

THE LINCOLN FORUM BULLETIN

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MEETING ABRAHAM LINCOLN: HOW HIS PAST BECAME MY FUTURE

By Michelle A. Krowl

In his "Editor's Note" in the Spring 2021 issue of *The Lincoln Forum Bulletin*, Jonathan W. White introduced a new children's book review feature in the *Bulletin*. "Many of us often look for ways to instill a love of history in the younger generations," Jon explained. "I believe that reading good children's books can be one way to accomplish this." I wholeheartedly agree with this assessment, as a children's book led directly to my deep interest in Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, and ultimately to my career as a Civil War historian.

As a child, I received a copy of *Meet Abraham Lincoln* (1965), by Barbara Cary. Part of Random House's "STEP-UP Books" series, its publisher described *Meet Abraham Lincoln* as "a carefully researched biography" of Lincoln "written for today's child." Cary's narrative highlights events in Lincoln's life from his birth in 1809 to his death at the hands of an assassin (unnamed in the book) in 1865. Cary presents the young Lincoln's eagerness to educate himself despite challenging circumstances, the value of his storytelling in winning friends, and his desire to always do the right thing. Remembering that his mother had instructed him to be kind to soldiers, for example, young Abe gave his newly caught fish to a passing soldier from the War of 1812. (See Jonathan White's review in the Spring 2021 *Bulletin* of *Abe's Fish*, a book devoted to this story.)

Cary's adult Lincoln achieves his dream to become a lawyer and embarks on a parallel career in politics with variable success, until the debate over the Kansas-Nebraska Act thrusts Lincoln onto a national platform. As president, Lincoln devotes himself to keeping the Union together, struggles with underperforming generals, visits wounded soldiers, and explains at Gettysburg the interconnectedness of the causes of Union and freedom. At the end of the book, Cary suggests that, having seen the nation through a destructive civil war, Lincoln's legacy is the freedom of all citizens in the United States.

Not surprisingly, with only eighty-seven pages of text and illustrations, and an audience of elementary-school-aged children, Cary oversimplifies many aspects of Lincoln's life that we know to be quite complex and nuanced. For instance, Cary claims that as a lawyer Lincoln "would not take a law case he thought was wrong." While that may be true in the main, and fits Cary's interpretation of Lincoln's moral compass, scholars of Lincoln's legal career have shown that as a working lawyer, Lincoln took cases that were not always on the right side of history by today's standards.

I was struck in a recent rereading of *Meet Abraham Lincoln*, however, by the consistent theme of slavery in Lincoln's world. Today we would expect slavery to be addressed in a Lincoln biography for children. *Meet Abraham Lincoln*, published in 1965, also addresses it, perhaps reflecting the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s, and its impact on Civil War scholarship. In setting up Lincoln's issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation, Cary states unequivocally, "Slavery had caused the war." I wondered if such a declaration would have been included if *Meet Abraham Lincoln* had been written much earlier. Or Congressman Lincoln's attempt to pass legislation to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. Or the **continued on page 19**



Michelle A. Krowl in 1971



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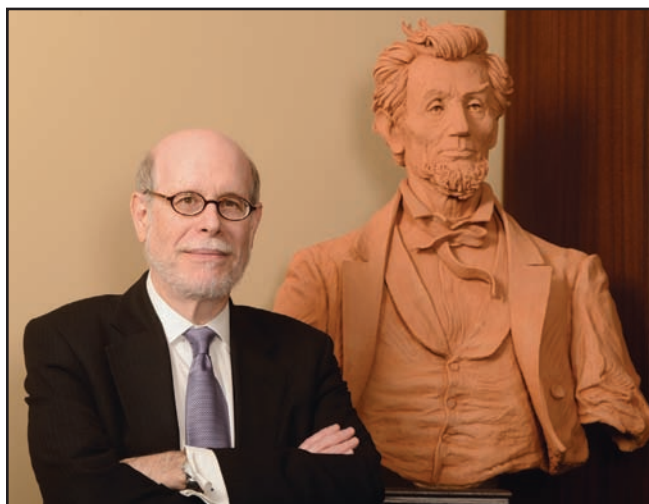
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Speaking to a crowd at a Philadelphia Sanitary Fair—and through them, to the entire nation—Abraham Lincoln once provided an unusually blunt admission of the terrible human and financial cost of the American Civil War.

“War, at the best, is terrible,” he acknowledged in that speech on June 17, 1864, “and this war of ours, in its magnitude and in its duration, is one of the most terrible. It has deranged business, totally in many localities, and partially in all localities. It has destroyed property, and ruined homes; it has produced a national debt and taxation unprecedented, at least in this country. It has carried mourning to almost every home, until it can almost be said that the ‘heavens are hung in black.’ Yet it continues. . . .”

For me, it has always been difficult fully to comprehend the degree of devastation Lincoln was describing that day, despite the evidence of so many eyewitness accounts. Even wartime photographs, many showing ruins silhouetted against blackened skies, fail to convey the despair Lincoln described so vividly that day in Philadelphia: an entire society convulsed by, and suffering

the consequences of, a horrific, all-consuming national conflagration.

Sound familiar? After the more than 20 months all of us have spent waging an exhausting war against COVID-19 and, suffering some of the same devastation as Lincoln’s America endured in the 19th century, we may at last have a better idea of what national suffering, sacrifice, and endurance really look like. Our modern cities have not been reduced to rubble by COVID, but many of them have been brought to their knees by the invisible, deadly virus. Businesses have again been “deranged,” debt is skyrocketing, taxation is debilitating for some, and family after family has confronted uncertainty, fear, illness, and sometimes death. Once again, the heavens seem to be hung in black—a line Lincoln borrowed for his 1864 speech from his favorite author, William Shakespeare, and the play *Henry VI*.

But, as circumstances continue to test our resolve, we are also experiencing a new reckoning with the long-deferred, full promise of equality—an issue Lincoln made central to the national agenda a century and a half ago. Sometimes the sun shines even through heavens hung with black.

As we prepare to reunite at the 26th annual Lincoln Forum symposium in Gettysburg—our first live event in two years—we pause to acknowledge the battles so many of our friends and family have waged to stay healthy and secure during 2020 and 2021. We salute our brave troops and veterans. And we join our Forum family in remembering the loved and lost.

Our annual meeting traditionally takes place near the anniversary of Lincoln’s masterful oration at Gettysburg, and just before the American festival he created in the midst of war: Thanksgiving. May this year bring renewed appreciation of the concept of an imperishable union—government fully of, by, and for the people. With renewed thanks for our blessings—and renewed joy that we can meet and learn again at the Forum—let’s gather and “care for him who shall have borne the battle.” ■

Harold Holzer, Chairman

FRANK AND VIRGINIA WILLIAMS ESTABLISH NEW ENDOWED CHAIR AT MISSISSIPPI STATE

Lincoln Forum Chairman Emeritus Frank J. Williams and Virginia Williams have established an endowed faculty chair dedicated to the study of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War at Mississippi State University. In 2017, the Williamses gave their collection of Lincolniana, valued at nearly \$3 million, to the university. The new Frank and Virginia Williams Chair for Abraham Lincoln and Civil War Studies will manage the Williams Collection and assist with the ongoing development of the Frank and Virginia Williams Lecture Series. The person appointed to the chair will also teach within the African American Studies program and develop courses that use the Williams Collection. ■

EDITOR'S NOTE



Jonathan White

photo spreads, stories that explore the work being done by historical organizations, interviews with leading scholars, and excerpts from new books about the Civil War. In response to feedback we received

After hearing Abraham Lincoln deliver a speech in April 1860, James Y. Cory, the editor of the *Waukegan Gazette*, wrote that seeing “Old Abe . . . really does one’s soul good.” In a similar way we hope that being together as the Forum family again, after a two-year hiatus, will do all of our souls some good.

In celebration of our return to Gettysburg, we are pleased to bring Lincoln Forum members another expanded issue of the *Bulletin*. Our recent numbers have featured reviews of kids’ books, firsthand accounts written by people who met or saw Lincoln, beautiful

on the post-symposium survey in 2019, we have also begun incorporating more articles about Abraham Lincoln and the African American experience. We hope you enjoy the pages that follow.

In this issue we recognize the important work being done by members of our organization—the generosity of Frank and Virginia Williams to Mississippi State University, the indispensable service of Pat Dougal on the Forum’s administrative team, and we welcome longtime member Henry Cohen as the *Bulletin’s* new copyeditor.

We hope that you enjoy this special 50th issue of *The Lincoln Forum Bulletin*. 📖

THE LINCOLN FORUM *Bulletin* welcomes contributions from members and historians—articles and photos alike. Send to editor Jonathan W. White at jonathan.white@cnu.edu. The editor particularly thanks the contributors to the current issue.

PAT DOUGAL STEPS DOWN AS LINCOLN FORUM ADMINISTRATOR

Pat Dougal—who stepped up to become Lincoln Forum Administrator last year, succeeding Elaine Henderson—will leave the post at the end of the 2021 symposium. She will continue to work with the Forum on a voluntary basis thereafter.

“Pat has been inexhaustible and resourceful as our Administrator,” commented Forum Chair Harold Holzer. “When she relocated to Gettysburg some years ago, we quickly pressed her into service as Assistant Administrator. And when we urgently needed help during this difficult pandemic year-and-a-half, the remarkable Pat did a heroic job in the Administrator role.”

During the pandemic, Pat helped the Forum remain visible online, reaching out to members, often individual by individual, and maintaining contact with the Wyndham Hotel, the bookstore at the symposium, and other key vendors. “I might say that no one since General Meade has done more to protect Abraham Lincoln’s interests in Gettysburg, and we are enormously grateful for her hard work, patience, and dedication,” added Holzer.

Chief Justice Frank J. Williams, Forum Chairman Emeritus, recalls first meeting Pat at Hildene, Robert Lincoln’s home in Manchester, Vermont. “I knew the Forum had a winner as a volunteer,” said Williams. “Pat was already a highly regarded docent there. She was efficient, engaged, and bright. She was also a Navy veteran. So when she moved to the Gettysburg area, we asked her to substitute for Forum Administrator Betty Anselmo while Betty had back surgery. As expected, Pat Dougal was terrific in every way. The Forum never missed a beat under her skillful management.”

“It has been wonderful working with Pat over the past few years,” said Forum Vice Chair Jonathan W. White. “I don’t think we could have made it through the pandemic without her. Pat’s diligence, eye for detail, and ability to juggle so many things at once kept the Forum afloat. While I’ll miss her as Administrator, I look forward to seeing her at the Forum in future years as an attendee and volunteer.”

Diane Brennan of Gettysburg College, longtime administrator of the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize, will succeed Pat as Administrator. In September Diane stepped in as Assistant Administrator to begin learning the ropes from Pat, and the official transition will take place at the end of the symposium.

Continued Holzer: “I cannot help adding that Pat has maintained and even expanded her work schedule while dealing with other daunting challenges, never flagging in her responsibilities or commitment. This should not surprise anyone familiar with her lifetime of service, including service to our country in the U.S. military. In that spirit, we gratefully salute Pat Dougal . . . and, of course, look forward to working with her for many years to come.” 📖



LONGTIME FORUM MEMBER HENRY COHEN VOLUNTEERS AS THE BULLETIN'S NEW COPYEDITOR

Henry Cohen is a retired lawyer and editor. He graduated from St. John's University School of Law in 1975 and spent his entire career as a lawyer, from 1975 to 2010, with the Congressional Research Service (CRS), a federal agency in the Library of Congress. CRS does objective research and writing for Congress in many fields, including law, economics, science, congressional procedure, and political and social science. Among Henry's specialties were freedom of speech; he wrote reports for Congress explaining how pending bills would change the law and analyzing whether the Supreme Court would uphold such bills under the First Amendment. He also was the managing editor of a



regularly updated book published by CRS known as the *Constitution Annotated*. As an extracurricular activity, for 28 years he served as the book review editor for *The Federal Lawyer* magazine, contributing 75 of his own book reviews to it.

Henry became interested in Lincoln in the early 2000s, and from then on most of the books he reviewed for *The Federal Lawyer* and other publications concerned Lincoln, the Civil War, or slavery. One of the books he reviewed was *The Emancipation Proclamation: Three Views*, by Harold Holzer, Edna Greene Medford, and Frank J. Williams. Frank, whom he had never met, sent him a thank-you letter for the review, which may be where Henry learned of The Lincoln Forum. He became a member in 2010 and has attended every symposium but one since then.

"I'm so glad that Henry was willing to join the *Bulletin* team," said Lincoln Forum Vice Chair Jonathan W. White. "I've gotten to know him over the past decade or so and have read a number of his articles and reviews. His keen eye and careful attention to detail will help make the *Bulletin* better." **L**

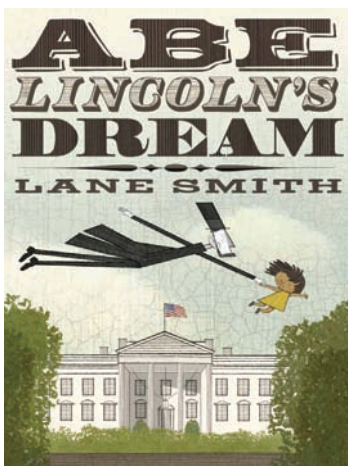
BOOK REVIEW

By Erin Carlson Mast

Abe Lincoln's Dream. Written and illustrated by Lane Smith. New York: Roaring Book Press, 2012.

Three days after Abraham Lincoln's last cabinet meeting, Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles took pen to paper, recording what had transpired. He wrote of the cabinet members' anticipating news from General William T. Sherman and the president's predicting that the news would come soon and be favorable, owing to a recurring dream he'd had the previous night. In the dream Lincoln "seemed to be in some singular, indescribable vessel . . . moving with great rapidity towards an indefinite shore." That recurring dream, and the unfinished work of a life cut short, form the basis of a journey in the picture book *Abe Lincoln's Dream*, by Lane Smith.

This is no ordinary journey. The friendly—if forlorn—ghost of Abraham Lincoln is met by a young, inquisitive girl named Quincy, who is attending a tour of the White House with her classmates. When she asks about his long face, Lincoln confesses he is concerned about the state of the country, because there was so much more to be done at the end of his life. Realizing that Lincoln hasn't left the Executive Mansion since 1865, Quincy convinces the president to see the country with her. They proceed to fly over the country, Lincoln asking questions and Quincy answering. The dialogue between the two main characters, which somehow manages to seamlessly intertwine corny jokes, history trivia (some presidential pups get shout-outs in the opening pages), and big ideas, makes this picture book ideal for reading aloud with a child.



The appealing illustrations echo the texture of woodcuts, while the mostly neutral tones are interrupted by bursts of bright color, a visual play between past and present. The typeface, not to be overshadowed by the pictures, varies in color and style throughout the book, adding to the overall effect. It's not surprising that the visuals were given such attention and care. Smith is, after all, a decorated illustrator, recognized with five *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book awards and a lifetime achievement award from the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art.

