



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Notes from the President May 2018

BCWRT Community:

I wish to thank all members and friends who supported our Annual Banquet in April. Based on the feedback received, I can say that this was a successful affair that was enjoyed by all. A special thanks goes to Civil War Trust Senior Vice President Frank Deluca for coming to our rescue as a late minute speaker and giving us a marvelous presentation. Thanks also to the management and staff of Columbus Gardens for their outstanding service.

York County, Pa. author Scott L. Mingus, Sr. grace us with a presentation on his new book, *The Second Battle of Winchester: The Confederate Victory That Opened the Door to Gettysburg June 13-15, 1863*. He will be featured at our May 22 meeting at the Parkville Senior Center. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

History Interpreter Darlene Colon will appear as the important, but, not well known Civil War figure Lydia Hamilton Smith. This will be our June 26 meeting.

Founded by free blacks from Maryland and located six miles above the Mason/Dixon Line, the small village of Hinsonville, Pennsylvania sent 18 men to serve the Union forces. On July 24, Dr. Cheryl Renee Gooch will introduce you to the *Hinsonville's Heroes* whose impact on the United States is still being felt.

We all still finalizing our speaker for August. An announcement will be coming soon.

Smithsonian Scholar Mary Ann Jung presents her award winning show "Clara Barton-Red Cross Angel" at our September 25 meeting.

"Harriet Jacobs and Julia Wilbur: Allies and Friends in Civil War Alexandria" will be the subject of the October 23 presentation by CWRT of D.C. Board Member and author Paula Whitacre. The talk will be based on her book *A Civil Life in an Uncivil Time*.

The Constitution of the Confederate States is the new book by University of Maryland School of Law professor Mark A. Graber. He will discuss his work at the November 27 meeting.

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

U.S. National Archives employee and Civil War reenactor Bryan Cheeseboro will talk about the lives of some of the 'everyday people' in the DC metro area (including Baltimore) at the December 11 meeting.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: We are always looking for new members. Invite a friend to our meetings. The BCWRT has many good things happening. Please spread the word.

Robert L. Ford,

President

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Andersonville Prison Geophysical Survey Continues



(NPS Photo)

News Release Date: May 15, 2018

Contact: Kevin M. Porter

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

In April, 2018, SEAC Archeologists continued the three-year geophysical survey at Andersonville National Historic Site. The single focus on this visit was the Third Hospital (or Shed Hospital) site area, located south of the prison enclosure. The Third Hospital was in use from December 1864 to April 1865, but its exact location has been largely unknown. Analysis of the data, collected from 17,000 m² surveyed, has revealed what appears to be a portion of the western and northern stockade walls of the Third Hospital Enclosure; as well as part of the enclosure's middle stockade. A total of 34,600 m² have now been surveyed at Andersonville. SEAC will continue the geophysical survey in various portions of the park, with upcoming efforts focused on the Third Hospital site's stockade and its interior, the Market Street area near the prison's North Gate, and possibly the Second Hospital site located to the southeast of the prison enclosure.

0-0

National Park Service Announces Recipients of Annual Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service

WASHINGTON - The enthusiasm and skills of Volunteers-in-Parks (VIPs) provide outreach to millions of national park visitors each year. In 2017, more than 315,600 volunteers donated more than 7.2 million hours of service in national parks, performing just about every job imaginable.

Today, during National Park Week, National Park Service Deputy Director Dan Smith announced the recipients of the national 2017 [George and Helen Hartzog Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service](#). George Hartzog was the director of the National Park Service from 1964 to 1972 and created the VIP program during his tenure. After his retirement, Hartzog and his wife, Helen, created an endowment to honor the efforts of exceptional volunteers.

"These awards recognize the outstanding achievements of volunteers who have had a significant impact on parks, programs, and communities," said National Park Service Deputy Director Dan Smith. "These fantastic volunteers have introduced people to the beauty and wonder of national

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

parks, revitalized programs and park operations, and shared important messages of conservation and preservation.”

The awards will be presented at a ceremony in Washington, DC this summer. Following are the recipients of the 2017 George and Helen Hartzog Awards for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

Outstanding Volunteer Service, Youth Award

Nicholas Gilson, [Ice Age National Scenic Trail](#), Wisconsin

For his Eagle Scout project, Nick raised donations for the materials needed to rebuild 120 feet of fencing, six interpretive sign posts, two benches, and two directional trail signs for a 1,050 foot-high overlook. He also recruited dozens of volunteers who devoted about 500 hours of time to craft, transport, and install these features atop Bald Bluff.

Outstanding Volunteer Service, Individual Award

Doug Riddle, [Cape Hatteras National Seashore](#), North Carolina

Since 2016, Doug has completely overhauled the parks fire cache, repairing equipment, tools, and vehicles, including restoring a E-461 fire engine to operational standards. Doug’s leadership brought life to the park’s fire management program and rejuvenated interest among park employees to renew their wildfire certifications.

Enduring Service Award

Georgene Charles, [Antietam National Battlefield](#), Maryland

For 30 years, Georgene has organized all of the volunteers, supplies, and logistics for the park’s inspirational Annual Memorial Illumination. Each year, approximately 1,500 volunteers build and light 23,110 luminaries and place them on the field to represent the casualties of the battle. It is the largest illumination of its kind and draws more than ten thousand visitors annually.

Outstanding Volunteer Service, Youth Group Award

Shark Stewards, [San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park](#), California

The Shark Stewards program works with local schools to educate students about the San Francisco Bay ecosystem and wildlife. A field component includes a park visit to perform surveys and clean marine debris. Since 2016, more than 650 youth have learned about the park

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

and lessened human impacts on the environment through community service. The debris collected includes more than 35,000 cigarette butts which inspired the film, "Hang Onto Your Butts."

Outstanding Volunteer Service, Group Award

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Education Team, [Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area](#), California

The 25 volunteers on the park's education team provided the support needed to enable more than 14,000 Title one students to visit a national park for the first time last year. The volunteers help the students make memories and encourage them to become life-long park stewards.

Outstanding Park Volunteer Program

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument Volunteers-In-Parks Program, [Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument](#), Colorado

In 2017, volunteers enabled this small park with a staff of just nine employees to provide outreach to more than 70,000 visitors, including 4,000 junior rangers. The park's 457 volunteers staffed the visitor center desk, organized an extremely popular monthly Night Sky Program, surveyed 54 miles of boundary fencing, and improved 20-percent of the park's hiking trails.

