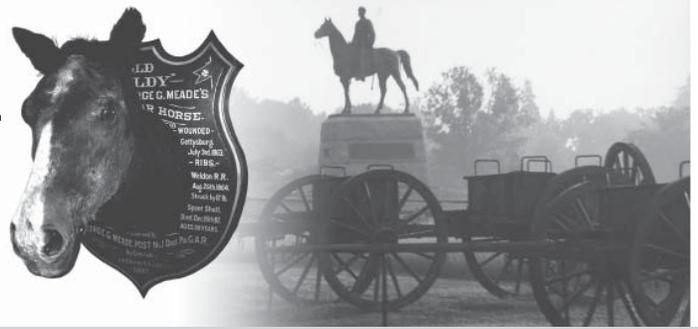


# Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia



May 13, 2010, The One Hundred and Forty-Ninth Year of the Civil War

## “A People at War:

### **American Jewry in the Civil War”**

by **Herb Kaufman**

On Thursday evening March 13th the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable will present **Herb Kaufman's** program “**A People at War: American Jewry in the Civil War**” The program will be held at the Union League of Philadelphia at 7:30 PM.

This presentation will explore Jewish thought and behavior during a time of great unrest and turbulence. In



Michael M. (Meir) Allen  
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Photo, American Jewish Archives

1861, the Jewish population of the United States was very small. When the war began, Jews in both the North and the South rushed to support their beliefs. Jewish soldiers served with gallantry in both Union and Confederate armies. In addition, the Jewish community in each section remained steadfastly loyal to their cause. Seven Jewish soldiers were given the Medal of Honor, while many southern men served their cause with distinction.

Little has been written about Jewish participation in the war. However, many Jewish soldiers made courageous contributions. Women remained steadfast to their cause on both sides, expressing their thoughts in writing, as well as serving as nurses and spies. This presentation will describe how the Jewish community in both the north and the south reacted to the war. It will also bring to light the heroic actions of soldiers on both sides of the conflict.

Join us at our next Old Baldy Civil War Round Table meeting as **Herb Kaufman** takes us on an interesting

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### **Notes from the President...**

The first weekend of May brought out the re-enactors to Neshaminy and some heat to the area. The crowds were large and generous as interest mounts for the upcoming Sesquicentennial next year. Ran into the **Staffords** and their grandsons on Sunday. It was good to see **Bob** up and about. Hope to see **Toni** and him on the 13th. I missed last month's meeting as I was opening the season in Clinton, Iowa with the Lumber Kings. The family did visit some interesting places like Lone Jack, Fort Riley and Galena. You will be able to read about them in future newsletters. I understand **Mike Burkheimer** did a fine presentation to our small group.

This month we have our own skilled presenter, **Herb Kaufman** talking about American Jewry in the Civil War. It should be an interesting evening on a different topic. We have had some really good presentations of late. Be sure to let your friends know and invite them down to the Union League to join us. Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and grandmothers. I will be walking the Komen walk that morning. Thank you to those who supported us in this effort.

Some notes from the Board Meeting: **Herb** reports our treasury is in good shape. Some of the decisions that will affect the membership: we will have a book raffle at least quarterly; there is interest in a trip to Gettysburg with Jim Heeneham for a Philadelphia Brigade tour; thanks to a contact **Don Wiles** made at a recent seminar we will soon have an Old Baldy website; and inquiry will be made into getting a historical marker for the Sanitary Fair at Logan Circle. Watch future newsletters for details on these events. Everyone is reminded that we have an email address [OldBaldyCWRT@verizon.net](mailto:OldBaldyCWRT@verizon.net). In an effort to get out the word of what we are doing, local center city newspapers will be contacted as well as the History Department of local schools. If you are interest in assisting with any of these projects or have any suggestions please let us know. I also saw **Bruce Sirak** from Camp Olden at Neshaminy and he is getting us information on New Jersey Civil War 150th hats for our New Jersey members, as well as events

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The Old Baldy CWRT will meet at the Union League of Philadelphia at 7:30 PM, the second Thursday of the month. Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner at 6:00 PM, Applebees on 15th Street between Walnut and Locust. You're Welcome to Join Us!

