



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

New Superintendent Named at Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site

Pennlive.com, January, 2, 2014
Ed W. Clark has been selected as the new Superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site. Clark has served most recently as Superintendent of Manassas National Battlefield Park.

"Ed's deep understanding of park operations and tremendous partnership skills - as well as deep connections to the Civil War community - make him the ideal candidate to lead one of the most significant battlefields in the nation, if not the world," noted National Park Service (NPS) Northeast Regional Director Dennis Reidenbach. "Ed's network and skill-set will serve the park staff, community and visitors well." While at Manassas, Clark has been a Service-wide leader for the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War and the broader Civil War to Civil Rights commemorative effort. Clark has also successfully managed Manassas through some challenging projects including bringing the park's General Management Plan to conclusion and he has also worked to create a new sustainable organization during complicated political and financial times. He served as the acting Associate Regional Director for Operations for the National Capital Region of the National Park Service and the acting National Coordinator for National Heritage Areas for the Service. Prior to Manassas, he served as the Deputy Chief Ranger at Shenandoah National Park, and Supervisory Park Ranger at the Blue

Ridge Parkway - among other posts. He is currently enrolled in the Senior Executive Service's Candidate Development Program, identifying him as one of the Service's most promising senior leaders. "I am thrilled to have been chosen as the new Superintendent of Gettysburg and Eisenhower," noted Clark. "These landscapes are some of the most iconic in our nation's history. I'm very proud to be joining the excellent staff and volunteers of these sites and look forward to continuing to work with the many exceptional partners, while becoming involved in the local community."



Photo courtesy NPS.

Clark is a native of Roanoke, Virginia and holds degrees from Radford University and Ferrum College. Clark and his wife Heidi have two children, Ben and Reid. Clark replaces Superintendent Bob Kirby, who retires on January 3rd. Ed Clark will begin his new position in early February.

'I Wear My Own Clothes' - Mary Walker

By CATE LINEBERRY, New York Times, December 2, 2013

As news of the devastating number of casualties at the Battle of Chickamauga in late September 1863 — the second bloodiest battle of the Civil War — spread through the country, a 30-year-old doctor named Mary Walker tried desperately to seek

a commission in the Army's Medical Department.

One of only a handful of women in the United States who had earned a medical degree, Walker had graduated from Syracuse Medical College at 22 and gone into private practice. Since the beginning of the war, she had served as a volunteer at a makeshift hospital in the Patent Office in Washington, and treated sick and wounded troops on the battlefields in Warrenton and Fredericksburg, Va. But what she really wanted, and what she was repeatedly denied because of her gender, was a surgeon's commission, which would allow her to use her skills and authority to save more lives.

Though Walker's medical contributions were desperately needed, they were not always wanted. Many believed it was improper for women to work in any capacity in Army hospitals, and female doctors were an anomaly. Walker was keenly aware of this opposition; when she questioned the high number of amputations being performed by Army surgeons, she feared she would lose her position as a volunteer if she spoke out.

Nevertheless, concerns for her career never trumped her concern for her patients. After watching "two surgeons in the ward who had decided to have [an] arm amputated when there had been only a slight flesh wound," she decided it was her duty to counsel individual soldiers about their right to refuse the operation. If she found that a soldier was complaining about a proposed amputation, she would examine the wound herself. "In almost every instance I saw amputation was not only unnecessary, but to me it seemed wickedly cruel," she wrote.



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

By this time Walker had separated from her husband after accusing him of infidelity, and pushed further against society's prevailing traditions by donning trousers, or bloomers. She believed, like others who championed dress reform and as her parents had taught her as a farm girl in Oswego, N.Y., that tight clothing impeded circulation and long trailing skirts were unsanitary. Though often criticized for her masculine dress, she insisted, "I don't wear men's clothes, I wear my own clothes."

On Nov. 2, 1863, she wrote to Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton requesting that she be appointed "first Assistant Surgeon" of a new regiment of men called "Walker's U.S. Patriots." When Stanton rejected the idea, Walker took her case to Lincoln. On Jan. 11, 1864, she wrote a letter to the president stating she had been denied a commission "solely on the ground of sex" and asked "for a surgeon's commission with orders to go whenever and wherever there is a battle." Lincoln replied that he could not interfere with the Army's Medical Department.

