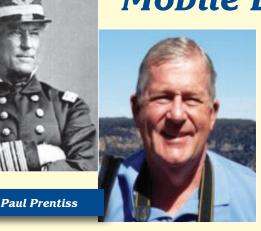
"Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!

- Admiral David Farragut and Battle of

Mobile Bay August 5, 1864"



Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, March 12th, at Camden County College. This month's topic is "Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead! – Admiral David Farragut and Battle of Mobile Bay August 5, 1864"

In the spring of 1864 the Southern heartland was still intact from the Shenandoah Valley to the red clay hills of Georgia. Richmond, Atlanta, along with the seaport cities of Mobile, Charleston, and Wilmington were thriving despite the Union Navy blockade. The effects of the Anaconda Strategy were felt but the impact was more an inconvenience than true suffering. West of the Mississippi the situation was very much the same except for New Orleans and a few Union garrisons on the coast. In the North the high hopes that followed victories at Vicksburg and Gettysburg were turning into despair. The Northern electorate blamed President Lincoln for the mismanagement of the war and the November elections were looming. If the Confederates could deny the North a major military victory and hold out until the elections, it was a real possibility the South could win the war through a negotiated peace. Also, any Confederate victory could strengthen the northern Peace Democrat candidate George McClellan's bid for the presi-

Just how much did the Battle of Mobile Bay affect the national stage at this critical time? Some argue the victory

helped Lincoln's campaign win the presidency while others claim the closure of the port of Mobile hastened the economic defeat of the South and had little actual impact on the election. This presentation will set the scene, discuss major players, critique the strategy and tactics and debate the battle's impact.

Paul Prentiss is a retired Navy Captain and Chief Scientist for a national science and technology company. The Massachusetts native graduated from the University of Michigan Physics program and Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. While serving in the Navy he was able to visit many worldwide historic sites and tread the ground where extraordinary events unfolded. Paul and his wife Susan live in nearby Marlton, NJ. He is a volunteer STEM mentor, trustee for the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable of Philadelphia and active member of the Coastal Defense Study Group. His distant cousin, LT Roderick Prentiss, participated in the Battle of Mobile Bay as Executive Officer aboard the USS Monongahela where he was struck by flying splinters caused by cannon fire from Fort Morgan and subsequently died of his wounds.

Notes from the President...

Welcome to March. Spring will be here soon with hopes of more steady temperatures. Thank you to all who are coming out to support and grow our Round Table. Look forward to seeing more members at our upcoming events. Always bring someone to experience the excitement. Last month **Mike Wunsch** enlightened us on the National Union Party Convention held in Baltimore in June 1864, explaining much of the behind the scenes goings-on. This month, for the second March in a row a Prentiss will be talking to us, as our own **Paul Prentiss** will tell more about the Battle of Mobile Bay in August 1864 and how it affected the national stage. Bring a friend to enjoy this presentation on a key naval engagement in the important western theater.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1 - "Notes from the President"

We had a successful trip to the GAR Museum for more members to visit Old Baldy and hear the presentation on "Compassionate Women of the Civil War," by **Rich Rosenthal** from the North Jersey CWRT. At the Octavius V. Catto event we saw a friend of our Round Table, **Dr. Cheryl Gooch**, view the photos in this newsletter. She hopes to visit again later this year. Several Old Baldy members served as judges at the Regional History Day event at Rutgers-Camden and enjoyed the experience. The visit to the Baltimore CWRT last month was pleasant and we look forward to visiting the Hershey CWRT this month.

We will soon be seeing profiles on some of our members in future newsletters as we have had some volunteers step up to assist with this project. At **Mike Cavanaugh's** memorial service, we met **Ed Hagerty**, a former member of the Round Table now living in Virginia, who will be sharing newsletters from the 1980's with our history team. If you would like to work on recording more of our history in preparation for our 45th anniversary in 2022, let us know. The planning for our next luncheon will begin soon.

The GAR Preservation Luncheon is on March 21st at Cannstatter's, see the detail in this newsletter. On March 23rd **Joe Wilson** will be presenting on "The Merchant Marine in World War II" at 7 PM at the College. Arrive early to serve with the Display team in welcoming the guests. On March 28th, the Camden County History Alliance will be hosting the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey meeting in Camden. Our Round Table will provide support for the event. The South Jersey History Fair will be June 13th at Gabreil Daveis Tavern in Glendora.

Paul and Susan Prentiss are planning our Birthday picnic celebration for Old Baldy on May 16th, watch for details soon. Planning continues for our Western Theater Symposium next May. If you want to get involved in the process contact **Tom Scurria** or **Sean Glisson**. We are hosting the 2020 CWRT Congress at the College on September 18-19. We will need several volunteers for registration and to direct our guests.

Join us for pre-meeting conversation at the Lamp Post at 5:30 on the 13th.

Rich Jankowski, President

Today in Civil War History

1862 Wednesday, March 12

Trans-Mississippi

In spite of the Confederate defeat at Pea Ridge, Arkansas, there is still rebel activity in Missouri. At Lexington in that state, one Union soldier is killed in a skirmish in exchange for nine dead and three wounded rebels.

Naval Operations

Jacksonville, Florida, is occupied by a Federal naval force.

1863 Thursday, March 12

Western Theater

Learning of the capture of Queen of the West and Indianola, Admiral Farragut plans to run his river flotilla past the

guns of Port Hudson. His aim is to establish his warships on the long reach above Port Hudson and cut off Confederate supplies from the Red River country. Meanwhile, a Union force under Colonel Granger returns from a raid along the Duck River, Tennessee.

1864 Saturday, March 12

Western Theater

Admiral Porter leads a fleet of 13 ironclads and seven light-draft gunboats into the mouth of the Red River. With the fleet are 10,000 of Sherman's troops and 17,000 from Banks' command. In theory they are to cooperate with Steele's 15,000 men in northern Arkansas, but this proves to be impossible. Halleck's plan still makes no allowance for any defensive action by Kirby Smith's 30,000 Confederates.

1865 Sunday, March 12

Eastern Theater

Sherman's forces at Fayetteville, North Carolina, destroy the arsenal buildings, machine shops, and foundries, including the machinery brought over from the Harper's Ferry arsenal in 1861. A tug traveling up the Cape Fear River from Wilmington re-establishes communications between Sherman's army and the rest of the Union. The Federal soldiers receive their mail and much-needed new uniforms, and the thousands of refugees with the army are shipped to safety.

