They were exempt from the draft while working, the editors claimed; but now, as they were on

strike, the draft officer was encouraged to draft them for Army service. The conscriptor liked the idea. “Gentlemen,” he said, “you are undoubtedly right. I will go to work at once, and as you are here, I will conscript you to begin with.

“Conscript us!” exclaimed the editors.

“Certainly. As you have no printers, you can’t get out your papers. So you no longer belong to the exempted class.”

The editors raced back to their respective offices and contacted the printers’ union. In 15 minutes, everyone was back to work.



Operating a large printing press was hard work. It required at least two men to turn the crank and produce a printed sheet of paper. Printing an entire newspaper took a long time, with subscribers getting their paper first. (Getty Images)

During the war, the *Intelligencer* raised its subscription prices eight times, from \$6 a year to \$10 *per month*. Nevertheless, the paper survived the war, although in July 1864, it was forced to flee to Macon, Ga., as

Maj. Gen. William Sherman's forces approached Atlanta. The paper returned in early December to issue a single-sheet "extra" reporting all the [damage to the city](#) that the Yankees had wrought. "Whitehall street from Roark's corner up to Peachtree street is one mass of ruins," the paper declared after returning to the city; its very offices were among the ruined buildings.

The *Intelligencer* sometimes sent field correspondents to the battlefield—"specials" who sent back wires and letters relating what they had seen and heard. After General Braxton Bragg expelled reporters from the Army of Tennessee just before the Battle of Chickamauga in September 1863, Steele was without eyes and ears for the big battle fought in northern Georgia. The editor strained for anything and resorted to printing mere rumors brought down by train passengers. In the newspaper business, this is bad—as Steele found out after the *Intelligencer* reported, "Gen. [John Bell] Hood's leg was amputated some distance above the knee, and it is our painful duty to state that he died after the operation."

Faced with wartime shortages and high prices for newsprint and ink, Southern papers learned to improvise. One solution was to form a press association to have news telegraphed, as the Associated Press in New York was no longer a viable option. The *Intelligencer* carried the P.A. columns, one of which got the story straight on September 22: "*Gen. Hood is not dead.*" That wasn't the last time Steele had to do an about-face.

Then there was the time that the *Intelligencer* took on President Jefferson Davis. When Steele was away in September

1864, associate editor Dr. I.E. Nagle penned an editorial criticizing the president for apparent neglect of Georgia's safety. In a speech delivered in Macon on September 23—while he was heading to meet with General Hood south of Atlanta—Davis called an unnamed newspaperman "a scoundrel." Southerners at the time and historians since have wondered to whom the president was referring. It was Nagle. After returning to his *sanctum*—the editor's favorite word for his office—Steele tried to quell the hubbub by admitting it had been his associate. That the president was so alarmed by the paper's accusations was no small deal. Whether Davis was mollified by Steele's confession is uncertain.

In its loud, repeated predictions of Confederate victory, the *Intelligencer* did not go quite so far as the unidentified Johnny Reb who famously asserted, "I have no more idea that the Yankees will whip us than that a chicken can teach Latin"—but it sailed down that same course. At one point, the paper grew so enthused at the prospect of Southern triumph that it actually began envisioning the sorts of territorial demands the Confederate government should exact upon a defeated North.

Similarly, the *Intelligencer* wasn't as vindictive as a Columbia, S.C., paper inveighing against Yankees. Upon hearing that a brush fire after the June 1864 Battle of Kennesaw Mountain was burning wounded Federals, it headlined "Confederate Victory Near Marietta! The Yankees Roasting!" Still, in mid-August 1864, the Atlanta paper had some gruesome fun, upon news that 300 prisoners had died at Andersonville in one day, when it did some math: a 6,000-foot-long wagon train to carry the corpses to the graveyard, a trench 600 feet long to bury

them; 120 men to dig the grave. “We thank Heaven for such blessings!” the paper exulted.

And while the *Memphis Daily Appeal*, for example, was unseemly in calling the enemy “azure-stomached miscegenators,” the *Intelligencer* adopted the terms “ceruleans,” “cerulean abdomens,” and “bluebellies” for Federals—the latter term apparently originated in the war, but its first printed use is uncertain. In May 1864, the paper mocked the enemy as “the Yankees, the terrible, great big, bugaboo Yankees; the fellows with cerulean abdomens or *azure corporations*.”

