

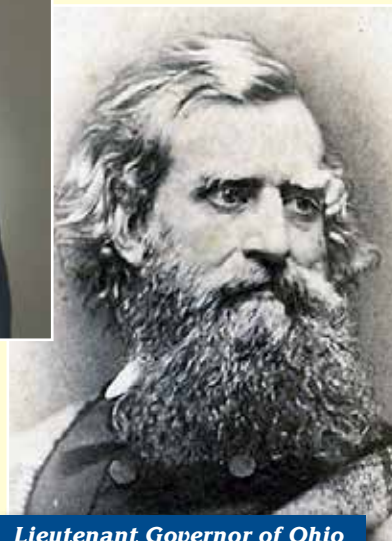
# Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

March 9, 2017

The Civil War: April 12, 1861 - May 9, 1865

## “The Lost Gettysburg Address”

David Dixon



Lieutenant Governor of Ohio  
Charles Anderson

Join us at **7:15 PM** on **Thursday, March 9th**, at **Camden County College** in the **Connector Building, Room 101**. This month's topic is **“The Lost Gettysburg Address”**

Two famous orators shared the stage with Lincoln at the Gettysburg dedication. The day's concluding speech remained lost until an anthropologist stumbled upon it in a cardboard box at a remote ranch in Wyoming. Forgotten too was the incredible true story of its author, Charles Anderson, a slave owner who risked everything to save the Union. The New York Times called Anderson's story, “among the most moving and romantic episodes of the war.”

**David Dixon** likes nothing better than spending hours dumpster-diving in archives and throughout cyberspace. Dixon earned his M.A. in history from the University of Massachusetts in 2003. He has published numerous articles in scholarly journals and magazines. Most focus on black history and on Union sympathizers in the Civil War South. His short biography of U.S. and Confederate congressman Augustus R. Wright appeared in *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* in 2010. He remains intrigued by the problem of defining “loyalty” in the context of civil war. David Dixon hosts “B-List History,” a website celebrating obscure characters and their amazing stories.

### Notes from the President...

Welcome to March! Spring is just around the corner. Look forward to seeing everyone on the 9th after missing our

February gathering, to hear about your Lincoln and Catto events last month. Be sure to send **Don** a write up of your experience. If you have not yet submitted your dues, please get them to **Frank Barletta** soon to allow our great programs to continue.

Our February presenter and fellow member, **James Scythes** has been rescheduled for later in the year, so we will hear about his research then. This month **David T. Dixon** will enlighten us on “The Lost Gettysburg Address,” of Charles Anderson of Kentucky. Bring a friend to hear this interesting topic. Introduce them to the fine programs we will be presenting in the coming months.

Let **Paul Prentiss** know if you want to visit Old Baldy and assist with the GAR Museum cleanup on March 25th. Provide feedback as to what location we should visit on our Spring trip, so we may plan it. The choices are Fort Delaware, the Gettysburg Electronic Map now in Hanover, with a tour of the Battle of Hanover or a visit to the Vineland Historical Society Museum and the graves of veterans buried in Vineland. Thank you for your input. Check out the write up on the Civil War Conference at Temple University last month.

We are still seeking members to work with **Dave Gilson** on the Fall Lecture Series, to take photos when **Kathy Clark** is away, interview and write the member spotlights for the newsletter, print the certificates for the presenters and continue assembling our history. Let us know how you would like to assist in developing our Round Table into a grand organization.

Our updated flyers should be ready for distribution, be sure to pick some up to bring back to your community. It is important to let everyone know about the difference OB-CWRT is making in the area. Share a flyer or newsletter with everyone you know. Thank you for being part of our growth.

*If you are able, please join us for dinner at the Lamp Post Diner before the meeting on March 9th.*

**Rich Jankowski, President**

**Join us at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday,  
March 9th, at  
Camden County College,  
Blackwood Campus,  
Connector Building, Room 101.**

# Today in Civil War History

1862 Sunday, March 9

## Eastern Theater/Naval Operations

Troops from the Army of the Potomac move out from Alexandria, but find the Confederates have moved toward the Rappahannock, away from their previous positions, and the Federal force returns without having made contact. Naval Operations

The Virginia moves out into Hampton Roads to complete the destruction of Union naval forces in the area, but this time encounters a new opponent, the USS Monitor. Looking like a tin can stuck onto a plank, the Monitor is a much worthier opponent than she seems. The Virginia, looking as one observer puts it, “as if a barn had somehow put to sea,” comes out to finish the USS Minnesota, still stuck fast. The Monitor, only a fifth the size of the Confederate vessel, moves to cover the help-less frigate. In one of the most dramatic naval battles of the war, the two unusual opponents set about each other. Virginia opens fire first, but most of her heavy broadside passes right over the low-slung, Northern vessel, only one shot from a 100-pound Armstrong gun even partially penetrating the thick iron of the Monitor’s turret. In the maneuvering which now takes place, the Virginia runs aground, and Monitor moves in to batter her with 168-pound cast iron shot. All bounce harmlessly off the larger vessel’s sloping armor. After refloating, Virginia breaks off to attack the Minnesota, and in spite of being hit at least 50 times by the wooden frigate’s broadside, shows no damage. Monitor again intervenes, and in another exchange of shot, neither side much harms the other. After Virginia attempts to ram the smaller vessel, again with no effect, both sides break off the engagement.



Monitor/Virginia

The Virginia moves out into Hampton Roads to complete the destruction of Union naval forces in the area, but this time encounters a new opponent, the USS Monitor. Looking like a tin can stuck onto a plank, the Monitor is a much worthier opponent than she seems. The Virginia, looking as one observer puts it, “as if a barn had somehow put to sea,” comes out to finish the USS Minnesota, still stuck fast. The Monitor, only a fifth the size of the Confederate vessel, moves to cover the help-less frigate. In one of the most dramatic naval battles of the war, the two unusual opponents set about each other. Virginia opens fire first, but most of her heavy broadside passes right over the low-slung, Northern vessel, only one shot from a 100-pound Armstrong gun even partially penetrating the thick iron of the Monitor’s turret. In the maneuvering which now takes place, the Virginia runs aground, and Monitor moves in to batter her with 168-pound cast iron shot. All bounce harmlessly off the larger vessel’s sloping armor. After refloating, Virginia breaks off to attack the Minnesota, and in spite of being hit at least 50 times by the wooden frigate’s broadside, shows no damage. Monitor again intervenes, and in another exchange of shot, neither side much harms the other. After Virginia attempts to ram the smaller vessel, again with no effect, both sides break off the engagement.