A Return Trip to the Gar Museum to Visit Old Baldy and Hear Rich Rosenthal!

By Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

The members of Old Baldy returned to the GAR Museum to visit the museum and hear a presentation by Rich

Rosenthal. We were looking forward to hearing Rich's presentation entitled "Civil War Women of Compassion, Courage and Grit". Women, in 1860, stayed on the home front taking care of their family as husbands went off to war. These women worked twelve hours a day for their family. Finances were always low and a continuing problem for the women as head of the household. Where would they get the money to pay the bills? Currently, women's husbands did not

trust their wives with any kind



Rich Rosenthal

of finances. The soldier would send home their paycheck by sending the money to a store they patronized, and the shop owner gave the money to the family. Women had no rights at all in a man's mind. In the 1860's Anti-Catholic sentiment was part of the times but during the Civil War there were Nuns of Sisters of Charity on the fields nursing soldiers. They were in the prisons, on the battlefield and even treated smallpox victims with their nursing skills. No other group would take care of these soldiers but as the war progressed there were more women who decided to help with the wounded.

Sara Agnes Rice Pryor

Sara's husband (Roger Atkinson Pryor) was an officer in the Confederate army. Sara traveled with her husband and his



company, working as a nurse. They were living in Petersburg and had family taking care of their children. Being a female nurse during this war was not the same kind of work as nurse's today. Females who were helping the wounded were not to touch the men. They could bring them food, write letters, read to them or keep the area around the patient

Sara Agnes Rice Pryor

sanitized but no physical contact. Sara stayed with her husband until he resigned his commission and Sara

returned to Petersburg to take care of her family.

Cornelia Hancock

Cornelia was a Quaker and with her religious teaching went to help the sick during the Civil War. By 1863 she was



breaking boundaries by helping as many wounded and sick soldiers as she was able to during the war and after. She was called a "volunteer" nurse having no formal medical training. Cornelia heard that help was needed at Gettysburg. As she traveled toward Gettysburg, Cornelia took a train to Baltimore and met Dorothea Dix. At the time Dorothea Dix was recruiting plain women over the age

Cornelia Hancock

of 35. Dorothea required unassuming and non-adorned apparel. The women were

not to be have any distractions such as jewelry or anything in their hair. With these requirements, Dorothea felt that the men who are wounded and being treated by female nurses would only be thinking of getting well. Cornelia was only 23 years old, was very attractive so the requirements set by Dorothea Dix for nursing became null and void for Cornelia.

Cornelia did not arrive in Gettysburg until three days after the war. As she approached the 2nd Corps of New Jersey's tent, she was shocked by the pile of bones from amputated limbs near the tent. She continued into the battlefield to ghastly conditions. It was hot, summer like weather with dead soldiers and animals remaining on the battlefield. Decomposition of the body was being created by this heat and unbearable stench heavy in the air. Cornelia's compassion for the wounded and their family and friends was her priority. She kept working on behalf of the poor and ministered to those who had no advocate to help them. After the war, Cornelia opened a school in Mt. Pleasant, SC to educate former slaves and inspire them to become good citizens. Cornelia's strength of character and purpose shown through her many letters and her work as a nurse during this time was amazing.

Mary Ann Bickerdyke

Mary worked to improve establishing hospitals during the Civil War as an agent of the United States Sanitary Commission. She helped secure federal pensions for numerous



United States Army Veterans and more than 300 nurses who served in the Civil War. The level of care and cleanliness was a very important factor when nursing patients in the hospitals. Mary was dedicated to improving this level of care. She worked on the first hospital boat, and as to General Sherman's request, rode at the head of the 15th

Mary Ann Bickerdyke

Corps of the Army of Tennessee in the Grand Review in Washington, D.C. After

the war worked for the Salvation Army in San Francisco. Mary was an attorney and became her lifelong work to help Union Veterans with legal issues.

Mary studied herbal medicine at Oberlin College in 1847, married, sadly becoming a widow in 1859. Knowing that the Union forces needed food, Mary delivered \$500 worth of medical supplies to the Union forces in Cairo, Illinois. Her thoughts were always on improving makeshift field hospitals. She followed the Union forces in the West, caring for the wounded on 19 battlefields. Mary was held in high esteem by all the soldiers she met and nursed back to health.

Sara, Cornelia, and Mary Ann are just three of the women who had the compassion and the courage to fight for the wounded soldiers during the war and after it was over. There are so many other women to talk about and not all those women were on the battlefield but stayed on the Homefront with their families. Women took on roles they never thought they would have to do but were resilient in their ability to change their course in life. They could go far beyond any kind of male thinking. No one was giving women any credit for all they did and were doing for their family and outside of the family. The Civil War changed the role of women in society, an important goal for all women in 1860 and in 2020.

Our visit to the GAR museum was a wonderful day of exploring the artifacts in the museum. Meeting Rich Rosenthal was also very rewarding and his presentation well worth attending. Rich gave the GAR museum and Old Baldy CWRT a beautiful poster of the flags of New Jersey. Of course, Flat Old Baldy was attending and had his picture taken with Rich and the group. Thank to Rich Rosenthal and the GAR Museum for welcoming us on Sunday afternoon. This adventure was a great success!





Flat Old Baldy goes to Philly for Octavius Catto's Birthday

By Rich Jankowski, Member, Old Baldy CWRT,

Flat Old Baldy ventured over to City Hall in Philadelphia for the annual Octavius V. Catto on his 181stbirthday. The event included speeches, honor volleys, taps and wreath laying. Wreath were presented by the General Meade Society, the American Legion Benjamin Franklin Post #405, African Studies Department at Temple University and the Loyal Legion of the MOLLUS. Catto was a great Civil War era leader and civil rights martyr. He served as a Major in the National Guard, recruited units for the war, started a baseball league, desegregated the street cars in Philadelphia, fought for passage of the 15th Amendment and supported voting rights. Dr. Andy Waskie served as the master of ceremony. At the event FOB ran into Dr. Cheryl Gooch who posed with him and some of the soldiers from the USCT troop present. He also posed with Joe Jankowski and Debbie Jankowski. He viewed the plague of the Pythians' baseball club and the soldiers who trained at Camp William Penn. FOB was honored to represent the Round Table at this event for a great American.