0-0

2018 CWRT CONGRESS

Are you interested in learning ways to improve your meetings, attract more members, raise more money, solidify partnerships and run great programs? Then, join us for the Congress of Civil War Round Tables where you will hear from leaders of successful CWRTs who will share their knowledge and experience to help you strengthen your organization.

You will . . .

Learn best practices in membership recruitment and retention.

Hear about ways to govern your organization effectively.

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

See how round tables have grown their membership by hundreds!
Study techniques to raise money, effectively preserve hallowed ground...and have fun in the process!

CWRT CONGRESS STAFF:

[Dr. John Bamberl, Scottsdale CWRT](#)
[Matt Borowick, Civil War News](#)
[Sue Golden, Kernstown Battlefield Association](#)
[Jay Jorgensen, R. E. Lee CWRT](#)
[Mike Movius, Puget Sound CWRT](#)
[Wally Rueckel, Brunswick CWRT](#)
[Mark Trbovich, Bull Run CWRT](#)

Location:

[National Civil War Museum](#)
1 Lincoln Circle
Harrisburg, PA 17103
(717) 260-1861

Reception: Friday, August 17, 2018 (5 pm to 8 pm)

CWRT Congress: **Saturday, August 18, 2018 (8 am to 4 pm)**

POST-Congress Networking & Dinner: Saturday, August 18, 2018 (4pm to 8pm)

Gettysburg Tour: Sunday, August 19, 2018 (9 am to 1 pm)

Lodging @ Group Rate:

[Fairfield Inn & Suites Harrisburg Hershey](#)

Hosted by:

[National Civil War Museum](#)

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

0-0



**AMERICAN
BATTLEFIELD
TRUST** ★ ★ ★
PRESERVE. EDUCATE. INSPIRE.



The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve our nation's hallowed battlegrounds and educate the public about what happened there and why it matters today. We permanently protect these battlefields for future generations as a lasting and tangible memorial to the brave soldiers who fought in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War.

The new nonprofit umbrella organization builds upon a 30-year record of exemplary work done by the Civil War Trust and its predecessor organizations. The [Civil War Trust](#) and [Revolutionary War Trust](#) (which began in 2014 as Campaign 1776) are the two divisions beneath the American Battlefield Trust banner, focused on preserving the battlefields and perpetuating the memory of those formative conflicts in U.S. history.

The formation of the American Battlefield Trust is the latest step in the evolution of the modern battlefield preservation movement, which began in the mid-1980s in response to the loss of important historic sites to spreading commercial and residential development. The new entity is a direct descendant, through a series of mergers and name changes, of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, founded by a group of professional historians and preservation advocates in 1987.

The organization is best known for its high-profile battlefield preservation efforts, including protection of the historic epicenter of the Antietam battlefield, the site of George Washington's famous charge at Princeton, the Slaughter Pen Farm at Fredericksburg, and Robert E. Lee's battlefield headquarters at Gettysburg. In addition, as the Civil War Trust, it engaged in grassroots campaigns to prevent development at Chancellorsville and the Wilderness in Virginia; Franklin, Tennessee; and Morris Island, South Carolina (site of the famous charge portrayed in the movie *Glory*).

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

“Over those years and under a variety of names, we have saved nearly 50,000 acres of battlefield land throughout the United States, while earning accolades for being one of the most efficient and effective nonprofits in the nation,” Trust President James Lighthizer said. “Now, as the American Battlefield Trust, we will continue that tradition of preservation leadership.”

0-0

Civil War Trust thanks lawmakers for their continued support of federal battlefield program that has protected more than 30,000 acres of hallowed ground across the nation

Contacts:

Jim Campi, & Clint Schemmer,

March 23, 2018

(Washington, D.C.) – The Civil War Trust applauds Congress for including \$10 million for the National Park Service’s Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program in the Fiscal Year 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act (H.R. 1625). Congressional leaders included funding for the program in the federal spending bill passed by the House on Thursday and approved by the Senate early Friday morning. President Donald Trump signed the bill into law Friday afternoon.

The Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program provides federal matching dollars to protect historically significant battlefield land associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and American Civil War. The innovative program has been used to protect 30,000 acres of hallowed ground in 20 states.

“With this action, members of Congress have delivered great news that comes at a critical hour for endangered American battlefields,” remarked Civil War Trust President James Lighthizer. “Development pressure on unprotected but nationally important battlefield land is increasing. With this appropriation, the Park Service will be able to match federal grants with private-sector donations, multiplying the impact of those dollars while preserving thousands of acres of historic land that otherwise would be lost forever.”

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Since Congress first authorized the program in 2002, the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program has enjoyed broad, bipartisan support in both the House and Senate. The program is seen as a model for cooperative partnerships between the National Park Service (NPS), state and local governments, and the private sector. Its matching-grants formula encourages nonprofit groups to invest in acquisition of battlefield lands from willing sellers. By targeting land outside NPS boundaries, it does not contribute to the agency's park maintenance backlog. Grants are awarded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, an arm of NPS.

Among the sites saved as a result of the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants Program are historic properties at Antietam, Md.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Vicksburg and Champion Hill, Miss.; Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg and Appomattox Court House, Va.; Princeton, N.J.; Fort Ann and Sacketts Harbor, N.Y.; Shiloh, Chattanooga and Fort Donelson, Tenn.; and other battlegrounds of the American Revolution, War of 1812 and Civil War.

Numerous members of the House and Senate have provided invaluable support for the program in recent years, including: House Appropriations Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-N.J.) and Ranking Member Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.); House Interior-Environment Appropriations Chairman Ken Calvert (R-Calif.) and Ranking Member

Betty McCollum (D-Minn.); House Appropriations Commerce, Justice, Science Chairman John Culberson (R-Texas); Senate Appropriations Chairman Thad Cochran (R-Miss.) and Ranking Member Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.); and Senate House Interior Appropriations Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Ranking Member Tom Udall (D-N.M.). In addition, Representatives Barbara Comstock (R-Va.) and Bobby Scott (D-Va.) and Senators Tim Kaine (D-Va.) and Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) championed the program throughout the Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations process.

