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## THE "OLD LINER" NEWSLETTER

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### Williamsport, Md., has Story to Tell About Its Ongoing Role in the War

Civil War News, December 2012

WILLIAMSPORT, Md. — The Town of Williamsport received a matching grant from the Maryland Department of Planning of \$23,160 for multiple projects that will educate the public about the town's Civil War past.

The goal is to have the rehabilitation of Doubleday Hill and 10 interpretive signs for a walking and driving tour completed before June in anticipation of Gettysburg Campaign sesquicentennial tourism.

The town's most recognizable Civil War site is Doubleday Hill, or Battery Hill, named for then U.S. Army Maj. Abner Doubleday. In August and September 1861 he set up a battery of three siege guns on the hill in Riverview Cemetery which overlooks the Potomac River. The battery guarded Maryland against Confederate invasion from Virginia across the river.

In 1897 the town received three Model 1861 Phoenix Iron 3-Inch Ordnance Rifles for a memorial. They were put on brick mounts. The memorial site with cannonball stacks, a flag pole, and ammunition bunker was dedicated on July 4, 1897. The hope is to rededicate the park on July 4, 2013.

Restoration project manager Scott Bragunier said that over the years the flag pole was destroyed, the cannonballs were taken and the bunker was filled in and is now a hill. Replicas replaced the cannon tubes which were stored in the Town Hall basement.

The town plans to place the ordnance rifles on reproduction carriages from Steen Cannon & Ordnance Works of Ashland, Ky. Two will be metal

simulating wood. One barrel will be mounted on a wooden carriage and used for educational purposes. Bragunier said they hope the tubes will be in good enough condition to be fired.

Bragunier said Williamsport, which is in western Maryland southwest of Hagerstown, had a major role in the war from 1861 to 1864. From Union encampments to the continuous crossings of the Potomac River by troops on both sides, the town was involved.

During the war's first campaigns Williamsport was a stepping stone for the Union Army defending the North. During the Maryland Campaign Williamsport Stonewall Jackson's army occupied the town before it took Harpers Ferry Arsenal and fought at Antietam.

Union troops then destroyed the Bollman bridge over the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and the aqueduct to keep Confederate forces from coming back. During the Gettysburg Campaign Confederates crossed through Williamsport and occupied the town during their retreat.

A pontoon bridge, their route across the Potomac, was destroyed and ensuing floods trapped the Confederate Army for 10 days until a new bridge could be built and the army eventually made it back to Virginia.

Bragunier said during this time battles took place in and around the town which became a massive hospital system for wounded from Gettysburg. The town's annual July Retreat through Williamsport Civil War weekend commemorates this period. This year's event will be July 12-14 ([www.williamsportretreat.com](http://www.williamsportretreat.com)).

Williamsport's war history will be told on the new interpretive markers. A

brochure and map will allow self-guided tours.

"Area residents and visitors need to know that the Maryland Campaign and the Gettysburg Campaign didn't end at the last shot on Sept 17 or July 3 but that struggles continued after those dates. They need to know that men died fighting for this town and that their memories need to live on," said Bragunier.

### Library of Congress pulls diaries, letters from Civil War

By BRETT ZONGKER, Associated Press, November 24, 2012

WASHINGTON (AP) — Letters and diaries saved for 150 years from those who lived through the Civil War offer a new glimpse at the arguments that split the nation then and some of the festering debates that survive today.

The Library of Congress, which holds the largest collection of Civil War documents, pulled 200 items from its holdings to reveal both private and public thoughts from dozens of famous and ordinary citizens who lived in the North and the South. Many are being shown for the first time.

Robert E. Lee, for one, was grappling with divided federal and state allegiances. He believed his greater allegiance was to his native Virginia, as he wrote to a friend about resigning his U.S. Army commission.

"Sympathizing with you in the troubles that are pressing so heavily upon our beloved country & entirely agreeing with you in your notions of allegiance, I have been unable to make up my mind to raise my hand against my native state, my relatives, my children & my home," he wrote in 1861. "I have therefore resigned my commission in the Army."



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Lee's handwritten letter is among dozens of writings from individuals who experienced the war. They are featured in the new exhibit "The Civil War in America" at the library in Washington until June 2013. Their voices also are being heard again in a new blog created for the exhibition. For a limited time in 2013, the extensive display will feature the original draft of President Abraham Lincoln's preliminary Emancipation Proclamation and rarely shown copies of the Gettysburg Address. Beyond the generals and famous battles, though, curators set out to tell a broader story about what Lincoln called "a people's contest."