Miriam Lee Early Lippincott 1877-1947



By Kathy Clark, Member, Old Baldy CWRT,

Writing about Camden and New Jersey Women's history is not complete without telling the story about Miriam Lee Early Lippincott and her contributions to the people of Camden and the State of New Jersey. Miriam's love of education and dramatics resulted in attending the Pennington Seminary and Female Collegiate Institute (1896) going on to become a graduate at Northwestern

University School of Oratory in Evanston, Illinois (1897). From 1900-1905 she returned to Pennington Seminary to become director of elocution and oratory. Then in 1915, Miriam had the opportunity to become head of the Dramatics Department and teach Public Speaking at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania.

Miriam Lee Early came into this world on March 10, 1877 in Hightstown, New Jersey to Harriet Whitmore Osborn and Robert Morrison Early. She joined older sister, Nellie E. Early who was born 1874. Miriam and Nellie's Father worked as a telegraph operator in Hightstown but when they moved to Camden in the late 1800's Robert began working as a printer. The family lived at 729 Mickle Street.

"The Washington Post stated Miriam Lee Early, age 30, will give a dramatic recital for the benefit of the Florence Crittenton Home at the Women's Christian Temperance Union Headquarters." While Miriam was involved in the temperance movement she also believed in women's equality and women suffrage which Miriam encouraged every woman to explore. She urged all women to become part of this movement. Some of her other activities included being a member of the Philadelphia Art Alliance, several women's clubs and literary societies. Hobbies included tennis, walking, driving, devoting herself to causes that strengthen family life. She continued as elocution teacher, public speaker, literary interpreter and director of plays including the Little Theater which was performed in a local church. The Little Theater group presented productions that financed projects for public welfare obtained through admission fees.

In 1913, Miriam met and eventually married Dr. Ahab Haines Lippincott, Jr., a widower practicing urologist and preforming surgery in Camden. They moved to 406 Cooper Street and remained at that residence for the rest of their lives. Dr. Lippincott, a strong supporter of Miriam, encouraged her political and social service activities. After the loss of their daughter, Barbara Lee, three days old in 1915, Miriam put all her effort into serving as a member of the executive committee of the New Jersey Women Suffrage Association and Congressional District Chairman. She went on to be appointed to represent Camden County at the Republican State Committee along with organizing

the county's Republican women. This organization later became known as the State Council of New Jersey Republican Women of which Miriam was the president (1920). By 1924 she became delegate-at-large from New Jersey to the Republican Convention in Chicago, Illinois. Campaigning for President Hoover began in 1932 and in April Miriam was one of the delegates invited to the White House to be introduced to the President.

Miriam was chairperson of the New Jersey Chapter for Law Enforcement and board member of the New Jersey Anti-Saloon League. When the House and Senate repealed prohibition in 1934, the organization lost its purpose and disbanded. After the 19th amendment was passed, Miriam began speaking to various committees of women to remind them to get out and vote. For 20 years, Miriam served on the Board of Officers and Directors of the New Jersey League of Women Voters. While being part of the League she led a campaign for women jurors. In 1936, Miriam became the first woman chosen for jury duty in the United States District Court, District of New Jersey.

In both the 20's and 30's, Miriam began a campaign promoting World Peace, becoming chairwoman of the American Foundation's Committee on Foreign Relations. Miriam continued her World Peace Movement as she became a

LIPPINCOTT
1877 — 1947

delegate to the first World Peace Council held in Brussels, Belgium in 1935. The Women's International League

for Peace and Education was established along with the Committee on the Cause and Cure of War. Even before World War II, Miriam organized the sale of Chinese goods. When the sale ended Miriam returned the proceeds back to China for relief purposes.

From 1927-1930, Miriam was the first club director and then president of the Women's Club of Mrs. Miriam Lippincott

In the death of Mrs. Miriam Lee Early
Lippincott Camden loses one of the outstanding civic leaders in the history of the
city and county.

Mrs. Lippincott championed so many good causes that it would be impossible to list them, and she was always a valiant fighter for the causes she believed in.

Her notable career as an educator began more than 40 years ago at Swarthmore and continued throughout her life. In her later years she was a lecturer of distinction in colleges and elsewhere,

In politics she served on the Republican state committee and as a national convention delegate. She was a leader in behalf of woman suffrage and prohibition.

The varied scope of her interests is shown by the many organizations in which she held office or was an active member, in such fields as medicine, art, politics, literature, and sociology. She was the first woman to serve on the city board of education and the county grand jury, and a delegate to the Brussels International Peace Conference.

She was a writer as well as a teacher, well known for her magazine articles, plays and short stories.

Ten years ago she was proclaimed Camden county's outstanding woman for service, leadership, citizenship and womanhood. Her passing leaves a void that will be truly hard to fill.

Camden. Through her association with the Women's Club a campaign began to establish the New Jersey College of Women later it became Douglass College of Rutgers University. Miriam's long service to the college through her association with the Board of Trustees Committee and

contributions contributed to the success of Douglass. Over 100 women's clubs in the state gave a gift, the Music Building at Douglass. Miriam dedicated a studio in the building to her daughter, Barbara Lee, and a scholarship to the New Jersey College of Women was established in Barbara Lee's memory. Many contributions were made with a long and dedicated service to the college with Miriam giving some of these gifts. A student residence building on the Douglass campus, Lippincott Hall, was named in her honor.

Some of the other achievements were: First Woman appointed to the Camden City Board of Education, board Vice President from 1924-27; member of the Camden Branch



Miriam in the Uniform of the American Cancer Army

of the American Association of University Women from 1936 until her death; organized the Auxiliary to the New Jersey State Medical Society becoming the first president; Director of the New Jersey State Tuberculosis Association; National Auxiliary of the American Medical Association; trustee of Jeaner Hospital of Philadelphia from 1940-47 and representative of

the YWCA from 1931. One of Miriam's goals was to promote good health and excellent medical care for every citizen.

Miriam Lippincott was called the "cancer lady". She helped 21 New Jersey Counties form the American Cancer Society chapters. Known for her work for Women's Suffrage, Prohibition, World Peace, Women's Education and Early Cancer Detection, Miriam made many paths toward important ideals and achievements in the Camden Community and beyond. On August 28, 1947, age 70, Miriam Lee Early Lippincott suffered a heart attack and passed from this earth leaving a legacy that may never be equaled. Her gravesite is in Harleigh Cemetery in Camden. Miriam was one woman with many causes all, of which, she succeeded in coming to fruition. I am sure we can all agree that Miriam left an outstanding record of achievements in Camden's history which the newspaper states, Miriam's death "leaves a void that will be truly hard to fill".