"Preserved battlefields are living monuments — not just to the men who fought there, but to all of our veterans," Lighthizer said. "Functioning as outdoor classrooms, these sites teach young and old alike about the sacrifices made to create and define the nation we are today."

The Civil War Trust is a national nonprofit land preservation organization devoted to the protection of America's hallowed battlegrounds. It saves the battlefields of the Civil War, the Revolutionary War and War of 1812, and educates the public about their importance in forging

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

the nation we are today. To date, the Trust has preserved over 48,000 acres of battlefield land in 24 states. Learn more at Civilwar.org.

0-0

Freedom By Hatchet: An African–American sailor used a sharp blade to turn the tables on his Rebel captors

By Jonathan W. White

AUGUST 2018 • [CIVIL WAR TIMES MAGAZINE](#)

Steward William Tillman had been waiting for more than a week to take back his freedom after Confederate privateers from the ship *Jeff Davis* had captured and boarded his vessel, the schooner *S.J. Waring*, on July 7, 1861. The Rebels were piloting *Waring* back to a Confederate port with the intent of claiming prize money and selling Tillman, a free black, into slavery for additional profit. But Tillman would have none of it. On July 16, he slipped into the cabin of the Southern prize master who was leading *Waring*'s prize crew, raised high a hatchet he had secreted away, and brought it crashing down on the Southern seaman's head. Before 10 minutes had elapsed, two other Confederate crewmen had been killed with the same bloody hatchet. Tillman had effectively taken over the ship. Now what would he do?

The Southern sailors who had captured Tillman's ship were sailing under a letter of marque issued by Confederate President Jefferson Davis that permitted *Jeff Davis* (sometimes called the *Jefferson Davis*) to act as a privateer on behalf of the Confederacy. Traditionally, nations without a strong navy—like the Confederacy—relied on private seamen to attack enemy merchant ships. Armed with letters of marque, these sailors claimed legitimacy under the nation for which they sailed. But Abraham Lincoln refused to recognize these sailors as lawful belligerents, and on April 19 he issued a proclamation stating captains and crews of Rebel privateers would be treated as pirates.

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Lincoln's proclamation gave little pause to ardent Southern seamen, however, and soon many ships like Jeff Davis were leaving from Confederate ports to prey on Union shipping. Jeff Davis struck quickly, capturing *Enchantress* on July 6, and then snagging *S.J. Waring* the next day.

S.J. Waring had departed New York for Buenos Aires on July 4, and on board were the captain and mate, black steward William Tillman, a 23-year-old German seaman named William Stedding, a British sailor named Daniel McLeod, and a passenger named Bryce McKinnon. Tillman would ultimately become the most consequential man aboard the ship. A 27-year-old native of Delaware who had lived in Providence, R.I., since he was 14, he had been working as a sailor for the past decade. Standing 5-feet-11 with an athletic build, one observer described Tillman as having a "high, open forehead, and pockmarked features." Others would recount that they could "see by the glimmer of his beaming eye, that he possessed within him a large amount of the high mettle and calculating mind peculiar to a courageous man."

On July 7, Jeff Davis captured *Waring*. The captain, two mates, and two of *Waring's* seamen were taken aboard *Jeff Davis*, while a prize crew consisting of a prize master, two mates, and two seamen took control of the captured vessel. The officers of *Jeff Davis* chose to leave Tillman on *Waring*, figuring they could sell him in Charleston, S.C., for a hefty sum.

Initially the Rebels treated Tillman kindly as part of their deceit. The prize master told him that he would be "well rewarded in Charleston" for helping bring the ship into port. Another member of the prize crew told him, "When you go down to Savannah, I want you to go to my house, and I will take care of you." Tillman replied politely, saying, "Yes, sir; thank you," as he doffed his hat. But Tillman afterward told Billy Stedding, "I am not going to Charleston a live man; they may take me there dead."

*Creative license: Tillman's exploits became grist for a novel titled *The Rebel Pirate's Fatal Prize*, printed by Philadelphia publisher Barclay & Co. The book also included a fanciful tale of Tillman freeing and marrying a slave. Records indicate, however that Tillman actually wed Julia A. Prophet, a free black woman, in 1863. (The Library Company of Philadelphia)*

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Tillman's intuition proved prescient. At one point he overheard the prize master say to another member of the crew, "You talk to that Stewart [sic], and keep him in good heart. By God, he will never see the North again." The captain became more direct with Tillman, telling him "that he would yet see me down in Savannah, and there he would deal with me as he pleased." At that, Tillman thought to himself, "Old man, you will never catch me down there." Indeed, the prize crew would come to regret having kept him on board the ship.

Almost immediately after taking over Waring, the prize crew cut up the American flag in order to make a Rebel banner. This action "incensed me to use violence," Tillman later recalled, for it "made my blood boil, and I vowed to have revenge." For about a week, Waring cruised on the high seas while, unbeknownst to its Confederate captors, Tillman and Billy Stedding, the German, were plotting a way to secure their freedom. "In the afternoon we talked it over again, and I said it's our only chance, and if we don't go in tonight and clear ourselves we have to go to a southern port; go into slavery, or have our heads chopped off," Tillman later stated. He spoke to McLeod about the plans, but the British sailor was not willing to join the mutiny. That night Tillman and Stedding worked alone, preparing their weapons and finalizing their plans. Finally, Stedding came to Tillman and said, "Now's our time."

Shortly before midnight on July 16, Stedding signaled to Tillman that the prize crew was asleep. Stedding drew a pistol and clutched a knife while keeping watch on the deck. Tillman grabbed a hatchet and crept into the captain's quarters, where he "raised his axe and gave him a vigorous blow on his skull, from which he seemed to be launched into eternity, for he moved not an inch." By the time Tillman was finished, the captain's stateroom looked like a slaughterhouse, with the bed linens and floors "covered with blood." Tillman next found the first mate sleeping nearby "and dealt with him in the same summary and terrible manner."



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER



Ringleader: Handsome and capable, William Tillman risked it all to gain his freedom. (William Tillman, the Colored Steward, ca. 1861. Lithograph by Currier & Ives, image no. 79100d, New-York Historical Society)

McKinnon, the passenger, witnessed this second slaying and let out a scream in terror. According to Tillman, “He jumped up very much affright. I said ‘you need not be scared; I suppose you know what I have been up to.’ He said ‘yes.’ I told him to take a chair and sit down. He did so.” Before leaving, Tillman assured him, “Do you be still; I shall not hurt a hair of your head.”