Walker continued to wage her campaign until she was finally sent to Chattanooga, Tenn., as an unofficial civilian contract surgeon to the 52nd Ohio Volunteers. The previous assistant surgeon had recently died, and the men camped in winter quarters were in dire need of help. The civilian population also needed medical assistance, and Walker was soon crossing enemy lines, traveling throughout the dangerous countryside to treat wary patients who weren't sure what to make of a female doctor.

While on these missions, Walker also collected information on Confederate troop movements. "At one time [she] gained information that led Maj. Gen.

William T. Sherman to so modify his strategic operations as to save himself from a serious reverse and obtain success where defeat before seemed to be inevitable," wrote the Army's judge advocate general in 1865.



Photo Library of Congress
Mary Edwards Walker

Walker's work as a Union spy, however, was short-lived. Just months after arriving in Chattanooga, she was captured by a Confederate sentry while on an expedition. Sent by train as a prisoner of war to the brutal, filthy, and overcrowded Castle Thunder in Richmond, Va., she was greeted by a crowd of hostile onlookers unused to female prisoners. One Confederate captain wrote that the crowd was "both amused and disgusted ... at the sight of a thing that nothing but the debased and depraved Yankee

nation could produce ... she was dressed in the full uniform of a Federal Surgeon ... not good looking and of course had tongue enough for a regiment of men."

Walker remained a prisoner of war for four months before she was released in an exchange for a Confederate officer, but her health, particularly her eyesight, would never recover. She credited her survival while she was ill in prison to eating raw eggs she was able to get through bribery.

After her release, Walker returned to Washington and continued her campaign for a commission. In a letter to General Sherman, she asked to be given the rank of major and assigned as a surgeon to the female prisoners in Louisville, Ky., most of whom were being held on suspicion of spying. In October 1864, she was granted her request to go to Louisville and was given an official contract as an acting assistant surgeon which came with a salary of \$100 a month in addition to \$434.66 in back pay.

Within six months, however, Walker was frustrated and worn down by the struggles she faced with prison officials who thought she was too lenient, as well as the female prisoners who distrusted a female doctor. She requested a transfer that would allow her to once again treat wounded soldiers, but soon found herself in charge of the Refugee Home in Clarksville, Tenn. Her duties ended in May 1865, a month after Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered his Army of Northern Virginia, effectively ending the war.

Though the war was over, Walker's battle to receive a commission was not. Her supporters included General Sherman and Maj. Gen. Henry Thomas. Though Stanton denied her application in the fall of 1865, President Andrew Johnson signed a



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

bill in November that awarded her the Medal of Honor for Meritorious Service. The bill said that Walker had "devoted herself with patriotic zeal to the sick and wounded soldiers, both in the field and hospital, to the detriment of her own health, and has also endured hardships as a prisoner-of-war four months in a Southern prison." It passed. Walker was so proud of her medal she wore it every day. When a replacement arrived in 1907, she sported both.

But in 1917, just two years before Walker died, the Medal of Honor Board moved Walker and 910 others from the list of recipients, arguing that the award could be given only to those who had served "in actual combat with the enemy, by gallantry or intrepidity, at risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty." Walker voiced her complaints and continued to wear the medal until her death.

With the urging of Walker's grandniece, President Jimmy Carter reinstated her medal in 1977, 58 years after her death. She remains the only woman to have received the Medal of Honor.

CONGRESS ALLOCATES \$8.9 MILLION FOR FEDERAL GRANTS TO PROTECT CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS

Washington, D.C. – CWT Press Release, January 22, 2014

The Civil War Trust today applauded the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives for including \$8.9 million for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The program, which provides federal matching

grants to protect historically significant battlefield land outside National Park Service boundaries, has been used to protect more than 19,000 acres of hallowed ground in 16 states.