Society for Women and the Civil War ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Society for Women and the Civil War (www.SWCW.org) will hold its 21st annual conference at the Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, July 24-26, 2020.

This year's theme will be "The Women of the Valley." The keynote speaker will be distinguished author and consultant Jonathan A. Noyalas, Director of the McCormick Civil War Institute, Shenandoah University, Winchester, Victinia

There will be additional presentations by noted scholars and tours of local sites of interest, emphasizing their roles relevant to the contributions of women during the various Civil War campaigns that took place in the Shenandoah Valley.

The conference is open to non-members.

For more information please visit www.SWCW.org

"We've Played Cards and Lost"

By George W. Booth, January 1973, CWTI

A Fascinating inside account of the last days of Confederate New Orleans as Farragut and Butler inched ever closer to the Crescent City.

This is the account of George W. Booth, a Newark, New Jersey hatter, describing his adventures. Booth sat down to write the account on April 12, and thereafter continued his writing, keeping a rough journal-diary during the most climactic months of the war in New Orleans. We now publish the his journal for the month of April, describing in great richness and detail the life of the city as it is about to be captured by the Federal forces of Major General Benjamin F. Butler and Flag Officer David G. Farragut. We are indebted to Mrs. Eunice H. Benjamin, of Lincoln, Rhode Island, for allowing us to publish this portion of her grandfather's journal.

New Orleans, April 13, 1862

Two years ago, l6th, l left this city for home and made the distance to Newark, New Jersey, some l6O0 miles in 92 hours.

One year ago today the whole country was informed by Telegrams of the progress of the attack on Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor by the forces of the Confederate States under Genl. Beauregard.

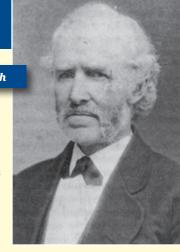
Today the newspapers are full with reports of the engagement near Shiloh, in Tennessee, between the Federal forces under Genl. Grant and the Confederates under Johnston with Beauregard as second in command, (Until Johnston's death which occurred during the battle on Sunday. the 6th inst.); and which engagement resulted in a victory for the South, as they made-the attack, captured 3 to 4,000 prisoners, a number of guns, Beauregard's report says 14, some say 46, some say near 100, etc.. etc., and after driving the Federals to their gunboats retired out of range,

slept in the encampment used by the Federals before the engagement; and next day. Monday 7th, they retired before the Federal reinforcements to their own lines about Corinth (some 16 miles from the field) bringing with them their trophies.

On arriving in N.O. and the information of the surrender [of Forts Henry and Donelson] being known, the excitement was great but not of an explosive character, it assumed the form of immediately supplying men and means to Beauregard, the city placed under martial law, the Railroad taken up entirely with troops and the Boats also carrying some to Memphis and other points whence they could reach the front, or supply the posts of those who were gone; all this indicated any

George W. Booth

other Spirit than Surrender; and for proof of the effect of this assistance may be noticed the fact that in less than two months from the surrender of Donnelson to Genl. Grant of the Federal army, the same Genl. and army



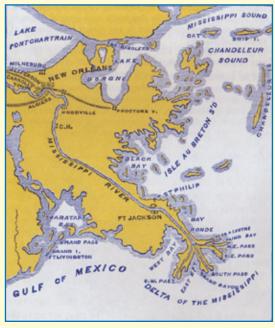
were beaten back to their gun boats with a loss of 40 to 50 guns, etc., etc. Such being the case the idea of surrender is not likely to have any hold on the public mind and having got through one year of war with resolution to devote more land to the food crops than even last year, they feel just as confident in their own resources as on the first day, and with this confidence in themselves, is not apparent a contempt for their adversary which is natural as against an invader.

April 19

On the unanimity of the people in the present War, we have seen many items such as this "Canal County has more than two-thirds of her voting population in the field" and we have seen reports of some districts in Louisiana and Mississippi having sent more soldiers than their number of voters. What nonsense then to suppose the-War was not in the hearts of the people; in the house I am now in (and by the by neither husband nor wife American-born, but both have lived in the North, though residents South for some years) the carpet from three best and largest rooms have been taken up and made into Blankets for the soldiers and today the lady has finished six night shirts for the use of the Hospitals; what has been done besides during the year now past I don't know, but the above I have seen; again in the next house a lady

is cutting up old linens and sewing them into strips for bandages, she has a Son with the army; remember these are not poor people for one house keeps two servants and the other three.

Opposite this house a Dr. lives who has been as a volunteer with the army of the Potomac a part of the time, and whenever at home he has had more or less sick or wounded soldiers in his house. I saw one brought there this week from the number just in from the action of [April] 6th and the Drs. of the city are arranged into systems, those who could best go are gone to the hospitals near the army and their body is under direction of Dr. Stone, the oldest and most celebrated physician of this place. As the daily records for months past



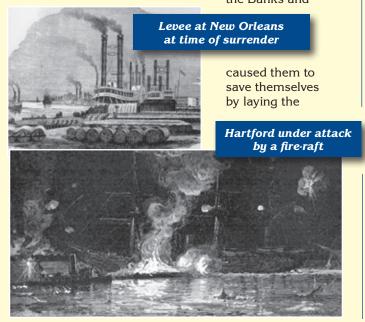
have been of this sympathetic character, what an amount of help does the Govt. receive from this source. You will notice that the evidence above is given from three houses as near as well could be, on a street where the horse car passes each 5 minutes, which shows I am not in a thinly settled district.

April 23, 1862. Wednesday.

On Monday last a new feature occurred in this city: The Banks resumed specie payment partially, some took up all their own notes with specie; some with half specie and half Confederate paper. What can it mean? Do they feel so confident of their own strength as Corporations? Or of the stability of the Confederacy to which they have advanced so heartily and heavily? Or is it a plan to spread a renewed confidence among their own people and re-

store it among strangers? Or is it a plan of preparation for the worst, saving their own Credit and Stockholders and leaving the rest to fortune?

I am not financier enough to examine these questions, and place them on record only with another fact occurring at the time, namely the Federal bombardment of the Forts Jackson and [St.] Philip 50 miles below the city had been going on since 17th inst.; up to Monday morning without any harmful result, and also to this time. One thing is very sure in regards to the fourth question above; that this movement saves the character of the Banks as well as its funds, for now if the City should fall into the hands of the enemy, the funds will not, as it will be more difficult to collect it from the people than it would have been to find it all in a heap; the operation will doubtless be annoying to the Govt. as retarding their facilities for raising money, but Corporations having no souls, cannot be patriotic against their own interests any more than individuals, and the Govt. can hire or buy the Specie when needed from them by paying the market price. One noticeable feature of this affair is that when the Banks suspended specie payments last Sept. there was \$17,000,000. in their vaults and it may be that its having dwindled down to \$12,000,000. was the premonitory symptom that alarmed the Banks and





burden of preserving the specie upon the community; as thus the Banks don't have any more than the interest in their stock. Time will show the results.