"This is a war that trickled down into almost every home," said Civil War manuscript specialist Michelle Krowl. "Even people who may seem very far removed from the war are going to be impacted on some level. So it's a very human story."

Curators laid out a chronological journey from before the first shots were fired to the deep scars soldiers brought home in the end.

While some still debate the root causes of the war, for Benjamin Tucker Tanner in 1860, the cause was clear, as he wrote from South Carolina in his diary.

"The country seems to be bordering on a civil war all on account of slavery," wrote the future minister. "I pray God to rule and overrule all to his own glory and the good of man."

A personal letter from Mary Todd Lincoln in 1862 was recently acquired by the library and is being publicly displayed for the first time.

In the handwritten note on stationery with a black border, Mary Lincoln reveals her deep grief over the death of her son Willie months earlier. Krowl said Mary Lincoln's grief is also evident in the new movie, "Lincoln."

"When you read this letter ... you just get a palpable feeling of how in the depth that she's been and she's now finally coming out of her grief, at least to resume public affairs," Krowl said. All the documents in the exhibit are original. They include a massive map of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley Commissioned by General Stonewall Jackson to prepare for a major campaign.

The library also is displaying personal items from Lincoln, including the contents of his pockets on the night he was assassinated, and the pocket diary of Clara Barton who would constantly record details about soldiers she met and would later create the Bureau of Missing Soldiers.

Some of the closing words come from soldiers who lost their right arms or hands in battle and had to learn to write left-handed. They joined a left-handed penmanship contest and shared their stories.



This undated handout image provided by the Library of Congress shows John F. Chase, who lost his right arm and left eye at Gettysburg. (AP Photo/Library of Congress)

"I think this exhibition will have a lot of resonance for people," said exhibit director Cheryl Regan. "Certainly soldiers returning home from the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are going to be incredibly moved by these stories."

### A Brief History of the Southern Cross of Honor

By David T. Alexander, Coin World, Nov. 30, 2012

After 1879, when the federal occupation of the defeated South had ended and wartime passions cooled following the American Civil War, it became possible to set up Confederate veterans' organizations and related auxiliaries.

Most prominent were United Confederate Veterans (founded June 1889) and the United Daughters of the Confederacy (1894).

UDC busied itself early on with formulating an acceptable Southern version of the history of "the War Between the States," before turning to recognition of Confederate veterans in 1899. Gen. Robert E. Lee had opposed awarding of medals out of concern that many worthy candidates were sure to be overlooked in the hurry and confusion of all-out war.

Mrs. Alexander S. Erwin, daughter of secessionist firebrand Howell Cobb, firmly believed that UDC could rectify this situation for surviving, honorably discharged veterans. She designed a decoration to be called the Southern Cross of Honor and presented it before the 1899 UDC convention.

Adopted with enthusiasm, it took the form of a 33.8-millimeter bronze cross pattée hanging from a pinback bar that first bore the name of Atlanta



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manufacturing jeweler Charles W. Crankshaw.

The center of the obverse bears the Confederate battle flag in laurel wreath; the arms are inscribed, UNITED – DAUGHTERS – CONFEDERACY – TO THE U.C.V.

The reverse wreath surrounds DEO VINDICE (with God our Vindicator) from the Confederate Great Seal with dates 1861-1865. The arms are inscribed SOUTHERN – CROSS – OF – HONOR.

A red mahogany patina is generally observed, with the pinback left blank for engraving.



Images courtesy of the American Numismatic Society

The first crosses bearing the Crankshaw name were actually struck by Schwaab Stamp & Seal Co. of Milwaukee.

UDC fired Schwaab for striking 1902-1903 convention badges that appropriated much of the Cross of Honor design without authorization.

In 1904 the largest medallion firm in the U.S. was Whitehead & Hoag of Newark, N.J., which then contracted to produce the cross with the existing design, but displaying a wholly different smooth tan-gold patina and microscopic maker's name on the reverse.

The first crosses were presented in 1900 to veterans with honorable service in any branch of Confederate service. Ultimately 78,761 were presented between 1900 and 1959,

including a final posthumous award to Confederate Rear Adm. Raphael Semmes.

### Crazy Bet

by Jay Stencil

Civil War buffs may know about "Crazy Bet." She was an anti-slavery southerner and a fierce Union supporter, although during her father's lifetime the family owned slaves. A number of the family's slaves would later become part of Elizabeth's elaborate spy ring.