1863 Monday, March 9

## Western Theater

General Banks concentrates 17,000 men at Baton Rouge. Supposed to advance up the Mississippi while Grant comes south from Vicksburg, communications between the two Federal armies are very poor. Washington intended Banks to join Grant in the assault on Vicksburg but the Confederates had fortified Port Hudson, 135 miles above New Orleans. Some 12,000 rebel troops and 21 heavy guns blocked Banks’ advance. Meanwhile, at Vicksburg, a second “Quaker ironclad” made from logs with



Major General Nathaniel Prentice Banks

pork barrels piled up as a fake funnel, is set adrift to run past the batteries during the night. Confederate gunners treat it to a warm reception, wasting much precious ammunition.

1864 Tuesday, March 9

## The North

Grant receives his command in a ceremony attended by the Cabinet. Afterward he has a long talk with Lincoln, quickly winning the president’s confidence. Following his interview, Grant leaves Washington, announcing to some people’s surprise that his headquarters would not be in the capital, but in the field, next to that of the Army of the Potomac.

1865 Thursday, March 9

## Eastern Theater

Bragg’s battle at Kinston continues with heavy skirmishing but no breakthrough. The veteran Confederate cavalry leaders Wade Hampton and Joe Wheeler surprise Judson Kilpatrick’s Union troopers in their night camp at Monroe’s Cross Roads, Virginia. The unpopular Union commander is nearly captured in bed, and the rumor that he fled without his trousers leads the battle to become known as the “Battle of Kilpatrick’s Pants.”

Major General Hugh Judson Kilpatrick



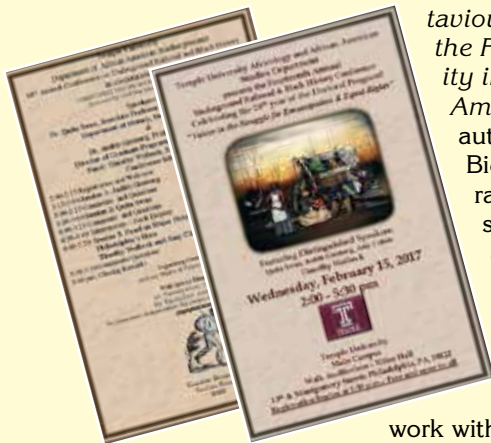
## Annual Underground Railroad & Black History Conference at Temple University

**The Fourteenth Annual Underground Railroad & Black History Conference at Temple University** was an afternoon of informative scholarship. Saw several friends of OBCWRT including Paul Gidjunis, John Shivo and Carol Ingrad. Also in attendance was Kerry Bryant, past Program Coordinator of Old Baldy. The event was co-chaired by Molefi K. Asante, Anthony Waskie, and Nilgun Anadolu-Okur.

The first presenter was Dr. Quito Swam, professor at Howard University. He spoke on the Pan-African movements and Black Power in the Black Pacific. Confederate slave owners relocated slaves to islands in the South Pacific to expand the stifled cotton trade. The practice of “blackbirding” was used to kidnap Blacks and force them to become laborers. Fuji was a major hub of Black inter-activism. His research is on the Disapora and how black communities across the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Ocean worlds were engaged in constant political dialogue across the twentieth century.

Amy Cohen from Masterman School is also the Director of Education at History Making Productions (HMP). HMP creates educational materials on the history of Philadelphia. She wrote the curriculum guide for *Tasting Freedom: Oc-*





taivious V. Catto and the Fight for Equality in the Civil War America which was authored by Dan Biddle and Murray Dubin. She spoke on Catto as a "Forgotten Hero" and all he did to aid Blacks in Philadelphia. She highlighted his work with the Institute for

Colored Youth, recruiting for the War, the Civil Rights Movement, voting rights/the 15th amendment and desegregation of the Philadelphia Trolley System. After he was tragically shot, he had a huge funeral and his obituary was in Harper's Weekly. Videos are available on the HMP website [www.historyofphilly.com](http://www.historyofphilly.com).

Stephanie N. James Harris spoke briefly on her doctoral dissertation, "The Politics of Teaching History: Afrocentricity as a Modality for the New Jersey Amistad Law - the Pedagogies of Location, Agency and Voice in Praxis." The Amistad Commission was created in 2002 in New Jersey for the inclusion of African American historical content into New Jersey's K-12 Social Studies curriculum. Representatives of the 3rd USCT were present to talk about their unit and to display some artifacts. Temple Professor Timothy Welbeck reviewed some of the legal issues faced by Mr. Catto in his Civil Rights struggle.

Dr. Judith Giesberg, History Professor at Villanova University, spoke on a digital project she did with her students to get the Diaries of Emilie Davis on-line. Emilie Davis was a free black who worked as a domestic and dressmaker. The dairies cover the middle of the War, discussing activities in Philadelphia, those she interacted with, reaction to the events of the War, and life in the Black community of Philadelphia. The project gave the students an opportunity to transcribe handwritten text, research daily life during the war and obtain a different perspective of life during the War. The dairies can be found at [david dairies.villanova.edu](http://david dairies.villanova.edu).

The afternoon presented fresh information on interesting topics of "Voices in the Struggle for Emancipation and Equal Rights." Those in attendance departed with additional subjects to ponder and research in gaining a better understanding of what brought us to where we are and how to improve our society. Watch for the announcement of the next Conference and plan to attend if your schedule allows.

## Rutgers Goes To War

Steve Glazer  
Lieutenant Colonel, USA (Ret.)

In the decades immediately following the Civil War, many American colleges published complete catalogs of their alumni who had served in either the Union or Confederate forces. Rutgers College in New Brunswick - later becoming

the state university of New Jersey - was not among them. It was not until 150 years later that this historical omission was rectified.