It could get even more rancorous. At one point, the *Intelligencer* claimed those bluebellies had been “gathered from all the purlieus of effete Europe and the North” and were in effect second-rate soldiers: “Dutch immigrants, cheated Irishmen, bamboozled mongrels, miserable contrabands, miscegenating adults and brigades of silly youths with cerulean abdomens, and a sufficiency of Yankees to leaven the whole mess with their accursed principles of injustice and wrong.”

As we will show here, the wartime reporting in the pages of the *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer* provides an insight into this country’s most devastating conflict, the Civil War.

FROM THE VAULT

Exploring the Atlanta Daily Intelligencer’s wartime reporting provides a telling look at the nation’s most devastating period. Below are a few capsules of diverse topics

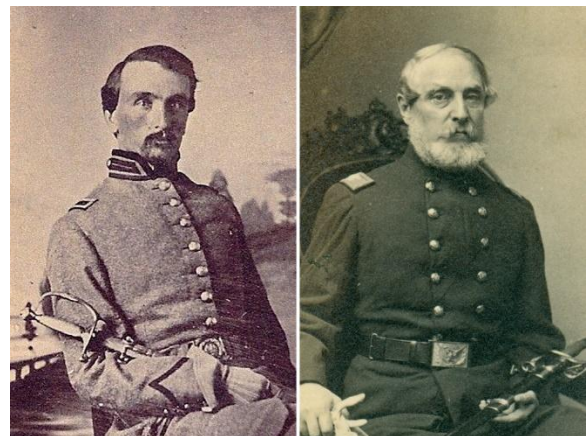
the Intelligencer shared with its devoted readers between 1861 and 1865.

INCREDIBLE CLEMENCY

Chivalry was not yet dead in the spring of 1862, as Northern and Southern armies entered their second year of war.

A series of letters printed in the *Intelligencer* indicates that civility could still exist between gentleman officers of the opposing armies, even as their soldiers sought to kill each other on the battlefield.

During the Battle of Seven Pines, the 35th Georgia was engaged against the 20th Massachusetts a mile north of Fair Oaks Station. After nightfall, a severely wounded officer of the 35th, Lt. Col. Gustavus A. Bull, was brought into the Union lines as a prisoner. The 20th’s colonel, W. Raymond Lee, saw that Bull received medical care. After the next morning’s combat, Lee learned that the 27-year-old Bull had died at 8 a.m. The day after that, June 2, Lee searched for the Confederate officer’s grave, intending to place a headboard upon it. He knew its general location, around a house behind the Federal lines that had been turned into a field hospital, but there were so many graves that Lee could not find the burial site of the slain Georgian.



Gustavus Bull (left) and W. Raymond Lee (right).

(War of the Rebellion; Massachusetts Historical Society)

Two weeks later, the colonel wrote to General Robert E. Lee, whom he had known at West Point (both graduated in its Class of 1829). He revealed Bull's fate and suggested that someone in Confederate Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton's command—against whom his men had fought—might know of the house and its graveyard. General Lee in turn had his staff officer, Major Charles Marshall, mail Colonel Lee's letter to Bull's father, a prominent attorney and Superior Court judge in LaGrange, Ga., offering the grieving father assistance in trying to find his son's grave near Fair Oaks. Mr. Bull asked the editor of the *LaGrange Reporter*, Charles H.C. Willingham, to print the letters. The *Reporter* obliged, and the *Intelligencer* followed suit, publishing the entire correspondence in its July 27, 1862, edition.

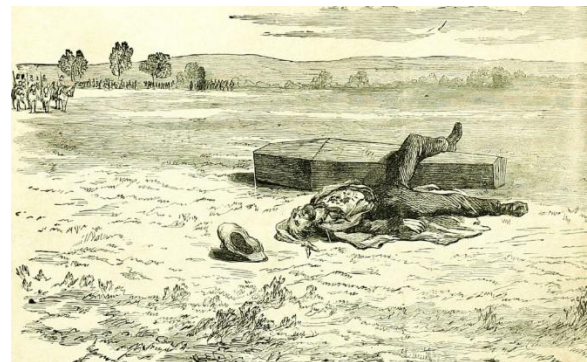
Bull's father never took advantage of Marshall's offer of assistance to look for his son's grave in Virginia. Apparently Bull's remains were disinterred shortly after the war, removed with those of the unknown Union dead, and reinterred in Seven Pines National Cemetery. Today a memorial in the family plot in LaGrange's Hillview Cemetery reads: "Sacred to the memory of Gustavus Adolphus Bull, whose remains lie among the unknown dead of the battle field of Seven Pines."