Published in 2012, *Abe Lincoln's Dream* remains timely in its message of hope and progress. The book offers an opportunity to enjoy a great story while contemplating the power and meaning of our dreams, not only for ourselves but also for our fellow man.

(Erin Carlson Mast is president and CEO of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation and a member of The Lincoln Forum Board of Advisors. She is the mom of two boys, Flynn, 11, and Schuyler, 8.) **L**



Erin Mast reading to her boys in 2015.

THE LINCOLN FORUM, A HISTORY: SYMPOSIUM BY SYMPOSIUM, 1996-2021

As we gather again in Gettysburg for Forum XXVI, we wanted to take a moment to remember all of the wonderful speakers and presentations we have enjoyed over the previous 25 years.

1996: LINCOLN, GETTYSBURG, AND THE CIVIL WAR

Speakers

Richard Nelson Current, “He’s Still the Lincoln Nobody Knows”

Harold Holzer, “Lincoln’s ‘Flat Failure’? The Gettysburg Myth Revisited”

James P. Kushlan, “The New Lincoln Literature: Books, Magazines, and CD ROMS”

David E. Long, “Wartime Democracy: Abraham Lincoln and Electoral Politics in the Civil War”

John Y. Simon, “Lincoln, Grant, and Meade: Vicksburg and Gettysburg in Retrospect”

Daniel E. Weinberg, “New Lincoln Literature...”

Frank J. Williams, “Abraham Lincoln, Puppet Master: The President and General George Gordon Meade”

Presenters

Gabor S. Boritt, James Getty, Gary Kross

1997: LINCOLN IN WAR AND PEACE

Speakers

Avram Fletcher (student lecturer), “Meade in Command: The Neglected History of the Army of the Potomac”

Gary W. Gallagher, “Another Look at Lincoln and Northern Strategy”

Harold Holzer, “The Lincoln Mailbag: America Writes to the President”

Edna Greene Medford, “‘Beckoning Them to the Dreamed of Promise of Freedom’: The African American Reaction to Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation”

Stephen B. Oates, “The Last Days of Lincoln: Told in the Voice and from the Viewpoint of Lincoln Himself”

Lloyd Ostendorf, “Lincoln in Photographs—the Latest Discoveries”

John Y. Simon, “In Search of Lincoln”

Brian Lamb, Keynote Address

Panel: “Lincoln Museums at the Millennium: A Status Report”

Panelists & Presenters

Gabor S. Boritt, Richard N. Current, Joseph



Frank J. Williams



Jonathan W. White



Edward L. Ayers



Budge Weidman



Gary W. Gallagher



Gabor Boritt

Garrera, Charles Hubbard, Gary Kross, Norman D. Hellmers, Don McCue, Gerald J. Prokopowicz, Gregory Romano, Edward Steers Jr., Frank J. Williams

1998: LINCOLN AT GETTYSBURG: MAN, MYTH, AND MONUMENT

Speakers

Jean H. Baker, “Parallel Lives: The Marriage of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln”

George Buss and Rich Sokup, “A Discussion with President Lincoln and Judge Douglas”

Charles Dittrich (student lecturer), “Exploring the Lincoln Image in *Harper’s Weekly*”

John Hope Franklin, Keynote Address

Harold Holzer, “The Poetry and Prose of the Emancipation Proclamation”

James M. McPherson, “Prairie Lawyer on Trial: Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief”

John F. Marszalek, “White House Scandals, Nineteenth-Century Variety”

Edna Greene Medford, “John Hope Franklin: An Appreciation”

Stephen B. Oates, “Lincoln’s Ten Percent Plan”

Gerald J. Prokopowicz, “‘If I Had Gone Up There, I Could Have Whipped Them Myself’: Lincoln’s Military Fantasies”

Craig L. Symonds, “Lincoln and His Admirals: Abraham Lincoln and Union Naval Strategy”

Louise Taper, “Bringing History Home: My Lincoln Collection”

Frank J. Williams, “A Matter of Profound Wonder: The Women Who Influenced Lincoln”

Panel: “Lincoln and the National Archives”

Panelists & Presenters

Gabor S. Boritt, Richard Nelson Current, James Getty, Gary Kross, Thomas P. Lowry, Michael Musick, Gregory Romano, Budge Weidman

1999: ABRAHAM LINCOLN, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Speakers

William C. Davis, “Lincoln’s Men”

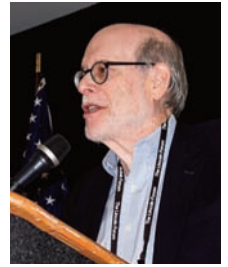
David E. Long, “The Soldiers’ Vote in 1864”

William D. Pederson, “America’s Presidential Triumvirate: Washington, Lincoln, and FDR—Quantitative Measures of Character”

John Y. Simon, “Abraham Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief: Powers Tested by War”

U.S. Senator Paul Simon, Keynote Address

continued on next 6 pages



Harold Holzer



Ed Bearss



Douglas Wilson



Craig L. Symonds



Edna Greene Medford



David Herbert Donald

THE LINCOLN FORUM, A HISTORY:



Amanda Foreman

Craig L. Symonds, “Lincoln Commands the Navy”
Arnold Taylor, “The Black Military Experience”
Joan Waugh, “Lincoln and the Power of the Word”
Frank J. Williams, “America’s Presidential Triumvirate...”
Panel: “Collecting Lincoln”



Daniel Mark Epstein

Panelists & Presenters
 Gabor S. Boritt, S. L. Carson, Sam Fink, James Getty, William Gladstone, Harold Holzer, Don McCue, Stuart Schneider, Virginia Williams

2000: LINCOLN 2000—NEW INSIGHTS FOR THE NEW CENTURY



Mark E. Neely Jr.

Speakers
Iver Bernstein, “Lincoln’s Body Politic: Continuity and Change in Political Culture”
Michael Beschloss, “The Lincoln Legacy”
Gary Gallagher, “Reacting to Stonewall: Lincoln and the North Assess the Shenandoah”
David Herbert Donald, Keynote Address
Doris Kearns Goodwin, “Lincoln and His Cabinet”



Virginia Williams

David Grubin, “The Making of *Abraham and Mary Lincoln* for PBS”
Harold Holzer, “Abraham Lincoln in Death and Memory: The Rubber Room Phenomenon”
Mark E. Neely Jr., “Politics Purified: The Republican Party at Home”



Jake Boritt

Jared Peatman, “General Sickles, President Lincoln, and the Aftermath of Gettysburg”
J. Tracy Power, “The Army of Northern Virginia and the Presidential Election of 1864”
Jeff Shaara, “The Legacy of *The Killer Angels* and Our Search for Heroes”
Hans L. Trefousse, “Abraham Lincoln’s Reputation during His Administration”
Frank J. Williams, “Abraham Lincoln in Death and Memory...”
Panel: “The Lincoln Family”



Don McCue

Panelists & Presenters
 Jean H. Baker, Gabor S. Boritt, Steven L. Carson, James Getty, Norman D. Hellmers, Albert C. Jerman, James Lighthizer, Don McCue, Gerald J. Prokopowicz

2001: LINCOLN AND THE LEGACY OF FREEDOM



Charles B. Strozier

Speakers
Lerone Bennett Jr., “Forced into Glory”
Allen C. Guelzo, “Defending Emancipation: Lincoln and the Conkling Letter, August 1863”
John F. Marszalek, “1862: A Year of Decision for Mr. Lincoln”
William Lee Miller, “When Justice Seasons Mercy: The Case of Nathaniel Gordon”
Barry Schwartz, “The New Gettysburg Address: Discovery or Invention?”
Craig L. Symonds, “Gideon Welles on Lincoln’s Legacy”
John Y. Simon, “The Emancipation Proclamation Viewed by Historians”
Michael Vorenberg, “After Emancipation: Abraham Lincoln’s Black Dream”
Garry Wills, “Henry Adams on Abraham Lincoln”
Panel: “Lincoln and Liberty”



James L. Swanson



John F. Marszalek

Panelists & Presenters
 Gabor S. Boritt, James Getty, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Frank J. Williams, Virginia Williams

2002: LINCOLN, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, COMMUNICATOR-IN-CHIEF



William C. Davis

Speakers
Jean H. Baker, “The Lincolns: Varieties of Religious Experience”
William C. Davis, “Lincoln and Davis as Commanders-in-Chief”
James McPherson, “When Will This Cruel War Be Over? The Problem of Peace in the Midst of War”



Jean Baker

Mark E. Neely Jr., “Retaliation: The Problem of Atrocity in the American Civil War”
Geoffrey Perret, “Motivating Men: Lincoln, Grant, MacArthur, and JFK”
Matthew Pinsker, “Lincoln’s Summer Residence: The Soldiers’ Home”
Lucas Morel, “Lincoln’s Political Religion and Religious Politics”
Edward Steers Jr., “The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln: A Case of Historical Malpractice”



Paul Tetrault

James L. Swanson and **Daniel R. Weinberg**, “The Conspirators’ Fate in Fact and in Popular Culture”
Ronald C. White Jr., “Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address”
Panel: “Lincoln at Home”

Panelists & Presenters
 Gabor Boritt, Joan Chaconas, James

SYMPOSIUM BY SYMPOSIUM, 1996-2021



Richard Brookhiser

Getty, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Gerald J. Prokopowicz, Tim Townsend, Frank J. Williams, Virginia Williams

2003: ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S IMAGE IN HISTORY AND POPULAR CULTURE

Speakers

Catherine Clinton, "Lincoln: Our Immortal President"

David and John Eicher, "A Good Man is Hard to Find: How Lincoln (Finally) Chose Grant"

Joseph Fornieri, "Lincoln's Political Faith"

Harold Holzer, "Lincoln Seen and Heard"

John F. Marszalek and Craig L. Symonds, "End Game: Lincoln and Davis and the Problem of Peace"

John Y. Simon, "Douglas, Lincoln, and the Mormons: The Dilemma of Popular Sovereignty"

Jean Edward Smith, "Presidential Images: Lincoln and Grant"

Sam Waterston, "Lincoln Seen and Heard"

Budge and Russ Weidman, "Discoveries in the National Archives"

Frank J. Williams, "Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties, Then and Now"

Panel: "Lincoln Art with Lincoln Artists"

Panelists & Presenters

Wendy Allen, James Getty, John McClarey, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Richard H. Moe, Providence Brigade Band, Steven Wilson, Richard Wengenroth

2004: ELECTING AND RE-ELECTING ABRAHAM LINCOLN—COMMEMORATING THE 140th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAMPAIGN OF 1864

Speakers

Gabor Boritt, "The Most Important Election of American History"

Daniel Mark Epstein, "Abraham Lincoln and Walt Whitman"

Joseph T. Glatthaar, "Early's Raid, the Union High Command, and the 1864 Election"

William C. Harris, "After Lincoln's Re-election: Foreign Complications"

Harold Holzer, "Lincoln at Cooper Union"

David E. Long, "Lincoln and Liberty: The Election of 1864"

John Y. Simon, "The Unpopular Mr. Lincoln"

Richard Norton Smith, "The New Lincoln



Ruth Squillace



Adam Goodheart



William Harris



Doris Kearns Goodwin



James McPherson



Allen Guelzo

Presidential Library and Museum"
Frank J. Williams, "Lincoln and the Soldiers' Vote in 1864"

Panel: "What's New in Lincoln Books?"

Panelists and Presenters

James Getty, Gary Kross, Terry Latschar, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Carolann Schmitt, James L. Swanson, Joan Waugh



Sam Waterston

2005: THE 140th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LINCOLN ASSASSINATION

Speakers

Joan Chaconas, "The Booth Escape Route"

Michael W. Kauffman, "Process vs. Truth in the History of Booth's Conspiracy"

Elizabeth Leonard, "Lincoln's Chief Avenger: Joseph Holt and the Assassination"

Thomas P. Lowry, "Not Everybody Loved Lincoln"

Richard Sloan, "Lincoln's New York City Funeral"

Edward Steers Jr., "Inter Arma Silent Leges: The Military Trial of the Lincoln Conspirators"

James L. Swanson, "Manhunt: The Twelve-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killers"

Louise Taper, "Collecting the Lincoln Assassination"

Thomas R. Turner, "Writing History in a Vacuum: The Lincoln Assassination"

Laurie Verge, "The Booth Escape Route"

Jay Winik, "April 1865: The Month that Saved America"

Panel: "Why Was Lincoln Murdered?"



Sidney Blumenthal



Edward Steers, Jr.

Panelists & Presenters

Gabor Boritt, James Getty, Harold Holzer, Gary Kross, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Frank J. Williams



Candice Shy Hooper

2006: THE GENIUS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Speakers

Gabor Boritt, "Gettysburg Gospel"

George Buss, "A Press Conference with Mr. Lincoln"

Doris Kearns Goodwin, "The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln"

Harold Holzer, "A Press Conference with Mr. Lincoln"

John F. Marszalek, "Abraham Lincoln, the Humble Military Genius"

Joshua Wolf Shenk, "Lincoln's Melancholy"

John Y. Simon, "Abraham Lincoln and the Politics of Command"

Richard Striner, "Lincoln and the Struggle to End Slavery"



Richard Dreyfuss

THE LINCOLN FORUM, A HISTORY:



Annette Gordon-Reed

Craig L. Symonds, “Abraham Lincoln, Admiral-in-Chief”

Harold Holzer, Edna Greene Medford and Frank J. Williams, “The Emancipation Proclamation: Three Views”

Panel: “How did African Americans View Abraham Lincoln?”

Panelists & Presenters

Ronald Allen, Ralph Gary, James Getty, Marcia Carrington-Headley, Tina Grim, Gary Kross, Ka'mal McClarin, Don McCue, Noel Trent

2007: LINCOLN, LAW, AND JUSTICE

Speakers

Rodney O. Davis, “Reconsidering Herndon”

Jason Emerson, “The Madness of Mary Lincoln: A New Discovery Based on the Discovery of Her Insanity Letters”

William C. Harris, “Lincoln’s Role in the Presidential Campaign of 1860”

Harold Holzer and Eleanor Stoddard, “Lincoln’s Secretary, William O. Stoddard”

Jeff Shaara, Keynote Address

Jean Edward Smith, “Presidential Leadership in Wartime: Lincoln and Roosevelt”

Tom Wheeler, “Mr. Lincoln’s ‘T-Mails’: Leadership at the Dawn of Communications”

Frank J. Williams, “Judging Lincoln as a Judge”

Douglas L. Wilson, “Reconsidering Herndon”

Bob Zeller, “Lincoln in 3-D: The Stereo Photographic Legacy of His Presidency”

Panel: “Lincoln and the Law”

Panelists & Presenters

Burrus Carnahan, James Getty, Tina Grim, Don McCue, James F. Simon, Mark E. Steiner, Daniel W. Stowell

2008: THE FORUM LAUNCHES THE LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL

Speakers

Jean H. Baker, “Abraham and Mary: A 166th Wedding Anniversary Assessment”

Ken Burns, Keynote Address

Allen C. Guelzo, “The Lincoln-Douglas Debates”

Harold Holzer, “Abraham Lincoln, President-Elect”

Philip Kunhardt III, “Looking for Lincoln: The Book and the Documentary”

Brian Lamb, “Lincoln and C-SPAN: 15 Years of Television History”

John F. Marszalek and Jean Edward Smith, “Who Won Lincoln’s War—Grant or Sherman?”