Recent research has revealed that the total number of Rutgers men serving during the Civil War was about 165 former students - at least 17 having died in service - drawn from the college's classes of 1827 through 1873. This collegiate corps of veterans included about three dozen medical personnel (mostly Union army surgeons) and about two dozen Union chaplains (not surprising in view of the college's religious roots). The remainder served mostly in combat positions in the infantry, artillery, and cavalry, as well as in the Union navy. Some few served in the U.S. Sanitary Commission and the U.S. Christian Commission, as well as in specialized support roles, such as paymasters, engineers, and chemists. At least ten men served in the Confederate forces (a substantially lower percentage than that at Princeton University, then called the College of New Jersey, where more than half its Civil War veterans sided with the Confederacy). And although about one-third of the college's veterans served in New Jersey units, Rutgers men served in the volunteer regiments of at least twenty Northern and Southern states, as well as in regular military units. The youngest to wear a uniform was 15-years-old, while the oldest was at least 58.

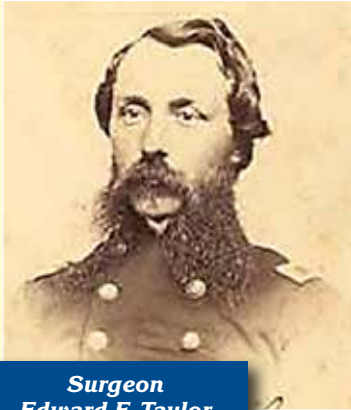
The first Rutgers man to enlist and bear arms in defense of the Union during the Civil War was Andrew K. Cogswell, '59, who immediately responded to President Abraham Lincoln's initial call for 75,000 90-day volunteers following the surrender of Fort Sumter. Cogswell had enlisted for active duty in Manhattan's famous 7th New York State Militia. This prestigious unit agreed to drop everything and immediately proceed to beleaguered Washington as New York's military vanguard, in exchange for the government's promise of only 30 days of federal service being required. On Friday, April 19, 1861—exactly one week after Confederate artillery first fired on Sumter - Private Cogswell marched down Broadway in lower Manhattan with his regiment, arriving in Washington six days later.

At the very hour Cogswell was preparing to leave for Washington, another Rutgers graduate was at the center of the first hostile bloodshed of the Civil War. George W. Brown, '31, had been elected mayor of Baltimore, Maryland, his native city, in October 1860. In the early afternoon of April 19, he was attempting to quell a large and dangerous mob of Confederate sympathizers, which had attacked the Washington-bound 6th Massachusetts volunteers, another Northern regiment responding to Lincoln's call. Although a number of Union soldiers and private citizens were killed or injured in Baltimore during the attacks, Brown's personal intervention may well have prevented even further casualties.

On the home front, Rutgers-educated clergymen, some long absent from Old Queens, would exhort their congregations to help preserve the Union, sometimes urging the younger members to join Lincoln's forces. On July 1, 1861, Rev. Peter D. Oakey, '41, delivered a forceful sermon at Jamaica, Long Island, titled "The War: its origin, purpose, and our duty respecting it." The widely distributed, 28-page sermon concluded with a clarion call to his congregation: "And therefore in the conscious sense of the righteousness of our cause, we pledge ourselves to the support of the Government, till as in former days, our insulted, but yet

upright flag shall again wave over every foot of its rightful territory, the emblem of Justice, Equity, and Liberty." Rev. Oakey later sent his own son South in a blue uniform.

At the battle of Bull Run, the first major engagement of the war, Edward F. Taylor, '50, surgeon of the 1st NJ Infantry, remained with the wounded and dying as the Union army withdrew from the field in defeat. On July 21, 1861, Surgeon Taylor thus became New Jersey's first prisoner of war. According to some accounts, he was stripped of his uniform and marched off barefoot at bayonet point to Richmond, where he was said to be among the first Union officers held there.



**Surgeon  
Edward F. Taylor**

Rutgers men would later be present at almost every major battle and campaign during the Civil War. They fought at Antietam and Gettysburg, Chickamauga and Chattanooga. They served through the Peninsula Campaign under General George B. McClellan and the Overland Campaign under General Ulysses S. Grant. Rutgers alumni served under General William T. Sherman during his Atlanta, Savannah, and Carolina campaigns, and they rode in General Philip H. Sheridan's cavalry through the Shenandoah Valley. They fought at the first battles of the Civil War, and at the final sieges of Petersburg and Richmond. They were also present at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, when a played-out Army of Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee finally surrendered to Grant.

Although there are no known instances where Rutgers family members engaged each other on the battlefield as "brother against brother," divergent regional sympathies between brothers certainly did not preclude the possibility. Charles R. Goodwin, '60, born in Savannah, Georgia, served in the Confederate army as a staff officer to several Southern generals. At the same time, his older brother, Alexander T. Goodwin, '57, also born in Savannah, served as adjutant of the 45th Regiment of the New York State National Guard. Moreover, there were at least two instances where Rutgers men were fighting on opposite sides of the same battle, resulting in the combat deaths of two alumni.

At the Union siege of Port Hudson, Louisiana, Private John McGaffin, '64—who enlisted in the 177th New York Infantry after leaving Rutgers in his junior year—was instantly killed when struck by a Confederate artillery shell on June 18, 1863. At the same time, Lieutenant J. Watts Kearny, '54, was in command of a twenty-pound Parrott gun defending the Confederate stronghold.

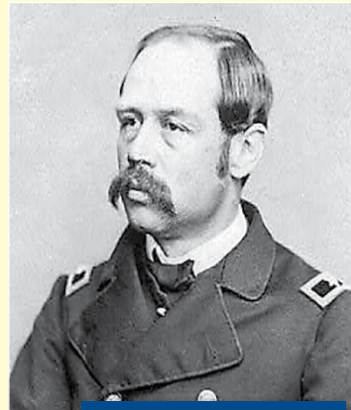
And on April 6, 1865, Colonel Jacob J. Janeway, '59, was leading the



**Colonel  
Jacob J. Janeway**

14th New Jersey Infantry against the rapidly crumbling line of Lee's army at Sailor's Creek, Virginia. Private Alfred O. Bowne, '63, was also there, with the dwindling Confederate troops—starved and exhausted—still resisting an inevitable defeat. Private Bowne, who had left Rutgers to stand with his native Georgia, was mortally wounded that day, making him the last Rutgers fatality of the Civil War. Three days later, General Grant accepted Lee's surrender.