Tillman went to the poop deck, where he saw Stedding holding a knife and pointing a pistol at the second mate, who had just been awakened by the sound of McKinnon’s scream. Fearing that the report of a gunshot would awaken the other two members of the prize crew, Tillman signaled to Stedding not to fire. Still groggy from sleep, the second mate said to Stedding, “What the h—ll is all this noise in the cabin.” But before he could get to his feet, Tillman struck him with his hatchet near the temple. The second mate had been lying near the desecrated Union flag, and now it bore “several marks of the crimson fluid.” Tillman and Stedding grabbed the second mate

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

and threw him overboard. Then they went below-deck and grabbed the captain and first mate and flung them overboard, too. The entire enterprise took less than eight minutes.

There were still two men from the prize crew asleep, one named Miller and the other named Dorset. Tillman said to Stedding, "We've done all the butchering we shall on this voyage; the other two fellows I'll take back; there are two of them and two of us; we can manage them I guess." Stedding took a knife away from Miller, and Stedding, Tillman and McKinnon then put the two prize crewmen in irons. Dorset begged Stedding to spare his life. "Yes, we don't intend to spill any more blood than we have done," Stedding assured him.

Next Tillman called McLeod, the British sailor, out of his berth and said, "Do you know we have taken this vessel to-night?" McLeod replied, "No." Tillman said, "You would not help to take this vessel, and I want to see if you will help to take her to a northern port. We saved ourselves so far." After McLeod agreed to work for the mutineers, Tillman hove the vessel on a northwest course.

The mutineers, however, did not know how to navigate the ship. The next morning Tillman spoke to one of the prize crew, saying, "I want you to join us, and help take this vessel back. But mind, the least crook, or the least turn, and overboard you go with the rest." "Well," replied the man, "I will do the best I can." Tillman recalled, "And he worked well all the way back. He couldn't do otherwise. It was pump or sink."

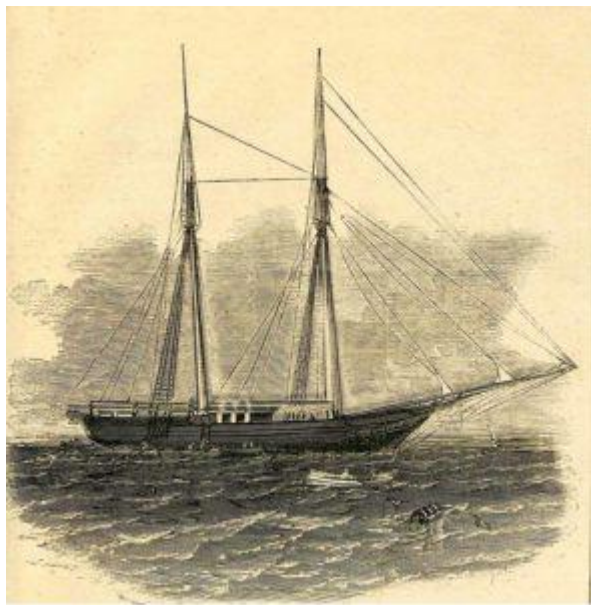
For more than four days the men worked with "unremitting vigilance and exertion" and brought the vessel to port at Sandy Hook, N.J., just south of New York City.

Once in New York, Tillman was placed in police custody as a witness, while the flag, hatchet, and Rebel captain's coat were held at the headquarters of the harbor police. People gazed in wonder at the hatchet. "One would be surprised to look upon the small instrument which did such serviceable and at the same time bloody work on board the schooner," marveled the *New York Herald*. "It is a simple wood hatchet, the handle about eighteen inches in length and the head not weighing much over sixteen or eighteen ounces...being covered with the blood of those whom it slew, and several splinters knocked off the handle in the efforts of the brave Tillman to destroy the enemies of his flag."



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

New Yorkers, eager for positive Union news to help offset the newly arriving news of the Federal defeat at the First Battle of Bull Run, hailed Tillman as a hero. *The Herald* stated that his "name will now become historic as the enactor of as great a piece of daring and heroism as perhaps the world ever saw" and that he "possesses the physique and general appearance of a brave man." The editors marveled "that he could bear almost anything than seeing the dear old flag which had fluttered so long over the freest country in the world transferred into the colors of the rebel government. His powers of speech, although tinged with that accent peculiar to his race, yet possesses a simple eloquence and force of its own, which has been the remark of all who conversed with him yesterday."



(Harper's Weekly)

More Jeff Davis Drama

Jacob Garrick was another black sailor who escaped Jeff Davis. Garrick was a 25-year-old native of the Danish West Indies, a free man who was serving as a cook on *Enchantress*, a merchant ship out of Boston, when it was captured by Jeff Davis on July 6, 1861.

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

William Smith, the prize master placed in command of *Enchantress*, planned to take the vessel back to Charleston, where he would sell Garrick into slavery for \$1,500. But on July 22, Garrick's fortunes improved when the steamer USS *Albatross* came up next to *Enchantress* to check its cargo, as shown in the above illustration. Garrick threw himself overboard, shouting that *Enchantress* was a "captured vessel of the privateer Jeff Davis and they are taking her into Charleston." *Albatross* picked up Garrick and then arrested *Enchantress*' crew. *Albatross* towed *Enchantress* to Fort Monroe in Hampton Roads, Va., and then to Philadelphia, where William Smith found himself indicted for piracy.

Garrick testified against Smith during the trial, depicting him as a pirate and a slave trader. One member of the prosecution called Smith's actions "an offence without feeling, because to tear a man from his home and enslave him forever, against the usages of warfare, stamps this transaction...[as] a piratical, outrageous aggression, without any of the color or the forms of law." The trial ended on October 25, and Smith was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged. Four days later, on October 29, all but one of the other crewmen were also found guilty. Jefferson Davis, however, threatened to retaliate if Abraham Lincoln should carry out the execution.