James I. (Bud) Robertson



Ken Burns



David W. Blight



John C. Waugh



Richard Nelson Current



Andrew Delbanco



Anna Holloway



Tony Kushner



Stephen Lang



Kate Masur



Jeff Shaara

Edna Greene Medford, “What Slaves Expected from Emancipation”

Craig L. Symonds, “Lincoln Assumes Command: May 1862”

Panel: “Lincoln Myths and Legends”

Panelists & Presenters

Joseph R. Fornieri, James Getty, Tina Grim, Don McCue, James A. Percoco, Gerald J. Prokopowicz, Edward Steers Jr., Frank J. Williams

2009: THE LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL, PART II

Speakers

Orville Vernon Burton, “The Age of Lincoln”

Richard Carwardine, “Just Laughter: The Moral Springs of Lincoln’s Humor”

Catherine Clinton, “Mary Lincoln Reconsidered”

Richard Dreyfuss, in conversation with Harold Holzer

Fred Kaplan, “Lincoln’s Genius with Language”

Lewis E. Lehrman, “Lincoln at the Turning Point: From Peoria to the Presidency”

James M. McPherson, “Lincoln and the West”

Ronald C. White Jr., “Abraham Lincoln 2009: Wisdom for Today”

Panels: “The State of Lincoln Collecting” and “Family Matters: Looking at the Lincolns”

Panelists & Presenters

Norman Boas, George Buss, Jason Emerson, Tina Grim, Harold Holzer, Charles Lachman, Don McCue, John F. Marszalek, Edna Greene Medford, Daniel R. Weinberg

2010: THE COMING OF THE CIVIL WAR: ENTER LINCOLN, EXIT THE SOUTH

Speakers

Peter S. Carmichael, “Southern Perceptions of Lincoln in the Wake of the 1860 Election”

Gary Ecelbarger, “Lincoln’s Great Comeback”

William W. Freehling, “Lincoln’s Forgotten Southern Republicans”

Harold Holzer, “The *New York Times* and the Silent President-Elect”

John F. Marszalek, “The Old Army on the Eve of War”

Edna Greene Medford, “*Uncle Tom’s Cabin* and the Road to Freedom”

Mark E. Neely Jr., “The Essence of Anarchy?: The Problem of Secession after 150 Years”

Craig L. Symonds, “The Sumter Crisis: Learning on the Job”

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Eric Foner

Frank J. Williams, “Lincoln’s Education”
Panel: “Could the War Have Been Avoided?”

Panelists & Presenters

Orville Vernon Burton, George Buss, Joseph Fornieri, James Getty, Tina Grim, Thomas A. Horrocks, Michael Lind, Don McCue

2011: LINCOLN AND THE HOME FRONT—THE CIVIL WAR COMES TO WASHINGTON

Speakers

Edwin Cole Bearss, Keynote
Stephen Berry, “The Todd Family at War with Themselves”
Gabor Boritt and **Jake Boritt**, “The Gettysburg Story: Battlefield Auto Tour”
Thomas Craughwell and **Michael J. Kline**, “The Baltimore Plot—Fact or Fiction?”



Catherine Clinton



Ron Chernow

William C. Davis, “Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee: Reluctant Traitors”

Adam Goodheart, “First in Freedom: Lincoln and the Contrabands, 1861”

Jason Emerson, “Robert Lincoln: First Son, Presidential Confidant, and Civil War Soldier”

Stephen Lang, “Beyond Glory”

Victoria Ott, “Southern Women View the North and Lincoln”

William Seale, “Life in the Lincoln White House”

Panel: “Why Didn’t the War End in 1861?”

Panelists & Presenters

George Buss, James Getty, Joseph R. Fornieri, Tina Grim, Harold Holzer, Ron Keller, Antigoni Ladd, Everett Ladd, Carson Long Military Academy, Don McCue, Thomas Mackie, John F. Marszalek, Edna Greene Medford, Craig L. Symonds, Frank J. Williams



Bobby Horton



Joan Waugh

2012: 1862—BATTLE CRY OF UNION / BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM

Speakers

Catherine Clinton, “Death in the White Houses: Washington and Richmond”

Eric Foner, “The Emancipation of Abraham Lincoln”

Amanda Foreman, “Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation: A Propaganda Tool for the Enemy”

Harold Holzer, “Lincoln on War”

John F. Marszalek, “Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman: Stars Rising in the West”

James I. “Bud” Robertson, “The Centennial vs. the Sesquicentennial: The March of Civil War Memory”



Ronald C. White



Barnet Schecter

Craig L. Symonds, “‘Hunting Skunks’: Lincoln, Porter, and Farragut”

John C. Waugh, “Lincoln and McClellan”

Frank J. Williams, “Suspension of the Great Writ: *Habeas Corpus*”

Panels: “The Constitution Goes to War” and “100 Days to Emancipation: The Most Important Months of the War?”

Panelists & Presenters

Roger Billings, George Buss, Burrus Carnahan, Joseph Fornieri, James Getty, Thomas Horrocks, Dale Jirik, Andrew Kent, Don McCue, Thomas Mackie, Louis Masur, Edna Greene Medford, Providence Brigade Band, Claude Rodier, Ruth Squillace, David von Drehle, Daniel Weinberg, Linda Wheeler



Daniel R. Weinberg

2013: LINCOLN AT MIDSTREAM—GETTYSBURG AND BEYOND

Speakers

Michelle A. Krowl, “Lincoln Treasures at the Library of Congress: A Visual Tour”

Tony Kushner, in conversation with Harold Holzer

James M. McPherson, “High Water Marks in the Gettysburg Campaign”

Edna Greene Medford, “The U.S. Colored Troops to the Rescue”

James Oakes, “Antislavery and the Civil War”

Barnet Schecter, “The New York City Draft Riots”

Walter Stahr, “Seward and Lincoln”

John Fabian Witt, “Lincoln’s Code and the Laws of War”

John Stauffer, “The Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Panels: “Lincoln the Orator: Gettysburg and Beyond” and “The North vs. the South and the East vs. the West: What Theater of War Made the Big Difference in 1863?”



James Getty



James Oakes



Elizabeth R. Varon

Panelists & Presenters

George Buss, Burrus Carnahan, William C. Davis, Brian Dirck, Guy Fraker, James Getty, Michael Green, Thomas Horrocks, Martin Johnson, Don McCue, Richard McMurry, John F. Marszalek, Jared Peatman, Claude Rodier, Sylvia Frank Rodrigue, Ruth Squillace, Richard Striner, Craig L. Symonds, Valley Forge Military Academy, Frank J. Williams, Kenneth J. Winkle



Jean Edward Smith

THE LINCOLN FORUM, A HISTORY:



Thavolia Glymph

2014: THE PEOPLE SAY LINCOLN! FIGHTING FOR MILITARY AND POLITICAL VICTORY, 1864

Speakers

Catherine Clinton, “Mary Lincoln vs. Ellen McClellan: The War Between the Mates”

Thavolia Glymph, “Disappeared: Enslaved Women and the Armies of the North”

Harold Holzer, “Anyone but Lincoln: The President, the Press, and the Election of 1864”

Bobby Horton, “Songs and Stories of the Civil War”

Lewis E. Lehrman, Keynote

James M. McPherson, “Jefferson Davis and the General Who Would Not Fight”

John F. Marszalek and **Craig L. Symonds**, “Sherman vs. Johnston at Atlanta and Beyond”

Jonathan W. White, “The Battle for the Soldiers’ Vote”

Frank J. Williams, “Real or Reel? Lincoln on Film”

Robert Wilson, “Mathew Brady: Portraits of a Nation”

Panels: “Atlanta and the Wilderness: Lincoln and the Battles of 1864” and “The Campaign of ’64 in Politics and Print”



Paul Bremer



Joseph T. Glatthaar



Louise Taper



Roger Billings



Richard Norton Smith

Panelists & Participants

George Buss, William C. Davis, James Getty, Thomas Horrocks, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Richard McMurry, Matthew Pinsker, Ruth Squillace

2015: 1865—TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY

Speakers

Terry Alford, “John Wilkes Booth: A Biographer’s 25 Years on the Trail”

James B. Conroy, “Lincoln and the Search for Peace at Hampton Roads”

William C. Davis, “Grant and Lee: The Generals Nobody Knows”

Richard Wightman Fox, “Lincoln Visits Richmond”

Edna Greene Medford, “Emancipation after Appomattox”

James L. Swanson, “The Lincoln and Kennedy Assassinations Compared”

Elizabeth R. Varon, “Legacies of Appomattox: Lee’s Surrender in History and Memory”

Michael Vorenberg, “The Last Surrender: Looking for the End of the Civil War”

Panels: “‘A King’s Cure’ in Film and Art: Lincoln, Spielberg, and the 13th Amendment” and “Why Was Lincoln Murdered?”



Brian Lamb



Joseph R. Fornieri



John Y. Simon



Lewis Lehrman



Terry Alford



Louis Masur

Panelists & Presenters

John McKee Barr, George Buss, Maria Carillo, Joan Chaconas, Martha Hodes, Harold Holzer, Thomas Horrocks, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Ruth Squillace, Edward Steers Jr., United States Army Chorus, Valley Forge Military Academy, Frank J. Williams

2016: ABRAHAM LINCOLN—HIS LIFE AND HIS LEGACY

Speakers

Sidney Blumenthal, “Lincoln in the World of Political Party Chaos”

Richard Brookhiser, “Lincoln and the Founders”

Catherine Clinton, “What Became of the Lincoln Family?”

Harold Holzer, “Lincoln and the Uncivil War over Immigration”

Craig L. Symonds and **John F. Marszalek**, “Johnston and Sherman: The Two Surrenders”

Joan Waugh, “The Surrenders of Ulysses S. Grant”

Ronald C. White Jr., “Opposites Attract: Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant”

Frank J. Williams, “Reconstruction after Lincoln”

Panels: “Who Inspired Lincoln? Foundations for Leadership” and “Voting Rights for Black Freedmen: What Went Right and What Went Wrong?”

Panelists & Presenters

George Buss, Catherine Clinton, Douglas R. Egerton, Guy C. Fraker, Harold Holzer, Thomas Horrocks, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Providence Brigade Band, Ruth Squillace

2017: LINCOLN AND HIS CONTEMPORAIRES—FRIENDS, ENEMIES, AND SUCCESSORS

Speakers

Ron Chernow, “Ulysses S. Grant: Worthy Successor to Abraham Lincoln”

James B. Conroy, “Lincoln’s White House: An Open Door to an Emphatic Mind”

Stephen D. Engle, “The Duty of the Governors to Save the Country’s Cause”

Annette Gordon-Reed, “Andrew Johnson: The Presidency of Lost Opportunities”

Melanie Kirkpatrick, “Lincoln and Thanksgiving”

Caroline E. Janney, “Going Home: Lee’s Army in the Wake of Surrender”

Walter Stahr, “Stanton and Lincoln: A Second Look”

Charles B. Strozier, “Lincoln and His Father”

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Lucas Morel

Jonathan W. White, “Dreams of War and Peace: The Remarkable Night Lives of Civil War Americans”

Panels: “Lincoln’s Friends” and “Lincoln’s Enemies”

Panelists & Presenters

George Buss, Catherine Clinton, James Cornelius, Guy C. Fraker, Harold Holzer, Thomas Horrocks, Michelle A. Krowl, Don McCue, John F. Marszalek, Mel Maurer, Edna Greene Medford, Ruth Squillace, Craig L. Symonds, United States Army Chorus, Daniel R. Weinberg, Frank J. Williams



Tom Horrocks

2018: LINCOLN AND THE CIVIL WAR IN FACT, FICTION, AND MEMORY

Speakers

Edward L. Ayers, “Gettysburg and the Web of War”

David W. Blight, “Lincoln and Frederick Douglass”

Andrew Delbanco, “The War before the War: Fugitive Slaves and the Struggle for the Soul of America”

Joseph Fornieri, “Lincoln’s Greatest Rhetoric”

Harold Holzer, “The Making of the Lincoln Memorial”

John F. Marszalek and **Craig L. Symonds**, “Lincoln in the Grant Memoirs”

Kate Masur, “*They Knew Lincoln*: Reconsidering a Lost Classic”

George Saunders, “*Lincoln in the Bardo*: A Reading”

Frank J. Williams, “With Charity for Some: Pardons and Clemency after the Civil War”

Panels: “Women in the Civil War” and “The Lincoln Forum at 23—Looking Back and Forward”

Panelists & Presenters

George Buss, Catherine Clinton, Joseph R. Fornieri, Candice Shy Hooper, Thomas Horrocks, Don McCue, Edna Greene Medford, Ruth Squillace



Philip Kunhardt



Richard Carwardine



Guy C. Fraker



David E. Long

2019: THE LEADER, THE WAR, THE LEGACY—LINCOLN AT 210

Speakers

Michael Beschloss, “President Lincoln and Other Wartime Presidents”

Sidney Blumenthal, “‘A House Divided’: How Lincoln Emerged out of the Whirlwind”



Burrus Carnahan



Kathryn Harris



Walter Stahr



Michael Beschloss



Matthew Pinsker



Jason Emerson

Peter S. Carmichael, “Union Soldiers, Lincoln, and the Politics of Pragmatism”

Brian R. Dirck, “Lincoln’s Private Black Heavens: Prewar Encounters with Death”

Anna Gibson Holloway, “More than a ‘Cheesebox’: The Image of the USS *Monitor*”

Edna Greene Medford, “‘A Fair Chance in the Race of Life’: Why Lincoln Still Matters”

Elizabeth R. Varon, “Lincoln’s Armies of Deliverance”

Gary W. Gallagher and **Joan Waugh**, “What Caused the Civil War?”

Jonathan W. White, “‘There’s Something in It’: Lincoln and the *Monitor*”

Panels: “The Rise and Fall of Confederate Monuments: What’s Next?” and “Voting Rights in 1860 and 1864: Who Voted for Lincoln? Who Didn’t? Who Couldn’t?”