April 25th, 1862.

While writing the above page, I heard the ringing of Bells, heard the marching of Companies, saw some Cavalry hurrying to a rendevous, and while on the third question, was informed that "the Bells were calling the Troops together," "the schools were dismissed," "the stores were closed," "some of the Lincoln Ships are past the ports and coming up the river," "some of our boats are destroyed," "all the teams are set to hauling Cotton from the Presses to the Levees to be burned," "the Confederate Guards [a home guard unit composed of wealthy citizens; most fell out or deserted] are sent to defend a point of the Jackson Railroad," and many other reports of equally exciting character.

My situation keeping me in the house, I could not join in the activity of seeing, further than observing the passersby, on whose faces there was no alarm, no sign of fear, and although showing some depth of feeling, it had more the sign of resolution than resignation.

E's [Booth's brother Edward Booth] coming home for sword and revolver showed some work in prospect and soon as the evening shades prevailed, we could see from his gallery that the work had commenced, and our first question was being answered.

About 7 1/2 P.M.. a light towards the river (only some 300 yards off) gradually spread and the light clouds arising from the burning cotton gained height and volume; for two hours the light gradually lengthened itself as the contents of fresh presses were brought to the levee; thus the mass being fairly aglow it continued with little attention during the night; the bales generally sat on end, the bagging cut off the end or a part of the side and then brought in contact with a bale already on fire; the teams continually bringing more fuel, the unusual quiet of all around the conflagration, varied by the occasional snort or shrill whistle of some steamboat escaping up the river; the solid, uniform bales in a red glow looking like blocks of charcoal, the stillness of the atmosphere, as well as the city, the walk of the teams, so different from the reckless speed and noise usual in hauling cotton, the line of fire probably a mile long, the presses on one side, the river on the other, with occasionally a bale burning and floating down to tell the enemy below what sacrifices these people will suffer. I left the scene at One

A.M., cotton still coming to this little Moscow. E remained on duty all night and he told me that about 2, a cotton-loaded raft was set on fire and adrift, and that as it came past his station it formed a perfect real Panorama, for the mast and yards and what standing rigging remained were all in a charcoal state and then it passed downward.

This morning [**April 26**] the game is still going on; while writing the above I looked out and saw a smoke rise from the river which soon got larger and while watching it, a gust of wind momentarily carried the smoke away and showed the body itself moving,

and soon the cotton-loaded ship was gone; immediately followed another fire about the same spot. We could see the flames but knew not what it was. (Proved to be an unfinished gunboat [the Mississippi). We heard a report an hour ago that the City was surrendered. Now at 2. P.M. we hear it again. At three Ed came home with a drum, 2 muskets and Bayonets, etc., etc., took off his military cap and coat and merged into the citizen, saying "We've played cards and lost." At 7 P.M. heard that two officers [Lieutenant Albert Kautz, USN, and Midshipman John H. Read, USNI from the Federal Fleet had been in to see the Mayor [John T. Monroe] and demanded the surrender of the City and the elevation of the U.S. flag over the Custom House Post Office. Received the answer that the Mayor would call the Council and give the answer tomorrow morning. Report said that among the people on the levee to see the officers land some had given cheers for Lincoln and that three killed and seven wounded were the results of the fracas. Also that the gun carriages on Canal St. and four wheels at the levee were being burnt. Could see the light smoke from the gallery. . ..

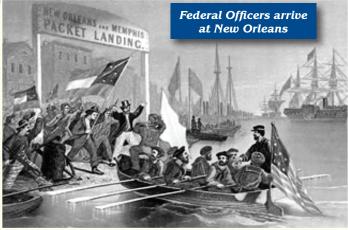
I have been to see the wreck and from the levee on Canal St. as far as can be seen nothing but wreck or bare levee, in many places the fire still smouldering; except the steam ferry boats to officers, no ship in sight except the four armed ships of the Federals, others are reported spread along below.

A better writer than me would find ample room for descriptions of the scene; a view of at least two miles long of a levee, say from I00 to 300 yds. wide entirely bare or with only the traces of conflagration, only six wheels in sight where probably 600 were a year ago; the iron work and partially consumed woodwork of gun carriages, a few hogsheads about with the girths cut and side stove in, that the people might readily take away sugar that could not be moved and was later given to the people. The high fence had been broken down around a coal yard and the heap set on fire so that whichever way the wind came it would fan the fire into the mass; yet of all the ruin the dust of burned cotton was the most plentiful. And ruin though it was it indicated that though conquered, the citizens were not subdued, . . .

Sunday, April 27, 1862.

As items of news in connection with the state of affairs, we notice that the authorities have placed the police of the city under the guardianship of a body of Volunteers named the Foreign Legion [the European Brigade of General Paul Juge, Jr.], consisting of Seven Thousand [10,000] Uniformed Troops, who being





part of the Eleven Thousand Foreigners in the City had attached themselves to the Military; but as the Citizen Militia have been disbanded and the Confederate troops are gone away, there remained no other force of sufficient power, therefore the companies of this Legion prove opportune.

On account of the troubles, we suppose, this morning's services in the Methodist and Presbyterian churches were not held; the Episcopalians failed not to pray for the President of the Confederate States and all in authority, as usual.

Report that "the foreign consuls have been to the Mayor and told him that he cannot surrender the town until its defences are felled, and that as the forts are still in force, the passage of the river by a part of the squadron does not imply a possession for the forts still cut his forces in parts." Also reported that the Consuls had notified the Commander of the Federal fleet that they represented 20,000 foreigners and warned him at his peril against shelling the city. The British Consul being absent the French took the lead, a French general commands the Foreign Legion. (Paul Juge Fils).

April 28th.

Monday newspapers give names of killed and wounded at forts [Jackson and St. Philip]; l2 killed, l3 wounded, and on the [gunboat] McRae 12 killed, 3 wounded.

I heard one man say that he saw one of the Federal ships sink from the firing of the forts and it was said that two had been sunk [no ships were sunk, though the Miami grounded in shallow water].