Davis set aside 14 Union prisoners of war, including Colonel Michael Corcoran of the 69th New York Volunteers, as hostages in the place of Smith and the other privateers. Confederate authorities demanded of the Lincoln administration "an absolute, unconditional abandonment of the pretext that they are pirates" before an exchange would take place. After protracted negotiations, the prisoner exchange finally took place in June 1862. —**J.W.**

On July 22, Tillman was taken from the House of Detention to the office of U.S. Marshal Robert Murray, where he was visited by "a large number of citizens" of all classes. They greeted him "with the warmest expressions of esteem and laudation for the manner in which he had taken from the robber bands of the rebels the property so ruthlessly stolen." At the marshal's office Tillman held court as a line of visitors came to meet him. Sitting comfortably in an armchair, Tillman rose and bowed "with an air of humility" and shook the hand of each guest. The visitors praised him for his gallantry and bravery, telling him he deserved the "thanks of the whole country."



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

"You deserve to have your liberty," one caller told him. "Yes," said another, "If all the colored people were like you, we would not have all of this trouble." "I did the best I could," Tillman replied. "I couldn't see any other way to get my liberty." Tillman told another visitor that killing the men was "a good action" and a "service to that Union which I love." E. Delafield Smith, New York City's federal prosecutor, joked, "We will have to run you for President yet."

On one occasion, Marshal Murray asked Tillman, "Did they beg, any of them?" Tillman replied, "They didn't have any chance to beg." Tillman admitted that he had initially thought about trying to capture all five of his captors, but quickly determined that this would not be practicable. "There were too many for that; there were five of them and only three of us. After this I said, well, I will get all I can back alive, and the rest I will kill."

Tillman became something of a celebrity in New York City and throughout the nation. One photographer advertised his photograph "for sale at wholesale," while Barnum's American Museum announced that he "will receive visitors at the Museum at all hours, and relate his experiences with Southern chivalry and exhibit the Secession Flag which the rebels made out of the schooner's American Flag; also a Rebel Cutlass and THE IDENTICAL HATCHET with which Tillman killed the ocean robbers."

A Sad Backstory

Before Jeff Davis was named after the Confederate president, it had participated in several different types of trade in the Atlantic World. Built about 1845 in Baltimore, the ship had been named Putnam and served for a time as a merchant vessel, before being repurposed as a slaver in the 1850s and renamed Echo. In the summer of 1858, Echo left the coast of Africa with some 455 captives, but by the time it reached Cuba in August 1858, more than 100 of the slaves had died. The USS Dolphin seized Echo before it could land its illegal human cargo, as depicted above. The ship was "filled with Africans," wrote one of Dolphin's officers. "There were 328 negroes crowded together between decks....The poor wretches looked half starved, and some of them were mere skeletons."

Dolphin brought Echo to Charleston Harbor, and placed the African captives in Fort Sumter, where they continued to die. "Thirty-five died while in my custody," wrote the U.S. marshal to a



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

friend. "I wish that everyone in South Carolina who is in favor of reopening the slave trade could have seen what I have been compelled to witness....It seems to me that I can never forget it."

Eventually the 271 surviving Africans would sail back to Africa, but 72 of them perished on that journey. Of the 455 originally plundered from Africa, only 199 returned—and they to Liberia, not their original homes.

Meanwhile, the officers and crew of Echo sat in prison at Charleston, wondering what fate would befall them. The ship's captain was a man from Boston; most of the officers and crew were American. But in truth, they had little reason to be apprehensive. Despite the overwhelming evidence, a Charleston grand jury refused to indict them, which one observer called "a monstrous piece of absurdity." —**J.W.**



A Short Time in the Limelight: After his escape from Waring, Tillman was so popular that photographers sold his tintype. But his fame eventually faded and his later years are obscure. Census records from the 1870s indicate he resided in Rhode Island. By the 1880s, he was

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

divorced and living in San Francisco. His death date is unknown. (Courtesy Rear Admiral Daniel McKinnon Jr.)

William Lloyd Garrison's *Liberator* noted that one print depicted Tillman "as an embodiment of black action on the sea in contrast with some delinquent Federal officer as white inaction on land." It continued: "This one signal act of colored American executiveness, thus exhibited in shop windows and elsewhere to the masses, outweighs any amount of argument or rhetoric—for here is a palpable fact, directly appealing to their sense of justice, and invested, let us hope, with a potent and magical influence towards conquering that offspring of slavery, prejudice of color." On October 29, 1861, Tillman, Stedding, McLeod, and McKinnon sued in the federal court in New York City, claiming the value of the ship as salvage. The owners of the vessel and cargo objected, asserting that Tillman could not claim a share of the salvage because he had been "animated by a desire to escape the doom of Slavery, to which he feared, not without reason that his captors intended to consign him." But a recent precedent led the local press to believe that the court would likely rule in favor of Tillman and "will make his ebony face to shine with joy." And that is precisely what happened. Tillman and Stedding offered gripping testimony before the court. And in a remarkable decision, Judge William D. Shipman, a President James Buchanan appointee, awarded Tillman and the other plaintiffs a \$17,000 judgment in the case. Roughly half of that award went to Tillman, while Stedding received the next largest share.

Tillman became something of a celebrity

The abolitionist editors of *The Liberator* noted the irony of Tillman's legal victory in light of the 1857 *Dred Scott* decision—a case that held that African-Americans were not citizens and could not sue in federal court. "It will be recollected that Tillman belongs to that class of persons who, according to Southern expounders of law, have no status in a United States Court, and no rights, either, which a white man is bound to respect.

Southern newspapers offered little reaction to the case, simply reporting the verdict without much commentary. The editors of the *New Orleans Times-Picayune* took notice of Barnum's advertisements for the public to come see Tillman, writing with derision, "This enables the public to see the greatest hero of this war!"