Panelists & Presenters

William Blair, George Buss, John Clell Hamm, Harold Holzer, Thomas Horrocks, Don McCue, Matthew Pinsker, Dana Shoaf, John Rutledge Short, Ruth Squillace, Craig L. Symonds, Daniel Weinberg, Frank J. Williams

2020-2021: THE ZOOM LINCOLN FORUM, PARTS I & II PART I: November 14

Speakers

H. W. Brands, “The Zealot and the Emancipator: John Brown and Abraham Lincoln”

Stephen Lang, “The Gettysburg Address”

Ted Widmer in conversation with Harold Holzer, “Lincoln on the Verge”

Edward Achorn, in conversation with Frank J. Williams, “Lincoln’s Second Inaugural”

Panelists and Presenters

William C. Davis, Catherine Clinton, Kathryn Harris, Thomas Horrocks, Caroline E. Janney, Tamika Nunley, Manisha Sinha, Craig L. Symonds, Jonathan W. White

PART II: May 20

Speakers

Richard Striner, “Summoned to Glory: The Audacious Life of Abraham Lincoln”

Ronald C. White Jr., “Lincoln in Private: What His Most Personal Reflections Tell Us”

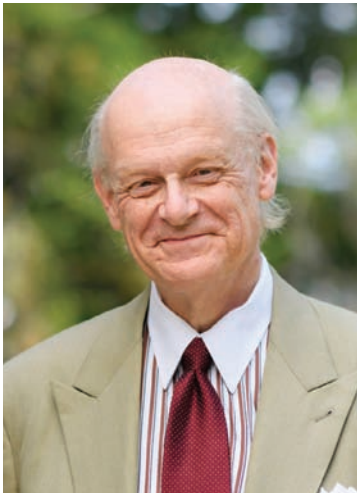
Panelists and Presenters

Harold Holzer, Jonathan W. White

AN INTERVIEW WITH BEST-SELLING HISTORIAN

Allen C. Guelzo is the Senior Research Scholar in the Council of the Humanities at Princeton University and the director of the James Madison Program's Initiative in Politics and Statesmanship. He is the bestselling author of numerous books on Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, and a three-time winner of the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize, among several other important awards. He joins us today to discuss his work on Lincoln as well as his new biography, *Robert E. Lee: A Life* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2021). In November he will participate in a panel discussion on Lee with Gary W. Gallagher and General Ty Seidule.

JW: Some of your earliest work focused on the great theologian Jonathan Edwards. When and how did you move from the First Great Awakening into the Lincoln field?



AG: Well, fundamentally I am an American intellectual historian—which is to say, I am a historian of ideas—and especially of the late 18th and 19th centuries. I construe that pretty broadly. It includes everything from formal philosophy (which is what my attention to Jonathan Edwards represents) to tactical doctrine (which is what a large part of *Gettysburg: The Last Invasion* is dedicated to). I studied under two great intellectual historians at the University of Pennsylvania—Bruce Kuklick

and Alan Charles Kors—and I suppose I bear the thumbprint of their wide range of interests. Bruce, for instance, wrote the pre-eminent survey of American philosophy and a study of the thought of Josiah Royce, but also a book about baseball in a single great baseball stadium, Shibe Park, in Philadelphia. So, I've always had a pretty blithe attitude toward what I'm "supposed" to be writing about.

I started with Edwards because I had a theological education and knew the Edwards territory better than most graduate students at a place like Penn. What came out of that was a PhD dissertation on Edwards's great work on determinism, *Freedom of the Will* (1754). The dissertation in turn became my first book, *Edwards on the Will*, in 1989. I wanted to move on from there to write a sequel, tracing American ideas about determinism into the 20th century, and to write a biography of Jonathan Edwards. But the Edwards "field," so to speak, was dominated by a cluster of individuals whose work (which included the Yale University Press series of the complete works of Edwards) was funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts and who didn't particularly welcome interlopers. When I mentioned to one of them my plans for an Edwards biography, I was pretty frankly told that *he* was going to write that book and that I should look elsewhere. That was in 1992. I tried to push forward with the idea of my sequel on determinism while I was a Fellow at the Charles Warren Center at Harvard in 1994-95, and in the planning for it, I thought it would be wonderfully clever if I included some mention of Abraham Lincoln, whom I knew had said a few things about "fatalism." I wrote a paper, "Abraham Lincoln and the Doctrine of Necessity,"

and was invited to read it at the Abraham Lincoln Association's annual symposium in February 1995.

That was the turning point. The paper was published in the *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, and afterward, the well-known theological publisher, Eerdmans, asked if I'd contribute a book on Lincoln and religion in their series on American religious biography. At first, I declined. I knew an awful lot of poor stuff had been written about Lincoln's religion, and I didn't want to be associated with that. But Eerdmans persisted, and eventually I made them a counteroffer: Let me write an intellectual history of Lincoln, of which religion would be one part. That became *Abraham Lincoln: Redeemer President* in 1999. Once my hand was in the Lincoln cookie jar, I've never been able to get it out. I've never been back to Edwards and free will, except for some odds and ends. And one major reason is that the Lincoln fraternity, unlike the Edwardsian one, welcomed me with the most open and undemanding of arms—especially Michael Burlingame, Thomas Schwartz, and Douglas Wilson. I felt at home with my fellow Lincolnites from the start.

JW: It's been over twenty years since you published *Abraham Lincoln: Redeemer President*. Has your understanding of Lincoln changed in any significant ways since you wrote that book?

AG: Surprisingly, no. Lincoln was not an intellectual, much less a philosopher, and had so little in the way of worthwhile education that he would only describe his education in one word: *defective*. That has led people to assume that he was just a politician, and he had no interests or connections to the larger currents of thought in the 19th-century world. But that, as I discovered in writing "Abraham Lincoln and the Doctrine of Necessity," is a big mistake. Lincoln's schooling may have been defective, but not his curiosity, and he dipped very broadly into differing pools of 19th-century thought. It shows up in a number of ways, from his quotations of Shakespeare to his borrowings from John Stuart Mill. He was certainly no speculative thinker, but he looked for answers in books, and his enormously retentive memory allowed him to draw a lot of those answers from what he read. Herndon once made a list of the reading available in the Lincoln-Herndon law office, and it ran a spectrum from Emerson to Thomas Carlyle to Victor Cousin. His favorite reading, though, was political economy, and Herndon singled out especially Lincoln's admiration for Francis Wayland, Henry Carey, and John Ramsay McCulloch. He once told Noah Brooks that the most formative books for his thinking were by Mill and by Bishop Joseph Butler (on natural religion)—and that he had always wanted to read Edwards's *Freedom of the Will*!

JW: Much of your career has been focused on intellectual history, but in 2013 you published *Gettysburg: The Last Invasion*. What led you to delve into military history, and did you find it a difficult transition from your earlier work?

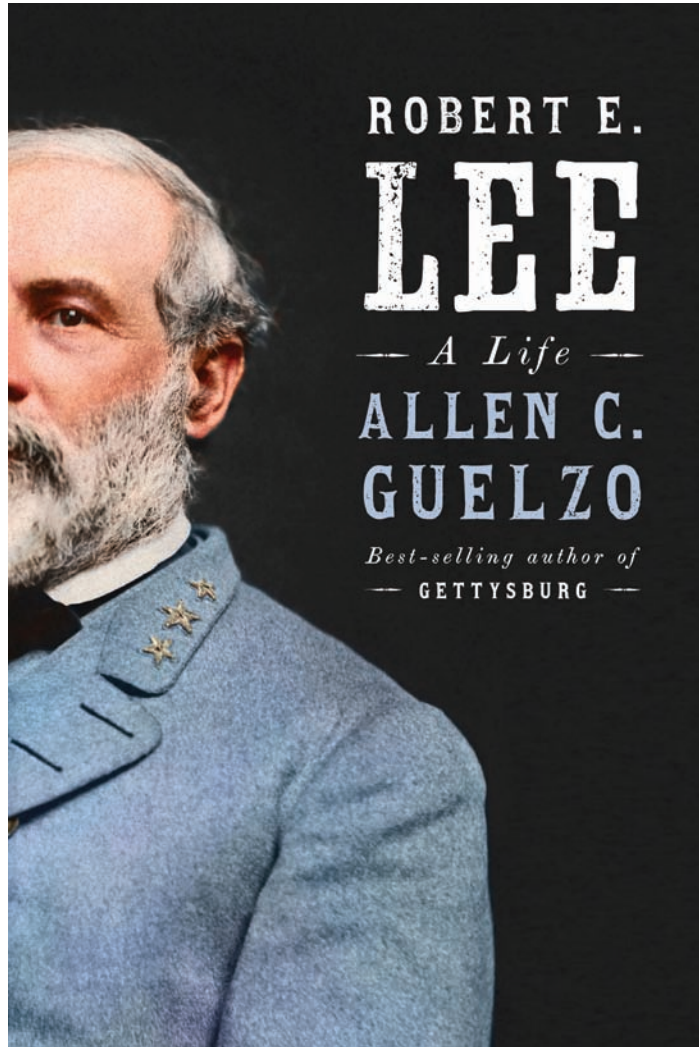
AG: In large measure, I wanted to treat military thought in the 19th century as yet another species of intellectual history. Much of the writing about Gettysburg is the usual dreary accumulation of boxes and lines on maps, and whether there were shoes in Gettysburg, and whether George Meade was a great general, and who stood where for 15 minutes. I wanted to know what the

AND BIOGRAPHER ALLEN C. GUELZO

soldiers were *thinking*, or had been trained to think, about war, and how that shaped their decisions at Gettysburg. So, I did a great deal of comparison reading between European writing on war in the 1850s and 1860s and what went on in the American Civil War. That cast a great deal of what happened at Gettysburg in some very new light. Why, for instance, did the American armies use cavalry the way they did? What was Lee thinking when he launched Pickett's Charge? Why was Cemetery Hill, not Little Round Top, the key to the battle? The answers I offered were bound up with what I had read in the cognate European wars of the mid-19th century—the North Italian War, the Crimean War, the German Wars of Unification. So, even though Gettysburg was a military subject, I was still doing intellectual history.

JW: Robert E. Lee was one of the most important figures at Gettysburg. Now you've written a monumental biography of him. Did the events of the summer of 2020 affect your approach to Lee?

AG: Yes, they did. I started the Lee project in 2014, just after finishing *Gettysburg: The Last Invasion*, because I was intrigued by two questions: After having spent so many years looking at the Civil War from the Lincoln perspective, what would it look like through the other end of the telescope? And, how do you write the biography of someone who commits treason? Writing about Lincoln is not a moral challenge; but what about writing "difficult" lives? Does that require something else? Still, the questions were almost eclipsed by the events of 2017 and 2020, to the point where I seriously proposed to my editor at Knopf that the whole project be shelved until the cultural atmosphere had stopped bolting lightning. He firmly disagreed, saying that he thought the book was an eminently humane endeavor, and that it would be one of the top biographies of 2021. (Yes, he really said that.) One thing I learned early on, while writing journalism to put myself through school, was that *the editor is always right*. So, forward we went.



JW: Are there popular myths about Lee that you think need to be dispelled? And what surprised you the most in your study of Lee?

AG: Lee is not an easy person to know. He was polite and genteel, but also intensely reserved. He had none of Lincoln's intellectual depth or Lincoln's reading. His voluminous letters betray the influence of not more than half a dozen books, most of them conventional biographies (like Edward Everett's of Washington). A lot of the biographical literature on Lee (like Douglas Southall Freeman's *R. E. Lee*) is more about the Lost Cause than about Lee. Lee himself was a man of serious contradictions and conflicts. He was uncomfortable with slavery and unenthused about the Confederate rationale for secession, yet would never disown the slave system and defended secession in his postwar years. He was not personally or deeply religious, in any real sense, although he observed the proprieties of 19th-century Episcopalianism. He was a perfectionist, and could be extremely judgmental; yet, at the same time, he indulged "pets" (like A. P. Hill) whose deficiencies he disregarded. He had a wonderful

strategic grasp, yet it's not clear if he was all that gifted as a field tactician, and he certainly was not an effective logistician (largely because that would have required him to challenge the politicians, which he refused to do).

JW: After spending several years with the Confederacy's most important military figure, are you ready to get back to Lincoln?

AG: Yes, very much. I am a Yankee from Yankeeland. I have written my "Confederate book," and am now ready (to borrow a Lincolnism) to return to the bosom of Father Abraham—which I plan to do in a new book from Knopf I am writing, on Lincoln and the American experiment.

JW: Thank you so much for your time. We look forward to seeing you in November! 🇺🇸

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DISBANDING ROBERT E. LEE'S ARMY OF NORTHERN

By **Caroline E. Janney**

Around 7:30 on the night of April 13, 1865, Maj. Gen. John Gibbon telegraphed Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant announcing that the surrender of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia had been completed. He estimated that 25,000 to 30,000 men had been paroled, while 147 artillery pieces, 10,000 small arms, and 71 flags had been received.¹

Despite Gibbon's report, both Confederate and Union officers recognized that a significant portion of Lee's men had not yet surrendered. Estimating troop strength had always been a guessing game, but Grant and his officers knew that Lee commanded nearly 60,000 men on April 1. During the fighting that ensued on the march west between April 2 and 8, Lee's army had sustained approximately 11,530 casualties, but only 28,231 men had been officially paroled at Appomattox. Twenty thousand men who should have been paroled were missing. Perhaps much of Lee's army *did* still exist.

Hoping to end any further Confederate resistance, Grant and his officer corps extended the generous Appomattox terms to any of Lee's soldiers willing to surrender themselves. In the days and weeks that followed April 9, thousands of Lee's men would complete the process of surrender and paroling that had begun at Appomattox.



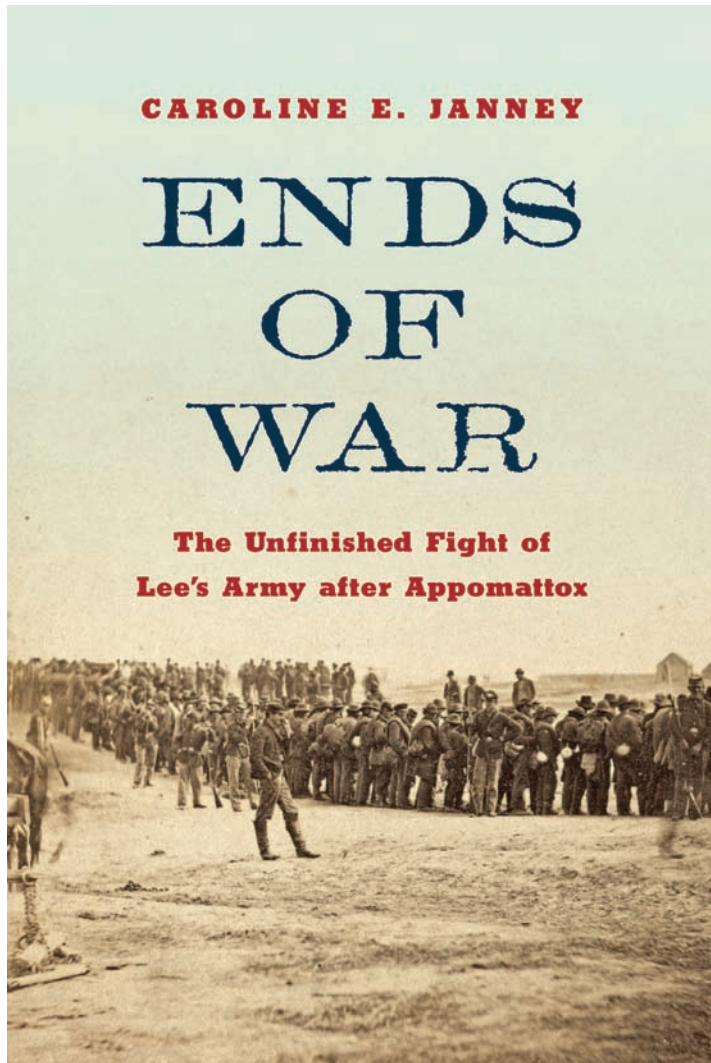
Some arrived at Union posts like Farmville or Winchester of their own accord, deciding that it was in their best interest to turn themselves in to Union provost marshals throughout the region. Some did so at railroad junctions such as Burkeville in order to receive rations or transportation from the Union armies. Others found themselves hunted down by the U.S. cavalry with little choice but to acquiesce. Regardless of Confederates'

reasons for seeking or accepting paroles, their ability to do so reflected the inclusiveness, flexibility, and generosity of Grant's terms.