*Notice: Attire for Men at the Union League Jacket and tie would be preferred; otherwise collared shirts, long pants and jacket are recommended. For men and women, the following attire is never acceptable on the first or second floors of the League: jeans, denim wear, tee shirts, athletic wear, tank, halter, or jogging tops, shorts, baseball caps, sneakers, extremely casual or beach footwear. Current or historical military uniforms are appropriate.*

**Parking... A \$2 coupon (off of parking) is available at the Union League front desk (through the side door on Sansom Street)**

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program on Jewelry in the Civil War. That's **Thursday, May 13th** starting at **7:30 PM** in the 2nd Floor Library of the **Union League** at Broad & Sansom Streets. As always, you are welcome to join us at 6:00 at Applebee's for a bite to eat before the meeting. It's just a block south of the Union League on 15th Street.

*Steve Wright, Program Chairman*

### **From The Treasurer's Desk...**

**The famous Old Baldy raffles are back!** This would be a great time for all members of Old Baldy CWRT to come out to enjoy a fine evening of discussion and enjoyment. My presentation on the varied roles that Jews played during the Civil War will, I am sure, enlighten you in a topic that has not previously received a great deal of attention. I am sure that everyone will find this presentation to be of interest.

In addition, our famous book raffle will return. We have obtained a number of new and very interesting books that I am sure you would like to read, and become a part of your Civil War library. The books include World War II, the Civil War Navy, as well as Civil War history.

So, make it a point to attend the Old Baldy meeting on May 13. You will have a great evening of conversion, education, and collegiality.

*Hope to see you there,  
Herb Kaufman*

### **Membership Report**

As we go into May, forty-three members have renewed their memberships. That is out of a total of fifty 2009 members. We have extended the deadline for renewals to the end of April due to the canceled meetings in February and March. We hope to have the remaining seven on board this month giving the round table a 100% renewal rate. We encourage all our members to receive their newsletters by email. This saves us money that can be used to obtain quality speakers and make generous donations to battlefield and historic preservation. **Remember** donations to the round table are always welcome and will be put to good use.

We also have several members that we have no email address listed. Even if you want to receive your newsletter by USPS, having your email address in our system is good for notifications of last minute meeting changes and situations that need to be acted on right away. If you wish to receive your newsletter by email or to add your email address to our list, contact:

**Mike Cavanaugh** at [chief96pbi@rcn.com](mailto:chief96pbi@rcn.com) or call **484.225.3150**. Thank, as always, you for your support.

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happening in New Jersey for the 150th. Please keep Don informed of any events, activities and exhibits that you know of, so he can include them in the newsletter. Thank you for supporting our Round Table. Look forward to seeing many of you on May 13th.

*Join us for dinner at Applebee's if you can.*

*Rich Jankowski, President*

### **April 8th meeting "The Reports of the Lincolns' Political Partnership Have Been Greatly Exaggerated"**

**Mike Burkheimer** gave us an excellent program on the Political Partnership of the Lincolns. He spoke on Lincoln's political experiences before the marriage to Mary. That Abe had already established his political knowledge. He discussed how many modern authors have been writing on the abilities of Mary to guide Abe in his politics. He has done a tremendous amount of research and has found no evidence of Mary writing or rewriting Abe's speeches and helping him make political decisions that effected his government. Lincoln would ask people their opinions on varying subjects, but he would follow his own feelings and ultimately make the decisions. The consensus of the program was that Abe was his own man and Mary was the First Lady of the White House. Mike is an excellent and knowledgeable speaker and will be welcomed back anytime.



**Mike Burkheimer**



Michael M. (Meir) Allen

Photo, American Jewish Archives

## Michael M. (Meir) Allen

Michael M. (Meir) Allen, born in Philadelphia in 1830, is the first known Jew to serve as chaplain in the United States Army. He was not chaplain to only the Jewish soldiers in his regiment, but chaplain for the entire regiment. As the regulations then stood, only a "regularly ordained minister of some Christian denomination" could serve as a chaplain. Even though

there were many so-called chaplains who were unfit for their position, Allen was singled out by the Young Men's Christian Association because he was Jewish. He had received some rabbinical training from his religious leader, Rev. Isaac Leeser of Philadelphia, and possessed a certificate of chaver which meant that he was an observant Jew who had studied the Shulkhan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law). He was a melamed (Hebrew teacher) of the Philadelphia Hebrew Education Society and frequently officiated as a cantor at Isaac Leeser's congregation. However, he was not a "regularly ordained minister", certainly not of a Christian denomination, and so not qualified for the position of chaplain. Rather than face the shame of losing his commission and being expelled from the regiment, Allen resigned as chaplain. In 1866 he moved to New York City where he married Julia Spanier, of a distinguished German rabbinic family and became the director of Hebrew studies at the Talmud Torah (Hebrew School) of the Spanish-Portuguese congregation Shearith Israel. In 1873 Allen emigrated to Germany in order to be with his wife's family in Hannover, Prussia. A letter written to a friend back in the United States shortly after his arrival in Hannover expresses his deep commitment to Orthodox Judaism and his satisfaction at the religious devotion of Hannover Jewry. He wrote, "our Holy Religion is observed by our people here as it was in times gone by, when no reforms had crept in to mar the observance of our rites and ceremonies." He went on to say that this was due mainly to the influence of his wife's uncle, the Landesrabbiner (Chief Rabbi) of Hannover Province.