THE DEATH OF A DESERTER

A number of poignant stories found their way into the *Intelligencer*, such as one about the execution of Private Jacob Adams, a 46th Georgia Infantry deserter. As originally reported by the *Charleston Courier* and republished by editor John Steele on May 18,

1863, Adams had been executed at the race course outside Charleston, S.C. Confederate troops and the city garrison were formed under arms to witness what would be a solemn and imposing event. They were joined by a crowd of citizens.

Adams was marched into a hollow square at the race course, as a band played a dead march. The funeral strain played by the convicted private's escort ceased when he entered the square, only to be taken up by the bands of several other commands present.



Soldier desertion—and its sometimes tragic outcome—was one of the subjects frequently covered in the Intelligencer. Such stories tended to tug the heartstrings of readers around the globe. (Harper's Weekly)

Reportedly, Adams bore himself with dignity. Standing before a firing squad, he received last rites from the Rev. Leon Fillion. He then knelt upon his coffin, crossed his arms, and, suddenly looking up, took off his hat and threw it to his right. Refusing to have his eyes bandaged, he looked directly at the execution party and awaited the order to fire with perfect calmness.

The order was given—there was a flash, a report, and Adams lay prostrate upon the ground. A surgeon quickly examined the body and confirmed that Adams was indeed dead.

“The execution was an awful but necessary infliction of military justice,” concluded the *Courier*, its writer adding that the soldiers who had been brought out to witness the execution, particularly anyone secretly pondering likewise slipping out of the ranks, “will be returned to their regiments wiser men.”

Articles about the Charleston execution would be printed as far away as London, Liverpool, and Glasgow—along with information about Adams’ disreputable service record. An Englishman, he reportedly had deserted from the British army and, when caught, was branded with a “D.” After immigrating to America, he had enlisted for a year’s service in the 1st South Carolina Infantry. Adams was arrested, according to the Confederate assistant adjutant general in Charleston, “for attempting to murder a comrade and for other breaches of discipline.” Sentenced to death, Adams would be spared by President Jefferson Davis, who commuted his penalty to imprisonment with ball and chain for the rest of his term of service.

Undoubtedly, Adams was a rough fellow. During his imprisonment, “he several times attempted to murder people though heavily ironed,” the A.A.G. stated. He was also a bounty jumper—one who enlisted, collected a bounty, and then deserted. After his release on September 6, 1862, he joined the 46th Georgia, stationed at Charleston. In October, however, he again deserted but was quickly caught, tried, and sentenced to execution. This time, the punishment was carried out, though not before Adams spent seven months in a Charleston jail.

Adams was one of 103,400 known Confederate deserters. Through the efforts

of generals such as Robert E. Lee, most of those caught absent without leave would be given lenient sentences. Indeed, only 229 Confederate deserters were executed between December 1861 and the end of the war. Like Jacob Adams, 204 were by firing squad, 25 by hanging.

ONE ‘FINE STEED’

On September 21, 1863—the day after the Confederate victory at Chickamauga, Ga., Nathan Bedford Forrest and his cavalry were chasing William Rosecrans’ beaten army back to Chattanooga. During the running fight, Forrest’s horse was shot in the neck. The general quickly plugged his finger into the wound and kept charging. When he removed his finger while dismounting at the end of the chase, the horse promptly fell dead.

The story is well known. The horse’s name, Highlander, less so.

Less-known still is how General Forrest acquired Highlander in the first place. One could, of course, read about it in *The Atlanta Daily Intelligencer*.

Earlier that year, on May 3, Forrest and his command gained acclaim by running down Union Colonel Abel Streight and his raiders, forcing them to surrender 25 miles west of Rome, Ga. The *Intelligencer* joined the Southern press in bestowing its accolades. Rome, after all, was only 55 miles northwest of Atlanta, a likely Yankee target. It was a “brilliant exploit,” the *Intelligencer* related to its readers on May 6—“a brilliant and dashing affair.” Forrest had bagged a bunch of “Yankee scoundrels,” asserted editor John Steele. “These marauding rascals, these devils in human shape” had ridden toward Georgia “to devastate the country, to capture

and destroy Rome, Atlanta, and such bridges on the State Road, as would interfere with transportation, if not effectually to prevent it.”