After the surrender, General George H. Sharpe, '47—then serving as provost marshal—issued paroles to all of Bowne's surviving comrades in the Army of Northern Virginia. Sharpe had previously organized and commanded the Union's Bureau of Military Information, predecessor of all modern intelligence organizations. Sharpe's briefing of General George G. Meade at Gettysburg regarding the disposition of Pickett's Division and other Confederate troops on the evening of July 2, 1863, had been instrumental in Meade's decision to stand his ground on Cemetery Ridge the following afternoon.



**General  
George H. Sharpe**

Three Civil War veterans first enrolled at Rutgers after the conclusion of the war. The last was Madison M. Ball, '73. Ball had fought for three years with the 91st New York infantry in the South. He entered Rutgers in 1869, winning a class prize for oration. His principal legacy at Rutgers, however, would be in the postwar emergence of varsity sports. Madison Ball was a member of the Rutgers team that played the nation's first intercollegiate football game on November 6, 1869. Rutgers beat Princeton by 6 goals to 4, with the twenty-eight-year-old Ball securing the third goal for Rutgers, putting it ahead in the game. He advanced the score by running in the same direction as a loose ball, and when it was overtaken, stepping over and kicking it behind him with his heel to a well-placed teammate, who easily completed the play. Ball's fancy footwork was all the more remarkable in view of his wartime leg injury received at the battle of Donaldsonville, Louisiana.

The last surviving Civil War veteran of Rutgers College passed away in his ninety-sixth year on April 27, 1937, in Walla Walla, Washington. Edwin Y. Lansing, '61, had left the campus after two years, later accepting a commission as adjutant of the 50th New York Engineers. In 1863, he was commissioned into the 13th New York Cavalry. Lansing served in the Virginia countryside chasing Mosby's Rangers, commanded by the Confederate "Gray Ghost,"



**Adjutant  
Edwin Y. Lansing**



Colonel John Singleton Mosby. (Captain Lansing would later be promoted to brevet major for his efforts.) Lansing also spent time in the field with author Herman Melville. Melville would later base a wartime poem—"The scout toward Aldie," published in 1866—on these encounters with Lansing and his fellow cavalymen, including the regiment's surgeon, Benjamin R. Taylor, '39.

The contributions made by our state university's alumni during that great struggle were instrumental in bringing about the transformations engendered by the American

Civil War. We should be mindful of the part these men played in creating the modern political and social framework of our united states.

\*\*\*\*\*

*The foregoing article was largely based on one published in The Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries (Glazer, S.D. "Rutgers in the Civil War," Vol. 66 (2014), pp. 91-120). It includes an annotated list of all known Rutgers Civil War veterans and is available online.*

## The Great Gainesville Hanging

*Editor's Note: This article is from CWT (1978) and is by Philip Rutherford. It is a long article and will be continued in the next issue. It is an article about a part of the Civil War that is about an event that has not been published widely.*

One quiet evening in September 1862, J.B. McCurley sat in a Gainesville, Texas hotel getting drunk with Ephraim Childs, little realizing that momentarily he would become involved in a conspiracy that would eventually result in the hanging of forty-four men and the shooting of four others. Although Gainesville was about as far as one could get from the battles in the East, their talk nevertheless turned to politics and the prosecution of the war. As McCurley, a local mail carrier, later reported the conversation, Childs asked him, "Would you like to go into a society for the good of our country?" and before he could answer added, "You are a good Union man, are you not?"

Somewhat taken aback, McCurley replied, "I have been one."

As they walked to Childs' room, Childs said, "Come into the room. It may be that you are one still."

After they entered, Childs started making motions with his hands that McCurley did not understand. "You know nothing about it. If you want to know all about it, my brother—the doctor—is one of the head men, and he will initiate you." He was obviously referring to Dr. Henry Childs, who lived nearby.

Mystified, McCurley told him that when time allowed he would be glad to learn of something that would help the country, as the country appeared to be in such bad shape it needed all the help it could get.

Childs answered him by saying, "Those damned Rebel rascals about town—and there are a good many of them—have a large quantity of ammunition, and we Union men intend to have it—and that damned soon!"

The next day on his mail route to Denton, Mc-Curley mulled over what he had heard the previous night. Clearly there was some kind of treasonous, Unionist plot afoot, and he was not surprised. Cook County, and Gainesville, its county seat—in fact, all of north Texas—was a hotbed of Northern sympathy. Of the nineteen counties that voted against secession, eight were in north Texas, and Cook was one of them. Anti-Confederate feeling was so high in 1861 that many people had seriously proposed the secession

of north Texas from the rest of the state and, along with a part of Oklahoma, the formation of a free state loyal to the Union. McCurley decided that the military authorities should be informed and contacted Colonel James Bourland. Bourland set up a meeting with the commanders of the local militia units, including Brigadier General William Hudson, commandant of the First Brigade, District of Texas, which had headquarters in Gainesville. As McCurley had not learned anything really specific regarding the organization, the military committee ordered him to seek out Dr. Childs, get initiated, and gather more information.

McCurley borrowed a horse from Colonel Bourland and rode out to see Childs. After some idle conversation about stray stock, he told Childs what his brother Ephraim had said about a "Union Party" and that he was a Union man. Before he would give him any information, McCurley later stated under oath that Dr. Childs said, "I must swear you to secrecy," and administered this oath:



*Union Members being Arrested*

*I, J.B. McCurley, in the presence of Almighty God, do most solemnly promise and swear that I will forever keep*

*secret the revelations now about to be made to me and that I will obey all the orders of the Society into which I am now about to be initiated. SO help me God.*

After this, McCurley began to probe for information. What about the talk of the seizure of ammunition at Gainesville? There had been talk about it, but it would be a while yet. How many men were in the organization? Thousands, both in the Federal army and the Southern, and Childs himself had sworn in fifty in the last eight days. The organization maintained regular correspondence with their members in the Northern army, keeping them informed of their numbers, plans, goals, and the strength of the Confederate units in the area. They had been informed that the Yankees would invade Texas from Galveston and Gainesville, where the Society was expected to pave the way, and link up at Austin, the state capital. There, either Jim Lane of Kansas or Sam Houston (who had been removed as governor for his pro-Union stand when Texas seceded) would be appointed governor.