Elizabeth was born into privilege and was educated in Philadelphia by Quakers. As she described herself, "From the time I knew right from wrong it was my sad privilege to differ in many things from the opinions and principles of my locality."

Years before the war, she unsuccessfully tried to convince her father to release their slaves from the family's household. Her father died in 1843, and in the early 1850s she freed all the family slaves; many stayed on in their jobs. She also used part of a large inheritance to buy freedom for relatives of her slaves. While neighbors knew Elizabeth was an outspoken abolitionist, they *did not* know that long before the war started the Van Lew mansion was part of the Underground Railroad.

When the war began Federal prisoners were held at the infamous Libby Prison in Richmond.

When Bet learned of the horrid conditions and the prisoners' mistreatment, she asked the Commandant of the prison for permission to give the prisoners food and medicine, and to become a nurse there. The first commandant of Libby was Mary Lincoln's half brother, Lt. David H. Todd. He eventually approved her request and she was allowed to provide humanitarian care to the prisoners.

She went out of her way to be accommodating to both prisoners and guards. Even Lt. Todd appreciated her visits. By gaining the confidence of Todd and the guards, she could conduct her espionage activities for the Union. New arrivals at the prison gave her information about Rebel troop movements and battle plans. Her methods included intricate codes, and she used hollowed out egg shells to hide bits of information. She enlisted her freed slaves to help deliver messages to Union spy agents.

As the war progressed, Confederate agents became suspicious of her activities and they clamped down on her freedom of movement within the prison. As a ruse she decided to feign insanity— she behaved strangely and talked to herself in public. She became known as "Crazy Bet" to her friends, neighbors, and antagonists. To further protect herself and her mother, she generously opened her home to the new Commandant at Libby Prison, Lt. Todd's replacement. Among the slaves liberated by Miss Van Lew was Mary Bowser. Van Lew saw intellectual promise in Mary and had sent her to Philadelphia to be educated. Elizabeth was able to secure a servant's job for Mary in the home of Jefferson Davis. Mary was able to secretly rifle through Davis' private papers and maps, and she listened to conversations at dinner, which she could recall verbatim. She then passed on important information to Van Lew or others in the spy ring. As Confederate counterintelligence agents closed in on Bet, she buried her diary in her backyard.

She then received a tip from a friendly Confederate clerk that her horse would be confiscated.

She needed him for her spy work, so she hid him in the smokehouse.



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When she learned a few days later that Confederates knew about the hiding place, she led the horse into her house and brought him to the upstairs library. Straw had been spread for him, and the horse apparently managed to keep quiet during the search!

Late in January 1864 Van Lew alerted Union officials about Confederate plans to move thousands of prisoners from Richmond. This prompted an unsuccessful raid led by General Judson Kilpatrick and Colonel Ulric Dahlgren to rescue the prisoners. The raid went rapidly to pieces and Dahlgren was killed and his body mutilated by the Confederates who had captured him. His remains were secretly buried by the side of a road. Quite accidentally Bet learned the location of the young Dahlgren, managed to exhume the body, and with the help of freed slaves safely buried the body at a farm outside town. Meanwhile, Dahlgren's father asked Jefferson Davis to send the body back as a token of goodwill and Davis agreed to the request. However, workmen sent to retrieve Dahlgren's body were baffled upon finding an empty grave. The matter was cleared up after the war.

By 1864-65 U. S. Grant began regular correspondence with Elizabeth Van Lew. She could forward messages to Grant almost every day, and even managed to provide him daily newspapers from Richmond. Upon Grant's arrival in Richmond, he paid a formal visit to Miss Van Lew. They drank tea together and talked politely on the Van Lew's columned porch.

Crazy Bet lived a long life—from 1818 to 1900—but her later years in Richmond were lonely. She wrote, "[I am] held in contempt & scorn by the

narrow minded men and women of my city for my loyalty ... Socially living as utterly alone in the city of my birth, as if I spoke a different language."



Photo courtesy NPS

Her difficulties slightly improved after Grant became president in 1869 and appointed her Postmaster of Richmond, a position she held for eight years. But when Rutherford B. Hayes took office as president, Van Lew lost her job and had almost no one to turn to for help. Desperate, Van Lew, who was now in her 70s, contacted the family of Paul Revere, and along with other wealthy people in Boston whom Van Lew had helped during the war, they regularly gave her money. Van Lew survived on that income until she died at her home, still an outcast, in 1900.