Chaplain Allen kept a journal during the month of September, 1861. It contains little of historic interest but gives a good account of how an Orthodox Jew in the Union Army observed the Jewish holidays. Because writing on the Sabbath and holidays is forbidden by Jewish law, Allen probably recorded the entries for those days (which are very brief) at some later date. The text of the journal was transcribed by David de Sola Pool in 1948 and printed in the Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society in 1961.

<http://www.jewish-history.com>

## The Fight for Jewish Chaplains

Michael Feldberg, Ph.D.

For Jews who wish to observe the rituals of their faith, war-time may pose seemingly insurmountable challenges. The

exigencies of war can make the observance of the Sabbath, holy days and kashrut rules very difficult.

As the Arab attack on Israel during Yom Kippur of 1973 made clear, Jewish soldiers must, on occasion, subordinate religious observance to combat. Despite the frequent priority of war over religion, there are times, such as the funeral of a fallen Jewish soldier or at the bedside of a wounded Jew, when religion can shape war policy.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Jews could not serve as chaplains in the U.S. armed forces. When the war commenced in 1861, Jews enlisted in both the Union and Confederate armies. The Northern Congress adopted a bill in July of 1861 that permitted each regiment's commander, on a vote of his field officers, to appoint a regimental chaplain so long as he was "a regularly ordained minister of some Christian denomination."

Only Representative Clement L. Vallandigham of Ohio, a non-Jew, protested that this clause discriminated against soldiers of the Jewish faith. Vallandigham argued that the Jewish population of the United States, "whose adherents are . . . good citizens and as true patriots as any in this country," deserved to have rabbis minister to Jewish soldiers.

Vallandigham thought the law, which endorsed Christianity as the official religion of the United States, was blatantly unconstitutional. However, there was no organized national Jewish protest to support Vallandigham and the bill sailed through Congress.

Three months later, a YMCA worker visiting the field camp of a Pennsylvania regiment known as "Cameron's Dragoons" discovered to his horror that the officers had elected a Jew, Michael Allen, as regimental chaplain. While not an ordained rabbi, Allen was fluent in the Portuguese minhag (ritual) and taught at the Philadelphia Hebrew Education Society. As Allen was neither a Christian nor an ordained minister, the YMCA representative filed a formal complaint with the Army. Obeying the recently enacted law, the Army forced Allen to resign his post.

Hoping to create a test case based strictly on a chaplain's religion and not his lack of ordination, Colonel Max Friedman and the officers of the Cameron's Dragoons then elected an ordained rabbi, the Reverend Arnold Fischel of New York's Congregation Shearith Israel, to serve as regimental chaplain-designate. When Fischel, a Dutch immigrant, applied for certification as chaplain, the Secretary of War, none other than Simon Cameron, for whom the Dragoons were named, complied with the law and rejected Fischel's application.

Fischel's rejection stimulated American Jewry to action. The American Jewish press let its readership know that Congress had limited the chaplaincy to those who were Christians and argued for equal treatment for Judaism before the law. This initiative by the Jewish press irritated a handful of Christian organizations, including the YMCA, which resolved to lobby Congress against the appointment of Jewish chaplains.

To counter their efforts, the Board of Delegates of American Israelites, one of the earliest Jewish communal defense agencies, recruited Reverend Fischel to live in Washington, minister to wounded Jewish soldiers in that city's military hospitals and lobby President Abraham Lincoln to reverse

*Continued on page 4*

the chaplaincy law. Although today several national Jewish organizations employ representatives to make their voices heard in Washington; Fischel's mission was the first such undertaking of this type.

Armed with letters of introduction from Jewish and non-Jewish political leaders, Fischel met on December 11, 1861 with President Lincoln to press the case for Jewish chaplains. Fischel explained to Lincoln that, unlike many others who were waiting to see the president that day, he came not to seek political office, but to "contend for the principle of religious liberty, for the constitutional rights of the Jewish community, and for the welfare of the Jewish volunteers."