The Mayor orders all the Provision stores to be opened as usual and the usual money taken, and that parties desirous of changing Confederate Bills for City Bills can do so at the office of the Commissioner of Public Safety.

(Headquarters European Brigade, New Orleans,



CSS McRae

April 27th 1862, ll A.M.)

By order of his Honor Mayor John T. Monroe dated this day l hereby assume command of all the Foreign

troops. I call upon all good citizens to give me what aid and assistance they can to preserve order and tranquility in the city, they are requested to assemble forthwith at a central point in each of their respective districts and report immediately at those headquarters.

> (Signed) Paul Juge Fils, General Commanding Mayoralty of New Orleans, April 27th.

The Mayor and Committee of Public Safety are taking measures to provide for the distribution of a supply of provisions through the Free Market. The arrangement will be perfected by Monday morning after which time there will be a sufficient supply of provisions acceptable to the public.

(Signed) John T. Monroe, Mayor.

On Saturday morning, April 26th, a party landed from one of the Federal gun boats and proceeded to hoist the Federal flag over the Mint. After they left the flag was taken down [and torn to shreds by William Mumford] amid cheers of the multitude and a volley of grape and shell from one of the gun boats. There is no report of any lives lost, but one shell was found in the house of Mr. Victor and has been shown to the editors of the New Orleans Crescent. (Copied from Crescent of 28th inst.)

The State flag still flies over the City Hall, now three days since the fleet came in front of the city; yet up to this time we cannot learn that the U.S. flag floats on land; hence the city is not surrendered though defenceless, and as the forts and several of the Confederate gun boats near them are still in force these Federal vessels are themselves in a state of blockade. An express between the city and the forts passes each 12 hours.

No communication has passed down from the Federals and none upwards to them since they successfully ran the gauntlet 8 or IO abreast [April 24], so that for the time they were under the fire of the forts, the outside vessels suffered severely and some now here show considerable damages. It is not feared that Fort McRae at the entrance of the lake can be taken in some manner, as the water is shallow and channel long and winding; we may soon hear. however, for if it is true as reported in papers a week ago that the Major General [Benjamin F. Butler] had arrived at Ship Island with a large force it may be that actual possession will not be taken until a land force can be placed in the city.

April 28, afternoon.

It is reported that the Confederate ship McRae, which came from fort yesterday with wounded under a flag of truce, when returning this morning was notified that she was a prize; on which the Commander drew the plug and she sank. That is surely a new way to handle flags of truce; a



Admiral USA David Dixon Porter



flag infers a right to retire as well as advance, or else it is a trap.

"Evening Delta" has it that the McRae was badly injured during the bombardment, that her crew, finding it impossible to keep her afloat, abandoned her without loss of life: we hear that they put her on the Flats, and if not destroyed will be recovered when the water falls.

U.S. Flagship Hartford at anchor off the city of New Orleans.

April 28th. 1862.

To His Honor the Mayor and City Council: Your communication of the 26th inst. has been received together with that of the City Council. I deeply regret to see both by their contents and the continued display of the Flag of Louisiana on the Court house, a determination on the part of the city authorities not to haul it down. Moreover when mu officers and men were sent in there to communicate with the authorities and to hoist the U.S. Flag on the Custom House with the strictest order not to use their arms unless assailed, they were *insulted in the grossest* manner, and the flag which had been hoisted by my officers on the Mint was pulled down and dragged *through the streets.*

All of which go to show that the fire of this fleet may be drawn upon the city

at any moment, and in such an event the levee would in all probability be cut by the shells, and an amount of distress ensue to the innocent population, which I have heretofore endeavored to assure you I desired by all means to avoid. The decision is therefore with you.

But it becomes my duty to notify you to remove the women and children from the city within forty-eight hours. if I have rightly understood your determination.

(Signed) D.G. Farragut Flag Officer, Western Gulf Blockading Squadron

Mayor replied verbally that he would call the Council and answer the communication tomorrow morning.

Commander Farragut is a native of the city and has a sister now here. [David D.] Porter of the Mortar and Gun Boat Fleet is also one of the natives.

The above threat does not create any alarm as it is generally believed to be impossible for anything less than a pirate to carry such a threat

into effect against a place that has no force to resist; the Federal wishes to force the citizens to take the State Flag down themselves. My impression is they will let him shoot it down rather than obey his orders.

April 29, Tuesday.

The Picayune this morning says the note from Farragut was before the Council in secret session yesterday; and that the foreign consuls also held a meeting in the City Hall for consultation with the Council; the report of result will probably be made known this afternoon.

The flags of the various consulates are flying and many over stores and dwellings; the almost daily rumors of advent of British and French warships continue.

Dr. L. [unidentified] is occasionally in town; last night I heard a company of cavalry pass. It is said that large quantities of Confederate stores ran the blockade every night into the country [Major General Mansford Lovell, commanding Confederate troops defending New Orleans, effectively evacuated most valuable supplies from the city].

All the daily papers speak highly of the quiet and order, as well as the attention to duty of the European Brigade upon whom the care of city now has devolved.

It seems that the passage of the forts [on April 24] was a complete surprise; one boat's crew had been sent down the river from the forts with orders to go as near as safe to the Federal squadron, to watch any signs of coming up, and seeing such preparation to throw up signal rockets; instead of doing so the boat began to pull away, and finally got ashore and left. Consequently the sentinels upstream, seeing no signals, made no preparations and the fleet was abreast of the forts ere a gun was fired. If the report proves true as to being only one boat sent or provided for signals, it seems an error on part of the officer; as accidents might so easily happen to one and danger be described from one point only; or the rockets might fail in one, but would hardly fail if two or three boats had some duty, while if upon examination the boat's crew failed to keep strict watch and were themselves surprised, and then from fear of drawing a shot on themselves by indicating their position with a rocket, they are equally blameable of the capture of the city.



Afternoon.

Mr. P[ierre]. Soule went off to the Federal commander and the result is that some 200 marines [led by Captain Henry Bell] landed this forenoon and hoisted the U.S. Flag on the Custom House and took down the Flag of Louisiana from City Hall; quite a crowd of people were about, all silent, not a cheer nor the least sign of welcome. E. saw the whole, though I did not, but as he says it I venture on its truth; I wonder what the newspapers of New York will say about the Union feeling they did not find.