### Boxers, Briefs and Battles

By JEAN HUETS, New York Times, November 25, 2012

Civil War soldiers carried many valuables: letters from home, photographs, and locks of hair from wives, sweethearts and babies. But they held a less romantic article much

nearer to their hearts, and sometimes much dearer: their undergarments.

History favors epic battles, stirring speeches, presidents and generals and the economic and political forces that transform the lives of millions. Yet mere underwear has a story to tell, a story that covers the breadth of the Civil War, from home front to battlefield.

A full suit of mid-19th-century men's underwear consisted of a shirt, "drawers" and socks. Like today, men's underwear at the time, unlike women's, did not provide structure to the body. Rather, cover, warmth and hygiene were the order of the day — though the hygiene part did not always work out. The term for undershirt was usually just "shirt"; shirts as we know them today were often called blouses or top-shirts. Undershirts were square-cut pullovers, voluminous and long. Buttons and sometimes laces at the neck fastened them.

Drawers, meanwhile, were sometimes knee-length, usually ankle-length. Two or three buttons closed a center fly. Lacing or a buckle at the back waistband adjusted the fit. Tape ties or drawstrings at the ankle (or knee) kept drawer legs from riding up. Possibly the drawstrings also functioned as sock garters. For many men of the period, shirt tails stood in for drawers. Ribbed and knit fabric primarily went to socks, which were nearly always woolen. When not hand-knit, the tubular body was knit at mills, with heels and toes added by hand.

Mills provided the fabric, which women pieceworkers assembled at home by hand and sewing machines. "In certain districts" of rural New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont, reported one New England manufacturer, "the whole female



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population is employed, in spare moments, at this work."

It's nearly impossible to imagine rural women enjoying "spare moments" while running farms in the absence of men, in addition to housekeeping and child care. Women who relied solely on piecework struggled as well. One "smart operator" finished four pairs of drawers daily, breaking "long enough to make herself a cup of tea and eat a piece of bread," reported *The New York Times*. For her 12-hour day, she earned 16 and a quarter cents. Women in mills might make even less. By comparison, a Union private earned about 43 cents a day, plus rations and clothing. Pieceworkers in New York and other cities organized, but contractors, or as *The New York Sun* described them, "fiends in the shape of men," continued to reap huge profits while "driving ten thousand working women into the very jaws of hell."

For subsistence, patriotism, love or profit, women North and South worked hard to supplement Army-issue underwear, sometimes ripping their own clothes apart for fabric. And many soldiers, especially those in the South, preferred their underwear homemade; wives, sisters and enslaved women stitched a variety of fabrics, especially cotton flannel (cotton flannel fleeced on one side) and cotton-and-wool blend flannel, into drawers and shirts.

Recruits whose mothers never issued underpants could be fooled into wearing their new drawers on parade. They presented themselves in august company. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant himself once appeared in "parade uniform": one night, when gunboats threatened the depot at City Point, Va., reported an eyewitness in *The Century* magazine, "the general came hurriedly into the office. He had

drawn on his top-boots over his drawers, and put on his uniform frock-coat, the skirt of which reached about to the tops of the boots and made up for the absence of trousers." Underwear was always in short supply. Prisoners of war suffered most. Lincoln's quartermaster general, Montgomery Meigs, stipulated that "from the 30th of April to the 1st of October neither drawers nor socks will be issued to prisoners of war, except to the sick." A Union prisoner testified that hundreds of his fellow captives went "without even a pair of drawers to cover their nakedness."

Such shortages made underwear coveted spoils of war. When Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's men raided a Union supply depot, "sumptuous underclothing was fitted over limbs sunburnt, sore and vermin-splotched." A Confederate cadet spotted his own monogram on underwear worn by a Federal whose pants were cut open to tend a wound. The soldier confessed to looting a Lynchburg, Va., house where the cadet had stowed his trunk.

Getting fresh underwear by issue, mail or pillage was easier than laundering and carrying extra. One Confederate soldier, Carlton McCarthy, preferred to wear all his clothes "until the enemy's knapsacks or the folks at home supplied a change. Certainly it did not pay to carry around clean clothes while waiting for the time to use them."

Francis Ackerman, a volunteer from New York, gleaned fresh clothes from the fields at the Third Battle of Winchester, in September 1864. His account of finding a riderless horse mingles the grotesque tragedy of battle with the dry humor so characteristic of War memoirs. "I discovered a horse with one of his

legs shot off, on his back a good outfit," he wrote. "Feeling rather lively from life inside my clothes," he "concluded to examine the wounded horse, and was rewarded by finding a clean full suit of underwear. I stripped on the battle field, and with thankful heart put it on, the first change I had in six weeks." More fastidious men changed into clean underwear faithfully — once a week.