According to Fischel, Lincoln asked questions about the chaplaincy issues, "fully admitted the justice of my remarks . . . and agreed that something ought to be done to meet this case." Lincoln promised Fischel that he would

submit a new law to Congress "broad enough to cover what is desired by you in behalf of the Israelites."

Lincoln kept his word, and seven months later, on July 17, 1862, Congress finally adopted Lincoln's proposed amendments to the chaplaincy law to allow "the appointment of brigade chaplains of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish religions." In historian Bertram Korn's opinion, Fischel's "patience and persistence, his unselfishness and consecration . . . won for American Jewry the first major victory of a specifically Jewish nature . . . on a matter touching the Federal government."

Korn concluded, "Because there were Jews in the land who cherished the equality granted them in the Constitution, the practice of that equality was assured, not only for Jews, but for all minority religious groups."

<http://www.jewishfederations.org>

## ***On the Road with Rich... Battle of Lone Jack***

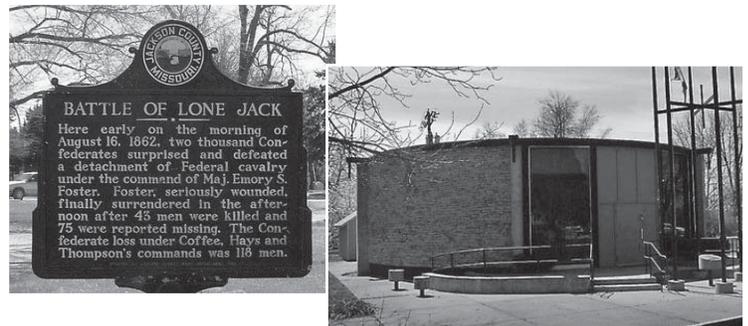
*Rich Jankowski*

The topic of Lone Jack came up at a DelVal Preservation meeting as it was identified by CWPT as an At-Risk Site. Since we were out in Missouri to visit Harry and Ike, we stopped by Lone Jack to check it out. "The small battlefield southeast of Kansas City is being hemmed in by development. A housing development is going up to the east, a high school is on the land to the south, while a Sonic on the northern portion of the field will soon be joined by a strip mall. Thirty acres on the western side of the battlefield are zoned commercial and are on the market." [CWPT write-up]

This site represents the impact of the Civil War on the nation's citizens as it exemplifies the national conflict as well as the deprivation and terror civilians in the Border Counties endured as renegade bands of guerrillas and irregular Union troops preyed on them from 1854, when the Border War started, with the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and continued throughout the war years. The constant threat from the numerous skirmishes, the spying of neighbor against neighbor, the irregular practices of draft enforcement and the depredations of the war set a true example of the war of brother against brother. This battle is indicative of the fratricidal nature of the Civil War in Missouri.

The Battle of Lone Jack was the bloodiest battle fought on Missouri soil during the entire Civil War, occurred on August 15-16, 1862 in Jackson County, Missouri. It was part of the Confederate guerrilla and recruiting campaign in Missouri in 1862.

Union Major Emory S. Foster, under orders, led an 800-man combined force from Lexington, MO to Lone Jack. Upon reaching the Lone Jack area, he discovered 1,600 Rebels under Colonel J.T. Coffee and prepared to attack them. About 9:00 p.m. on the 15th, he and his men attacked the Confederate camp and dispersed the force. Early the next morning, Union pickets informed Foster that a 3,000-man Confederate force was advancing on him.



Soon afterwards, this force attacked and a battle began that involved charges, retreats, and counterattacks. After five hours of fighting and the loss of Foster, Coffee and his 1,500 men reappeared, causing Foster's successor, Capt. M.H. Brawner to order a retreat. The men left the field in good order and returned to Lexington.

This was a Confederate victory, but the Rebels had to evacuate the area soon afterward, when threatened by the approach of large Union forces. Except for a short period of time during Price's Raid, in 1864, the Confederacy lost its clout in Jackson County.

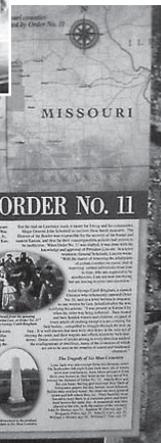
There are approximately 270 men, Confederate and Union, buried on the battlefield. Like other battles up to the local folks to clean up the mess left by the battle. The soldiers are buried in two long trenches 80 feet in length and are buried in layers. There has recently been discovered a third trench at the foot of the two long trenches where 18 men, who died in the days after the battle, are buried.