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

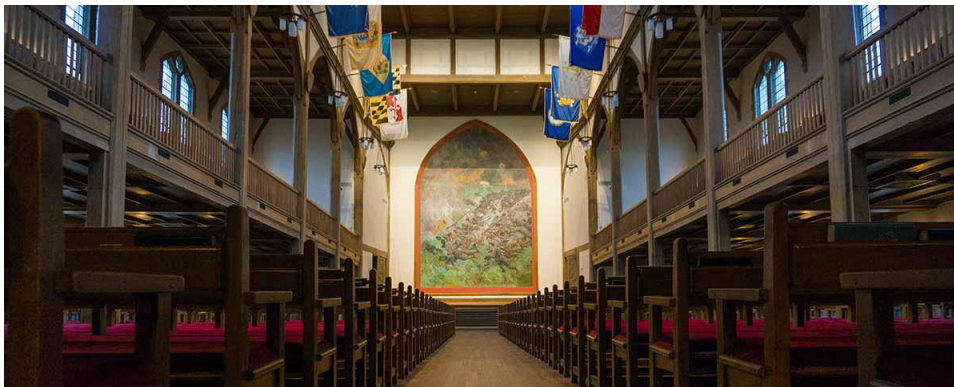


THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Larger, bloodier events quickly pushed the story of Tillman's fight for freedom on the high seas out of the headlines, and he ended up being a footnote of Civil War history. But in addition to making for a stirring tale of a man battling to stay free, the reception to Tillman's story and his court case forced Confederate leaders to realize that they needed to maintain respectability among the powers of the world. The civilized world had rejected both privateering and the trans-Atlantic slave trade over the previous five decades. If the Confederacy wanted to gain international recognition, it could not permit its privateers to engage in a black market slave trade.

Jonathan W. White is the author or editor of eight books, including [Midnight in America: Darkness, Sleep, and Dreams During the Civil War \(2017\)](#) and ["Our Little Monitor": The Greatest Invention of the Civil War \(2018\)](#), with Anna Gibson Holloway. Check out his website at www.jonathanwhite.org.

0-0



Always present: VMI's chapel-like Jackson Memorial Hall is dominated by a large painting of the school's cadets rushing into the May 15, 1864, Battle of New Market.

Explore – Generals and Professors: The Virginia Military Institute

By Kim O'Connell

JUNE 2018 • [CIVIL WAR TIMES MAGAZINE](#)

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

The Virginia Military Institute feels like a place untouched by time, and yet the town it is in, Lexington, Va., finds itself responding to 21st-century concerns about history and heritage. Nestled in the Shenandoah Valley, Lexington is associated with two of the war's best-known figures—Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson. The latter had been an unpopular professor at VMI before the war, but once he made a name for himself, in every sense, on the battlefield, his association with VMI would be forever burnished. Lee, Jackson's longtime comrade in arms, assumed the presidency of Washington College, adjacent to VMI, in August 1865, serving until his death in 1870. University officials moved quickly to change the school's name to Washington and Lee University in his honor, and it is the site of Lee's final resting place. Despite those associations, the most poignant reason to visit Lexington might be to read the names of relative unknowns. In May 1864, 257 young cadets, one only 15 years of age, marched 80 miles to fight in the Battle of New Market, where 10 would lose their lives. The VMI statue called Virginia Mourning Her Dead remembers the cadets and marks the gravesite of six of them. Located just off Interstate 81, Lexington is about an hour southwest of Charlottesville and an hour north of Roanoke. After you've toured the walkable town, consider heading north to visit the New Market Battlefield, whose famous annual reenactment takes place near the May anniversary of the fight. —**Kim O'Connell**



Home and Hearth

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

The downtown Stonewall Jackson House preserves the only home that the general ever owned. Now operated as a museum, the house has been restored to its prewar appearance and contains several Jackson artifacts. Historical markers in the outside garden provide additional context.



Little Sorrel and Jackson memorabilia

Legacy of War

Begin your tour at VMI. You'll immediately notice the dramatic sweep of the parade grounds and the fortress-like barracks building behind it. VMI's crenellated Gothic architecture owes much to its influential original architect, Alexander Jackson Davis, whose pale olive stucco-covered buildings were copied by subsequent architects as the campus expanded. Your first stop should be the VMI Museum located in the Jackson Memorial Hall. The museum and gift shop are on the lower two floors of this building.

Here, you can begin a cadet-led tour of the campus that allows you to learn the history of several school buildings and statues, such as the modest two-story structure that served as a field hospital during the Civil War, and get a firsthand account of such longstanding traditions as the "Rat Line"—the rigorous routine expected of the freshman class.

Horse Preserv(ed)

Stonewall Jackson's mount Little Sorrel was not particularly handsome, but he was hardworking and withstood Jackson's long marches. After the war, Anna Jackson donated the gelding to VMI,

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

where he could often be seen grazing. Little Sorrel has been preserved and is on display at the VMI Museum, along with other Jackson artifacts, an impressive collection of firearms, and other college and military mementos. A small gravestone on the parade grounds marks the site of Little Sorrel's cremated remains.

Cadets at War

In addition to fighting at the 1864 Battle of New Market, cadets helped train recruits in Richmond in 1861 and formed as reserves during the 1862 Shenandoah Valley Campaign. They helped resist some 1863 Union cavalry raids, and following New Market, the cadets helped bolster Richmond's defenses. They then rushed to Lexington to defend against Hunter's Raid. In 1865, they returned to Richmond's defenses.

Commandant Of Cadets

Colonel Scott Shipp

Strength

257 Cadets marched to New Market

Wartime Casualties

Killed: 5

Mortally wounded: 5

(All above at New Market)

Wounded/died of disease: 50



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER



Grace Episcopal Church



Lexington Presbyterian Church

Church Lessons

The Jackson home is not far from the Lexington Presbyterian Church, a circa-1845 building in the Greek Revival style whose spire dominates Main Street. Jackson was an active parishioner here and taught Sunday school to enslaved people and free blacks. This fact has fueled debate over the paradox of Jackson's devotion to literacy and religiosity among the enslaved, but not to ending their enslavement. The parish is still active and open to visitors.

The Grace Episcopal Church, in whose original antebellum building Lee served as a senior warden, can still be seen, too, in the southeast corner of the campus. For years, the church (now housed in a building that dates to the 1880s) was named R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church,

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

but in 2017, the congregation voted to revert back to its historical name, the name Lee would have known it by.



Wandering George

Union troops confiscated George Washington's VMI statue in June 1864 during Hunter's Raid, a four-day engagement in which Union General David Hunter ordered that VMI be burned, causing great damage to the original barracks. The Washington statue was returned and rededicated in 1866.



Jackson's statue overlooks the VMI parade ground, along with four brightly painted cannons, nicknamed the "Four Apostles." In light of recent debate over Confederate monuments, the VMI superintendent stated that Jackson's statue will remain, given his historic association with the

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

school, but that VMI will continue to strive to provide historic context to his actions. Cadets who emerge from the barracks no longer salute the statue as they once did, but instead salute an American flag.