"This is tremendous news that could not come at a more critical time," remarked Civil War Trust president James Lighthizer. "Over the past decade, development pressure on unprotected but historically significant battlefield land has only increased. These grants will be matched with private sector donations to preserve thousands of acres of historic land that would otherwise be lost forever." Since Congress first authorized it in 2002, the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program has enjoyed broad, bipartisan support in both the House and Senate. The program is considered 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. Grants from the program are awarded by the American Battlefield Protection Program, an arm of NPS.

Among the sites saved as a result of this innovative grants program are historic properties at Antietam and South Mountain, Md.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Vicksburg and Champion Hill, Miss.; Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg and Manassas, Va.; Shiloh, Chattanooga and Fort Donelson, Tenn.; Harpers Ferry, W.Va.; and other battlefields.

In addition to funding for the Civil War Battlefield Preservation Program, the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act includes \$5.5 million for acquiring inholdings at Civil War battlefield national parks. Inholdings result

from private ownership of lands prior to the designation of the protected park, which then end up grandfathered within the legally designated boundary. Thousands of acres of inholdings exist at Civil War battlefields maintained within the National Park System.

Numerous members of the House and Senate have played important roles in ensuring the program's continued success, but the following individuals provided pivotal support in securing this year's federal commitment to battlefield preservation: Sens. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., Jack Reed, D-R.I. and Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska; as well as U.S. Reps. Ken Calvert, D-R.I., Jim Moran, D-Va., and Hal Rogers, R-Ky.

"Preserved Civil War battlefields are living monuments – not just to the men in blue and gray who fought there – but to all of America's veterans," Lighthizer said. "They serve as outdoor classrooms, teaching young and old alike about the sacrifices made to forge the nation we are today."

The FY2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act was passed earlier this week by healthy majorities in both the House and Senate. President Barack Obama is expected to sign the bill into law over the weekend.

Clara Barton's Missing Soldiers Office Project

By Susan Rosenvold

(January 2014 Civil War News - Preservation Column)

In 1997, Richard Lyons, a carpenter with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), worked his way through a dilapidated building in the old Penn Quarter district of Washington, D.C.



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

The government-appointed Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, tasked with improving a largely abandoned part of the city next to the Mall, transferred real estate left in its possession when the organization dissolved to GSA. Clearing the building for upcoming demolition was Lyons' task, and little did he know how his consequent discovery would change his life. During his walk-through on the top floor of the building, Lyons heard a disturbance outside, an automobile accident at the corner of 7th and E Streets, and walked to the closest window on the third floor of the building when he thought he felt a tap on his shoulder.

Alone in the building, he turned to see who the culprit might be, but finding no one, did notice an odd envelope hanging down from a crack between a wall and the ceiling. Finding a ladder nearby, he climbed up and read the address on the front, then pulled out the letter, dated sometime in the 1870s.

Now curious, Lyons climbed further up through a hole in the ceiling and spying some things in the attic, climbed further. Upon resting his hands on the boards above to pull himself up, Lyons felt that his hands covered tin rather than wood. He paused to turn over a small square tin plate and read "Missing Soldiers Office, Rm. 9, Miss Clara Barton" on the black and gold printed back. He had passed a door labeled "9" while walking down the hallway of the long abandoned floor. Lyons sifted through the objects he found and collected a few to photograph and send onto Gary Scott, then Regional Historian for the National Park Service to ask if Scott thought any of them significant. Scott answered they certainly were,

and asked where they were found. After Lyons reported the location, Scott contacted GSA, which wisely determined that such a significant find should certainly be preserved instead of demolished. Its Center for Historic Buildings (CHB) further recommended, in the spirit of public service, the space occupied by Miss Barton should be restored and made available to the public. Filled with a like amount of determination and perseverance, the CHB staff kept the project alive, a veritable roller-coaster ride, for 15 years.

With Lyons installed as caretaker and guardian of the site, higher-ups at GSA felt strongly that they were not the organization to get into the museum business and placed a contingency of finding a museum partner on the project.

Several museum organizations with obvious interest in the subject, Clara Barton, her role in humanitarianism and rare boarding house history, declined the opportunity of offered partnerships.

The sale of the building to a local developer with an exclusive easement for one-third of the first floor and all of the third to fund the restoration project certainly helped, but no museum partner came calling. Years later, Michael Hoffman, volunteer at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine (NMCWM) based in Frederick, Md., realized during a specialized tour rehearsal for military medical students, which included a Barton segment, that the NMCWM could well be the perfect match. Hoffman had been bringing U.S. Army personnel on humanitarian-related tours of the site at the invitation of Lyons. Shortly after her own visit with Hoffman, NMCWM employee Susan Rosenvold met with

NMCWM's Executive Director George Wunderlich and convinced him the opportunity was too good to pass up. The NMCWM met with GSA in early 2010 and agreed to form a partnership. Over the next three years, GSA and NMCWM accomplished a tremendous amount of work redrawing plans for restoration, conducting deep research on Barton's life while she rented space in the boarding house, and planning programming and tours to inspire the public with the work and legacy of Barton's life.

It is estimated the site's third floor was boarded up sometime around 1950 since the newest document found in the attic dated from that year. Although the third floor was largely vacant, it appeared as a time capsule, still close to its original configuration — some gas light fixtures still hung, old wallpaper adhering the walls, and funny double hole cutouts in shelving next to the exit doors.

The skeleton of an old kitchen and bath with out-house style toilet seats remained in the 1865 addition. Variable-width pine floors covered the entire space, and twisted wiring that led from an exterior window, across the hall, half way through the next room and then falling below floor level.

The wiring passed along the baseboard in a room whose wallpaper contained very curious graffiti including week-based lists with vertical lines and Os, names and addresses of Washington residents and shops, and math problems. The National Park Service initially removed and stored the artifacts found throughout the site. Included are such rarities as a rubberized shelter-half with the US Sanitary Commission stamp, a bent pre-Civil



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

War bayonet, hundreds of letters from boarding house manager Edward Shaw to family and on business, several crate pieces addressed to Barton and the Patent Office; Also, three glass negatives of the Capitol dome under construction, the Smithsonian Castle and the National Hotel, government contracted military socks still impressed with mud, holes, repairs, blood and the outline of soldier's feet, an original Roll of Missing Soldiers, as well as hundreds of other objects.

Several rolls of old wallpaper recovered from the attic intrigued CHB staff. As part of the restoration process, a professional study of the wall coverings found materials dating from the building's construction in 1853 through 1913.

During the restoration, conservators uncovered the signatures of wallpaper hangers with date of application. Ultimately, the restoration contractor, hired with unprecedented detailed project requirements, found a manufacturer able to replicate papers found on the walls or attic.

Conservators carefully restored the best remaining segments of 19th- and early 20th-century papers. Wallpaper conservators applied replica papers, recreated from fragments by Evergreen and installed by Jim Yates and crew, to meet up exactly with the original conserved papers, truly giving one a sense of stepping back into Barton's period in the space.

Yates and his crew discovered the signature of past paper-masters on the plaster under their work while preparing walls, one interesting discovery that confirmed some of the wallpaper dating.

GSA also undertook a detailed study of the interior surfaces, including identifying paint age and color. Painting conservators Brian Fick and

Mary Yeager cleaned painted surfaces, touched up damaged spots and woodgraining on a few doors, repainted areas to the colors used during Barton's residency.

Wood conservator Tim Levoi and his crew repaired and reinstalled doors, all sorts of moldings and frames, replicated missing doors and moldings, and cleaned the original floor. OLBN Inc., led by Mohammed Fridy, Juan Bastille and Andrea Mones aptly managed all of this tedious work.

For the writer, the best aspect of the project is the gas lighting. Three partial gas light fixtures existed with the discovery of the space. Gas light historian Dan Mattausch obtained or took fixtures from his collection to complete the number.

Initially, it seemed that the existing fixtures must have lost their better elements, being rather plain, but Mattausch explained that the lights installed represent the real lighting used by landlords of the time. After all, why would one purchase fancy, expensive lighting for a place they did not frequent?

The lighting fixtures are simple, but elegant and efficient. Several come with additional nozzles so a tenant may also light a table lamp with the use of a hose. Mattausch also provided one table lamp for a room the museum will interpret as a typical Civil War era boarding room.

Because of the condition of the space and detailed conservation and restoration work, the project, once begun, eclipsed a period of about 11 months. First, museum-quality HVAC, electrical and safety systems were installed to ensure preservation of the building and artifacts.

Then repairs or reapplication of plaster, followed by wood conservation and replication,

wallpaper conservation, replication and hanging, flooring conservation and repair, and currently final interpretation and exhibit design and installation.

Historical and preservation thrills aside, it is vitally important to citizens around the world to study, remember and use Barton's old living quarters in Washington.

Barton was no ordinary human being cursed to endure a Civil War at a time of great personal disadvantage. Her parents imbued her with the desire to serve others at a young age and she maintained a level of work founded on persistence and determination to make a difference in the lives of countless victims of man-made and natural disasters.

Barton proved to her fellow man that women were capable of achieving success well above the societal limits of their day. This diminutive tomboy from New England confirmed again that one person can make a difference.

Not only did she dedicate her life from 1861 to 1912 to humanitarian relief, she advocated for social reforms, pioneered leadership in international law, educated the masses, and permanently established a legacy through the American Red Cross that continues her most important work.

Barton wrote: "It is an untold privilege to have lived in this day when there is work to be done, and, still more, to possess health and strength to do it, and most of all to feel that I bear with me the kindly feeling and perhaps prayers of the noble mothers and sisters who have sent sons and brothers to fight the battles of the world in the armies of Freedom." Now that GSA has fulfilled the site's restoration, the NMCWM is working full-time on opening a museum that fills visitors with wonder, discovery,



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

inspiration and the will to act on behalf of others.

The goal is to offer tours of the space, completed or nearly so, in January 2014.

As superintendent of Clara Barton's Missing Soldier Office, Susan Rosenvold is developing and conducting research and interpretive programs. She is working on her Master's degree in Military History at American Military University. She operated the National Museum of Civil War Medicine's (NMCWM) Pry House Field Hospital Museum at Antietam National Battlefield as Director of Education from 2007-2011. Her writings appear in journals and on Civil War websites.

More information on the site, tours, programming and history can be found at NMCWM's website, www.civilwarmed.org. Tour

Civil War in the Senate

By Jonathon W. White, New York Times, January 17, 2014

No word was more hotly contested during the Civil War than "loyalty." Republicans persistently accused Democrats of disloyalty and treason for opposing Republican war measures, and no Democrat was immune from accusations of disloyalty, even at the highest levels of the government.

But Democrats gave as good as they got, accusing the Republicans of disloyalty to the Constitution. On Jan. 5, 1864, Senator Garrett Davis of Kentucky introduced a series of resolutions denouncing the Lincoln administration's allegedly unconstitutional actions. Taking up five full pages in the Senate Journal, the resolutions accused Lincoln of destroying the constitutional rights of both Northern and Southern civilians, and claimed that the president sought

to "subjugate" and "revolutionize" the South by abolishing slavery. Davis called on all conservative Americans, North and South, to turn against their war leaders and elect delegates for a national convention that would negotiate an end to the war.

Davis, an antebellum Whig who had originally been a firm supporter of the war, had become disillusioned by the changing nature of the conflict. To him, the war was no longer about Union, but conquest, abolition and centralization.

Many observers were struck by the bitter language of Davis's resolutions. One fellow senator claimed that Davis's criticisms of Lincoln were harsher than Thomas Jefferson's grievances against King George in the Declaration of Independence. On Jan. 8, Senator Henry Wilson of Massachusetts introduced a resolution calling for Davis's expulsion from the Senate. Citing one of Davis's resolutions "in which, among other things, it is declared that 'the people [of the] North ought to revolt against their war leaders and take this great matter into their own hands,'" Wilson accused Davis of seeking "to incite the people of the United States to revolt against the President."

Davis immediately protested that this was "a garbled version of my resolution," and that Wilson's "jaundiced, narrow mind" made him "wholly incompetent to give a proper rendering of those resolutions." (Indeed, Wilson had blatantly misrepresented them. By omitting any mention of the South, or of Davis's call for a national peace convention, Wilson portrayed Davis as wanting to inflame civil war and bloodshed in the North, when in reality, Davis hoped to end hostilities by uniting the peace elements in both sections.)

The nature and purpose of free speech became a central part of the debate over Davis's resolutions. Davis lamented that "if any man has the audacity to question" the measures of the Republican majority, he "is branded and denounced by them as disloyal, as a traitor." But the minority party possessed a right — if not a duty, he said — to criticize the majority.

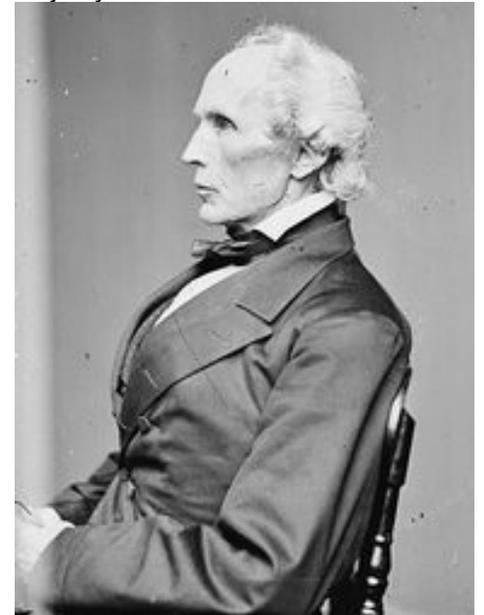


Photo: Library of Congress Senator Garrett Davis, Democrat of Kentucky

Amazingly, several Republicans came to Davis's defense. William Pitt Fessenden of Maine argued that Davis's words had been taken out of context in order to distort their meaning. It would be better to debate the issues, Fessenden declared, and let the voters decide which view was best. Even Lazarus W. Powell, a Kentucky Democrat whom Davis, during his pro-war days, had tried to have expelled for disloyalty in 1862, praised his former antagonist, arguing that Davis's resolutions against Lincoln were prompted by "love of



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

country." Any senator "who believes there has been maladministration of the Government" but "has not the courage or manhood" to "sound the alarm ... is an unworthy representative of a free people."

It quickly became apparent that two-thirds of the Senate would not vote to expel Davis, so the Radical Republican Jacob Howard of Michigan proposed instead to censure him. "Like other rights," Howard declared, free speech "is to be used in subordination to the public welfare — used to support and not to destroy the Government; and he is little better than a madman who claims to use it for the very purpose of breaking in pieces the shield by which it is protected."

Howard's proposition struck many senators as even more insidious than expulsion, since censure could be attained by a simple majority vote. Either censure or expulsion, explained the Republican Henry S. Lane of Indiana, would do more to silence free speech in the Senate than the caning of Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts had in 1856. Realizing that this effort had little momentum, Wilson withdrew his resolution on Jan. 28.

During the debate over Davis's expulsion, Senate Republicans devised a different way to rid their body of another vocal Copperhead. In March 1863, Sumner had introduced a resolution to require that all senators swear an ironclad test oath professing both past and future loyalty to the United States. Democrats opposed this new requirement, claiming that Congress could not require a new oath of members who had already been sworn into office, that it went beyond the oath required by the Constitution, and that it was retrospective rather

than promissory. After a short debate, Senate Republicans voluntarily subscribed to the oath, and most Democrats reluctantly followed suit. By December 1863 all but two senators had voluntarily taken it.

But in January 1864, Sumner's resolution resurfaced in the Senate, with Republicans claiming that it was necessary "to keep from this body traitors in arms against the Government." Both sides recognized that the resolution was aimed at James A. Bayard Jr., a Peace Democrat from Delaware. In response, Bayard claimed that his "past life and conduct ought to be a sufficient answer" to any charges against his patriotism. If he did not believe it was unconstitutional to require the ironclad test oath of congressmen, he declared, he would take it "without a moment's hesitation as readily as any member of this body."

On Jan. 25, the Republicans pressed Sumner's resolution to a vote, and it passed over strenuous Democratic objections. The next day Bayard took the oath and then immediately resigned his seat.

In his final act as a senator during the Civil War, Bayard delivered a speech explaining his actions. He recounted how he had favored peaceable separation before the firing began. The progress of the war only confirmed his initial intuition. The North was now waging a war of "subjugation," and the liberties of Northerners had been sacrificed at its altar.

But very few, if any, of his colleagues shared his concerns. "Standing therefore almost alone in this body, I have lost the hope that I can longer be of service to my country or my State," Bayard declared. "With a firm conviction that your decision inflicts a

vital wound upon free representative government, I cannot, by continuing to hold the seat I now occupy under it, give my personal assent and sanction to its propriety. To do so, I must forfeit my own self-respect and sacrifice my clear convictions of duty for the sake merely of retaining a high trust and station with its emoluments. That will I never do."

While Bayard professed indignation at the prospect of having to take the ironclad test oath, in truth, it is a wonder that he could have taken it conscientiously. His private correspondence reveals a man who wanted the South to win the war (he called it an "invasion of another people" as early as September 1861), and who privately expressed sorrow when the rebels suffered military defeats. "I feel very sad to-day for I believe there is truth in the report that New Orleans has fallen, and I think Savannah will follow," he wrote in April 1862. "Yet all this will not end but only prolong this wretched war, & its devastation." Throughout the war Bayard somehow held on to the increasingly untenable position that only "peaceful separation" would bring the war to a close.

Radical Republicans in the Senate had long wished to rid themselves of Bayard, but he had never committed a crime or public indiscretion to justify it. Bayard's refusal to take the oath, however, opened a window of opportunity that proved much easier than expulsion. What they could not accomplish with Garrett Davis, whose "disloyal" speech was protected by the Constitution, the radicals could do with James A. Bayard. Through a simple change in Senate rules, the Republicans compelled a conscientious rebel sympathizer to resign his seat.



THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

*Jonathan W. White is an assistant professor of American studies at Christopher Newport University. He is the author of ["Abraham Lincoln and Treason in the Civil War: The Trials of John Merryman"](#) and ["Emancipation, the Union Army, and the Reelection of Abraham Lincoln."](#) He is also writing a book called *"Midnight in America: A History of Sleep and Dreams during the Civil War."**

Students vote to drop Confederate General Forrest's Name from Florida school

By Derek Kinner, The Philadelphia Inquirer, December 14, 2013
JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A Florida school board has decided to end a decades long controversy and rename a high school now named for a Confederate general and honorary Ku Klux Klan leader that some historical records say ordered the execution of hundreds of black Union soldiers.

The Duval County school board said it was following the will of its students Monday when it voted unanimously to change the name of Nathan B. Forrest High in Jacksonville. The change will take place next year once a new name is chosen, said Superintendent Nikolai Vitti. "What I want is for students at Nathan Bedford Forrest to use this as a civics lesson," Vitti said. He said he hopes students realize that they can make a difference.

Vitti said a majority of students surveyed voiced support for dropping Forrest's name, given his history as a slave trader and some accounts that blame him for issuing an order to execute captured black Union soldiers.

Vitti said he will now conduct a survey to decide the school's new name. The school board is expected to decide the new name early next year. "Everybody is glad about it," said De'jia Boatwright, a 10th grader. About half of the faculty and a majority of alumni surveyed disagreed with the name change, but 64 percent of students at the black-majority high school were in favor of dropping the name. The school board said it based its decision on what the students wanted.

The name of the school has been a source of controversy for decades, with school officials continuously refusing to change it despite numerous protests.

Forrest High opened as an all-white school in the 1950s. Its name was suggested by the Daughters of the Confederacy, who saw it as a protest to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that eventually integrated public schools.