It took almost three days to dig the trenches and bury the dead. In addition, there were almost 115 dead horses. The temperature was well over 100 degrees and their horses refused to come anywhere near the town square and oxen had to be procured from the neighboring farms to take care of the job.

The Lone Jack Civil War Battlefield, Museum and Soldier's Cemetery is one of the few battlefields where soldiers who perished during the battle are still buried on the battlefield. The Museum is a unique round native stone building built in 1963. It houses a variety of displays with artifacts from the Battle, items of local history as well as dioramas. Topics include the Battle of Lone Jack, the Battle of Westport,

General Order #11, and Quantrill's burning of Lawrence. It also has a small research library.

The fee is \$3.00 and it is open Wednesday to Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 1-4. For more information visit the growing website that has photos, battle rosters, timeline, Reminiscences, an event calendar and information on the Border War and the Lone Jack area at <http://historiclonejack.org>



## Today in Civil War History

### Monday May 13, 1861 Butler Bags Baltimore Baddies

Acting completely without orders or authorization of any sort, Gen. Benjamin Butler, USA, occupied the city of Baltimore today. He moved troops from outlying Relay Station, Md., into town and seized Federal Hill. His first justification was the claim that he had heard that there was a riot going on. As there was in fact no civil disturbance, he searched around until he found weapons stores, munitions and other supplies he claimed were intended for distribution to the "rebels."

### Tuesday May 13, 1862 Crew Confiscates Confederate Craft

The captain of the steamship Planter was a smart and crafty fellow. To keep his expenses down, he crewed the vessel entirely with Negroes. Today he docked in Charleston, S.C., and went ashore to do some business. He stayed overnight. At about 4 a.m. his erstwhile crew, led by Robert Smalls, hoisted anchor and chugged out into the bay. Reaching the Union blockade ships they raised a white flag

and surrendered the ship and cargo—including themselves—to Acting Lt. Nickels of the USS Onward. They were happily received.

### Wednesday May 13, 1863 Vance Vexed At Veteran Vacations

Gov. Zebulon B. Vance of North Carolina added to the pressures preying on the mind of President Jefferson Davis today. Vance was concerned about the rate of desertion among Confederate troops. He studied the subject and wrote to Davis that the causes he had found for desertion included homesickness, fatigue, inability to enter their preferred regiment, refusal of officers to grant furloughs, and "hard fare", presumably referring to the food.

### Friday May 13, 1864 Red River Rapids Run

The naval component of the Red River expedition had been stranded by low water above the rapids near Alexandria. In a brilliant and desperate feat of engineering a dam had been constructed to raise the water level. Today the dam was blown up and the last three ships rode the wave downstream to freedom. The last of Banks' troops boarded the ships and steamed home as quickly as possible.

## The Lincoln Children

This is a series of the Lincoln Children that will continue for several issues. Starting with their oldest son Robert. The articles and photos are from [www.mrlincolnswhitehouse.org](http://www.mrlincolnswhitehouse.org). Mr Lincoln's White House - A project of The Lincoln Institute under a grant from The Lehrman Institute. © 1999 - 2010 The Lincoln Institute. All rights reserved.

### William Wallace Lincoln (1850-1862)

*Continued from the April issue*

"It is hard, hard, hard to have him die!" said his father after Willie's death. Orville Browning assumed responsibility for the funeral and burial arrangements while his wife comforted Mary Todd Lincoln.



The funeral took place in the East Room while Willie's body reposed in the Green Room. Rev. Dr. Phineas Gurley eulogized Willie: "His mind was active, inquisitive, and conscientious; his disposition was amiable and affectionate; his impulses were kind and generous; and his words and manners were gentle and attractive. It is easy to see how a child, thus endowed, would, in the course of eleven years, entwine himself round the hearts of those who knew him best; nor can we wonder that the grief of his affectionate mother today is like

that of Rachel weeping for her children, and refusing to be comforted because they were not."<sup>5</sup> His funeral took place on a blustery day; the President was accompanied to the cemetery by Robert Lincoln, and Senators Lyman Trumbull and Orville Browning. "The funeral is a very solemn affair, but it cannot be permitted to interfere overmuch with work. The burden is increased rather than laid aside," wrote presidential aide William Stoddard.<sup>6</sup>

Willie's death after a two-week illness plunged his mother into inconsolable grief. She remained in formal mourning for a year and wrote of him: "I always found my hopes concentrating on so good a boy as he." She donated her son's savings to the Sunday School Mission Program at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church; his whole church school class had attended the funeral. The words poet Nathaniel Parker Willis wrote about Willie in *Home Journal* were of great comfort to his grieving mother.