When asked what would become of the pro-Southern people when the Society rose and that army invaded, McCurley recalled that Childs replied, "When our friends come in, if they should not submit, the last one of them would be killed," but all people knowing the secret grip, password, and sign of the Order would be safe. Childs then informed McCurley that he was ready to give him these three most important marks of membership if he would swear a second oath.

Afraid that he was getting dragged a little too far into the thing, even in a good cause, McCurley begged the press of time and told Childs that he would return soon to learn more.



Prisoners Being Held for Trial



McCurley rode rapidly back to town and presented the committee with the new information. While it was enticing, they still wanted more, and hoping for a more aggressive informant, they selected Colonel Newton Chance, who was stationed in Gainesville in General Hudson's command. On September 26, riding out to Dr. Childs' home, he met Childs on the road. Dis-mounting, he told Childs that a friend had told him about a "Peace Party" and he was interested in joining. Naturally Childs was leery of telling his secrets to a ranking Confederate officer, but Chance soon convinced him that after spending time with the army back East he was completely disaffected with the Confederate Government. Chance testified later that Childs then said to him,

*My friend, I propose to tell that ours is a secret organization existing in this country, and it is believed by all good men to be necessary for the protection of life and property. Its greatest good may not be realized or appreciated for a while, but when the Northern army comes into the country—and it most assuredly will in a very short time—this organization will be the means of saving the lives and property of those attached to it and able to give the signs, grips, and passwords.*

Chance indicated that he was eager to join and was given the oath. Upon then questioning Childs, Chance discovered information that McCurley had not. The Society had been organized at first primarily to resist the Confederate Conscript Law and, later, all other repugnant Confederate laws. The main goals were to keep its members from being forced to fight the Federals, drive the pro-Southerners out of north Texas, seize their property, and help restore the Union. They had just missed a chance for rebellion a short time earlier; when it was obvious that the Northern army was not going to invade immediately, they had allied themselves with a number of tribes in Indian Territory hostile to the Texas government—Comanche, Caddo, Anko, Kickapoo, and others.

They had encouraged the tribes in their attack on Fort Cobb, which caused the withdrawal of the Confederate Chickasaw Battalion to Fort Arbuckle. The Order had planned to march with the militia when it was called out to quell the uprising, as most of the members were also militiamen. When battle was joined with the Indians, they intended to turn and annihilate the loyal militia. They

would then be free to return to Gainesville and take over the country. The problem was that the Indians settled down too quickly after the initial attack, and although the militia was mustered, it was released almost immediately. Childs further told him that the Order was just waiting to

*commence the fight here at home against these rebels, if the Northern army should not come in, and take such property as we may desire. Then if unable to make a stand here long enough to cooperate with the Northern army, we will start our families before us and fight the rebels back until we reach the Federal lines. We have already sent messengers to our friends in the Federal armies in Missouri and Kansas to inform*

*them of our contemplated movements and assure them that a majority of the men in this county are ready to join and fight by their side for the Old Union and Constitution. Some members have procured passports to go to St. Louis under the pretense of buying goods, but their real objective is to bear dispatches to the Federal army concerning the condition of this country and the strength of the Order and its designs. [A man who had been sent in a two-horse wagon to St. Louis to carry the organization's monthly mail was arrested when he returned.] We have the signs, grips, and passwords to distinguish us. And when the Federal army comes in, they will know us by them, and they will know us as friends to their cause.*

When Chance asked to be given the sign, grip, and passwords, Childs answered, "I cannot do so unless you consent to be sworn again." Chance agreed and took this oath:

*I do solemnly swear in the presence of Almighty God that I will use all my endeavors to reestablish the Old Constitution and Union and to defend and protect every member of this institution against any arrest or seizure by the authorities of this state and stand by them to the death. And if any of the members of this Order should be killed in their struggle to carry out its objects, I will do everything in my power to defend and protect their families until otherwise provided for. So help me God.*

The penalty for divulging any of the Order's secrets was an excruciating death.

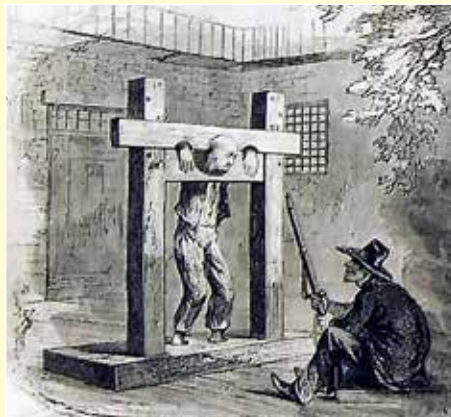
The secrets were now revealed. The sign was for a person to pass the fingers of his right hand over his right ear, and the response was for the second person to pass the fingers of his left hand over his left ear. The password was used primarily as a check to make certain that the response to the sign was not accidentally given: The first person was to ask the second where he had acquired his saddle or any article—the second was supposed to respond with "Arizona." The grip, mainly for use in the dark, was a common handshake with the tip of the index finger pressed firmly into the inside of the wrist.

Having obtained many of the particulars, including a great many names, Colonel Chance reported to the military committee which had now been expanded to include some locally prominent civilians. As it was decided that a most serious threat to life, property, and government did indeed exist, the committee secretly directed that all known members of the



Order be arrested at daylight on October 1. Naturally the plan leaked out, and Doc Edmondson, the son-in-law of a leading citizen and sympathetic to the Order, rode a horse to death warning many of the members of the coming arrests so they might escape. On the night of September 30, squads of guards were posted on all county roads, General Hudson declared martial law, and the militia of the county and surrounding area was mobilized.