Of the more than 20 horses Forrest rode in the war, Highlander wasn't his favorite—that spot probably went to Roderick. Highlander's story, however, may well be the most compelling of all. (©David H. Wright/Bridgeman Images)

Atlantans joined the citizenry of Rome in thanking Forrest. On May 10, Steele announced that a fundraising effort had begun to purchase a “fine steed” for the general. In an article titled “A Horse for Gen. Forrest,” Steele informed his readers they could come by the newspaper’s office to contribute. Two months later, Steele exuberantly announced that \$2,000 had been raised for that horse and another \$1,200 for an elaborate saddle, bridle, and halter. The gift was presented to Forrest in mid-July, with the editor expressing his hope that the general would soon be riding this “splendid charger”—named “Highlander.”

Steele would get his wish.

SAD TELEGRAM

Twelve days after he was shot in the left arm on the second day of fighting at Gettysburg, Lieutenant William Hoyle

Nesbit wrote or dictated a telegram to his father in far-away Georgia.

RICHMOND, July 14—To Mr. J.W. Neisbit, care of the Intelligencer:

Dear Father—I am at Jordan Springs Hospital, near Winchester. I lost my left arm at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Come to me. Answer by telegraph. W.H. NEISBET.

The caregiver who handled the young soldier’s missive apparently didn’t know the correct spelling of his name and only that he lived somewhere near Atlanta, so he sent the telegram to the city’s leading newspaper, the *Daily Intelligencer*.

Editor John Steele published the plea July 26, prefaced by a notice to readers: “The following telegraph dispatch has been received at this office. We do not know the residence of Mr. J.W. Neisbet, to whom it is directed, under our care, and therefore publish it, hoping some one will convey to him the information it imparts.—ED. INT.”

Apparently no one did, but the case of the wounded lieutenant, who turned 22 just 10 days after his Gettysburg wound, worked out well. On August 3, he was granted a 60-day furlough to return home. He resigned from the Confederate Army in November 1863. After the war, he started farming, married, and raised a family north of Atlanta. He died at the age of 83 in 1925, one of approximately 60,000 Civil War amputees.



William Hoyle Nesbit gravestone (HNA Archives)

‘LOATHSOME DESPOILERS’

An important feature of the Confederate press was its propagandistic capacity to vilify the enemy, conjuring up especially odious images of Northern soldiers as destroyers of civilians’ homesteads and loathsome despoilers of fair Southern womanhood.

Such is the imagery of a letter first published in the *Columbus (Ga.) Times*, and reprinted in the *Intelligencer* on October 25, 1864. The writer, a Confederate soldier in Hood’s army at Jonesboro, Ga., began, “If every man in the Confederacy could look back upon the desolation and ruin that mark the pathway of the Yankee army as they advance, we could then have a spirit of true harmony”—meaning, unity of resolve in the war-torn Confederate States—“and the foul breath that lisp[s] that awful word, ‘reconstruction’”—meaning, reunion with the United States—“would be hushed.” The soldier referred to “desolated homes and fields” left behind by Northern armies marching through the South, and “the desecrated altars from which thousands of women and children have been ruthlessly driven out upon the world, penniless—homeless.”

Then there was “one more spectacle which the fiendish hearts of our invaders have wrought,” the blood-chilling scene that the writer stated was just six miles from where he sat. There an elderly mother and father sat drooped with grief in their little cottage, “once the scene of happiness—now misery.” Sitting beside the parents, as described by the *Columbus Times*’ contributor, was “a young girl, aged about seventeen years.” She had been raped by Union soldiers, “the victim of the hellish appetite of these more than devils.” The writer had apparently heard the parents’ story about the Yankees: “three of them, in broad day light, before the face of these aged parents, outraged her.” (*Rape* was a word seldom used in Victorian America.) The soldier-correspondent concluded that one had only to see “the maniac gaze” of the troubled rape victim, to dismiss any thought of “reconstruction or union with such people.”