This little fellow had his acquaintances among his father's friends, and I chanced to be one of them. He never failed to seek me out in the crowd, shake hands, and make some pleasant remark; and this, in a boy of ten years of age, was, to say the least, endearing to a stranger. But he had more than mere affectionateness. His self-possession—aplomb, as the French call it—was extraordinary. I was one day passing the White House, when he was outside with a play-fellow on the side-walk. Mr. Seward drove in, with Prince Napoleon and two of his suite in the carriage; and, in a mock-heroic



way—terms of intimacy evidently existing between the boy and the Secretary—the official gentleman took off his hat, and the Napoleon did the same, all making the young prince President a ceremonious salute. Not a bit staggered with the homage, Willie drew himself up to his full height, took off his little cap with graceful self-possession, and bowed down formally to the ground, like a little ambassador.

They drove past, and he went on unconcernedly with his play: the impromptu readiness and good judgment being clearly a part of his nature. His genial and open expression of countenance was none the less ingenuous and fearless for a certain tincture of fun; and it was in this mingling of qualities that he so faithfully resembled his father.

"With all the splendor that was around this little fellow in his new home he was so bravely and beautifully himself—and that only. A wild flower transplanted from the prairie to the hothouse, he retained his prairie habits, unalterably pure and simple, till he died. His leading trait seemed to be a fearless and kindly frankness, willing that everything should be as different as it pleased, but resting unmoved in his own conscious single-heartedness. I found I was studying him irresistibly, as one of the sweet problems of childhood that the world is blessed with in rare places; and the news of his death (I was absent from Washington, on a visit to my own children, at the time) came to me like a knell heard unexpectedly at a merry-making.

'On the day of the funeral I went before the hour, to take a near farewell look at the dear boy; for they had embalmed him to send home to the West—to sleep under the sod of his own valley—and the coffin-lid was to be closed before the service. The family had just taken their leave of him, and the servants and nurses were seeing him for the last time— and with tears and sobs wholly unrestrained, for he was loved like an idol by every one of them. He lay with eyes closed— his brown hair parted as we had known it— pale in the slumber of death; but otherwise unchanged, for he was dressed as if for the evening, and held in one of his hands, crossed upon his breast, a bunch of exquisite flowers—a message coming from his mother, while we were looking upon him, that those flowers might be preserved for her. She was lying sick in her bed, worn out with grief and overwatching.

'The funeral was very touching. Of the entertainments in the East Room the boy had been—for those who now assembled more especially—a most life-giving variation. With his bright face, and his apt greetings and replies, he was remembered in every part of that crimson-curtained hall, built only for pleasure—of all the crowds, each night, certainly the one least likely to be death's first mark. He was his father's favorite. They were intimates—often seen hand in hand. And there sat the man, with a burden on his brain at which the world marvels—bent now with the load at both heart and brain—staggering under a blow like the taking

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from him of his child! His men of power sat around him—McClellan, with a moist eye when he bowed to the prayer, as I could see from where I stood; and Chase and Seward, with their austere features at work; and senators, and ambassadors, and soldiers, all struggling with their tears—great hearts sorrowing with the President as a stricken man and a brother. That God may give him strength for all his burdens is, I am sure, at present the prayer of a nation."7

Dr. Phineas Gurley wrote: "Willie's death was a great blow to Mr. Lincoln, coming as it did in the midst of the war, when his burdens seemed already greater than he could bear. The little boy was always interested in the war and used to go down to the White House stables and read the battle news to the employees and talk over the outcome. These men all loved him and thought for one of his years, he was most unusual. When he was dying he said to me, 'Doctor Gurley, I have six one dollar gold pieces in my bank over there on the mantel. Please send them to the missionaries for me.' After his death those six one dollar pieces were shown to my Sunday School and the scholars were informed of Willie's request."8 At the funeral, Rev. Gurley said: "The beloved youth whose death we now and here lament was a child of bright intelligence and of peculiar promise. He possessed many excellent qualities of mind and heart which greatly endeared him not only to the family circle but to all his youthful acquaintances and friends. His mind was active, he was inquisitive and conscientious; his disposition was amiable and affectionate. His impulses kind and generous; his words and manners were gentle and attractive. It is easy to see how a child thus endowed could, in the course of eleven years entwine himself around the hearts of those who knew him best; nor can we wonder that the grief of affectionate mother today is like that of Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they were not."9

General George McClellan wrote the President: "I have not felt authorized to intrude upon you personally in the midst of the deep distress I know you feel in the sad calamity that has befallen you and your family. Yet I cannot refrain from expressing to you the sincere and deep sympathy I feel for you. You have been a kind and true friend to me in the midst of the great cares and difficulties by which we have been surrounded during the past few months. Your confidence has upheld me when I should otherwise have felt weak. I wish now only to assure you and your family that I have felt the deepest sympathy in your affliction."10 Both Lincolns struggled with their grief. Mary told her half-sister later that "if I had not felt the spur of necessity urging me to cheer Mr. Lincoln, whose grief was as great as my own, I could never have smiled again."11

A more humble — and probably more appreciated — source of presidential comfort than General McClellan was William Florville, a black barber from Springfield: "I was surprised about the announcement of the death of your son Willie. I thought him a smart boy for his age, so considerate, so manly, his knowledge and good sense far exceeding most boys more advanced in years. Yet the time comes to all, all must die. Tell Taddy that his and Willie's dog is alive and kicking, doing well. He stays mostly at John E. Rolls with his boys who are about the age now that Tad and Willie were when they left for Washington. Your residence here is kept in good order. Mr. Tilton has no children to ruin things."12

Willie's presence continued to be felt by both his parents. His mother told her half-sister, Emilie Todd Helm, "He comes to me every night, and stands at the foot of my bed with the same sweet, adorable smile he has always had; he does not always come alone; little Eddie is sometimes with him and twice he has come with our brother Alec, he tells me he loves his Uncle Alec and is with him most of the time. You cannot dream of the comfort this gives me. When I thought of my little son in immensity, alone, without his mother to direct him, no one to hold his little hand in loving guidance, it nearly broke my heart."13

#### Footnotes

1. Elizabeth Todd Grimsley, "Six Months in the White House," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 19 (Oct.-Jan., 1926-27): p. 48.
2. Doris Kearns Goodwin, *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, p. 332
3. Julia Taft Bayne, *Tad Lincoln's Father*, p. 8-9.
4. Ruth Painter Randall, *Mary Lincoln: Biography of a Marriage*, p. 260.
5. Wayne Temple: *Abraham Lincoln: From Skeptic to Prophet*, p. 187.
6. Michael Burlingame, editor, *Inside the White House in War Times*, p.67.
7. Elizabeth Keckley, *Behind the Scenes*, p. 106-110.
8. Ervin Chapman, *Latest Light on Abraham Lincoln and War-time Memories*, pp. 505-506.
9. Chapman, *Latest Light on Abraham Lincoln and War-time Memories*, p. 503 (Dr. Gurley said he wrote out his remarks after the funeral – at the request of President Lincoln.)
10. Benjamin Thomas, "The President Reads His Mail," *The Many Faces of Lincoln*, p.132.
11. Ruth Painter Randall, *Mary Lincoln: Biography of a Marriage*, p. 266.
12. Benjamin Thomas, "The President Reads His Mail," *The Many Faces of Lincoln*, p.132.
13. Katherine Helm, *Mary, Wife of Lincoln*, p. 227.

Continued in the June issue

## Jewery at the Battle of Gettysburg

*"In the ebb and flow of this three day battle, two opposing regiments that stood within 650 yards opposite each other on July 1, 1863, at about 3 p.m., were the 82nd Illinois and the 12th Alabama. The 82nd Illinois Infantry was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Edward S. Salomon, a Jewish officer, and contained several hundred Jewish soldiers from the Chicago area. The 12th Alabama Infantry included Major Adolph Proskauer and over a dozen other Jewish soldiers from the Mobile, Alabama area. In the confusion, the smoke, the movement of men in battle, some of these soldiers may well have come within musket range of each other."*

### Included among the Union casualties in the Battle of Gettysburg:

Martin Jacobs - Private - Co. D, 82nd Ohio Infantry  
Adolph Lipman - Private - Battery B, 9th Massachusetts Artillery  
Aaron Greenwald - Private - Co. C, 1st Minnesota Infantry  
Aaron Myers - Sergeant - Co. I, 153rd Pennsylvania Infantry  
Nathan Rosenfelt - Sergeant - Co. D, 26th Pennsylvania Infantry  
Isacc Cohn - Private - Co. A, 41st New York Infantry  
Philip Feldman - Private - Co. 1, 26th Wisconsin Infantry  
Alexander Metzler - Sergeant Major - Co. B, 26th Wisconsin Infantry  
Simon Harris - Private - Co. H, 20th Indiana Infantry  
Philip Halpin - Corporal - Co. F, 153rd Pennsylvania Infantry