It began raining about one a.m. on October 1 and turned into a torrent by daybreak, but the arresting squads were not deterred from their task. Mass confusion reigned as to just who was supposed to be arrested, and many men who had no connection with the Order were taken. They protested, confounded at what was happening, but to no avail. A squad rode up to one man's house and told him that he was to accompany them to help make the arrests. He agreed, but joined them without his gun. When they reached Gainesville with their quota of prisoners and a number of new members in the squad, he was ordered into the prison with the others as he



*Prisoner Being Held for Trial*

had no gun and was assumed to be a prisoner by the new men. He remained there for two days, protesting to anyone who would listen, until he was brought before the jury, told his story, and was released. Most of those arrested surrendered quietly, but there was resistance at one house, where two members of the Order and their wives had barricaded themselves. The squad ordered the men to come out with their hands up, but they refused. Since the house had two doors, the militiamen split up, planning to rush the house through both of them. The men inside, expecting as much, tied feather beds to their backs to serve as armor and hurtled through the separate doors. The squad, astounded, gaped at the sight before they fired; the men escaped, evidently uninjured.

Sixty or seventy men were imprisoned that first morning. Arrests and surrenders continued for the next thirteen days and nights until there were at least 150 incarcerated. The prisoners were calm and offered little resistance, remembering, no doubt, their oath that if anyone was arrested the remainder would not rest until he was freed. Some, believing that there were at least 1,700 members of the Order in the immediate area, told their jailers that they would be released shortly.

Gainesville was in chaos. Confederate troops began to pour in: one company from Colonel Charles Demorse's 29th Texas Cavalry, commanded by Captain Nick Wilson; two companies from Fort Washita, commanded respectively by Captains A.B. Marshall and John Bumpass; one company of militia from Grayson County, commanded by Captain John Russell; the

entire militia of Denton County, commanded by Colonel S.P.C. Patton; one company of Major John S. Randolph's battalion of Partisan Rangers stationed at Camp Tishomingo, commanded by Captain James Young; and, of course, all the militia of Cook County. By eleven o'clock that morning there were already 300 to 400 soldiers in town, and by the afternoon of the next day the number had increased to about 900. Armed civilians were rushing about. Squads of men with prisoners were coming and going.

Hanging was already being talked in the streets. In the midst of this mass confusion and panic, bells were rung and a county meeting was called, attended by virtually the entire adult male population. Colonel William C. Young, commander of the 11th Texas Cavalry and a prominent local plantation owner, was elected chairman and made a short speech explaining why the meeting had been called: The inhabitants of the county must determine their course in this hour of crisis. It was decided that Colonel Young, with the consent of the crowd, would select five respected citizens who would in turn select twelve men for a jury to conduct fair examinations. The jury would face each of the accused members of the Order with his accuser, decide his guilt or innocence, set his punishment, and the citizens would abide by the decisions. After the selection of twelve prominent men the meeting broke up, and the jury met to organize, selecting Daniel Montague as president of this "People's Court."

From the look of things on the night of October 1, the jury would never meet the next day. Rumors were rampant late that evening that the troops in town were greatly outnumbered by the members of the organization and that the Order would attack that night to free their friends. The soldiers were kept in a constant state of readiness. Guards were posted on all roads leading into Gainesville, a double line of sentries posted all around the town, and picket lines formed in battle order. Troops were being marched from one point to another, and noncombatants were making cartridges in the houses about the square. Many of the defenders did not expect to live to see dawn. The Grayson County Militia, naturally not in uniform, was almost fired on as it entered town from the east, as it was thought to be a unit of the Order preparing to attack.

Excitement increased to a fever pitch when a small government squad operating about eight miles from town ran into seventy armed men under the command of the Reverend Captain Garrison, a Northern Methodist preacher and a known member of the Order. Garrison told the men to clear the way if they wished to live. Seeing that resistance was futile, the squad stepped aside, and the group rode on toward Gainesville. The commander of the squad left his men, and riding back to town so fast that he winded his horse and had Hanging and lashing of Unionists to borrow another, he informed the military that an attack was coming. More men were paraded out into the lines and told to sleep on their guns.

Early the same night, another contingent of the Order was meeting in Jordan Creek bottom. Twenty-seven men were at Richie's Steam Mill, making plans to attack the prison and free the men, especially M.D. Harper, one of their leaders. They elected Ramey Dye captain and were getting ready to move out when H.J. Essman rode up. By accident he had been in Gainesville that morning and had expected

to be arrested at any moment, but as he realized that the authorities evidently did not have his name, he decided to stay so that he could gather what information he could. Early that night when he was refused a pass to leave town, he removed his coat, hat, and boots and crawled on his stomach for a half mile until he could reach his



Prisoner Being Lashed

horse, pastured outside of town. He warned them that an attack would be foolhardy, as they were vastly outnumbered. Uncertain what to do, some said that they were going to surrender, and later did, while others decided to stay in hiding and bushwhack.

They set up a meeting for the next night, but only three attended.

No attack was made on Gainesville as the Order was heavily out-manned. Dye's company was never reorganized, and Garrison and his men disappeared into Red River bottom. But in Gainesville, the troops and their commanders did not know this and continued to expect imminent attack during the rest of the week.

Having survived the night, the jury met in the midst of intense excitement on the morning of October 2. A great mob gathered outside the courthouse, talking of stopping the trials before they began and hanging or shooting all the prisoners. The few individuals who opposed this course of action had to be cautious how they framed their objections, as they feared that they might be suspected of being unarrested members of the Order. In the jury room the court passed a rule that conviction and punishment would be decided on the basis of a majority vote and not on the unanimous or two-thirds vote that a few of them wanted. The leaders would be tried first.

Dr. Henry Childs was the first to come before the jury. When asked if he desired counsel, according to George Washington Diamond, who later examined the court records, he said, "I have no counsel and deny that the court has jurisdiction in this case."

The president, Montague, replied, "The court is sustained in its jurisdiction by the unanimous voice of the people. Are you ready for trial?"

"Probably as ready now as I shall ever be," he responded.

When he heard the charges of "conspiracy and insurrection" read to him, he pleaded, "Not guilty."