The next evening, Friday, April 14, as Gibbon was completing the final reports, his chief of staff let out a gasp of horror. A dispatch had just arrived from Washington, D.C., with the most horrific and unbelievable news: Lincoln had been shot at Ford's Theatre. The wound was fatal, and he could not possibly survive the night. No one yet knew who the culprit was nor how many had been killed. Was it true that Secretary of State William H. Seward and his son Frederick had likewise fallen victim to the assassin's hand? What of Vice President Andrew Johnson? Had he been killed as well? Doubts surfaced as to whether there was any viable government in Washington, D.C., and many began to ask if this was yet a new stage of a war they had believed to be nearly finished.²

On Easter Sunday, word arrived in central Virginia confirming that Lincoln had died at 7:22 the previous morning. Writing from Appomattox, Union surgeon Daniel Nelson erupted with indignation. "Retribution will follow them," he declared in a letter to his wife back in Massachusetts, "rebel and rascal are synonymous too often."³ At Burkeville, Pvt. Albert G. Harrison informed his parents that the news had rekindled vengeful feelings toward Lee's men. "It fills every Soldier's heart with the most bitter hatred against a Rebel," he wrote. But more to the point, gone were the magnanimous gestures of a few days prior: "If it is our lot to get in another engagement before the expiration of our term of Service, the old double Six will not show any mercy or take many prisoners, and that is the best way to serve them, kill all we catch, for the advantage now is ours."⁴ Not far from Harrison's camp, a Union artilleryman agreed. "This is the result of the leniency of our government to armed rebels," he lamented. "The country is overrun with them."⁵ Worried that the Union troops might seek revenge, federal commanders throughout the region rushed to prevent any acts of retaliation. In Farmville, General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain ordered a double guard placed around the entire camp and instructed regimental commanders to recall all their men, allowing none to leave. "It might take but little to rouse them to a frenzy of blind revenge," he cautioned.⁶

In Baltimore, Bvt. Brig. Gen. William W. Morris worried about the effect that returning Confederates were having upon the city. Commanding the Middle Department during Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace's temporary absence, Morris



VIRGINIA AFTER LINCOLN'S ASSASSINATION

knew all too well that Baltimore had long been filled with disloyal residents. Some 20,000 Marylanders had served in the Confederate armies, and now many of the survivors sailed into the harbor each day, exacerbating tensions. As early as April 12, Morris had asked Grant whether all soldiers paroled by Lee's surrender might be required to report to the provost marshal upon entering the city, register their names, and discard their Confederate uniforms. "Unless some such order is issued the streets will be filled with rebel uniforms and women parading with them and the result will be trouble," he warned Grant. Having read the terms of surrender, however, he wondered whether such an order would conflict with the terms of their parole.⁷

When word reached Baltimore in the early morning hours of April 15 that Lincoln had been assassinated by city native and actor John Wilkes Booth, Morris immediately placed the department under martial law. He forbade the departure of all trains and boats and ordered the arrest of any person arriving from Washington, D.C. He ordered patrols of the harbor and all borders. And even though he had yet to hear from Grant, Morris demanded that all rebels in the department report to the provost marshal where their papers




Provost Marshal's office, Aquia Creek Landing, Va. (LOC)

would be examined. Only those whose former residences lay within the city limits would be allowed to remain. Such prisoners, he added, must abandon their treasonous Confederate uniforms within 12 hours of arriving in the city. "Any violation of this order will be promptly noticed by arrest and imprisonment, whatever the conditions of the parole may be," Morris promised. This included paroled soldiers from Lee's army. Given the state of hysteria enveloping the region, he vowed to override the Appomattox paroles if necessary.⁸

Morris was not alone in ordering rebels to register with the local provost marshal and discard their rebel uniforms. Nor were these policies confined to loyal states. In Petersburg, Virginia, Col. George C. Kibbe likewise demanded that all paroled prisoners arriving in the city register their names and have their paroles countersigned in order to receive passes that would allow them to remain within Union lines. Paroled prisoners in Washington, D.C., were instructed to register with the local provost marshal

and report back every 10 days. Failing to do so meant breaking their parole, which could be punished by execution. At Norfolk, Virginia, the provost marshal declared that persons found wearing any clothing, emblem, or badges of the "insurgent forces" would be arrested. None of these new orders had been requirements of parole under the Appomattox terms, but had been improvised by officers in the field. In the wake of the assassination, U.S. commanders throughout Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C., replicated such orders, hoping that they might help quell the rebellion.⁹

Lincoln's assassination had ratcheted up calls for revenge and led to more stringent measures in loyal border regions such as Maryland and Washington, D.C. Yet rather than suspending the paroling process, the president's murder made it all the more pressing that the remnants of Lee's army who had not surrendered do so, willingly or not. The need to end the war immediately—to quash any further acts of rebellion—necessitated ensuring that every Confederate surrendered. Grant would stand by his parole terms, even as other loyal Unionists came to question them.

(Caroline E. Janney is the John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War at the University of Virginia. This article is excerpted from her new book *Ends of War: The Unfinished Fight of Lee's Army after Appomattox* [Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2021.] 

¹ John Y. Simon, ed., *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Vol. 14: February 21 – April 30, 1865* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985), 384.

² John Gibbon, *Personal Recollections of the Civil War* (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1928), 343–45.

³ Daniel T. Nelson to Sarah Nelson, April 16, 1865, Nelson Papers, Virginia Museum of History and Culture, Richmond, Va.

⁴ Albert G. Harrison to parents, April 17, 1865, Nau Collection, Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

⁵ John Rumsey Brincklé Papers, Library of Congress, diary April 16, 1865.

⁶ Chris Calkins, *The Final Bivouac: The Surrender Parade at Appomattox and the Disbanding of the Armies, April 10 – May 20, 1865* (Lynchburg, Va.: M. E. Howard, 1988), 64.

⁷ William W. Morris to Grant, April 12, 1865, *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion*, ser. 1, vol. 46, pt. 3, p. 727 (hereafter OR).

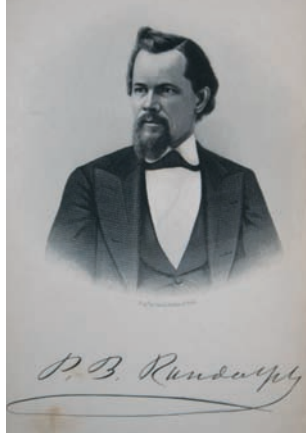
⁸ William Starr Myers, *The Self-Reconstruction of Maryland, 1864–1867* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1909), 24; OR, ser. 1, vol. 46, pt. 3, pp. 776–78.

⁹ OR ser. 1, vol. 46, pt. 3, pp. 778, 800, 818, 867; General Orders No. 6, April 15, 1865, NARA RG 393, part 2, vol. 124; General Orders No. 7, April 17, 1865, National Archives, RG 393, part 2, vol. 124; Washington, D.C. *Evening Star*, April 22, 1865; National Archives, RG 393, part 4, entry 1458—Letters Received and Endorsements Sent, Defenses South of the Potomac, July 1864 – Sept. 1865, vol. 366, p. 390.

“AT THE EXPRESS INSTANCE OF HIS FRIEND”:

By Jonathan W. White

Paschal Beverly Randolph is one of the most unusual figures of 19th-century America. Born out of wedlock to a black woman in 1825, abandoned by his white father, and then orphaned by the age of seven, Randolph soon found himself living on his own on the streets of New York City near the notorious Five Points neighborhood. Although he had no formal education, Randolph grew up to become a famous spiritualist, lecturer, and “sex magician.” In 1865, one black newspaper called him “a man of education, an author, an able writer, and . . . an example to our young men anxious for intellectual acquirements and literary distinctions.”



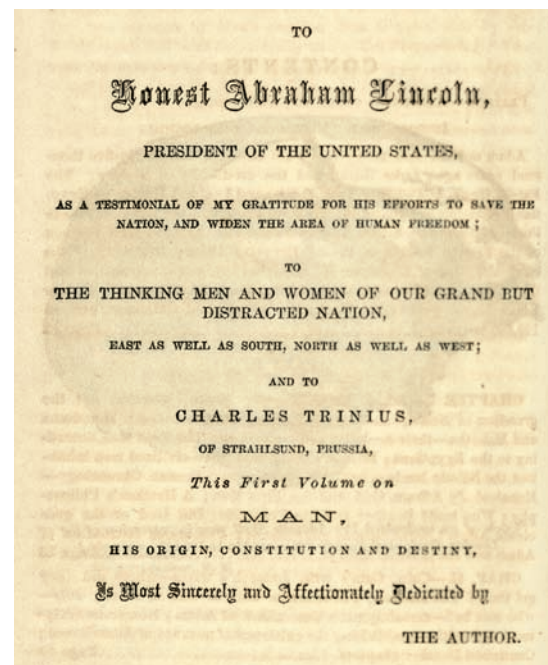
Paschal B. Randolph

In 1861, newspapers spread rumors that Randolph would lead a regiment of Native Americans in Wisconsin to “pay its respects to the red tribes mustered by the confederate rebels” in the West. Although this never took place, Randolph became a vocal and active recruiter of black soldiers following the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation. In July 1863, he offered a series of resolutions at a “great Convention of Colored People” in Poughkeepsie, New York, in favor of black enlistments. Randolph pointed out that men of color had been loyal and true to the government, and that they held “*the balance of power in this contest.*” He continued: “We should strike, and strike hard, to win a place in history, not as vassals, but as men and heroes, never forgetting that God, as ever, strikes for the right, ever helping those most who help themselves.” The solution to defeating the rebellion, Randolph asserted, could be found “in the shape of warm lead and cold steel, duly administered by 200,000 black doctors.” Unfortunately, New York’s Democratic governor, Horatio Seymour, would not support the enlistment of African American soldiers, so black New Yorkers had to go to other states to join the Union Army.

At some point in the first half of the war, Randolph traveled to Washington, D.C., where he met with Lincoln. According to one news report, “Mr. Lincoln gave him an interview, and told him his field was educational, not that of the soldier, and suggested that he would be most useful as a teacher to his people in the South. With this suggestion,

he went to New Orleans. . . .” Randolph later wrote in the third person that he went to Louisiana to help educate former slaves “at the express instance of his friend, President Lincoln.” While Randolph certainly overstated the importance of his personal connection to the president (in calling him “his friend”), Randolph clearly felt a deep connection with the man in the White House. A few years later, in 1865, he helped establish a school “for colored teachers” in the Crescent City named Lincoln Memorial High Grade and Normal School.

Randolph was one of hundreds of African Americans to visit with Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War. Some, like Randolph, met with the president in private; others shook his hand on the street or at public receptions. For Lincoln to greet people of color at the White House in these ways was an act of political courage and great political risk. Democratic newspapers excoriated Lincoln for his racial egalitarianism and for his kind public treatment of African Americans. “When did we ever have a President



Dedication page of Pre-Adamite Man (1863)

that made so much of the negro, or was ever willing to take him into his private and social circles as Abraham Lincoln does?” asked the editors of the Bloomsburg *Star of the North* in December 1864. “Mr. Lincoln is emphatically the black man’s President and the white man’s curse.” (Ironically, Frederick Douglass would use this very same phrase—calling Lincoln “emphatically the black man’s president”—in a eulogy praising Lincoln in June 1865.)

Lincoln’s public reception of African Americans was not only impolitic—it was also highly unusual. Most white politicians would not have been so genuinely welcoming to people of color. *New-York Tribune* editor Horace Greeley once ostentatiously refused to shake the hands of a black delegation. Other white reformers and abolitionists also showed disdain for black visitors. In fact, when Paschal B. Randolph and another African American leader entered the office of Francis G. Shaw—president of the National Freedmen’s Relief Association and the father of the recently deceased Col. Robert Gould Shaw of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry—to volunteer their services to assist former slaves, Shaw looked up from his desk “and seeing our color, and before we had time to open our lips, rudely waved his hand; and ordered us to leave the room and stay in the hall till he got ready.” When Randolph tried to speak, Shaw



Abraham Lincoln School in New Orleans (Harper’s Weekly, April 21, 1866)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND THE "SEX MAGICIAN"

repeated "his order" two more times "in the most offensive manner." Randolph indignantly left the building, "positively assured that our color alone was the pretext for the insult." This experience contrasted with Randolph's much more friendly meeting with Lincoln.

When Randolph met with Lincoln, he appears to have asked the president for permission to dedicate the second edition of his book, *Pre-Adamite Man*, to him. The book, which appeared in 1863, begins with the dedication: "To Honest Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, as a testimonial of my gratitude for his efforts to save the nation, and widen the area of human freedom." Later in the year, Randolph sent the following letter to Lincoln:

Oct 19th 1863

Sir again, in consequence of the last Proclamation, I solicit authority [*sic*] to raise colored Troops in this State. You will please remember that you gave me permission to dedicate my book "Pre-Adamite Man" to you, and that I came from the Orient on purpose to serve my country. I have, as President of NY State Central Committee, raised many men and sent them to the war. Not one cent have I been paid; not one cent have I asked. I am called eloquent, I want to do all the good I can, and were I not blind of the right eye should long since have been in the Field. Appoint me to recruit Colored troops. Please do this, and let me know what Bounties, pay &c they will receive, and that heaven will bless your great heart, and favor our holy cause, is the belief and prayer of your

Humble Servant

P. B. Randolph MD.

5 Tryon Row NY

protect themselves from illegal violence. Randolph argued that if Republicans did not give black men the vote, "the enemy will triumph."