Regardless of how often one changed his drawers, the louse ruled. "It preyed alike on the just and the unjust. It inserted its bill as confidently into the body of the major-general as of the lowest private," wrote one memoirist. Laundering in boiling water didn't rout the "gray backs"; instead, taking a page from their battlefield playbooks, soldiers relied on "skirmishing," or painstaking search-and-destroy efforts to pick them off one by one.

In any case, boiling underwear could get a man into hot water. When Gen. Thomas Lanier Clingman of North Carolina wrote his mother to send drawers, she answered back, "I am certain that your flannel is injured by washing. It should not be put in very hot water or boiled at all," and it should be washed in "moderately warm water with soap and rinsed in warm soap suds, which will keep it soft and free from shrinking. At least, you can direct your washer to do so." General Clingman was 50 years old when his mom told him how to wash his underwear.

Even clean and vermin-free, underwear was rarely comfortable. Harsh laundering subtracted durability and comfort. Availability and cost not fit or season dictated cut and fabric. In summer a soldier sweltered in flannel or discarded his drawers and got chafed raw by rough, sweaty wool pants.



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The manufacture and use of underwear reflects several aspects of the Civil War, and it holds a mirror to our own times. Labor was both empowered and exploited by the cascade of contract money that poured in for its production, which in turn helped usher in the corruption and wealth of the Gilded Age. Slavery and regionalism weren't the only things that fractured our country. A chasm existed between the "dainty men" in their boiled shirts and the common herd in homespun plaid and flannel, between impoverished millworkers and pieceworkers — often immigrants — and women whose elegance was purchased by their husbands' manufacturing enterprises.

Most of all, the humble suit of underwear highlights the Civil War soldier himself: his endurance and fortitude, his ability to make do with whatever conditions and supplies came along and his sense of humor, which pervades even the most dire accounts of battle and camp life.

### **The case of the missing 13th amendment to the Constitution**

By Scott Bomboy, National  
Constitution Center,  
December 5, 2012

A few years ago, a group of Iowa Republicans claimed the legitimate 13th Amendment to the Constitution was "missing." The debate is part of an historical detective story with some surprising twists that is still taking place.

*The Daily Beast* did a fairly extensive feature on the missing amendment in 2010, which *didn't* feature a cloaked Freemason stealing the amendment because it had a secret treasure map printed on it.

Instead, the debate between historians and conspiracy buffs is about an amendment that was almost ratified in 1812 that would have been the 13th Amendment, bumping back the current 13th Amendment—which was ratified on this day in 1865 and abolished slavery—to the position of the 14th Amendment.

Writer Jerry Adler's 2010 explanation of the "Thirteenthers" controversy is pretty detailed and covers both sides of the issue—which isn't new but got a big burst of publicity thanks to the Iowa GOP's 2010 platform.

The Iowa Republicans didn't want the current 13th Amendment banned; they just wanted the "original" one reintroduced for approval.

That "missing" proposal was called the "Titles of Nobility Amendment" (or TONA). It sought to ban any American citizen from receiving any foreign title of nobility or receiving foreign favors, such as a pension, without congressional approval. The penalty was loss of citizenship.

It was an extension of Article I, Section 9, of the Constitution, which doesn't allow a public office holder to receive a foreign title or similar honors without the consent of Congress.

Today, the idea of a constitutional controversy about the royals may seem kind of silly, but in 1812, the United States was fighting the British and had a rocky relationship with France.

The fear of both nations using noble titles as bribes, along with pensions from a foreign government, was persistent. And both the Senate and the House easily passed the TONA and passed it on to the states.

By late 1812, a total of 12 states had approved the 13th Amendment and ironically, it needed a 13th state to become ratified. As the War of 1812

escalated, the TONA faded away as an issue and was never ratified.

Or so we think.

In the 1980s, Adler says a conspiracy researcher started finding copies of the Constitution from the pre-Civil War era that had TONA listed as the 13th Amendment. The premise was that Virginia's legislature had approved the amendment in 1819, but somehow, it was never listed as accepted by the federal government.

Further research revealed that President James Monroe asked his Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams, to confirm that the TONA was never ratified, which he did.

A law journal article from 1999 by Jol A. Silversmith, an attorney, explains how the TONA appeared in widely published versions of the Constitution for more than 30 years, including the official United States Statutes at Large (an official compilation of laws published by the government in 1815).

His well-documented story of the "missing" amendment has more than 200 footnotes and a lot of interesting stories about how the Founding Fathers couldn't keep track of new amendments they had just passed.

As the story goes, the editor of the 1815 book of statutes, John Colvin, couldn't determine if the TONA amendment has been ratified, so he included it in the book with an explanatory note.

Then, an official version of the Constitution was given to Congressional members that included the TONA as the 13th Amendment, as an apparent misprint. That triggered a request for Monroe and Adams to verify that the amendment hadn't been ratified.

The United States Statutes at Large wasn't reprinted until 1845, so the mistake became part of textbooks,



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state publications, and newspapers, Silversmith said, for decades.

So a whole generation of Americans lived during a time when the "phantom" 13th Amendment existed, in some publications. (And with any kind of luck, you can probably find a TONA version of the Constitution at a flea market.)

Silversmith also said Virginia's Senate rejected the TONA on February 14, 1811, based upon information in its records. But an official letter or note from the Virginia legislature couldn't be found several years later.

But how could the Founding Fathers and their heirs become so confused by a handful of amendments?

President John Adams waited three years to acknowledge the 11th Amendment as law, and it took Secretary of State James Madison (the "Father of the Constitution") three months to recognize the 12th Amendment as an effective law.

Part of the issue was the lack of a process for states to communicate to the federal government that they had voted in favor of an amendment. Also, the number of states kept changing, which added more confusion to the ratification process.

Today, TONA supporters have made several legal challenges to get the "original" 13th Amendment recognized. The issue hasn't been taken up by the Supreme Court, and Silversmith says a 2005 U.S. district court ruling says that based on Article V of the Constitution, the inclusion of TONA in published documents doesn't make it an amendment.

That hasn't kept the debate over TONA off the Internet, as there are many websites that claim it is the legitimate 13th Amendment.

One website, Constitutional Concepts, has a certified copy from

June 12, 1812, of a letter sent to the state of New Hampshire by its governor, stating that Virginia had ratified the TONA, as well as other states.

Of course, on April 30, 1812, Louisiana became a state, which raised the ratification requirement to 14 states.

And in conclusion, there is no expiration date for the TONA amendment, which means that it can be introduced to 35 more states that didn't vote on it originally.

It may seem that preposterous that an amendment from the early 1800s could still become a law today, but the 27th Amendment was proposed in 1789 and finally approved in 1992.

### Short Clips from the Civil War News

**GETTYSBURG, Pa.** — Concern about chronic wasting disease has caused changes in the National Park Service's (NPS) deer culling program at Gettysburg National Military Park. A portion of the park is within the Disease Management Area defined by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Proximity of a deer found outside Pennsylvania with the disease in October activated NPS policy to increase disease surveillance and limit the likelihood of disease spread.

As a result, the park will not donate meat from the deer being culled at the park. All of the deer will be tested for the disease and destroyed. Biologists will monitor the deer herd to detect sick or dead deer. Results of that surveillance will determine if meat donations to food banks will resume, according to a park news release.

**BRONX, N.Y.** — The Adm. David Glasgow Farragut Gravesite at The Woodlawn Cemetery was recently designated a National Historic

Landmark.

The Interior Department announcement said, "Farragut is universally recognized as one of the most accomplished officers in American naval history, as well as one of the finest naval commanders who fought for either side during the Civil War." He died unexpectedly in 1870. U.S. Grant was among the thousands who attended the procession and funeral.

The marble monument that depicts the broken mast of a ship draped with the U.S. flag and is decorated with the emblems of Farragut's life and career. The cemetery, which opened in 1863, is also a National Historic Landmark.

**PHILADELPHIA, Pa.** — The General Meade Society of Philadelphia recently hosted a 125th anniversary rededication ceremony for the General Meade Equestrian Monument in West Fairmount Park. The society has launched a petition effort at

[www.generalmeadesociety.org](http://www.generalmeadesociety.org) to get the monument moved to City Hall. Society president Andy Waskie has written about the relocation effort at <https://generalmeadesociety.org/project.htm>

Sculptor Alexander Milne Calder won a design competition and created the monument that was unveiled in 1887. It depicts Meade reining in his horse as he looks out at the battlefield. Originally planned for installation at City Hall, the monument was put at Fairmount Park which Meade helped design, in a spot now rarely visited.

### Trivia

Abraham Lincoln is known to have left US soil once in his lifetime. When and where?

(Answer in next month's issue)