Upon confronting the witnesses, the most damaging of whom were Colonel Chance and McCurley, he was asked if he knew that there was a secret organization operating in the county that used signs, grips, and passwords. He answered that he was familiar with the organization but did not know anything about any of its rituals. Testimony was closed, and he was returned to prison during the deliberations, in which he was found guilty. When he was returned

for sentencing, he asked to be permitted to change the part of his testimony where he denied the knowledge of any signs, pass- words, and grips, for he did know of them. The jury then sentenced him to be hanged at two p.m. on October 4, two days later.

### To be Continued in the April Issue

I tried to find interesting articles that may add to our interest in the Civil War Era. If you have any Subjects or interest please contact me at: [cwwiles@comcast.net](mailto:cwwiles@comcast.net)

**Join us at 7:15 p.m.  
on Thursday,  
March 9th, at  
Camden County College,  
Blackwood Campus,  
Connector Building, Room  
101.**

**WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>**

## Coming Events

### Sunday, March 12; 2pm

Mr. Clyde Phillips will discuss the oyster industry of Port Norris, lecture "Oystering in the Old Days". Mr. Phillips is the last line of oystermen keeping his oyster trade to the Maurice River and Delaware Bay. A question/answer period will follow. Sponsored by the Cumberland County Historical Library at the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical and Historical Library, 981 Ye Greate Street, Greenwich, NJ. Information call Lummis Library at 856-455-8580

### Sunday, March 12; 1:30pm

Salem County Historical Society presents - "I Will Carry the Flag": The early life of Edward Richardson. Mr. Richardson escaped slavery by means of the Underground Railroad and fought with honor in the Civil War. Friends Village, 1 Friends Drive, Woodstown, NJ 08098

### Sunday, March 12; 2pm

"1917-2017 Hunterdon County During WWI" Speaker Brian Armstrong will recognize the role Hunterdon County servicemen played in WWI. Flemington Presbyterian Church, 10 East Main Street. Benjamin Temple House, 27 Federal City Road, Ewing, NJ 08638. Movie Day at Temple House - Come join us as we view two short films by local filmmakers. "Walking into Eternity" a video tour of the Dublin of James Joyce's Ulysses, shot entirely in Dublin. The documentary "The Town That Disappeared Overnight" - the story of a town which is now Round Valley reservoir. Written and directed by Dave Kuznicki and Eric Althoff and photographed in part by Director of Photography, John Anastasio

### Saturday, March 18; 11am

Annual GAR Museum Preservation luncheon held at the Cannstratter German Club, 9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA 19110. \$35/person: \$65/couple: Charlie Zahm will present "The Irish in the Civil War" - song and story. Information: [garmuslib@verizon.net](mailto:garmuslib@verizon.net) or 215-289-6484, 215-332-0121. Reservations deadline March 13.



### Sunday, April 2; 12noon-5pm

The General Meade Society 18th Annual History Symposium-Co-sponsored by the Penna. National Guide and American Legion Post 405 of The Union League. This year they are exploring the History of the US Entry into the Great War (1917) on the 100th Anniversary with a focus on Pennsylvania and Philadelphia.

Cost-\$40/person, includes lunch, program, refreshments and donations. To register and reserve: Jerry McCormick, 215-848-7753 or email: gedwinmc@msn.com. Location: West Laurel Hill Cemetery, 215 Belmont Ave., Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004: <http://westlaurelhill.com/about/visit> Free parking. Book displays, artifact displays, historical demonstrations

### Saturday and Sunday, April 29 – 30; 9am

Annual Civil War Reenactment at the Neshaminy State Park, Bensalem, PA. This year is the Battle of Antietam/Sharpsburg. Camp opens at 9am with battles at 2pm on Saturday and 1:30pm on Sunday. For more information: call 267-968-4809 or [www.neshaminycwevent.org](http://www.neshaminycwevent.org)

### Wednesday, April 12; 7pm-9pm

Olysses S. Grant Living History! General Grant portrayed by Ken Serfass, USMC veteran and long time Civil War reenactor and student of Grant all his life. General Grant will present his life story and describe the honorable service of his armies during the Civil War. Cherry Hill Library, 1100 Kings Highway North, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. For more information: [www.chplnj.org](http://www.chplnj.org) or 856-667-0300. Registration open. Conference center, lower level.

### Saturday and Sunday, April 29 and 30

The Stone Harbor Museum is sponsoring a bus trip to the Hagerstown Maryland area. Saturday's tour is Antietam National battlefield: Sunday guided tour of the Kennedy Farm House which was used by John Brown to plan and carryout his raid on Harper's Ferry. Afternoon a visit to Fort Frederick State Park and an 18th century market fair with encampments re-enactors, tours, crafts and food. Cost of the trip including bus, driver's tip, hotel, lunch and dinner on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday and admission fees to all sites. \$210/person; \$260/single: information and registration form call Pary and Bruce Tell at 609-886-8577 or [pary. bruce@earthlink.net](mailto:pary. bruce@earthlink.net) Deadline April 1st.

## Old Baldy Civil War Round Table Clothing Items

#### 1 - Short Sleeve Cotton Tee - \$23.00

Gildan 100% cotton, 6.1oz.

Color Options: Red, White, Navy, Tan

Sizes: Adult: S-3XL Adult Sizes: S(34-36); M(38-40); L(42-44); XL(46-48); XXL(50-52); 3XL(54-55)

#### 2 - Long Sleeve Cotton Tee - \$27.00

Gildan 100% cotton, 6.1oz.

Color Options: Red, White, Navy

Sizes: Adult: S-3XL Adult Sizes: S(34-36); M(38-40); L(42-44); XL(46-48); XXL(50-52); 3XL(54-55)

#### 3 - Ladies Short Sleeve Polo - \$26.00

Anvil Pique Polo - 100% ring-spun cotton pique.

Color: Red, White, Navy, Yellow-Haze

Logo embroidered on left chest

Sizes: Ladeis: S-2XL Ladies

Chest Size Front: S(17"); M(19"); L(21"); XL(23"); 2XL(24")

#### 4 - Mens Short Sleeve Polo Shirt - \$26.00

Anvil Pique Polo - 100% ring-spun cotton pique.

Color: Red, White, Navy, Yellow-Haze

Logo embroidered on left

Sizes: Mens: S-3XL

Chest Size Front: S(19"); M(21"); L(23"); XL(25"); 2XL(27"); 3XL(29")

#### 5 - Fleece Lined Hooded Jacket - \$48.00

Dickies Fleece Lined Nylon Jacket 100% Nylon Shell; 100% Polyester Fleece

Lining: Water Repellent Finish

Color: Navy or Black

Logo Embroidered on Left Chest

Size: Adult S-3XL

Chest Size: S(34-36"); M(38-40"); L(42-44"); XL(46-48"); 2XL(50-52"); 3XL(54-56")

#### 6 - Sandwich Caps - \$20.00

Lightweight Cotton Sandwich Bill Cap 100% Brushed Cotton;

Mid Profile Color: Navy/White or Stone/Navy

Adjustable Closure

Orders will be shipped 2 weeks after they are placed. All orders will be shipped UPS ground, shipping charges will be incurred. UPS will not ship to PO Boxes, please contact Jeanne Reith if you would like to make other shipping arrangements.

Items are non-returnable due to customization, please contact Jeanne Reith if you have questions on sizing.

Jeanne Reith Tuttle Marketing Services 1224 Gail Road West Chester, PA 19380 [jeanne@tuttlemarketing.com](mailto:jeanne@tuttlemarketing.com) 610-430-7432

<https://tuttlemarketing.com/store/products/old-baldy-civil-war-round-table-651>

#### 7 - Irish Fluted Glass - \$7.00

Can be used with either Cold or Hot Liquids



Items can be seen and ordered from the Old Baldy Web Site or the Manufacture's Web Site.

## Delaware Valley CWRT Civil War Institute at Manor College

Our updated Civil War Institute at Manor College class format has undergone several changes that allow a greater variety of choices for students who in the past have found it difficult to attend 3-week or 6-week courses.

Our semesters now include multiple-week courses, 2-week courses and 1-night seminars. Classes may be taken as part of the certificate program or individually. Completion of four core courses, and any 12 nights of electives (any combination of length) will now be required to receive the certificate.

Our core courses are being reduced from six weeks to four weeks each. This will allow a student to earn a certificate after attending 56 hours of instruction (32 hours of core courses plus 24 hours of electives), instead of an average of 72 hours of instruction.

Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown, PA. You may call (215) 884-2218 to register or for an application for the certificate program, or online [www.manor.edu/cont-ed/civil-war/courses.php](http://www.manor.edu/cont-ed/civil-war/courses.php)

**Class hours are 6:30 till 8:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.**

**\* Indicates Core Course**

**\*\* Indicates Elective Course/Seminar**

### Spring 2017

The following seminars and courses will be offered in the Spring 2017 semester. Of special interest are two classes that will – for the first time – add material on World War II to the Institute’s curriculum. All classes will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the dates specified.

#### World War II Seminar

**\*\* Pearl Harbor: The Surprise Was Complete  
2 hrs**

The shout of “General Quarters” rang throughout the fleet. Explore the political background, eyewitness accounts and historical analysis of the attack that brought the United States into WWII.

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman  
Monday, March 13**

**\*\* The Role of Horses in the Civil War  
2 hrs**

Horses and mules played a critical role in the Civil War – as mounts for officers and cavalry, or as mobile power for artillery and supplies. This class also describes some well-known and lesser-known horses of the Civil War

**Instructor: Nancy Caldwell  
Wednesday, March 22**

**\*\* Philadelphia in the Civil War  
2 hrs**

The city and its citizens played a major role during the Civil War, particularly as suppliers of war materiel.

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman  
Wednesday, April 5**

**\*\* The Battle of Fredericksburg  
4 hrs**

On Dec. 13, 1862, the Army of the Potomac, under Ambrose Burnside, suffered its most disastrous defeat. Futile assaults on Confederate positions brought about the slaughter of many Union soldiers. This class will explore why the Union lost, portray the brave men who fought, and the strategies and blunders that made this battle one of the most memorable in the Civil War.

**Instructor: Walt Lafty  
Wednesdays, April 12 and 19**

#### World War II Seminar

**\*\* The Music That Got Us Through World War II  
2 hrs**

During the war, radios were filled with new patriotic and sentimental songs. The music, highlighted by many original 78 rpm records, that has been woven into the fabric of our American culture is presented. Learn about the composers, bands and singers that got us through the war.

**Instructor: Herb Kaufman  
Wednesday, May 3**

**\*\* The Irish in the Civil War  
4 hrs**

Both Blue and Gray had a generous touch of green. So why did these men fight and die so bravely in a country that was new to them? And what generals were more gallant than the Union’s Phil Sheridan and the Confederacy’s Pat Cleburne?

**Instructor: Hugh Boyle  
Mondays, May 8 and 15**

## Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2016/2017

**March 9 – Thursday  
“The Lost Gettysburg Address”  
David T. Dixon  
(Author, Historian)**

**April 13 – Thursday  
“Duels, Fools, and Scoundrels”  
Herb Kaufman  
(Teacher, Lecturer, Historian)**

**Questions to  
Dave Gilson - 856-547-8130 - ddsghh@comcast.net**

**Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia  
Camden County College  
Blackwood Campus - Connector Building  
Room 101 Forum, Civic Hall, Atrium**

**856-427-4022 oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net  
Founded January 1977**

**President: Richard Jankowski  
Vice President: Kathy Clark**

**Treasurer: Frank Barletta**

**Secretary: Bill Hughes**

**Programs: Dave Gilson**

**Trustees: Paul Prentiss**

**Ellen Preston**

**Dave Gilson**

**Annual Memberships**

**Students: \$12.50**

**Individuals: \$25.00**

**Families: \$35.00**

**Editor: Don Wiles - cwiles@comcast.net**

## 2017 Dues are Due

**Dues are \$25 and if you will not be  
at the March 9th meeting to mail to:**

**Frank Barletta  
207 Sharrowvale Road  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034**