There Teaches Jackson...

Jackson spent 10 years teaching at VMI. He met and married his first wife, Elinor Junkin, there, who died in childbirth along with a stillborn son in 1854. He subsequently married Mary Anna Morrison in 1857 and brought her home to Lexington.

Lee the Educator

Lee struggled with the postwar offer of the presidency of Washington College, worried that it might "draw upon the College a feeling of hostility." After accepting the position, Lee updated the school's curriculum to include new courses in science, business, and journalism.



Lee at rest

Lee Chapel and Museum

This building at Washington and Lee is famous for its "Recumbent Lee" statue by sculptor Edward Valentine. Below the chapel lies the Lee family crypt, where the general, his wife Mary, and several members of their family are entombed. The museum contains Lee artifacts and

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

exhibits, but a highlight is the historic orrery (a mechanical planetarium) that Lee had commissioned to promote the study of astronomy. The general's office sits not far away, restored to its appearance as he left it in fall 1870.

Resting Places

On the edge of town sits Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery, where the commander was laid to rest after his fatal wound at Chancellorsville. Another statue of him, also by Valentine, commands the cemetery, and old, gray headstones add an eerie appearance. Others buried here include two Virginia governors and nearly 300 Confederate veterans. Make sure to seek out the tall round bush near Jackson's statue, which caretakers have hollowed out to create a little cove for contemplation.



Local Color

The menu at [Pure Eats](#) packs a Southern punch. In this casual burger joint located only steps from Washington and Lee University, you can choose from a locally sourced beef burger, chicken sandwich, or veggie burger, along with other wraps and salads, and a nice selection of beer and cider. Delicious fried pickles are the extra-napkins star attraction. Doughnuts are made in house every morning, as well.

0-0

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

Women and Civil War Prisons

09/06/2014 by Maggie MacLean www.civilwarwomenblog.com

Civil War Women Prisoners of War

Many of the arguments against women fighting in combat is the fear that they will become prisoners of war. Documentation proves that some soldiers who were discovered to be women during the Civil War were briefly imprisoned. Madame Collier was a Union soldier from East Tennessee who was captured and imprisoned at Belle Isle, Virginia. She continued concealing her gender, but another prisoner learned her secret and reported it to Confederate authorities, who sent her North under a flag of truce.



Castle Thunder

At Castle Thunder in Richmond, Virginia approximately one hundred female inmates were held throughout the war. Although Confederate authorities created a department at the prison specifically for the detention of "depraved and abandoned" women - prostitutes, spies and

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

smugglers - most female inmates were political prisoners, the most famous of which was [Dr. Mary Edwards Walker](#).

Image: Castle Thunder after the fall of Richmond, 1865

Prisoners were divided among the three buildings: Confederate deserters and political prisoners in one, black and female prisoners in another, and the last reserved for Union deserters and prisoners of war.

Castle Thunder was filthy, overcrowded, disease-ridden and lacked adequate food and medical supplies for the prisoners who were held there. Executions of Confederate deserters took place in full view of the other prisoners and a notoriously brutal captain, George W. Alexander, patrolled the prison accompanied by his aggressive black dog, Nero, both of whom taunted and terrorized the prisoners.

Other famous prisoners included two cousins, [Mary and Mollie Bell](#). The Bells were secret soldiers who had disguised themselves as men in order to fight for the Confederacy. They fought for two years under the command of General Jubal A. Early, and took part in a number of key battles, including the Battle of Chancellorsville and the Battle of Gettysburg, before they were discovered.

When authorities learned that they were women, the Bells were sent to Castle Thunder in October of 1864 and held for three weeks. With no official crime to charge them with, prison officials finally released the cousins and sent them home to Pulaski County, Virginia.

Castle Thunder remained an active Confederate prison until the fall of Richmond in April of 1865. The Confederates destroyed many Castle Thunder records before they left town. Union military personnel took then took control of the building and used it to incarcerate former Confederates. The building was later returned to its original owners, but it was destroyed in a fire in 1879.

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker

A New York-born abolitionist and physician, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker was captured in April 1864 when she encountered a group of Confederate soldiers at Tunnel Hill in Georgia. She was transferred to Castle Thunder, accused of being a spy for the Union Army. She remained there



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

until exchanged on August 12. Due to her unconventional profession and her trademark uniform, Walker attracted a lot of attention from the press and locals in Richmond.

The details of Walker's capture were reported in the Richmond Sentinel on April 22, 1864:

The female Yankee surgeon captured by our pickets a short time since, in the neighborhood of the army of Tennessee, was received in this city yesterday evening, and sent to the Castle in charge of a detective. Her appearance on the street in full male costume, with the exception of a gypsy hat, created quite an excitement amongst the idle Negroes and boys who followed and surrounded her. She gave her name as Dr. Mary E. Walker, and declared that she had been captured on neutral ground. She was dressed in black pants and black or dark talma [a cape] or paletot [a jacket]. She was consigned to the female ward of Castle Thunder, there being no accommodations at Libby [Prison] for prisoners of her sex. We must not omit to add that she is ugly and skinny, and apparently above thirty years of age."



Image: Dr. Mary Edwards Walker in 1863

In this image Walker wears trousers beneath her dress, known as a Bloomer costume, which was popular among women's rights activists at the time.

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

During her four months at the jail, she wrote numerous letters to the press describing the horrible conditions at the prison. She complained that her mattress was infested with insects, rats ran throughout the prison at night and food rations were meager and inedible. On August 12, 1864 prison officials released Dr. Walker. For the rest of her life, she suffered from health problems caused by the malnutrition and exposure to disease she suffered at the prison.

Libby Prison

Also in Richmond, Virginia, Libby Prison consisted of three tenement (loft style) buildings, each 110 feet x 44 feet, 4 stories high. They were built between 1845 and 1852 by John Enders Sr., a founder of the tobacco industry of Richmond. Enders was killed instantly when he fell from a ladder through a hatch during the construction of the central building. The three buildings were connected by inner doors.

Captain Luther Libby leased the west building on 3 year terms from the Enders family and erected the now renowned sign, L. Libby & Son, Ship Chandlers. Following the First Battle of Bull Run, so many prisoners were coming into Richmond that these buildings were among those which were commandeered for use as prisons and hospitals. So rapidly was the building converted to its new use that the sign was not removed and thus it came to be called Libby Prison.