The City of New Orleans thus in possession of the Federal Fleet: what they did in trapping the forts may be done again. but it is said today sub rosa that the artillerymen (except a Co. from St. Mary's Parish who have been in service only a month) have mutinied and left the forts [this is, indeed. what happened]. Before we proceed it is proper to say that the artillery mutineers are not of the same class as the St. Mary's Co.; they were organized as state troops at the commencement of the War and were the class of men, who always are found about cities, enlist for a living, consequently they have not the same spirit to the work as those who join for the cause, as the St. Mary's Co. and many other Companies of men have done.

This afternoon a German "en lager" gave "Hurrah for Lincoln" while straggling along the street; he was struck and ran, but pursued by his opponents he at length fell with five wounds in his body, was carried to the lockup and died. I saw it.

April 30, 1862.

The City is very quiet, there is nothing of that hum which without being a noise yet is always noticed in the vicinity of crowds, a team going along the streets has the clearness of sound as it would do on a Sunday in church time, and in consequence of the notice of the Mayor for "all persons except those on official duty to keep within doors after 9 P.M.," the streets about that time have the stillness of early morning, the contrast between then and now is very marked.

The forts are in possession of the Federals; this about completes the capture. We shall soon see them install Collector, Postmaster, etc., etc., then a few letters will go and come, bye and bye parties who have suffered by the confiscation will be along here to claim reprisals, and a few shiploads of notions not contraband will be brought here and we shall see another act in the drama.

There was, indeed, more of the "drama" yet to enact. The next day. May l. 1862, the forces of Major General Benjamin F. Butler began marching into the Crescent City. the beginning of perhaps the most controversial occupation of a Southern city of the war. As for George W. Booth, he remained in New Orleans until June 1, when he finally go! a ship out of the city bound for Boston.

February 13th Meeting

"Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson and the National Union Party Convention, Baltimore, June 7-8, 1864"



On June 7-8, 1864, the Republican National Union Convention (temporary name given to the Republican Party) was held at the Front Street Theater in Baltimore, Maryland. The party platform resolutions stated that slavery was the main cause of the Civil War thus slavery should be eliminated from the Union. The platform continued with the destruction of the Confederacy, open enlistment for freed slaves and adoption of the Emancipation Proclamation. Robert Breckinridge was elected temporary chairman and William Denison became president.

Before the Republican National Union Convention came to be, May 1864, part of the radical Republican wing of the party went to Cleveland, Ohio for their own convention. They felt that Lincoln would not be reelected and nominated John C. Fremont. The feeling was that he would be a better choose to gain the Republican nomination. In June, at the Republican National Union Convention, Lincoln's loyal Republicans had not a thought of nominating anyone but Lincoln. Lincoln easily was backed by the Republicans who nominated him as president for a second term. Now, who would be his Vice President? The currant Vice President was Hannibal Hamlin. Would he be the nomination again? To accommodate the Democrats, they wanted someone who supported the war so after some negotiation Andrew Johnson became the Vice-Presidential nominee. Lincoln and Johnson's nomination were almost unanimous even though there were still delegates that did not want Lincoln for a second term. At least, Illinois was unanimously for Lincoln.

John Hay was not happy about Baltimore and especially the Front Street Theater for the site of the convention. There seemed to be an opening in the back, behind the stage, so that street noises could be heard while the delegates were speaking and made it very hard to hear the speaker. The President's chair was on an elevated platform at the end of the stage. Again, the delegates could hardly see him, and it was questionable if anyone heard

him speak. At least, there was an upper tier in the theater where ladies were permitted to sit and listen to the speakers and see the activity of the

convention. They could probably hear better than anyone on the floor.

As the election approached the Civil War was changing. Lee had lost a victory at Cold Harbor; Grant was aggressively trying to trap Lee at the Battle of Mobile Bay and Sherman captured Atlanta. From the Northern prospective it looked like the Confederacy was collapsing with the questionable delegates deciding to vote the Lincoln/Johnson ticket. In the National Union ticket for the election of 1864, Lincoln defeated General George McClellan and George Pendleton. The vote was 497 to 22 and the convention was overjoyed. There had been other Vice-Presidential nominations before Andrew Johnson got the position. They include Hannibal Hamlin, Benjamin Butler, Daniel Dickerson and General Rousseau. In the end, as we all know, Andrew Johnson was nominated with a revised ballet of 492.

Lincoln did not attend the convention. On June 9, 1864, Lincoln accepted his re-nomination with a "Thank You" to the National Union League and with his acceptance he wrote, "I have not permitted myself, gentleman, to conclude that I am the best man in the country; but I am reminded, in this connection, of a story of an old Dutch farmer, who remarked to a companion once that "it was not best to swap horses when crossing streams". President Dennison also gave a resolution of "Thank You" to the theater while explaining that this was the first time since Andrew Jackson to elect a president for two terms. An accomplishment indeed!

Thanks to Michael Wunsch for a very informative presentation on the Union Party Convention of June 7-8,1864. The members of Old Baldy welcomed Michael to our meeting and I as well enjoyed my conversation with him at dinner before the meeting. We hope he will come back to the round table in the future with another topic of interest. This was another meeting presentation which was very informative and through Dave's planning continues to make our meeting successful.



Awards and New recruits and Flat Old Baldy



Lorraine Gancher 5 Year Award

Please Support The G.A.R. Museum

Please consider attending the annual luncheon benefiting the museum on **Saturday**, **March 21**, **2020**.

The Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Library is the only museum in this area that is solely dedicated to preserving the history and telling the story of the Civil War.

The collection is recognized for its historical significance and features numerous relics of singular historical importance including: General Meade's warhorse Old Baldy, handcuffs found in John Wilkes Booth's trunk after the assassination, the strip of the pillowcase and Lincoln's blood, Dr. Mary Walker's medical case, the bullet that killed Col. Edward Baker at Ball's Bluff, and the uniform of Col. DeWitt Clinton Baxter of the 72nd PA Infantry.

As members of the Old Baldy CWRT it is vitally important that we show our support for the museum. Please consider attending the annual luncheon benefiting the museum on March 21, 2020. This is so much more than a luncheon.

You will have a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet both old and new friends who share your interest in history; We have a great keynote speaker, historian and author of many Civil War books, Bradley Gottfried; you can explore the books and merchandise from Jim Schmick's Civil War and More; you will be eligible to win one of many great especially selected raffle prizes; and you will have an opportunity to purchase authentic Civil War relics. All this while also helping us to secure the future of the museum.

Please check out the luncheon notice and make your reservation. Without your support, this wonderful and historic museum may well become a thing of the past; only a memory.