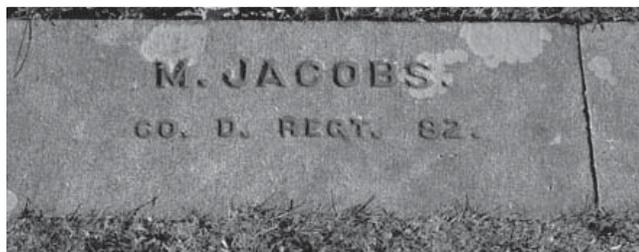
### The Confederate casualty list included:

Simon Morriss - Sergeant - Co. D, 1st Texas Infantry

Continued on page 8

J. Goldsticker - Private - Co. A, 4th Texas Infantry  
S. Cohen - Private - Co. A., 5th Texas Infantry  
Jacob Hirschfelder - Private - 5th Alabama Infantry  
Moses Greenbaum - Private - Co. E, 9th Georgia Infantry  
Jacob Freeman - Private - Co. E, 51st Georgia Infantry

From "Where They Lie" Mel Young



Martin Jacobs Grave marker in the National Cemetery, believed to be the only Jewish Soldier buried in the cemetery from the battle.



This is a rock carving (Star of David) on the very top of Big Round Top. Know one knows who or when it was put there. One theory is that it could have been put there by the stone cutters who made the flank markers and monument bases on Big Round Top. That would have been in the late 1800s.

## Join "Jane's Group on a Bus Tour to Vermont

**August 29, 30, 31 - September 1, 2010  
(Sunday - Wednesday)**

The tour will include sightseeing at many and attractions, museums: Calvin Coolidge's Homestead, Vermont Marble Museum. We'll also enjoy a lunch cruise aboard the Ethan Allen as she sails Lake Champlain. Camelot Village (antiques, crafts, gift shops, and a local winery) for some local shopping!

The tour package includes:

Round Trip Transportation by Deluxe Starr Motorcoach  
Three Night's Lodging - 3 Full Breakfasts - Lunch & Cruise  
Two Buffet Dinners - All Sightseeing Admissions.

**For more and detail information:**

**Call: 609 526-4299**

**or email: JaneStarrTours@yahoo.com**

**Jane Peters Estes**

**18 Woodstone Lane, Burlington, NJ 08016**

**oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net  
http://oldbaldycwrt.blogspot.com/**

## 1865 The Last Full Measure

On June 26th-27th 2010 at the Historic Dey Farm in Monroe Township, NJ will be a living history event hosted by the 2nd New Jersey Brigade.

The long awaited book, *New Jersey Goes to War: Biographies of 150 New Jerseyans during the War* edited by Joe Bilby is now available for purchase at \$20. It can be acquired on line at <http://www.njcivilwar.com/Booksstore.htm>. Mr. Bilby will be doing a presentation on the book at the June 3rd Camp Olden CWRT meeting at the Hamilton Public Library.

The New Jersey Civil War 150th hat is available in adjustable version with velcro back strap for \$16.00 or a "Flex-Fit" elastic sweatband for \$20. Shipping is \$5 for priority mail with delivery confirmation. Shirts are also available for \$30.00.



### Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2010

May 13 - Thursday

**A People at War: American Jewry and the Civil War**

By Herb Kaufman

June 10 - Thursday

**Benjamin Butler in New Orleans**

By Ed Root

July 8 - Thursday

**Meet John Hay**

By Jerry Carrier

August 12 - Thursday

**No Meeting**

**All meetings, unless otherwise noted, begin at 7:30 PM in the 2nd Floor Library of the UNION LEAGUE, Broad & Sansom Streets in Philadelphia. Questions to Steve Wright at 267-258-5943 or [maqua824@aol.com](mailto:maqua824@aol.com)**

**Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner at 6:00 P.M. Applebees on 15th Street between Walnut and Locust  
You're Welcome to Join Us!**

**Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia  
Union League  
140 South Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103**

**484.225.3150 oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net  
Founded January 1977**

**Annual Memberships  
Students: \$12.50  
Individuals: \$25.00  
Families: \$35.00**

**President: Richard Jankowski  
Vice President: William Brown  
Treasurer: Herb Kaufman  
Secretary: Bill Hughes  
Programs: Steve Wright**