Like many black leaders of the era, Randolph pointed out that African Americans made up the most loyal segment of the population. "Have you ever found a negro traitor?" he asked. The crowd responded enthusiastically, "No! No!" Randolph then continued, "The dead Lincoln, had he lived, would to-day give us the right of manhood." Then, to the sound of cheering, he sang out, "We are coming, Father Abraham, five hundred thousand more." Lincoln had pointed the way. Now the Republican Party needed to

Oct 19th 1863
Sir again, in consequence of the last Proclamation, I solicit authority to raise colored Troops in this State. You will please remember that you gave me permission to dedicate my book "Pre-Adamite Man" to you, and that I came from the Orient on purpose to serve my country. I have, as President of NY State Central Committee, raised many men and sent them to the war. Not one cent have I been paid, not one cent have I asked. I am called eloquent, I want to do all the good I can, and were I not blind of the right eye should long since have been in the Field. Appoint me to recruit Colored troops. Please do this, and let me know what Bounties, pay &c they will receive, and that heaven will bless your great heart, and favor our holy cause, is the belief and prayer of your
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P. B. Randolph MD.
5 Tryon Row NY

Randolph's letter to Lincoln (National Archives)

While Randolph never received the desired appointment, he nevertheless publicly advocated for Lincoln's reelection in 1864. Indeed, Randolph's affection for Lincoln would outlive the president. During a visit to Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield in the years after the war, Randolph wept tears that fell "like rain upon the sod" and knelt down to place "tear-wet flowers, at the shrine of the man whose pen had stricken the shackles from nearly five millions of people."

Black leaders like Randolph hoped that Lincoln's public support for black suffrage at the end of his life would encourage other Republicans to follow his example. In a speech following the New Orleans Massacre in 1866, Randolph implored Republican leaders not to "desert us" to the violence of ex-Confederates. Only with the ballot could African Americans

accomplish what the martyred president had not. "I am here to say," Randolph intoned, "stand by those millions of loyal hearts that stood by you when the Union flag was trailed in the dust."

Paschal B. Randolph is one of a small number of African Americans who both corresponded and met with Lincoln. Like the president he came to see as a "friend," Randolph rose from poverty and obscurity to become a powerful advocate for the Union and for African American rights.

(The research for this article is drawn from Jonathan W. White's two new books: *To Address You As My Friend: African Americans' Letters to Abraham Lincoln*, which was published by the University of North Carolina Press in October, and *A House Built By Slaves: African American Visitors to the Lincoln White House*, forthcoming from Rowman and Littlefield in February 2022.)

THEY SAW LINCOLN: A UNION ARMY CHAPLAIN OFFERS A COMICAL ACCOUNT OF HIS COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Born in Southington Corners, Connecticut, in 1838, Joseph Hopkins Twichell was the son of a tanner and deacon in the local Congregationalist church. After graduating from Yale in 1859, Twichell entered Union Theological Seminary in New York City. When the Civil War broke out, his strong abolitionist sympathies led him to volunteer as chaplain in the Jackson Regiment (later the 71st New York State Volunteers) of Daniel Sickles' Excelsior Brigade. Twichell's regiment spent the early part of the war performing various guard and construction duties in Washington and Maryland. It moved to the offensive with Gen. George B. McClellan's Peninsula Campaign of March to July 1862, first distinguishing itself at the Battle of Fair Oaks on June 1. It also fought at Bristoe Station, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, and the Overland Campaign, as well as in many smaller engagements, before Twichell was mustered out in July 1864. Following the war, he was one of Mark Twain's closest friends and a well-known figure in the religious and cultural life of New England and New York in the late 19th century.

The following excerpt, written to his father from camp near Harrison's Landing, Virginia, on July 9, 1862, describes a visit by Abraham Lincoln to the Army of the Potomac following the Seven Days Battles. This article is reprinted with permission from *The Civil War Letters of Joseph Hopkins Twichell: A Chaplain's Story*, edited by Peter Messent and Steve Courtney (University of Georgia Press, 2006).

I am happy to say that, so far as I can judge, the troops are in excellent humor—especially with *themselves*. Whatever opinions may prevail regarding the conduct of affairs at *Headquarters*, the army is satisfied with *itself* and justly. McClellan does well to be proud of his command, whether or no[t] the pride is *reciprocal*. His proclamation, so full of laudation, was received with as much quiet complacency, as a man would pocket a debt duly paid. It was somewhat so yesterday when President Lincoln and Secretary [of War Edwin M.] Stanton paid us a visit. As they rode along the lines the boys cheered stoutly like good, loyal soldiers, but there was the feeling—"We are the chaps to be admired! It is you, Abraham and Edwin, that ought to do the cheering!" The visit of our good President was a surprise. At about the middle of the afternoon a salute fired by the gunboats announced his coming, we were called out into line, and before night-fall he went the rounds. The first real information of his arrival I received was from colored Ben whom we "stole" out of Maryland. He was out foraging and came in, his black face all shining and cloven with a mighty grin, and with keen delight informed me, "Ise seen ole Uncle Linkum!" It is wonderful how these negro slaves contract their political views. Ben says that he never heard a *white* man in Maryland speak of Mr Lincoln in any terms except those of denunciation. He was described to the negroes as a monster, yet in those simple hearts the President attained the reverence due to a benefactor—and that without any abolition tracts or teachings. They hardly accounted him a real man, but rather as some half mythical, far-off omen of good, which some day would break the clouds above them. Simple minds apprehend *persons* rather than *principles*, and Ben says that when our Division came to the Lower Potomac the slaves did not regard it as the *Union Army* but as a visible sign of the coming of the long expected, benign reign of "ole Uncle Linkum." The story moistened my eyes.



I have seldom witnessed a more ludicrous sight than our worthy Chief Magistrate presented on horseback yesterday. While I lifted my cap with real respect for the man raised up by God to rule our troubled time, I lowered it speedily to cover a smile that overmastered me. McClellan was beside him, stout, short, and stiffly erect, sitting his horse like a dragoon, and the contrast was perfect. It did seem as though every moment the Presidential limbs would become entangled with those of the horse he rode and both come down together, while his arms were apparently subject to similar mishaps. That arm with which he drew the rein, in its angles and position, resembled the hind leg of a grasshopper—the hand before—the elbow away back over the horse's tail. The removal of his hat before each regiment was also a source of laughter in the style of its execution—the quick trot of the horse making it a feat of some difficulty, while, from the same cause, his hold on it, while off, seemed very precarious. I shall remember the picture a long time. But *the boys* liked him, in fact his popularity in the army is and has been universal. Many of our rulers and leaders fall into odium but all have faith in Lincoln. "When *he* finds it out," they say, "it will be stopped." I heard officers yesterday make the earnest remark, "With all their palaver and reviews, and Dukes and Princes, I don't believe they'll be able to pull the wool over old Lincoln's eyes." His benignant smile as he passed us by was a real reflection from his honest, kindly heart, but deeper, under the surface of that marked and not all comely face were the signs of care and anxiety. God bless the man, and give answer to the prayers for guidance I am sure he offers. 🇺🇸

MICHAEL ATWOOD MASON ANNOUNCED AS CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE

On September 13, 2021, Michael Atwood Mason assumed the role of CEO and Executive Director of President Lincoln's Cottage. Mason, who most recently served as the Director of the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, will lead the National Monument and museum in Washington, D.C., dedicated to the ideas of Abraham Lincoln.

Mason brings a wealth of experience in storytelling, humanities scholarship, and organizational leadership to President Lincoln's Cottage as it strives to position itself as a leading voice on Lincoln's life and legacy.

"President Lincoln's Cottage is the rare museum that inspires and facilitates meaningful social change. What's more, it has long been an example of a cultural institution that uses the power of place, detailed inquiry, and dynamic storytelling to educate and inform. . . . It is my pleasure to join this creative, award-winning

team as we raise the profile and prominence of the Cottage," said Mason.

Mason, who has a Ph.D. in folklore, began his career at the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum as a researcher and exhibit developer. Later, he spent 20 years at the Museum of Natural History, where he ended his tenure as Director of Exhibitions. Subsequently, as Director of Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage in 2013, he oversaw cultural and educational programs and led the Smithsonian Folklife festival and Smithsonian Folklife recordings.

Mason took over leadership of the organization from longtime director Erin Carlson Mast, who relocated to Illinois to serve as the President and CEO of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, and Callie Hawkins, Director of Programming at President Lincoln's Cottage, who served as Interim Director. ■

MEETING ABRAHAM LINCOLN: HOW HIS PAST BECAME MY FUTURE

continued from page 1 young Lincoln not being unhappy to leave New Orleans after seeing a slave market, which, as Cary explains, "he did not like what he saw." These episodes might have made the cut in an earlier book as well, but I was glad to know that as a youngster in the early 1970s I had read that slavery caused the war full-stop and that the institution needed to be abolished.

While perhaps not remembering the precise content of *Meet Abraham Lincoln* more than forty years later, I do recall reading the book again and again, and poring over Jack Davis's lined illustrations with the sepia-toned wash. (Not to be confused with our William C. "Jack" Davis.) Having met and loved Mr. Lincoln through Barbara Cary's book, I then graduated to *Lincoln: A Picture Story of His Life* (1976), by Stefan Lorant. I suspect that I was probably the only second grader at my elementary school who was so keen on Mathew Brady's photographs of Civil War battlefields, but by then I was hooked. Friends of my parents still recall my

childhood interest in Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War, which has not diminished over the years. In my career as a historian, I have dabbled with great enthusiasm in other eras of American history along the way, but the Civil War remained my touchstone. Then in 2010 a most wonderful thing happened: I was hired as the Civil War and Reconstruction specialist in the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress. Although the collections in my portfolio extend from the Mexican War (1846-1848) to the Spanish-American War (1898), I spend much of my time in the Civil War. Best of all, I am the curator of the Abraham Lincoln Papers, and I have the privilege of helping to make the Library's Lincoln resources more accessible to the public. I too continue to learn more about Abraham Lincoln, which is a great joy.

And my journey all started with *Meet Abraham Lincoln*.

(Michelle A. Krowl serves as secretary on The Lincoln Forum Executive Committee.) ■

The leadership of **THE LINCOLN FORUM** thanks all of our members who have made donations over the past 25 years. Your generosity has made our programs a success. We are pleased to announce that donations and membership payments can now be made directly at our website: <https://www.thelincolnforum.org/membership-info>

Thank you again for your continued support!

A PORTFOLIO OF GETTYSBURG PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY



Sunrise at Hancock Avenue, looking down the wall from the Bryan Farm



View of the Confederate line from Devil's Den, through the Triangular Field



Sachs Bridge, which was used by both armies before and after the battle



Devil's Den Witness Tree near the 4th New York Battery monument



View from the crest of East Cemetery Hill looking down below Culp's Hill and the Valley



Frontal view of the soldier on top of the 96th Pennsylvania Infantry monument

WILLIAM ROGERS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



General Winfield Scott Hancock monument as the sun rises at East Cemetery Hill



Monument to the 1st Massachusetts Sharpshooters south of Gettysburg on Hancock Avenue



Sunrise at East Cemetery Hill near Ricketts' Battery



Sunrise at the 72nd Pennsylvania Infantry monument



Sunrise on General George G. Meade's statue on Hancock Avenue

William Rogers is a disabled veteran who began his career in photography in the United States Army. After 15 years in the service he worked as a photographer in JCPenney Studios and later for Lifetouch National Studios for Children. He has a passion for history and for taking photos of historic places, and he just joined The Lincoln Forum this summer. He currently resides in Dover, Delaware. See more of his pictures at <https://williamrogersphotos.com/>. 📷

“DEDICATED TO THE UNFINISHED WORK”:

By Ashley Whitehead Luskey

Are you eager to finally return to Gettysburg National Cemetery this November 19th for the 83rd Dedication Day commemoration of Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address? After a yearlong hiatus from its in-person Dedication Day program due to COVID-19, the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania is excited to welcome back old friends and make new ones at this November’s commemoration!



Bugler James Old and Lincoln Forum member David Wieggers at “One Hundred Nights of Taps, Gettysburg.”

Created in 1938 to perpetuate the memory and legacy of President Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania is a 501(c)(3) all-volunteer organization that is committed to helping our nation to achieve its “unfinished work.” The Fellowship honors the founding principles of liberty and equality for all by helping to educate the public about Lincoln’s legacy and to encourage reflection upon the meaning of Lincoln’s address to both past and present Americans. Lincoln’s challenge to the American public to rededicate itself to the “great task remaining before us” sought both to unify and spur to action a grieving nation amidst the strife and suffering of civil war. But his words are no less inspirational to us today as they encourage civic engagement and a unified national purpose rooted in a shared set of principles for which countless Americans have sacrificed their lives. We urge citizens to reflect on Lincoln’s address and commit ourselves to the difficult but necessary work of achieving the full realization of our founding fathers’ vision for America that Lincoln so eloquently captured in November of 1863.

To that end, every November 19th, the Fellowship cosponsors the Dedication Day ceremony in Gettysburg National Cemetery, featuring a wreath-laying, music, and a prominent speaker such as Doris Kearns Goodwin, Ken Burns, Colin Powell, LeVar Burton, and Harold Holzer, to reflect on the enduring meaning of Lincoln’s words. This year’s speaker will be Gary W. Gallagher, the John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War Emeritus at the University of Virginia. The Fellowship has also added a U.S. Naturalization and Citizenship Ceremony so we can celebrate together as Americans while we welcome a new group of citizens.



Bugler Nicholas Alexander Brown and Lincoln Forum member, Wendy Wieggers at “One Hundred Nights of Taps, Gettysburg,” honoring Private Charles Spiesberger (2021).

In 2020, in lieu of an in-person Dedication Day ceremony, the Lincoln Fellowship produced a 30-minute virtual program, which we released on November 19, 2020. The program featured a short history of the Gettysburg Address, a brief documentary-style segment about famed African American singer and civil rights activist Marian Anderson and her performance at the 1963 Dedication Day ceremonies, a reflection on the Fellowship’s “One Hundred Nights of Taps, Gettysburg” program, and a special video recitation of the Gettysburg Address by 31 U.S. citizens from various locations across the country and around the world who each contributed a line from the famed speech. This rendition of the address celebrates the diverse mosaic of our nation with regard to race, gender, ethnicity, age, region, and profession, while also

THE LINCOLN FELLOWSHIP OF PENNSYLVANIA

highlighting the ideals and principles that unite us as Americans. The program is now housed at the Fellowship's website, <https://lincolnfellowship.wildapricot.org>.

Throughout its annual summertime "One Hundred Nights of Taps, Gettysburg" program, the Fellowship also honors the more than 3,500 Union soldiers buried in Gettysburg National Cemetery, whose sacrifices Lincoln so eloquently exalted in his 1863 address. Since 2017, the Fellowship, in partnership with Taps for Veterans and Gettysburg National Military Park, has invited the public to gather each evening at 7:00 p.m. from Memorial Day through Labor Day at the Soldiers' National Monument. This year, the "Taps" season extended through September 11th, with a special closing ceremony commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.


As part of its mission to promote awareness about Lincoln's enduring role in Gettysburg's history and his national legacy, the Fellowship also maintains the "Return Visit" statue on Lincoln Square, adjacent to the historic Wills House, where Lincoln stayed the night before delivering his famous address. Commissioned by the Fellowship in 1991, the statue was sculpted by famed American sculptor, J. Seward Johnson.