Libby gained an infamous reputation for the overcrowded and harsh conditions under which officer prisoners from the Union Army were kept. Prisoners suffered from disease, malnutrition and a high mortality rate. By 1863, one thousand prisoners were crowded into large open rooms on two floors, with open, barred windows leaving them exposed to weather and temperature extremes.

More than 50,000 men passed through this prison while it was used by the Confederacy. The prisoners were not kept on the ground floors, while the cellars contained cells for dangerous prisoners, spies and slaves under sentence of death. Its capacity was reported as 1,200 though it is certain that at times it exceeded that number.



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER



Image: A photo of Libby Prison (1865)

Combined, the buildings were designed for 1,400 prisoners, but at least at one point housed 3,000. The most famous prisoner held at Libby Prison was the eccentric Union Cavalry Commander, [General Judson Kilpatrick](#). Following the occupation of Richmond in April 1865, Federal authorities used the prison to house former Confederates until August 1868.

Elizabeth Van Lew at Libby Prison

Hundreds of women acted as undercover agents during the Civil War, willing to risk their lives to help their cause. One of the most effective was Union spy Elizabeth Van Lew - a prominent member of Richmond, Virginia society. The 43-year-old lived with her widowed mother in a three-story mansion. Educated in the North, Van Lew fervently opposed slavery and secession, writing her thoughts in a secret diary she kept buried in her backyard.

After the First Battle of Bull Run in July 1861, Van Lew volunteered to become a nurse at Libby Prison, but her offer was rejected by the prison overseer, Lt. David H. Todd, half-brother of [Mary Todd Lincoln](#). Van Lew went over his head and persuaded General John H. Winder to allow her and her mother to bring food, reading material and medicine to the prisoners.

Van Lew and her mother were vehemently criticized for their relief efforts in the Richmond Enquirer:

Two ladies, a mother and a daughter, living on Church Hill, have lately attracted public notice by their assiduous attentions to the Yankee prisoners... these two women have been expending their opulent means in aiding and giving comfort to the miscreants who have invaded our sacred soil.



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

It is believed that she obtained much valuable information from the men there and passed it through her efficient agents to the Union. Threats of violence hounded her: "I have had men shake their fingers in my face and say terrible things. We had threats of being driven away, threats of fire, and threats of death." The bullying only made Van Lew more determined to help the Union.

Van Lew passed information to prisoners using a custard dish with a secret compartment and communicated with them through messages hidden in the books she shared with the prisoners. She bribed guards to give certain prisoners extra food and clothing, and to transfer them to hospitals where she could interview them. She even helped prisoners plan their escape, hiding many of them briefly in her home.

In December 1863, two Union soldiers who had escaped from Libby Prison with the help of Van Lew's underground network told Union [General Benjamin Butler](#) about Van Lew. Impressed with the stories, Butler sent one of the men back to Richmond with orders to recruit Van Lew as a spy. Van Lew agreed and soon became the head of Butler's spy network and his chief source of information in Richmond.

Old Capitol Prison

In August 1814, during the War of 1812, the British burned the United States Capitol building in Washington, DC. The Congress, forced to meet in temporary quarters, built a temporary brick capitol building in the Federal style at 1st and A streets, which they occupied from 1815 through 1819, while the U.S. Capitol building was being rebuilt.

The building acquired the title Old Brick Capitol in 1819 when Congress and the Supreme Court returned to the restored U.S. Capitol Building. Until the Civil War, the building was used as a private school, then as a boarding house. John C. Calhoun, former Vice President of the United States died in the boarding house in 1850.

With the start of the Civil War in 1861, the Union used the building as a prison for captured Confederates, as well as political prisoners, Union officers convicted of insubordination, and local prostitutes. The adjoining row of houses were also used as part of the prison. Famous inmates of the prison included cavalryman [John Singleton Mosby](#) and Henry Wirz, commander at the infamous Andersonville Prison, who was hanged in the yard of the prison.

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

In April 1865, many of the people who were arrested following the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln were also held here. These included Dr. Samuel Mudd, [Mary Surratt](#), Louis Weichmann and John Ford, owner of Ford's Theater, where Lincoln was shot.

Belle Boyd

Celebrated beauty Isabelle Belle Boyd became one of the Confederacy's most notorious spies after a skirmish with a drunk Union soldier in July 1861. According to her account, the man invaded her home, tore down a Confederate flag and spoke offensively to her mother. Enraged, 17-year-old Belle shot and killed him, but she was acquitted of the crime.



Image: Belle Boyd

In May 1862 Boyd was residing in Fort Royal, Virginia with relatives whose hotel had been taken over by Union officers. She eavesdropped on their meetings through a hole in a door and rode through enemy lines, reportedly dodging bullets along the way, to report the information to Confederate [General Stonewall Jackson](#).

Having continually spied for the Confederacy by carrying important letters and papers across enemy lines, [Belle Boyd](#) was arrested for her espionage activities on July 29, 1862, and brought to the Old Capitol Prison the next day. During her stay there, she received special treatment, became friends with the superintendent of the prison, and became engaged to a fellow prisoner.

An inquiry was held on August 7, 1862, concerning violations of orders that Boyd be kept in close custody. Belle Boyd's exploits have become a thing of legend. She beguiled her enemies



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

into revealing military secrets, which she then transmitted to Confederate commanders. Boyd was held for a month before being released on August 29, 1862.

After a second incarceration the following year, Belle Boyd was banished to the South. She sailed for England in May 1864 to serve as a Confederate courier but was intercepted by Union troops. One of them, a naval officer named Samuel Hardinge, fell in love with the alluring spy and helped her escape to London, where they wed. He apparently died shortly thereafter.

Boyd, now a widow and mother at 20, remained in England to compose her memoirs and launch a successful stage career. She later returned to America, where she continued acting, married twice more and lectured on her wartime experiences across the United States.

SOURCES

Wikipedia: Old Capitol Prison

Elizabeth Van Lew: An Unlikely Union Spy

Women Prisoners of War at Castle Thunder

Encyclopedia Virginia: Castle Thunder Prison

0-0

BALTIMORE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE