



## THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

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### Notes from the President 7/2017

#### BCWRT Community:

Last month's newsletter had an excellent article on the death of our good friend, member and occasional presenter Ralph Vincent (thanks Earle Hollenbaugh). Words cannot truly describe Ralph's impact on Civil War community in his role as Founder of Friends of the President Street Station and as a re-enactor. Rest in God's Peace.

Upon the recommendation of the board, the BCWRT passed new fees for our group. Annual dues are now \$25.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for families. Non-member meeting attendance fee is \$5.00 which will be deducted if the person joins our organization. Please make checks payable to: **BCWRT** and mail to: **Ray Atkins, 1204 Fordham Ct., Belair, MD 21014. (410-879-8828).**

**Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 25, at the Parkville Senior Center.** Frank Armiger will return to us to present part III of his Power Point aided look at the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg. Parts I and II were presented at our November and December 2016 meetings. Former BCWRT President Bob Mullauer will speak on August 22. Bob will take a detailed look and Abraham Lincoln and the Et Parte Merryman Case. This landmark Supreme Court case was centered here in Maryland.

On September 26, author Gene Schmiel will discuss his book "Citizen-General: Jacob Dolson Cox and the Civil War Era". Diocese of Maryland Archivist Mary Klein will introduce many of you to the Right Rev. William R. Whittingham- Civil War Bishop of Maryland. Her presentation occurs October 24. November 28 will feature retired NPS

employee and re-enactor Mel Reid in a living history interpretation of becoming a soldier in the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusett- from "Plantation to Battlefield". Our December 12 meeting (*note our usual date change for December*) will feature author and Frederick County Civil War Roundtable member Gary Dyson discussing his work "The Ambush of the Isaac P. Smith, Family Ties and the Battle on the Stono, January 30, 1863".

Last winter, I talked about the formation of the Congress of Civil War Round Tables and hopes to have its initial meeting in Baltimore. Instead, the meeting will be held on Saturday September 16 at the Centerville Regional Library in Centerville, VA. Further information can be found elsewhere in the newsletter. We urge you to attend. We have committees working on future BCWRT trips and our Annual Banquet (scheduled for April 24, 2018). Please contact Bill Rixham at [WFRIXHAM@msn.com](mailto:WFRIXHAM@msn.com).

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**  
*Remember, 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

### Mass. Historical Society acquires lost sword of Robert Gould Shaw

By Steve Annear, Boston Globe, July 12, 2017

BOSTON (CBS) – The long lost sword of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, the commanding officer of the North's first all-black regiment during the Civil War, has been acquired by the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Shaw led the 54th Massachusetts Infantry into battle at Fort Wagner, South Carolina, in 1863. He was killed on the battlefield and his body was robbed of the sword.

The sword was recovered in 1865 and returned to Shaw's parents. But it disappeared again until it was recently discovered in a North Shore family attic by Mary Minturn Wood and her brother, descendants of Shaw's sister, Susanna.

"I said, uh oh. There are three initials on it: RGS. And he went, oh, this is the sword," Wood said.

The family decided to gift the sword to the Massachusetts Historical Society where it is now in the hands of curator, Anne Bentley.

Anne Bentley, curator at the Massachusetts Historical Society, said that in her business, it's rare to come by an artifact with such historical importance that it raises the eyebrows of industry colleagues and gets them to circulate e-mails with the word "WOOHOO" written in all capital letters.

But Bentley recently had her moment. The organization announced this week that it acquired the sword that Colonel Robert Gould Shaw — the commanding officer of the 54th Massachusetts infantry, the North's first all-black regiment during the Civil War — bravely clutched in his hand until he was killed in battle by enemy troops.

"Put it this way," Bentley said, "as a curator, if you're lucky, once in a lifetime something this significant crosses your desk. This is my once-in-a-lifetime [moment]."

The sword will be put on display at the society's headquarters in Boston on July 18, more than 150 years after Shaw died as he led the regiment into battle at Fort Wagner, near Charleston, S.C. It will be housed in a



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gallery along with other items tied to the legacy of Shaw and the regiment, including letters the colonel wrote.

Bentley said the precise whereabouts of the sword, stolen from Shaw's body shortly after he was killed during what's known as a pivotal point in the war, have long been a mystery to historians and Civil War buffs.

But in March, three great-grandchildren of Susanna Shaw Minturn, Shaw's sister, discovered the sword in an attic as they cleaned out the family home.



Photo by Stuart C. Mowbray

By April, Shaw's descendants reached out to the historical society about the rare item, having recognized Shaw's initials engraved on the sword, and gave it to the organization. The family has donated other materials related to Shaw in the past.

"To have located 'the holy grail of Civil War swords' is a remarkable discovery," Dennis Fiori, president of the historical society, said in a statement.

Fiori said through meticulous research, headed by Bentley and staff from the society, they were able to piece together a detailed timeline

of what happened to the sword and confirm its authenticity, tracing its roots all the way back to England, where it was forged.

The historical society described the journey of Shaw's sword from the battlefield to their personal collection of Civil War items as a "detective story filled with plot twists and 'ah-ha' moments" — but one that proved to be worth the long wait.

"It's now in a public collection where it can be shown and we can lend it to other museums, so it will not be lost to the public ever again, we hope," Bentley said. "It's a hugely symbolic piece. Everybody wanted to be the one to find it."

Boston is home to a memorial dedicated to Shaw, the son of abolitionists, and to the heroic group of black soldiers he stood alongside in battle.

The bronze tribute is located across from the State House on Beacon Hill. It depicts Shaw riding a horse as he holds a replica of the famous sword by his side. The memorial was unveiled in 1897 and was created by artist Augustus Saint-Gaudens, according to the National Park Service's website.

The story of the regiment was retold in the Oscar-winning movie "Glory" in 1989. The film starred Denzel Washington, Morgan Freeman, and Matthew Broderick, who played Shaw.

"It's just a magnificent specimen of a sword and it's exactly what a colonel would carry in a war," Bentley said.

For Bentley, the sword represents more than a weapon of war. It signifies the bravery of an African American regiment.

"What they did is they proved, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that they were as courageous and honorable and steadfast as any white regiment," Bentley said.

### Shining more light on black Civil War soldiers — in Westminster and elsewhere

By Jean Marbella, Baltimore Sun, July 23, 2017

Several year ago, Dan Pyle was sitting on the sidewalk for the wreath-laying ceremony that Civil War buffs host annually at the gravesite of a Confederate soldier killed in Corbit's Charge, a skirmish that took place in Westminster on June 29, 1863.

That Pyle was recovering from foot surgery at the time put him closer to the ground than normal, and a ray of sunlight happened to illuminate four faint letters on a worn gravestone nearby: USCT.

"Holy cow," Pyle remembers thinking. Just 10 or 15 feet behind the headstone of a Confederate soldier was one for a member of the United States Colored Troops, the approximately 180,000 black soldiers who fought in the Union Army.

Since then, USCT Corporal Samuel Butler has had a growing part in the annual weekend devoted to remembering Westminster's role in the Civil War. On Saturday morning, organizers will place a new Civil War veteran's marker on Butler's gravesite at the Church of the Ascension, where Confederate Lt. John William Murray is also buried.

President of the Pipe Creek Round Table Steven Carney, left, and member Dan Pyle visit the grave of Cpl. Samuel Butler, a black Union soldier, at the Ascension Episcopal Church cemetery in Westminster.

"The Confederate has his marker. We want to make sure [Butler] has his, too," said Steven Carney, chairman of the committee that organized the Corbit's Charge commemoration



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weekend. "Our organization has taken it on itself to honor both of them. We take care of both their graves."

A century and a half after the war, the USCT is emerging more fully from the shadows of history.

According to the Library of Congress and the National Archives, black soldiers comprised 10 percent of the Union Army. But to the extent they're known today, it's mostly from the 1989 movie "Glory," which focused on a unit from Massachusetts. But recognition of their contributions is growing as descendants and history aficionados research specific soldiers or units. The curiosity of one family descended from a black Civil War soldier in St. Mary's County, for example, led to a memorial and statue to the USCT being erected in Lexington Park in 2012.

Blacks volunteered and organized for service from the start of the war in 1861. But it was only after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863, that they were officially "received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service."

By the war's end, according to the National Archives, 16 black soldiers had earned the Medal of Honor.

The discovery of Butler's grave at the church cemetery has led the Westminster group, the Pipe Creek Civil War Round Table, to "revamp" their annual event to include him.

"When you get down to it, all veterans of that era are American soldiers. They're still our veterans," said Carney, 28. "We preserve Civil War history on both sides. You can't have one story told and not the other."

Corbit's Charge, also known as the Battle of Westminster, was a brief and lopsided clash.

Fewer than 100 members of the 1st Delaware cavalry arrived on June 28, 1863, from Baltimore to guard the rail and road junction in Westminster, according to the town's website. Meanwhile, Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart was advancing northward through Maryland with about 6,000 cavalry soldiers. He arrived in Westminster the following day.

Union Capt. Charles Corbit led a cavalry charge against the confederates. Stuart's troops quickly overwhelmed the smaller Union force. Two Union troops were killed, and more than half the survivors were captured. Two Confederate officers also died.

But the skirmish led Stuart to spend the night in the area, delaying his arrival at what would turn out to be the pivotal clash of the war: the Battle of Gettysburg.

Stuart didn't reach the Pennsylvania town until June 2, after the fighting was already underway. Some believe that was a factor in the Confederacy's defeat there, from which it never recovered.

While the recently discovered Butler did not fight in Corbit's Charge, the Westminster Civil War group has tried to find out more about him.

His gravestone identifies him as a member of Company C, 32nd regiment of the USCT. Pyle obtained his service records from the National Archives, which say he was a 37-year-old, 5-foot 9-inch man with a "Mulatto" complexion who was born in Frederick County and had worked as a laborer.

He enlisted in Philadelphia on Feb. 21, 1864, in and was promoted to corporal two months later. After the war ended in May 1865, his unit was mustered out on Aug. 22. The final

document notes he was due a "bounty" of \$300.

It is unknown how Butler ended up buried at the Church of the Ascension. The Episcopal parish did not return calls for comment. Pyle said Butler could have been from the area, giving him a reason to return after the war. Although his military records show he was born in Frederick County, part of the county became what is now Carroll County in 1837.

Pyle, 51, said he has always been interested in military history and now wants to focus some of his research on the USCT. A retired Army sergeant who now works as a real property manager for the Maryland National Guard, he hopes to write a book on USCT veterans who were born in Maryland.

Butler's gravestone says he died at age 45 in 1868, although his military records indicate he should have been 41 in that year. But Pyle said there sometimes can be discrepancies in ages and the spelling of names in records from that era.

And indeed, organizers of the weekend event initially thought a different Samuel Butler was buried in the church graveyard.



President of the Pipe Creek Round Table Steven Carney, left, and member Dan Pyle visit the grave of Cpl. Samuel Butler, a black Union soldier, at the Ascension Episcopal Church cemetery in Westminster. (Michael Ares / Baltimore Sun)

After discovering Butler's grave, they reached out to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The head of the Baltimore chapter, Tim McCoy,



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retrieved records of another Samuel Butler.

McCoy realized this week that he had the wrong one when he saw the Westminster gravestone identified Butler as a member of the 32nd regiment of the USCT.

McCoy's Samuel Butler was part of Company K of the 23rd regiment. He has a fascinating story of his own: Born in Fairfax, Va., he enlisted on May 13, 1864, as a "substitute for Marcus Vining of Cummington" in Massachusetts. (The Enrollment Act of 1863 allowed a draftee to pay another man to serve in his place.)

Like others who have become interested in researching Civil War history, McCoy, 50, has a personal link: He has five pro-Union ancestors from Eastern Tennessee who fought for the North.

His job with the Washington-based World Cocoa Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to sustainability in the industry would not seem to have anything to do with the Civil War. But his travels abroad allow him to seek out veterans gravesites in unlikely places. He has visited burial sites of Civil War veterans as far afield as Auckland, New Zealand.

McCoy, who will participate in the graveyard ceremony on Saturday, said he is happy to honor any USCT soldier.

"[These] soldiers weren't even considered citizens in many parts of the country," he said. "And [they] defied the odds to defend the U.S. and help ensure the 'new birth of freedom' referred to by President Lincoln in the Gettysburg Address."

### At Civil War commemoration in Westminster,

### Confederate group snubs Union speaker

By Jean Marbella, Baltimore Sun, July 1, 2017

Descendants of Civil War soldiers, battle re-enactors and local officials gathered in Westminster last weekend as they do every year to commemorate an 1863 skirmish that briefly rattled the Carroll County city.

This year, for the first time, a member of the Sons of Union Veterans had been invited to speak about a black Civil War soldier, whose grave was recently discovered in a local church cemetery — near that of a Confederate lieutenant who is always honored.

But as speaker Tim McCoy noted the unique plight a black soldier faced in a war fought over slavery, members of a Confederate color guard turned their backs on him.

"He said they were fighting for slavery," Ray Rooks, the Confederate descendant who ordered the about-face, said after the event. "They were fighting for freedom. They were defending their individual states' rights."

It was another flashpoint in the long-running war over the War.

The Civil War ended more than 150 years ago. But the question of how to interpret it and how to commemorate it remains a source of tension. That the dispute led to an overt snub during the Westminster event last weekend surprised and dismayed some of the participants.

"I'm puzzled and troubled," said Westminster City Council President Robert Wack.

He said the action disrespected the black soldier, Corporal Samuel Butler, other Union veterans, McCoy and the City of Westminster.

"People can disagree on how history is interpreted," Wack said. "But there

were no judgments" in McCoy's remarks.

Most Civil War historians say the primary cause of the conflict was indeed slavery, and the South's rejection of the federal government's right to prohibit it.

Even the argument that the war was really over states' rights tends to circle back to slavery. In becoming the first state to secede from the Union, South Carolina complained of "an increasing hostility on the part of the non-slaveholding States to the institution of slavery." Mississippi declared that "our position is thoroughly identified with the institution of slavery."

But as it has during other turbulent periods — such as the Civil Rights era of the 1950s and '60s — debate over the war and its causes has re-emerged from history to rejoin the ongoing discourse over race in America.

Questions of how to commemorate the Civil War, and particularly the Confederacy, intensified after Dylann Roof killed nine black church members in Charleston, S.C., in June 2015. Roof was found to be a stars-and-bars-waving white supremacist who had targeted members of the Emanuel A.M.E. Church for their race. In his wake, activists have fought, with some success, for the removal of Confederate flags and monuments from public spaces, saying they glorify those who upheld slavery and white rule.

The Westminster event, a two-day series of activities marking the Corbit's Charge skirmish of June 29, 1863, has long featured a ceremony at the grave of Confederate Lt. John William Murray, who was killed in the battle and buried in the cemetery of the Church of the Ascension.



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But this year, organizers invited the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to add a marker to the gravestone of Butler, a member of the United States Colored Troops who fought for the North.

McCoy, head of the Baltimore chapter of the Union group, spoke about what Butler and other blacks faced as soldiers in the war.

"He was well aware that the war was prompted by the issue of slavery," McCoy said, according to a prepared text of his remarks. "And, as an African-American, he surely knew that the war's outcome would determine whether an immoral institution that enslaved people like him would continue to exist in the United States."

McCoy declined to comment on the incident. He said he did not want to distract from "the larger purpose of honoring Corporal Butler."

In his speech, he went on to say that black soldiers initially were paid less than their white counterparts, and that they risked maltreatment when captured by Confederate troops — including being returned to slavery.

Rooks, color guard sergeant of the Maryland Sons of Confederate Veterans, said McCoy was being "derogatory" to Southern soldiers, and that "a political type of speech" was inappropriate to a graveside ceremony.

"He was speaking facts that were not correct, and degrading to the soldiers of the South," Rooks said.

"It was his tone," he said. "He was very negative toward the soldiers of the South."

Rooks said he decided on the spot to order the about-face by his group — 11 men holding flags, three women and a bagpiper and a drummer.

Other participants in the ceremony said they found the back-turning disturbing.

McCoy "was just restating historical fact," Wack said. "If they find that disrespectful, that's their issue."

Wack said he is concerned because the city is a sponsor of the event, providing police and public works support. He said he has no plans to seek a withdrawal of that support, but wants clarification on whether the Confederate group is going to make a regular habit of "overt acts of disrespect" at the event.

"These issues [from the Civil War] are being hijacked, redirected to other agendas that have to do with the political and cultural wars that are currently wracking our country," he said.

Maryland Del. Haven Shoemaker was also at the event, and spoke briefly. Calls to his office for comment were not returned.

The annual commemoration is hosted by the Pipe Creek Civil War Roundtable, a group of history buffs based in Carroll County. The event organizer, Steven Carney, said he was surprised by the Confederate descendants' display, but noted that the group turned back around when it came time to honor the black soldier.

"They did not disrespect Butler," he said.

"As far as the color guard, and anything they may feel, they are separate from our event," Carney said. "It doesn't necessarily reflect how the Pipe Creek Civil War Roundtable feels."

Corbit's Charge was a brief and lopsided clash, in which about 100 Union soldiers were overwhelmed by about 6,000 Confederate troops.

To the extent that it's remembered, it's because it delayed the advance of Gen. J.E.B. Stuart to the pivotal battle

of Gettysburg. Some believe Stuart's late arrival, after the fighting already started, contributed to the Confederacy's defeat there and thus in the war.

Carney said he has not begun to plan next year's event, but said the roundtable will always honor soldiers of both sides.

"We will absolutely have people speak about Corporal Butler and John William Murray as well," he said. Ben Hawley, a past president of the Sons of Union Veterans for the Chesapeake region, also attended the Westminster ceremony. He said he found the back-turning disrespectful — but also out of step with how Civil War aficionados tend to interact.

The Silver Spring man participates in re-enactments as a soldier of the 54th Massachusetts regiment, the black soldiers depicted in the 1989 movie "Glory." He said groups representing either side of the conflict are generally united by how they love to "yak, yak, yak" about the war.

"The Civil War is over," Hawley said.

"We celebrate our ancestors. We're not here to fight the war all over again."

### **Trump salary, other donations to support Antietam preservation**

By Jonathon M. Pitts, Baltimore Sun, July 5, 2017

President Donald J. Trump's salary for the first quarter of 2017 will go toward a pair of restoration and maintenance projects at Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, the site of the bloodiest battle of the Civil War and one of its most pivotal, U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke announced Wednesday.

Zinke also announced that the federal government will provide \$7.2 million



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in matching grants toward the preservation of land at 19 other battlefields associated with the American Revolution, the Civil War and the War of 1812.

Two of those sites are in Maryland — the battlefield near Boonsboro where the bloody Battle of South Mountain was fought on Sept. 14, 1862, and the one in Washington County where Gen. George G. Meade's Army of the Potomac faced Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's forces at the Battle of Williamsport between July 6 and July 16, 1863.

During last year's presidential campaign, Trump promised to give away his full-year presidential salary of \$400,000 if he was elected.

In April, the president announced his intention to donate \$78,333 — his salary from the date of his inauguration through March 31, the end of the first quarter — toward national battlefield park maintenance. Officials said Wednesday the funds would benefit two restoration projects at Antietam: preservation of the historic Newcomer House near the battlefield's Middle Bridge site, and the replacement of 5,000 feet of deteriorating rail fencing along what is now Dunker Church Road, the site of some of the battle's fiercest fighting.

The Newcomer House served as a makeshift hospital in the wake of the fighting, and the fence was a barrier for passing troops during the fighting, particularly early in the day. The fence also served as a backdrop for some of the earliest photographs ever taken of soldiers killed on Civil War battlefields.



Part of President Donald J. Trump's salary will be used to replace 5,000 feet of deteriorating rail fencing along what is now Dunker Church Road at Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, site of the bloodiest battle of the Civil War. (Karl Merton Ferron / Baltimore Sun)

Trump's first-quarter salary will be matched by a donation of more than \$185,880 from three nonprofits — the Civil War Trust, the National Park Foundation and the Save Historic Antietam Foundation — that have long been involved in battlefield preservation.

The federal grants for South Mountain and Williamsport are part of the American Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants program, a National Parks Service initiative founded in 1999 that is financed through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. Those grants will go to states, localities or nonprofits for the purchase of about 1,200 acres of battlefield land not owned by the National Parks Service.

The grants include \$316,234 for the purchase of two private properties totaling 66.5 acres at South Mountain Battlefield in Frederick and Washington counties. They'll become part of South Mountain Battlefield State Park.

Another \$45,751 will allow for the purchase of a 3.5-acre property at the Williamsport Battlefield just south of that Washington County town.

"When people think of a historic battlefield, especially at places like Gettysburg and Antietam, they assume they're protected by the National Parks Service, but that's not usually the case," said Jim Campi, a

spokesman for the Civil War Trust. "Even the ones that are, it's only part of the battlefield. Our purpose is to preserve the land so that the entire story of a battle can be told."

The Battle of Antietam — the bloodiest single-day battle in American history, with a combined total of 22,217 dead, wounded or missing — represented a turning point in the Civil War, ending Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee's invasion of Maryland.

The narrow victory by Union forces at Antietam proved enough to allow President Abraham Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation from a position of strength.

Susan Trail, the superintendent of Antietam National Battlefield, said the wooden siding, windows and porches of the Newcomer House at Antietam have long needed to be restored.

The type of wood fencing along what was then the Hagerstown Pike needs to be replaced every 15 years or so, and it has been 20 years since the fence has received such attention, leaving portions of it rotted, Trail said. Camp called that stretch of fencing "one of the most famous in American history," as it appears in the earliest photographs of men killed in the Civil War.

To Trail, it's essential to posterity to keep such structures in good condition.

"You might not consider each one critically important in its own right, but as part of the overall landscape, they're crucial for conveying a larger understanding of what happened here," she said. "It's important to have these things in place to tell the stories of the battles."

The donations announced Wednesday are "really nice, very helpful for us as we work to keep up



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with all of our structures and landscape features," Trail said.

### **Armed 'patriot' accidentally shoots self in leg at Gettysburg battlefield**

BY Christine Vendel, pennlive.com, July 1, 2017

GETTYSBURG--A "patriot" who brought a revolver to Gettysburg National Military Park Saturday amid rumors of desecration of memorials accidentally shot himself in the leg Saturday.

Benjamin Hornberger, 23, of Shippensburg, accidentally triggered the revolver, which was inside a leg holster, when he temporarily rested the bottom of his flag pole against the holster, according to witnesses. Park police were nearby when the shooting occurred and officers quickly applied a tourniquet that may have saved the man's life, said Sgt. Anna Rose, a spokeswoman with the U.S. Park Police.

A tourniquet type device covered the wound on the man's left thigh as he was loaded into an ambulance. He talked with paramedics and seemed in good spirits.

The gun then went off a second time about 1 p.m. when police were trying to unload the weapon. The gun was pointed at the ground in a field north of Meade's Headquarters along the west side of Taneytown Road. A PennLive reporter witnessed the second shot, which occurred as visitors to the park milled nearby.

Officers said the gun was "bad" and they had a hard time getting the rounds out of the chamber. After they forced all of the rounds out of the revolver, they secured the gun.

Other self-described patriots nearby said they had just talked to the man who was injured and that he came by

himself to the park because of the planned demonstrations. He was not part of any specific group, but was just there as a patriot, they said.

The demonstrations were situated in a different part of the park than the reenactments Saturday.

Dozens of self-described Patriots came to the park about noon Saturday after hearing rumors that Antifa protesters might crash the park's events and try to desecrate memorials. Members of Antifa caused a ruckus in Harrisburg recently at an Anti-Sharia rally and one member was arrested for swinging a wooden pole with a nail attached at a police horse.

The rumors on Saturday appeared to be just that: rumors, as no Antifa members were seen at Gettysburg park Saturday.

Instead, there were dozens of men in camouflage outfits, some carrying long rifles or handguns or both, milling about the park holding large American flags. They walked outside of the perimeter of the fenced-in officially-designated demonstration areas, which were nearly empty all day.

A handful of members from the Real 3 % Risen group sat in one fenced area wearing Confederate flag hats and t-shirts while a lone man with a sign aligning the Confederate flag with slavery and racism sat alone in another fenced area.

### **Confederate statues unmoved in Richmond, Va.**

But monuments will get 2nd look  
By Laura Vozzella The Washington Post

RICHMOND, Va. — The young, African-American mayor of the one-time capital of the Confederacy has vowed to confront his city's towering

tributes to Confederate statues unmoved in Richmond, Va.

But monuments will get 2nd look  
Confederate flag bearers demonstrate in 2015 near the controversial Monument Avenue in Richmond, Va. (Steve Helber/AP )

By Laura Vozzella The Washington Post

RICHMOND, Va. — The young, African-American mayor of the one-time capital of the Confederacy has vowed to confront his city's towering tributes to Southern Civil War figures with words instead of wrecking balls. Mayor Levar Stoney said he would not seek to remove the monuments lining the city's most famous boulevard. Instead, he announced the formation of a commission to find other ways — new signage and perhaps additional monuments — to correct the "false narrative" conveyed by the statues that give Monument Avenue its name.

"Equal parts myth and deception, they were the 'alternative facts' of their time — a false narrative etched in stone and bronze more than 100 years ago — not only to lionize the architects and defenders of slavery, but to perpetuate the tyranny and terror of Jim Crow and reassert a new era of white supremacy," Stoney said during a news conference last week at City Hall.

Stoney's approach could set Richmond apart from other Southern cities grappling with their treatment of Confederate symbols, a long-nagging issue that took on greater import after a white supremacist who had posed with the Confederate flag gunned down nine black churchgoers in Charleston, S. C., in June 2015.

In St. Louis, the city's decision to remove a Confederate monument prompted scuffles last month between supporters and opponents of



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the plan. A judge approved a restraining order to block the city from removing the statue after questions were raised about its ownership.

In New Orleans last month, city workers excavated four statues memorializing Lee, P.G.T. Beauregard and Jefferson Davis but did so in the dead of night to try to minimize violent clashes between supporters and opponents.

And in Charlottesville, torch-bearing protesters — in an echo of the Ku Klux Klan — marched through downtown last month to angrily denounce plans to remove a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee from a city park. The Klan plans to hold a rally at the statue in July.

Stoney's more moderate course might help Richmond escape similar strife while still addressing complaints that the six memorials are, as critic Phil Wilayto has put it, "a virtual shrine to the slavery-defending Confederacy."

But Wilayto, who unsuccessfully pressed the city to change the route of an international bike race in 2015, so racers would not pedal past the monuments, was disappointed.

"It is dodging the issue completely," said Wilayto, an organizer with the Defenders for Freedom, Justice and Equality. "You can't hang a sign on a statue of Adolf Hitler and say, 'Oh, by the way, he was really a bad guy.' You can't do that. It tells you what you think of the man that you have a statue."

Frank Earnest, heritage defense coordinator for the Virginia division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, said his group would likely challenge any new signage, which he said would amount to "defacing" the monuments.

"What the mayor is proposing is opinion. Can I put a sign right next to

his that says, 'His sign is wrong'?" said Earnest, who lives in Virginia Beach.

The issue proved surprisingly potent in the June 13 GOP primary for Virginia governor when Corey Stewart, who had made the state's preservation of Confederate monuments the rallying cry for his bid, narrowly lost to Ed Gillespie, a far-better-funded rival.

Wilayto acknowledges that Stoney would face "a hornet's nest" if he had tried to remove the monuments, which are city property except for the Lee statue, which belongs to the state. Virginia law prohibits the removal of monuments to war veterans, although a Danville Circuit Court judge ruled in 2015 that the statute does not apply to monuments built before 1997.

Removing the statues from Monument Avenue would be logistically challenging. The entire 14-block district has been designated a national historic landmark, and the monuments enjoy a prominent place in the city's landscape.

These memorials are not tucked inside a public park; they stand, block after block, as architectural anchors for Richmond's most stately stretch of tree-lined real estate. The avenue was the city's historic parade route. It is a place where runners — Stoney among them — compete in the annual Monument 10K. And the boulevard still plays host to an old-fashioned Easter parade.

The six monuments, many of them planted in traffic circles, rose up between 1890 and 1929. Tributes to Lee and other Confederate leaders, they were also a gimmick by real estate investors to drive residential development along the route, according to a history in The Cultural Landscape Foundation

A seventh monument added to the avenue in 1996 stands as a rebuke. It honors Arthur Ashe, the Richmond native and African-American tennis star. The addition sparked an uproar.

In the immediate aftermath of the South Carolina church shooting, lawmakers in states across the country called for removing Confederate flags from public property and renaming schools and roads that honored Southern Civil War heroes. Some major retailers stopped selling merchandise with Confederate images.

That summer, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe ordered the removal of the Confederate battle flag from state commemorative license plates. At the announcement, he was asked about the other symbols, such as the Capitol Square statue of former governor and U.S. Sen. Harry Byrd, a segregationist.

"No, where I stand today is, let's do the license plates," McAuliffe said. "I'm not for changing any statues or anything like that."

The perspective in Richmond might be shaped by the many monuments erected in later decades, starting in 1973 with one dedicated to Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, the first dedicated to an African-American, Coleman said.

The Byrd statue shares Capitol Square with a civil rights memorial honoring Prince Edward County student Barbara Moton, who helped bring about desegregation.

The American Civil War Museum tells the story of the Civil War from the perspective of Union and Confederate, enslaved and free African-Americans, soldiers and civilians. Out front stands a statue of Abraham Lincoln and his son Tad. Its installation in 2003 also sparked an outcry.



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Next month, the city will dedicate a new statue of Maggie Walker, an African-American native of Richmond and the first woman to charter a U.S. bank, on Broad Street, and next year, an emancipation statue will be commemorated on Brown's Island.

"One of the things that separates Richmond from a lot of the country is it has been actively changing the monument landscape here, and I think that helps ease it a little bit," Coleman said. "There is no doubt that there are individuals who would love to blow them up right now. But as a historian, I think there's an opportunity to talk about them more deeply."

### Florida City To Rename Streets Honoring Confederate Generals

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) July 4, 2017 — City commissioners in Florida have agreed to begin the process of changing the names of streets named after Confederate generals in the heart of an African-American neighborhood.

During a contentious three-hour meeting Monday night, the Hollywood City Commission voted 5-2 to begin renaming Lee Street, named after Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee; Hood Street, named after Gen. John Bell Hood, and Forrest Street, named after Confederate general and Ku Klux Klan member Nathan Bedford Forrest.

"It is time to change the names and the time is now," Commissioner Debra Case said during the meeting. "We must do the right thing and we must do it now."

The SunSentinel reports a final vote is expected when the board returns from its summer break on Aug. 30.

The current plan calls for Forrest Street to become Savannah Street,

Hood Street to become Macon and Lee will be renamed Louisville.

The controversy has been brewing for a while. Two years ago vandals painted over streets signs and a similar call to change the names went ignored 15 years ago.

A clash broke out last month at city hall between those pushing for the name change and those against it. Five people were arrested.

On Monday night, Hollywood resident Cynthia Baker asked commissioners when it would end. "We have streets named for slave-owning presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Madison. Activists have said those streets are next."

Several Broward County officials were at the meeting and urged commissioners to make the change.

"It is not right that an African-American mother has to tell her child she lives on a street named after someone that wanted them in chains or dead," said Broward County Public Defender Howard Finkelstein said.

The commission voted 5-2 to waive the city's policy requiring that property owners on all three streets receive mailed ballots and vote on the matter. Commissioners Traci Callari and Peter Hernandez offered the votes against renaming streets. The majority included Mayor Josh Levy and Commissioners Dick Blattner, Kevin Biederman, Debra Case and Linda Sherwood.

The debate isn't over.

Callari wants to impose a 10-year moratorium to prevent any other street names from being changed. And Hernandez wants to change the name of every street to a number throughout the entire city.

"If you inconvenience one, you should inconvenience them all," Hernandez said.

### New trails coming to Monocacy battlefield

By CAMERON DODD, Frederick News-Post, June 29, 2017

The National Park Service approved a new public access plan Wednesday for Monocacy National Battlefield. The plan will allow for expanded walking trails at the increasingly popular park.

The approved public access plan also includes new interpretive elements and a non-motorized boat launch to the Monocacy River.

The Monocacy National Battlefield has 7 miles of hiking trails, including the Brooks Hill Loop and Junction trails. Most of them, however, are disconnected, making hiking farther than 2½ miles without trekking already hiked trail or driving between trails impossible.

"Right now we have a lot visitors walking and then driving to other trails and walking and driving to another part of the park," said Nissa Fink, chief of resource education and visitor services at the battlefield. "Now people will be able to park once and walk around the park."

The new trails will also allow visitors to access parts of the park, such as parts of the riverfront and parts of the Best Farm area that were previously inaccessible to foot traffic.

History-focused interpretive elements are a large part of the public access plan. The new trails approximate Union and Confederate army movements during the 1864 Battle of Monocacy and connect key battle points, such as artillery placements.

A planned boat ramp will allow park visitors to launch kayaks, tubes and other non-motorized watercraft into the Monocacy River.

The National Park Service initially opened the 1,647-acre national battlefield in 1934. It has grown in



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popularity over the past 10 years. When the National Park Service opened a new visitor center in 2007, the park was receiving between 30,000 and 35,000 visitors a year. In 2016, the park received almost 80,000 visitors, according to a National Park Service statement. An environmental assessment of the draft public access plan made available for public comment in January. Bob Vogel, director of the National Park Service's Capital Region, signed a finding of no significant impact on Wednesday after considering public input. Implementation of the public access plan will happen incrementally over the next few years as funding becomes available, Fink said.

### Quackery and the Civil War

By Eric W. Boyle, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, May 11th, 2017

Although quackery is everywhere acknowledged to be a crying evil, some appear to think that it should not be opposed. You can do nothing, they say, to suppress or diminish it; it is useless to try... Will any physician who regards the honor and usefulness of his profession, or any intelligent citizen who values the good of society, stand still and look on in culpable apathy whilst the tide of empiricism rolls on, prostrating at the same time the honor of the profession and the best interests of humanity? ... It is idle to say that nothing can be done."

—Dr. Dan King, M.D. (1858)

In his 1858 book, *Quackery Unmasked*, Massachusetts physician Dan King identified the various forms of nineteenth-century "quackeries" he deemed most dangerous to public health. In the early nineteenth century, so-called "patent medicine"

peddlers traveled the country selling their secret formulas, which were often disparaged as "snake oils." Uncounted cancer doctors, bonesetters, inoculators, and abortionists operated without professional sanction. Female practitioners, Native American healers, and clergymen offered medical care in the homes of sick patients, despite their lack of formal education and training. Representatives of new medical sects, including homeopaths, Thomsonian doctors, eclectic, and hydropaths offered allegedly natural cures that ran counter to thousands of years of knowledge accumulated by the medical profession. King argued that antebellum Americans had become "great lovers of nostrums," devouring whatever was new with "insatiable voracity."

This was the state of affairs on the eve of the Civil War, despite widespread efforts from the American medical profession to get their house in order. In fact, accusations of medical quackery had long been pointed in the other direction, at mainstream medical doctors (those with medical degrees). For the first two-thirds of the nineteenth century, detractors had denounced so-called "regular" physicians as "learned quacks." Critics identified "learned quackery" with aggressive and depletive "heroic" therapies that depended on an allegedly outdated and overly speculative "rational" approach. Regular practitioners were pejoratively portrayed by their critics as "mineral doctors," "poison depletive quacks," "mercury dosers," "drug doctors," and "the knights of calomel and the lancet." Their entire system of regular medicine, meanwhile, was characterized as "a murderous system" and "the mineral,

humbuggery practice." Patent medicine promoters railed against the dangers of regular medicine and its heroic manifestations. Advertising campaigns capitalized on fear, depicting death, suffering, and evil at the hands of regular doctors.

Meanwhile, the Civil War helped launch a revolution in journalism and advertising that made it possible for drug advertisers to more effectively reach their potential customers. High-volume patent medicine makers were the first American manufacturers to seek out a national market, the first large-scale producers to go directly to consumers with a message about their product, and the first to employ a multitude of psychological techniques to entice buyers. Advertisements in newspapers and magazines were complemented by pamphlets, calendars, almanacs, storybooks, cookbooks, joke books, and various other publications that sprinkled ads throughout the text like commercials in a modern television show. In addition to exploiting fears, advertisements played on patriotic sentiments by depicting American war heroes and even presidents in their advertisements. Within a month of Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, an ad for Bellingham's ointment appeared on the front page of the *New York Herald*, claiming credit for the new president's magnificent beard.

The Civil War had a major impact on themes used by advertisers to sell their remedies, including increased attention to the "prevailing difficulties" faced by soldiers like diarrhea and dysentery. Brandeth's Pills used the testimony of "Sixty Voices from the Army of Potomac" as evidence for their effectiveness in protecting the soldier from "the arrows of disease, usually as fatal as the bullets of the



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foe." An officer in the Shenandoah Valley reportedly considered Hostetter's Bitters "The Soldier's Safeguard."

### Miraculous Cure

Richard D. Creech, of 1062 Second St., Appleton, Wis., says:

"Our son Willard was absolutely helpless. His lower limbs were paralyzed, and when we used electricity he could not feel it below his hips. Finally my mother, who lives in Canada, wrote advising the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and I bought some. This was when our boy had been on the stretcher for an entire year and helpless for nine months. In six weeks after taking the pills we noted signs of vitality in his legs, and in four months he was able to go to school. It was nothing else in the world that saved the boy than Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.—From the *Crescent*, Appleton, Wis.

### Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People

are sold by all druggists or direct from Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y., postpaid on receipt of price, 50c. per box; six boxes, \$2.50.

Drug makers also targeted the thousands of soldiers who returned to civilian life after recovering from wartime illnesses. Dr. Williams Medicine Company, maker of Pink

Pills for Pale People, lamented: "It is not alone those who were wounded who deserve our sympathy, it is the great majority who were not, but who contracted the seeds of disease in Southern swamps and prisons, and who have as a consequence lost their health before their time."

In the wake of the war, reformers remained steadfast in their belief that public education could curb the excesses of the most egregious quacks while critics still unhappily noted that the demand for cure-alls and for the services of those who claimed to cure by extraordinary means was "not confined to those who are deficient in intelligence or weakened and discouraged by exhausting diseases." Before the war, reformers had likewise admitted that they could never expect quackery's complete extermination. "History informs us," Dr. King noted in 1858, "that it has always existed in some form or other, and a consideration of the human propensity leads us to conclude that it always will." In the years following the Civil War, even the most ardent medical reformers often admitted that "the 'quack,' the 'shyster,' and the 'sheep in wolf's clothing'" would always exist.

#### About the Author

Eric W. Boyle earned his PhD in the History of Science, Technology and Medicine from the University of California Santa Barbara in 2007. He was Chief Archivist at the National Museum of Health and Medicine from 2013-2016 and is currently Chief Historian for the Department of Energy and a lecturer for the University of Maryland's School of Public Health. His first book, *Quack Medicine: A History of Combating Health Fraud in Twentieth-Century America*, was published in 2013.

### Nurse Pember and the Whiskey War

By Mary C. Meskauskas, Historynet, July 16, 2017 (Reprinted from *Civil War Times*)

From atop Chimborazo Hill on the western outskirts of Richmond, Virginia, Phoebe Yates Pember, matron of Chimborazo Hospital Number Two, looked down upon 'a scene of indescribable confusion.' A few months earlier, the collapse of the Confederacy had been only a whispered rumor. Now, on the afternoon of April 2, 1865, that depressing prospect had become a shocking reality. With Federal troops fast on their heels, Confederate President Jefferson Davis, his cabinet, and other government officials were scampering out of town by train, carriage, and any other available form of transportation.

Surgeons, nurses, and stewards followed their example and skedaddled from the Chimborazo complex. After bidding her fleeing friends farewell, Pember turned away from the turbulent scene and walked through her nearly empty wards. Night was setting in. As she later wrote, 'Beds in which paralyzed, rheumatic, and helpless patients had laid for months were empty. The miracles of the New Testament had been re-enacted. The lame, the halt, and the blind had been cured.'

Pember had arrived at Chimborazo Hospital, a complex of long, single-story, whitewashed buildings sprawled atop Chimborazo Hill, on December 18, 1862. Chimborazo was at the time said to be the largest military hospital in the world, and Phoebe would be its first matron. She had accepted the job from Mrs. George Wythe Randolph, wife of the Confederate secretary of war, mainly to escape unhappiness and inactivity



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at the Yates homestead in Marietta, Georgia, where she had gone to live after the death of her husband the previous year.

In a November 29, 1862, letter to her sister, Eugenia, Pember admitted she was a little anxious about her decision: 'You may imagine how frightened and nervous I feel concerning the step I am about to take and how important in this small way it will be to me, for I have too much common sense to underrate what I am giving up.' In the same letter she also wrote proudly that she was to have 'entire charge of my department, seeing that everything is clean, orderly and all prescriptions of physicians given in proper time, food properly prepared and so on.'

Though she had no professional medical training, Pember had run a large household and cared for her husband, who had suffered from tuberculosis. She considered herself an efficient and educated woman well up to the challenge of heading one of Chimborazo's five hospital divisions. Nevertheless, the conditions she encountered at the hospital would challenge her efficiency and her patience. The challenge began with her living space. The surgeon-in-charge had made no preparations for his female nurses, so Phoebe set to work converting a vacant building into her own quarters, an office, parlor, laundry area, pantry, and kitchen.

As Pember's confidence grew so did her use of authority. She was responsible for procuring supplies and food for her patients' special diets and she soon insisted upon total control of luxuries such as coffee, tea, and milk. Still, her position seemed little more than that of a chief cook until the surgeon-in-charge, Dr. James B. McCaw, found her peeling potatoes one day. McCaw initiated a

thorough study of hospital rules that resulted in the organization of a full staff under Pember's jurisdiction. She was provided with an assistant matron, cooks and bakers, and two laborers to perform menial tasks.

Pember soon had her first major skirmish with traditional male authority at the hospital, over a problem that nearly proved her undoing. Each hospital division received its own monthly barrel of whiskey for medicinal purposes. Pember noted that 'the monthly barrel of whiskey which I was entitled to draw still remained at the dispensary under the guardianship of the apothecary and his clerks, and quarts and pints were issued through any order coming from surgeons or their substitutes, so that the contents were apt to be gone long before I was entitled to draw more, and my sick would suffer for want of the stimulant.' There was a wide discrepancy between Confederate law, which dictated that all spirituous liquors required by hospitals should be entrusted to the matrons, and how whiskey was actually dispensed at Chimborazo. Thoroughly familiar with the hospital bill passed by Congress, Pember made a formal request to Dr. McCaw for total jurisdiction over the monthly whiskey ration. The surgeon-in-charge protested, but then reluctantly released the barrel to the matron's care. Flushed with victory, Pember wrote, 'I nailed my colors to the mast, and that evening all the liquor was in my pantry and the key in my pocket.'

Pember's triumph heralded the beginning of trouble. She soon felt what she called 'the thousand miseries of my position.' Staff members flooded her office with countless petty requests. Pember's all-consuming passion—the care of

the sick, wounded, and dying—kept her going. 'My duty prompted me to remain with my sick, on the ground that no general ever deserts his troops,' she wrote. She eventually found some respite from her responsibilities by renting a room in town, to which she returned at night. Meanwhile, her patients taught her something about courage. 'No words can do justice to the uncomplaining nature of the Southern soldier,' she wrote. 'Day after day, whether lying wasted by disease or burning up with fever, torn with wounds or sinking from debility, a groan was seldom heard.' In her war memoir, *A Southern Woman's Story*, Yates described a particularly remarkable example of a young soldier named Fisher.

Fisher had suffered a severe hip wound. One night, after months of hard and diligent nursing, he turned over in bed and cried out in pain. Pember examined him and discovered that a sharp edge of splintered bone had severed one of his arteries. She immediately placed her finger in the tiny hole to stop the gush of blood, and summoned the surgeon. After looking at Fisher's injury, the doctor shook his head and declared sadly that the poor man was beyond help.

Pember faced what she later considered 'the hardest trial of my duty at Chimborazo.' She told Fisher there was no hope for him, and the gravely injured man gave her directions on notifying his mother of his death.

'How long can I live?' he asked.

'Only as long as I keep my finger upon this artery,' Pember replied.

Then, she later wrote, 'A pause ensued. God alone knew what thoughts hurried through that heart and brain, called so unexpectedly



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from all earthly hopes and ties. He broke the silence at last.'

'You can let go,' Fisher said. Pember froze, unable to obey. The horror of the situation overcame her, and for the only time during her days at Chimborazo, she fainted.

As the war progressed, casualties multiplied and Pember's duties increased. Massive numbers of incoming wounded caused shortages of medical supplies, surgeons and assistants, and hospital beds. Pember arranged for makeshift beds and continually washed and dressed minor wounds, preparing the more difficult cases for the surgeons. Soon, however, trouble began anew, and as Pember wrote, 'if it is necessary to have a hero for this matter-of-fact narrative, the whiskey barrel will have to step forward and make his bow.'

It was the spring of 1864 when the ongoing whiskey problem escalated into a confrontation between Pember and a determined ward surgeon. Every day, each ward's officer of the day ordered a quart bottle of whiskey in case a patient needed a stimulant during the night. The following morning Pember would inquire why the bottles were empty when no patients had required the elixir. The answer would invariably be that rats must have tipped the bottle over during the night.

The mystery of the disappearing whiskey rations might have continued for the duration of the war if not for a complaint lodged by a patient in a distant ward, who wondered why the liquor ration had not reached his building. Pember marched over and questioned the other patients, who all said that they had not received any whiskey. The men hinted that several champagne bottles hidden behind a certain vacant bed might easily be spirited away in the night.

Pember searched and discovered the stowed champagne bottles filled with the missing whiskey. Incensed, she tracked down and confronted the ward master, but he indicated that another party was guilty. Pember was unsympathetic; in looking the other way the ward master had failed his charges, and the matron informed him that when she took 'the matter to the proper authorities he would be sent to the field.'

An hour later the ward surgeon accosted Pember in her office. He swore that his ward master did not drink. Pember replied, 'I know he does not, and I also know who does.' The doctor's fiery flush revealed him as the true culprit. Despite his subsequent efforts to discredit Pember, it was the surgeon who soon left Chimborazo, never to return. It was a hollow victory for Pember, who soon realized that the whiskey barrel was not just a source of contention, but a troubling institution she would someday have to deal with once and for all.

That day came on the Monday following the evacuation of Richmond. The hospital was in enemy hands and Pember spent the day discharging orders given by Federal surgeons. She cleared one hospital division to make room for incoming Union patients, who were laid alongside the remaining Confederates. Exhausted at the end of the day, she entered her quarters and tumbled onto her straw mattress.

Suddenly, the sound of a door crashing down jolted her to her feet, and Pember found herself face to face with a threatening mob. She recognized the ringleader, a long-time hospital resident named Wilson. 'We have come for the whiskey!' he declared.

'You cannot, and shall not have it,' the matron answered, undeterred by the angry 'hospital rats' at Wilson's back.

'It does not belong to you,' Wilson said. In this, Wilson was mistaken. Pember had remained at Chimborazo to execute her duties, and those duties included insuring the safety and disposition of 30 gallons of whiskey that had arrived the day before. Pember was determined to do her duty.

'Boys!' Wilson bellowed, 'Pick up that barrel and carry it down the hill. I will attend to her!'

For nearly three years, Pember had given orders and the men had taken them. Now they backed away, leaving their leader to confront the defiant matron by himself.

'Wilson,' Pember said, 'you have been in this hospital a long time. Do you think from what you know of me that the whiskey can be taken without my consent?'

That said, she stepped solidly between her foe and the whiskey barrel. She watched as Wilson's 'fierce temper blazed up in his face, and catching me roughly by the shoulder, he called me a name that a decent woman seldom hears and even a wicked one resents.' The bully was about to shove Pember out of his way when he heard a telltale click—the sound of a pistol being cocked, barely muted by the folds of the matron's homespun skirt. Pember told him to leave. 'If one bullet is lost,' she warned, 'there are five more ready, and the room is too small for even a woman to miss six times.'

Wilson backed down, but left with a threat: 'You think yourself very brave now, but wait an hour; perhaps others may have pistols too, and you won't have it entirely your way after all.' Wilson's hateful words were chilling,



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and after the men retreated Pember nailed the head of a flour barrel across the back door and sat down on the whiskey barrel, her pistol within easy reach. Fortunately, the men did not return. 'Warm with triumph and victory gained,' Phoebe slept undisturbed, if uncomfortable, through the rest of the night.

On the morning of April 4, 1865, Federal authorities took possession of Chimborazo's stores, and the troublesome whiskey was no longer Pember's concern. The matron remained on duty until all her patients had convalesced, died, or been removed to another hospital. Then, after more than two years of selfless duty, Pember suddenly found herself alone in Union-occupied Richmond, without prospects, and with just a silver 10-cent piece and a box of useless Confederate money to her name. Laughing at her lot, she spent her paltry remaining funds on 'a box of matches and five cocoa-nut cakes.' Pember eventually made her way back to Georgia, and spent many of her remaining years traveling. She died in 1913, an eternity removed from her trials and triumphs at Hospital Number Two.

This article was written by Mary C. Meskauskas and originally appeared in the August 1999 issue of *Civil War Times* magazine.