The Fellowship is also committed to educating Fellowship members, citizens of Pennsylvania, and the United States on Lincoln's legacy and its impact on all peoples, young and old, through a variety of educational outreach and specialty programs. These include the cosponsorship of Gettysburg National Military Park's Traveling Trunk program, which sends educational, Lincoln-

related materials to schoolchildren across the nation; and interactive, virtual livestreamed discussions with prominent Lincoln scholars such as Jonathan W. White, Brian Luskey, and Martha Hodes. Episodes of our new quarterly series, "Conversations with a Lincoln Scholar," can be viewed on the Fellowship's [YouTube page](#). Our next episode will air in December and will feature Harold Holzer, with a focus on the Lincoln image in American history and culture.

The Fellowship is also committed to expanding its programming for young learners. To that end, we have recently added a February celebration of Lincoln's birthday with Gettysburg-area preschoolers, as well as brand new, onsite and virtual interactive programming with elementary and secondary school students from the community and across the country in November, in honor of Dedication Day.

If you would like to learn more about the Lincoln Fellowship, its programs, and upcoming events, please visit the Fellowship's website (the URL is above). We would love to see you at a future Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania event and continue to honor Lincoln's legacy at Gettysburg with you!

(Ashley Whitehead Luskey is the Assistant Director of the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College and serves on the board of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania. She holds a Ph.D. in history, specializing in the Civil War era, Southern history, and cultural history, and she previously worked for more than eight years as an interpretive Park Ranger at Richmond National Battlefield.) 

LINCOLN ACADEMY OF ILLINOIS HONORS THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN



Sara Gabbard with Illinois governor Bruce Rauner

By Chloe Baker

Each year, the Lincoln Academy of Illinois bestows the state's highest award, the Order of Lincoln, on citizens born or residing in Illinois who have brought honor to the state through their achievements or contributions to humanity. Recipients of the award become laureates of the Academy at a convocation ceremony held every spring.

Julie Kellner, Executive Director of the Lincoln Academy, finds great fulfillment in doing work that recognizes the success and diversity of Illinois. "I especially appreciate the dedication of our members, who include up to 60 community leaders from throughout the state," said Kellner.

The Academy "Honors the Great Citizens of Today" and "Celebrates the Great Citizens of Tomorrow." Proceeds from the spring Laureate Convocation support the Academy's recognition of student laureates. One outstanding senior from each four-year, degree-granting college and university in Illinois, and one student from among the state's community colleges, are chosen each year for demonstrating leadership, service, and excellence in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln.

In February of 2009, the Academy held a special ceremony in honor of Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday. Twenty-eight honorees, hailing from around the United States and beyond, gathered in Springfield, Illinois, to receive a special Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial edition of the Order of Lincoln. The white-tie event took place at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, which was festooned in red, green, and violet—the colors of the Illinois state bird, tree, and flower.

Frank J. Williams, chairman emeritus of The Lincoln Forum, Harold Holzer, chairman of the Forum, and Edna Greene Medford, who serves on the Forum's Executive Committee, were among those honored as laureates at the 2009 Bicentennial Convocation.

Medford described the occasion as one of the most memorable moments of her career. "I approach Lincoln from a perspective that ***continued on page 24***

LINCOLN ACADEMY OF ILLINOIS HONORS THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN

continued from page 23 is slightly different from most students of his presidency,” said Medford. “Therefore, it was such an honor to have my work recognized by the Lincoln Academy of Illinois.”

Holzer also counts receiving the Order of Lincoln as among his career’s greatest honors. He felt it was “an unforgettable bonus” to be selected from among the laureates to present a speech during the convocation ceremony.

Sara Gabbard, a member of The Lincoln Forum since 1996, received the Order of Lincoln at the 2015 Laureate Convocation. Born and raised in Lincoln, Illinois, Gabbard serves as editor of *Lincoln Lore* and as the Executive Director of the Friends of the Lincoln Collection of Indiana. The honor held special meaning for Gabbard, who feels that Lincoln has always been part of her life. “I truly appreciate the fact that my work with the Friends of the Lincoln Collection of Indiana has allowed me to continue to support

the life and legacy of our 16th president,” she said.

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois seeks to advance Lincoln’s spirit of leadership, excellence, service, and honor. “The legacy [Lincoln] leaves—and one I think the Academy embraces—is a recognition and celebration of those who soldier on to achieve greatness, sometimes even in the face of extreme adversity,” said Executive Director Kellner.

The Academy held its 57th convocation in Chicago on November 6, 2021, to honor the Class of 2021 laureates. To learn more about the event and how you can support the Academy, visit: <https://thelincolnacademyofillinois.org/>.

(Chloe Baker is a senior studying American Studies at Christopher Newport University. Her work has appeared in several issues of the Bulletin, in Lynch’s Ferry: A Journal of Local History, and in World Magazine. She plans to pursue a career in media after she graduates.) 📖



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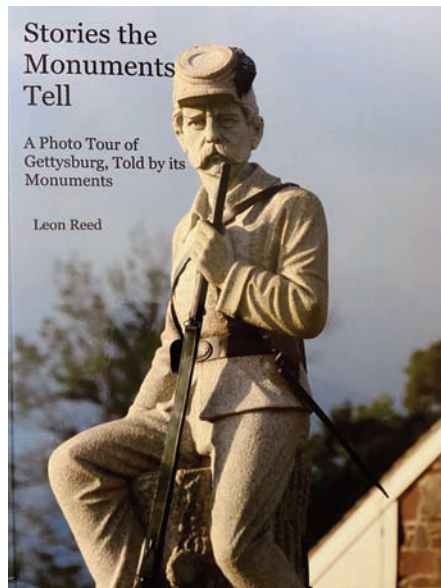
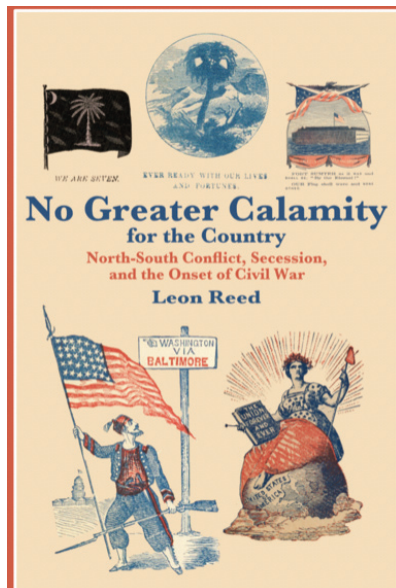
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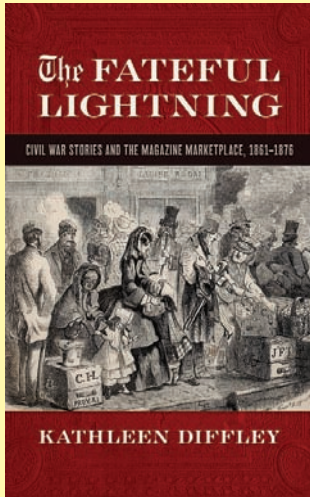
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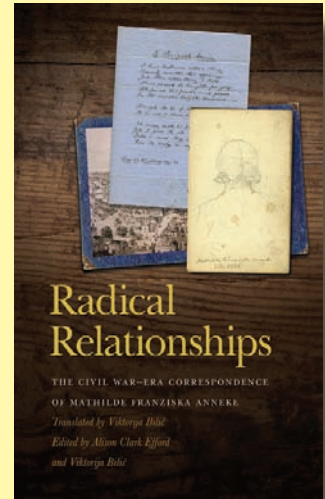
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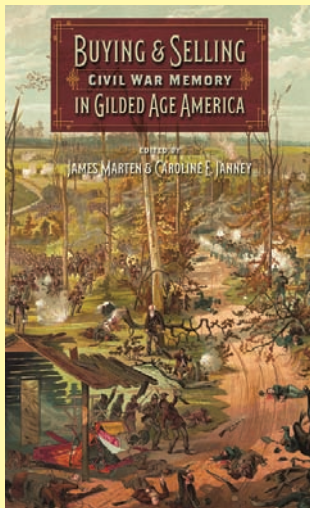
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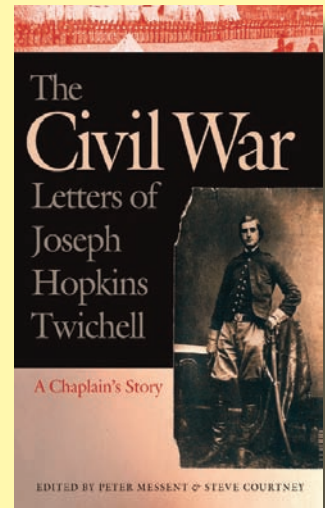
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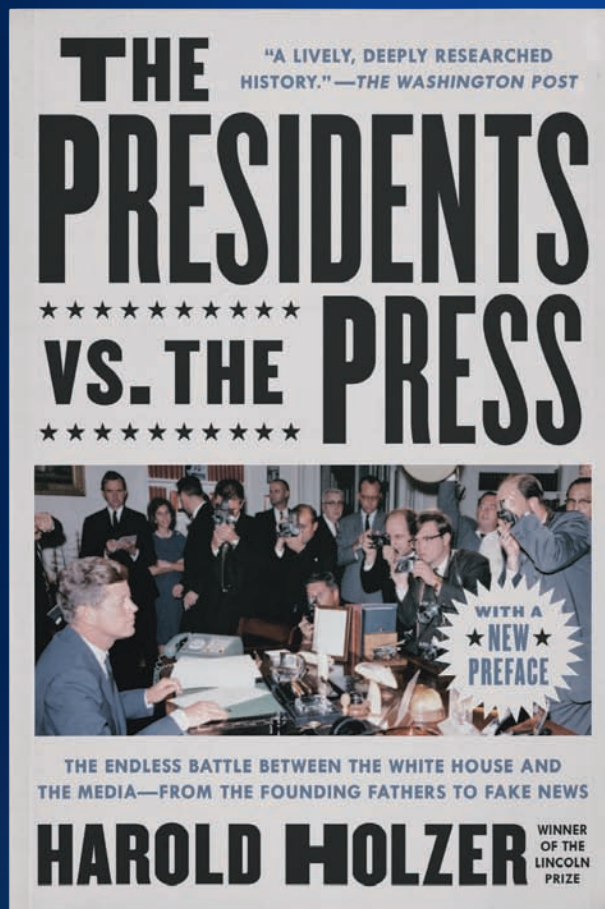
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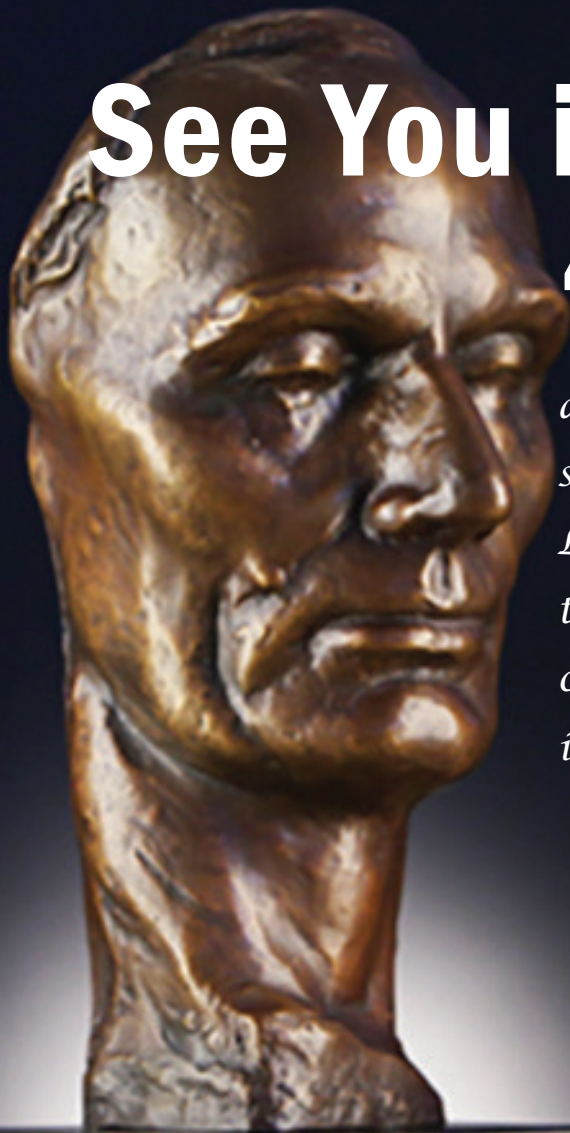
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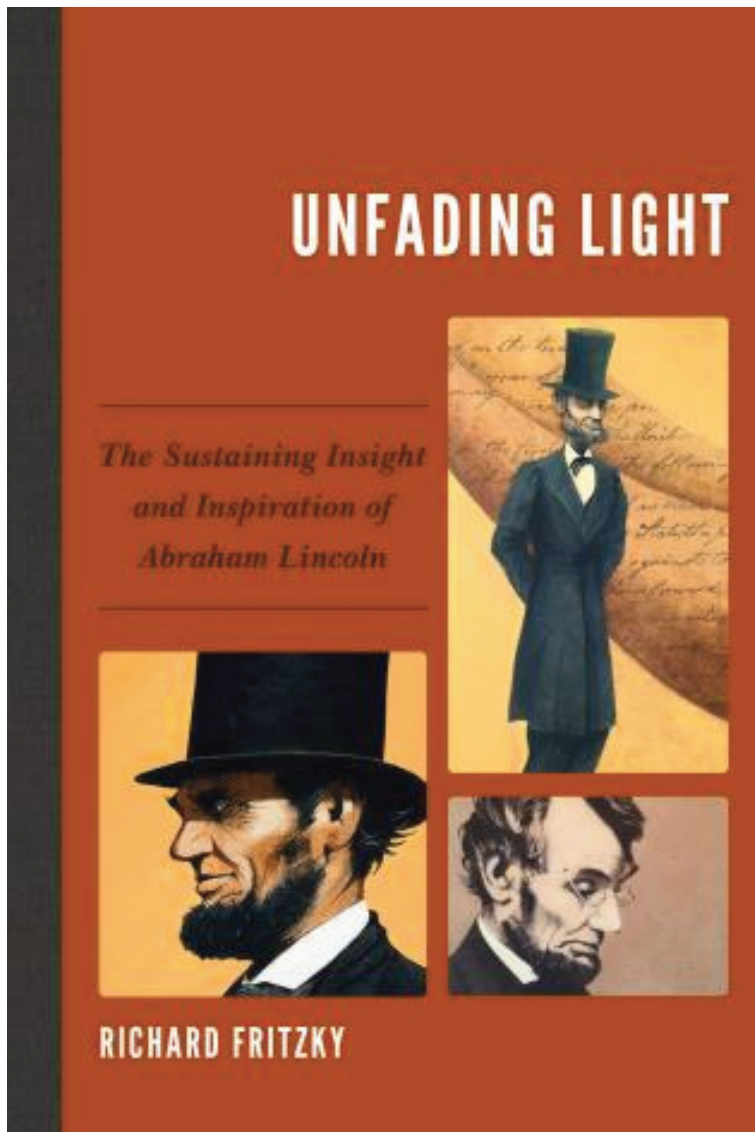
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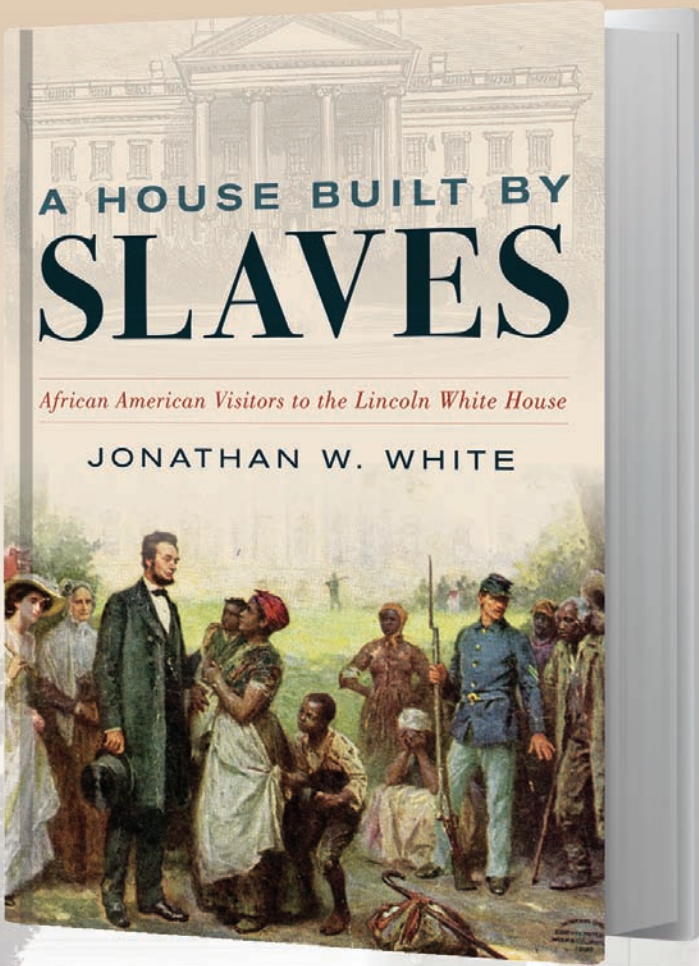
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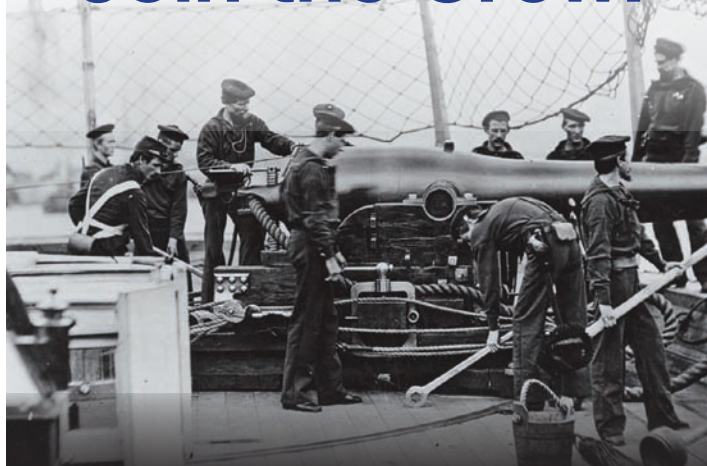
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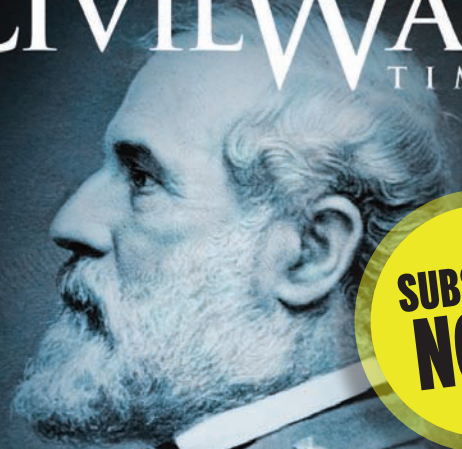