‘WAR AND ITS HORRORS’



Personal accounts of family tragedy and sacrifices on and off the battlefield filled the

pages of wartime newspapers, North and South.
(Melissa A. Winn collection)

Northern and Southern newspapers occasionally broke free from the martial euphemism and Victorian patina that characterized correspondents' reporting to give readers brutal glimpses of bloody battlefields. The following account by a soldier in Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, written to his father in Charleston, appeared in the *Intelligencer's* August 2, 1862, edition:

The painful details of our wounded I will spare you, but will pass to the enemy's side of the field, where one-half of the number laid; there were men with their arms, legs, and hands shot off, bodies torn up, features distorted and blackened. All this I could see with indifference, but I could not but pity the wounded; there one poor devil, with his back broken, was trying to pull himself along by his hands dragging his legs after him, to get out of the corn rows, which the last night's rain had filled with water; here, another, with both legs shot off, was trying to steady the mangled trunk against a gun stuck in the ground; there, a fair haired Yankee boy of sixteen was trying with both legs broken, half of his body submerged in water, with his teeth clinched, his finger nails buried in the flesh, and his whole body quivering with agony and benumbed with cold. In this case my pity got the better of my resentment, and I dismounted, pulled him out of the water, and wrapped him in a blanket—for which he seemed very grateful. One of the most touching I saw, were a couple of brothers (boys), both wounded, who had crawled together, and one of them in the act of arranging a heading for the other, with a blanket, had fallen, and they had died with their arms around one another

and their cheeks together. But your heart sickens at these details, as mine did at seeing them, and I will cease.

0-0

Wayne R. Schaumburg, retired Baltimore teacher and history buff who led tours of Green Mount Cemetery and Great Baltimore Fire, dies

By Frederick N. Rasmussen Baltimore Sun
Aug 10, 2022



Wayne R. Schaumburg began giving walking tours of Green Mount Cemetery in 1985. (2006 staff photo by Shari DiBari, Patuxent Publishing)

Wayne R. Schaumburg, a retired Baltimore public schools teacher who gave walking tours of Green Mount Cemetery and traced the path of the Great Baltimore Fire of 1904 by bus and foot, died of pancreatic cancer Friday at his Ocean View, Delaware, home. The former longtime Perry Hall resident was 75.

“There was nobody like Wayne,” said Johns Hopkins, executive director of Baltimore Heritage. “He helped more people fall in love with Baltimore and all of our wonderful quirky historic places and history than anybody I know.”

Jim Burger, a Baltimore photographer and writer, is a longtime friend.

“People keep saying his death is a tremendous loss, and it is, but he left so much information behind that otherwise would be lost,” Mr. Burger said. “He left behind so much about Baltimore’s rich history, and that’s his legacy.”

Walter Schamu, an architect, and founder of SM+P Architects, said: “Wayne was a huge source for the Dead Architects Society as he was truly Mr. Baltimore History who also had a deep interest in the city’s architecture.

“He was very unassuming and had absolutely no ego. He’s probably in heaven right now asking St. Peter about the streets, how old they are, and who built them.”

Wayne Richard Schaumburg, son of Norman Schaumburg Jr., a draftsman at the old Western Electric Co.’s Point Breeze works, and Doris Kramer Schaumburg, a Lutheran High School administrator, was born in Baltimore and raised in a McKewin Avenue rowhouse in Waverly.

“Wayne always said he was raised in the shadow of Memorial Stadium and that the lights from the stadium filled his bedroom and made him into a lifelong fan of the Orioles and the old Colts,” said his companion of 14 years, Deborah A. Klenk, an adjunct instructor at Wilmington University in New Castle, Delaware, and former dean of Cecil College in Bay View.



To mark the anniversary of the Great Baltimore Fire of Feb. 7, 1904, Wayne Schaumburg, left, and the Fire Museum of Maryland hosted a tour of some of the affected sites. (Baltimore Sun photo by Algerina Perna)

He was a 1964 graduate of Baltimore City College and remained active in the high school’s alumni association throughout his life. “He wore his City ring at every opportunity,” Ms. Klenk said.

He earned a bachelor’s degree at what is now Towson University, where he maintained a double major in history and geography, and obtained a master’s degree from what is now Morgan State University, and held a second master’s degree from the Johns Hopkins University with an emphasis on architecture.

He began teaching social studies in city public schools in 1968, first at Edmondson-Westside High School, and then 16 years at Northern High School. He spent the last 20 years of his career in Home and Hospital Services as a tele-teacher, teaching students who were either homebound or in hospital. He retired in 2007.

Mr. Schaumburg was also a guest instructor in Baltimore history at Towson University, Notre Dame of Maryland University, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore City Community College, CCBC Essex, Harford

Community College and Roland Park Country School.

Not only had he immersed himself in Baltimore history throughout his lifetime, but he also began giving walking tours in 1985 of Green Mount Cemetery. The cemetery, which began receiving the dead in 1839, was one of his favorite local landmarks and perhaps one of his most popular tours.

With gray hair and a Germanic face that was highlighted by a pair of large black glasses and wearing a hat slung back over his forehead, Mr. Schaumburg exuded the energy of a much younger man, as he bounded up and down the roadways and paths of the cemetery, eager to talk about the next grave he was steering his charges to. So everyone had access to him, he limited the tour to 20 people.

Through nearly four decades, he introduced thousands to some of the city and state's most historic luminaries from government, business, medicine, education and the arts, such as Elijah Bond, inventor of the Ouija board, and Elizabeth "Betsy" Patterson, who married Jerome Bonaparte, Napoleon's youngest brother, who later returned to France, where the marriage was terminated, but not before fathering a son in Baltimore.

Some of the other notables spending eternity there include merchant princes Johns Hopkins, Enoch Pratt, Henry Walters, A.S. Abell, founder of The Baltimore Sun, as well as presidential assassin John Wilkes Booth, and his actor father, Junius Brutus Booth, and more than 20 Civil War commanders from the North and the South. Author Walter Lord of "A Night to Remember" fame and poet Sidney Lanier rest there as well.

"Green Mount Cemetery is literally Baltimore's history," Mr. Schaumburg explained in a 2016 Baltimore City Paper interview.

Vernon L. Simms was the chief of staff for the late U.S. Rep. Elijah E. Cummings and also owned and operated a home improvement business.

Dean Krimmel is a historian and owner of Creative Museum Services/Qm2, a Baltimore museum consulting firm.

"I first met Wayne in the 1980s and that's when I first started calling him Mr. Green Mount," said Mr. Krimmel, who also noted Mr. Schaumburg's large slide collection.

Mr. Burger, who had been on his cemetery tour numerous times, said Mr. Schaumburg always added something new to the tour.

Mr. Schamu added: "If you can make a cemetery sparkle, and Wayne certainly did that, plus he had boundless energy for it.

"Two years ago, he passed the baton to us at Baltimore Heritage to continue the Green Mount Cemetery tour that he had been giving for years, and they will always be called 'The Wayne Schaumburg Tour.' That's what Baltimore calls them. That's what they are."

From 1985 to 1990, he led a Baltimore rowhouse tour with the old Baltimore City Life Museums. He later added historic Westminster Presbyterian Church and its surrounding cemetery to his repertoire, which is home and the final resting place of poet Edgar Allan Poe.

He began giving what he called his "Great Baltimore Fire Tour" in 1997 in conjunction with the Fire Museum in Lutherville, and in 2004, established the tour with the Maryland

Historical Society, now the Maryland Center for History and Culture.

“I think he had 30 different talks on Baltimore history that he gave all over the state on multiple nights during the week where he shared his love of the city,” Mr. Hopkins said. “He was a master storyteller and could weave stories from all Baltimore time periods and genres.”

“Wayne would go anywhere to share his stories and he was generous with his time,” Mr. Kimmel said.

He was on the board of Baltimore Heritage, whose meetings he was still attending by Zoom, Mr. Hopkins said. He had also served on the board of the Baltimore City Historical Society, and Friends of Maryland’s Olmstead and Landscape, and at his death, in addition to Baltimore Heritage, was on the boards of Friends of Perry Hall Mansion, the Clifton Mansion and The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House.

He also managed a website, Wayne’s Guide to Walks, Talks and Tours of Baltimore.

Mr. Schaumburg was an avid collector of Baltimore postcards and photos. He also maintained an interest in the Baltimore Fire and painted screens.

He had been a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church and Community Lutheran Church in Frankford, Delaware and and Christus Victor Lutheran Church, 9833 Harford Road, Parkville, where funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 19.

His wife of 27 years, the former Judith Susan Sherwood, a registered nurse who later became a May Co. claims adjuster, died in 2006.

In addition to Ms. Klenk, Mr. Schaumburg is survived by his son, Timothy S. Schaumburg of Perry Hall; a daughter, Jennifer A. Schaumburg of Devon, Pennsylvania; and a sister, Linda Osborne of Parkville.

(Editor’s Note: Wayne was a great friend of the BCWRT) His lectures and tours were enjoyed throughout the years.)

0-0