An Invitation to Old Baldy Members

John Leone, a member of Old Baldy and a trustee of the Gloucester County Historical Society, has invited members of Old Baldy to stop by the Society's museum on Broad Street in Woodbury. The museum has a war room with flag and diorama, the fireplace in front of which Betsy Ross was married and many Civil War artifacts. He notes

Gloucester County Historical Society

A PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

that veterans can become members of both the library (home to one of the largest genealogical collections in South Jersey) and the museum at no charge – just present a VA card or copy of their DD214.



Museum information can be acessed on their website, https://www.qchsni.org/:

Library – Tues. 6-9pm, Wed. through Fri. 12-4pm Museum – Wed. through Fri. 1-4pm First Saturday of each month: Library 10am – 3pm, Museum 12-4pm Last Sunday of each month: Library and Museum 2-5pm



The Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College (CWI) would like to offer the members of Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable a 15% discount to attend the CWI Summer Conference from June 12-17, 2020. You can find registration details about our conference on our website and the full schedule of events. We believe in your mission, and we are making this special offer to recognize the efforts of your organization in promoting the study of Civil War history.

For more than 35 years, the Civil War Institute has hosted a premiere annual summer conferencebringing leading historians and diverse public audiences together for lectures, battlefield tours, small group discussions, and roundtable conversations about the Civil War era. Sessions, lodging, and meals are held on the 200-acre Gettysburg College campus, and there are part-time and full-time packages available.

For 2020, we are excited to feature leading Civil War scholars, Harold Holzer, Catherine Clinton, Brian Wills, Jeffry Wert, Carol Reardon, and Scott Hartwig within our lineup of more than 40 distinguished speakers and tour guides. The conference will feature a wide range of topics, including POW prison escapes, soldier impressment, the Civil War in the West, the guerrilla experience, and more. The 2020 program will also debut debates between leading scholars about Civil War generalship. This year's topics include George B. McClellan at Antietam, James Longstreet, and Nathan Bedford Forrest.

In addition to touring the Gettysburg battlefield, participants will also be able to visit other nearby battlefields and such as First Manassas, 2nd Fredericksburg and Salem Church, Antietam, Cool Springs, Spotsylvania, and Bristoe Station.

Attendees who prefer a shorter, more physically active experience can choose to sign up for our new "active track" package, which features lectures and a day and a half of walking-intensive tours of the Gettysburg battlefield with historian Timothy Orr. The 2020 conference offers something for everyone, from longtime students of the Civil War to those who are new to Civil War history.

We would very much appreciate it if you could share this special conference offer with your membership in your own promotional materials, including your newsletter and website. Feel free to use the conference description in this email and to share the link to the conference: https://www. gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/.

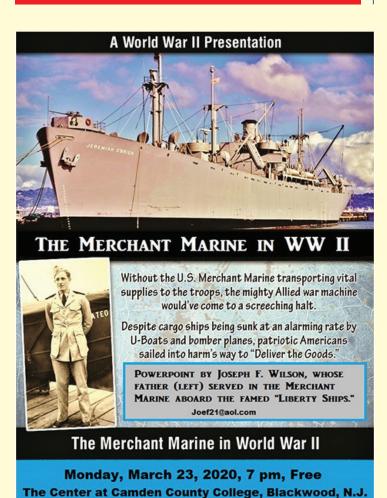
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"The Merchant Marine in WW II."

PowerPoint Presentation by Joseph F. Wilson. The presenter's father and uncle both served in the Merchant Marine in WW II.

The patriotic civilians who sailed the cargo ships with war material in WW II have been forgotten.

Many were lost at sea as the enemy relentlessly hunted them down and targeted their ships.

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Today, they're on the brink of receiving the prestigious Congressional Gold Medal.

The bill (HR 550) has already passed the house and now rest with the Senate. (S 133)

Congressman Donald Norcross (co-sponsor HR 550) is expected to attend.

Come hear the harrowing tales of sailors at sea in WW II that are seldom told

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The Civil War Institute At Manor College Presents a New 2-Week Course

"America At War With Itself - The Politics Of War"

Thursdays, March 12 & March 19 (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm) Instructors: Herb Kaufman & Hugh Boyle Fee: \$55

To register: Office of Continuing Education, 215-884-

On-Line: www.manor.edu (Continuing Education)



This class covers American politics and society from the Constitution through the 1850s, climaxing with the election of 1860, whose results threatened to bring secession and war. The South said that, if Abraham Lincoln were elected, war would come. Lincoln won the nomination over the Republican Party elite, and then faced his old debating opponent, Stephen Douglas. But the Democrats were split and ran two candidates against Lincoln; there was also a third-party entry. In a fragmented race, Lincoln won with only 40 percent of the popular vote.

Instructors: Herb Kaufman and Hugh Boyle (local experts on American Politics and Abraham Lincoln) Fee: \$55.

Thursdays, March 12 & 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

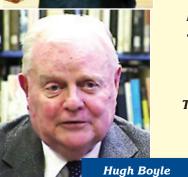
For those who haven't visited the College for a while, it is worth noting that the Academic Building, also known as the Mother of Perpetual Help Building, is equipped with an elevator. The classrooms have been renovated, and the old student desks have been replaced with more comfortable adult chairs and tables. There is also a ramp from the parking lot to the Academic Building.

These classes are fun, entertaining, and you can learn a lot without the typical classroom pressure. We hope you have the opportunity to take advantage of either this class or one of our future classes. You may just get hooked!!

Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown.

To register call 215-884-2218 or visit

https://manor.edu/.../adult-continuing-e.../civil-war-institute/



From the Treasurer's desk

Your membership has made it possible for all ofus to enjoy a year's worth of outstanding speakers thanks to our Program Coordinator, Dave Gilson.

Additionally, we have been able to continue our goal of providing donations to worthy organizations, including the following:

Memorial Hall Foundation
New Jersey Historical Society
Vineland Historical Society
The Center for Camden County College
Battleship New Jersey
GAR Civil War Museum
Wreaths Across America

In appreciation of your membership, we will be conducting a raffle in which the namesof all 2019 members will be placed in a hat, and the winning member drawn will receive a free year's subscription to "The Civil War Monitor Magazine".

Just a reminder, your 2020 Membership dues are due in January. Thank you for your continued support. \$25. regular dues \$35. Family membership

> Frank Barletta 44 Morning Glory Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053

WEB Site: http://oldbaldycwrt.org Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