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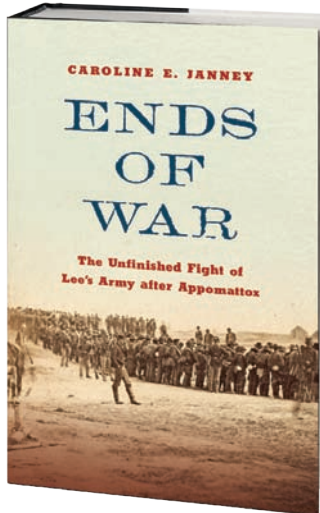
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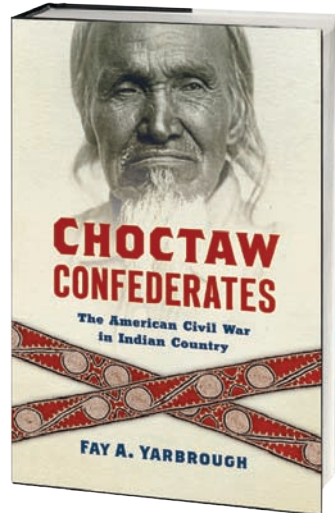
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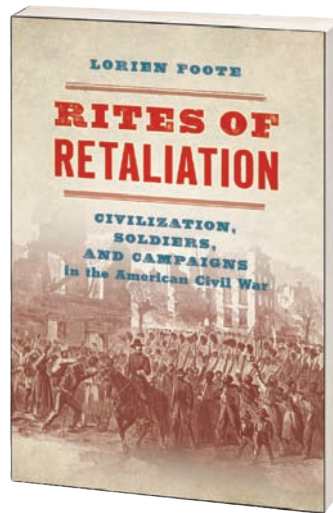
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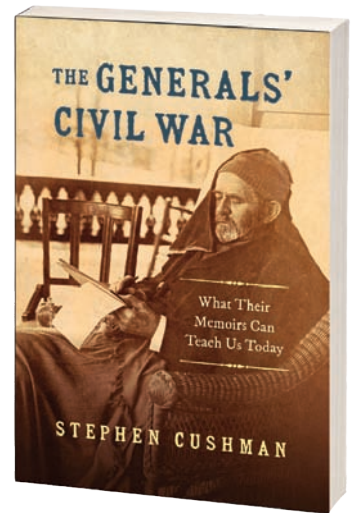
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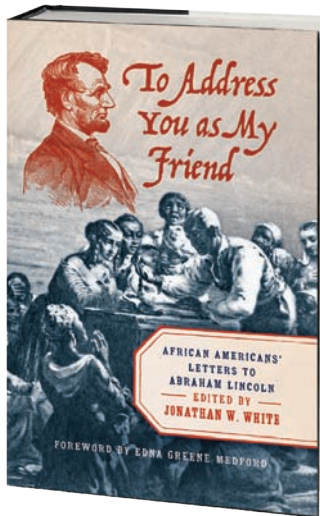
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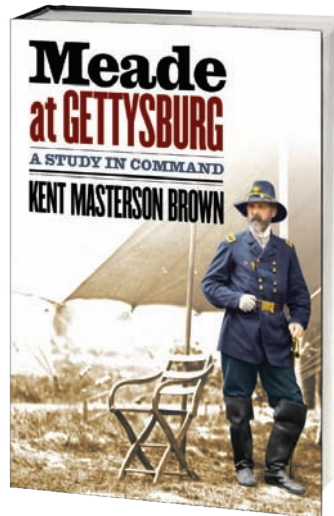
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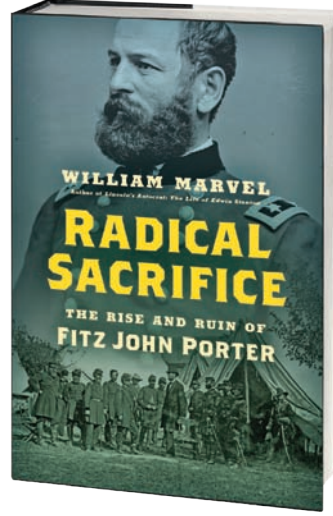
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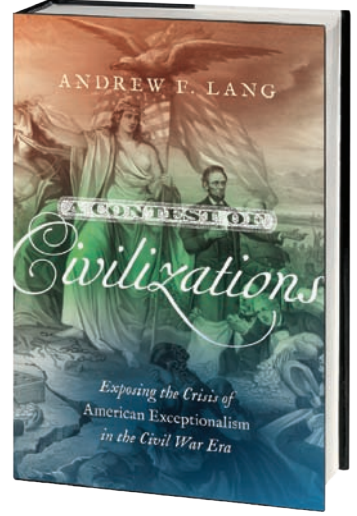
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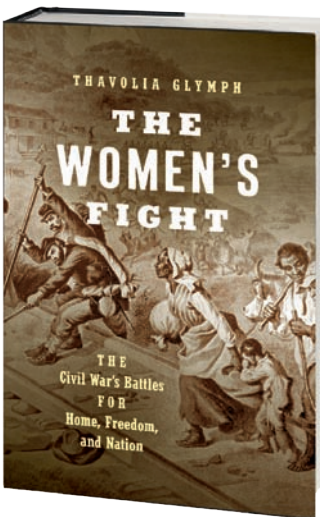
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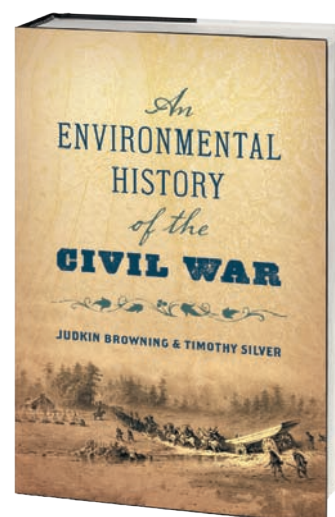
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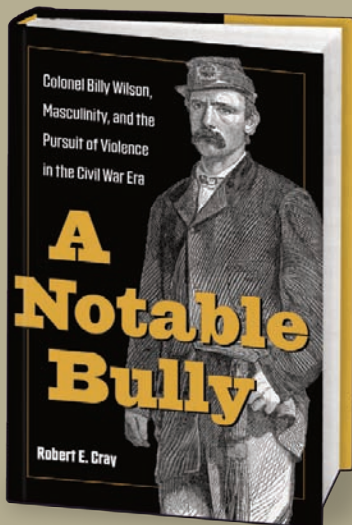
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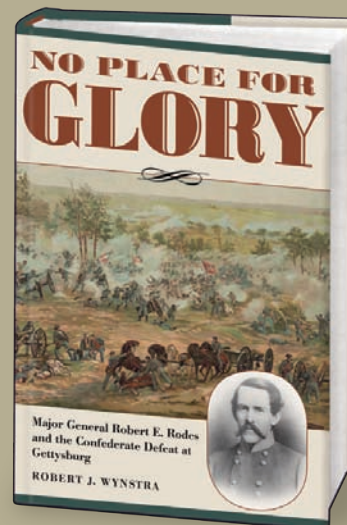


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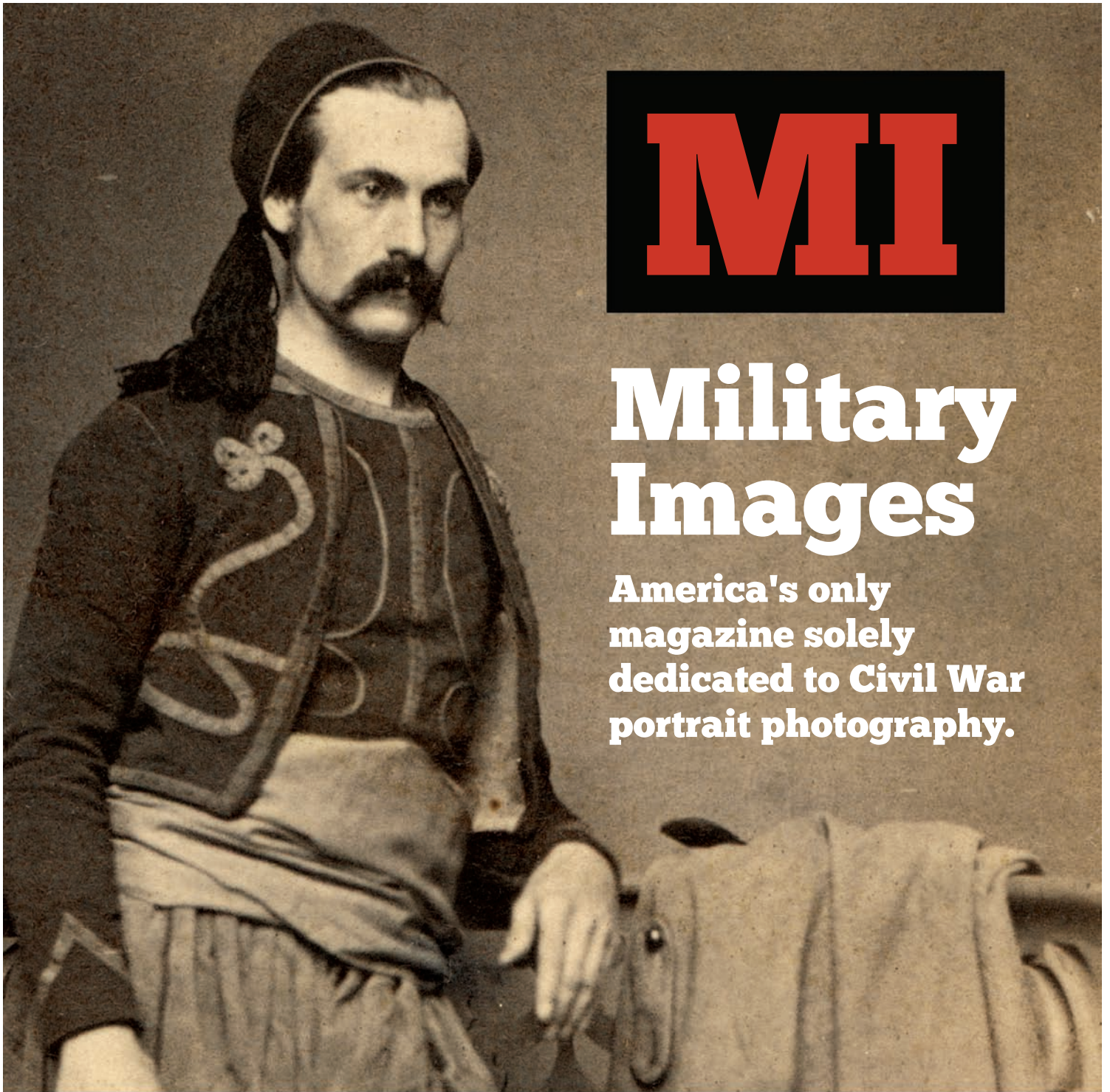
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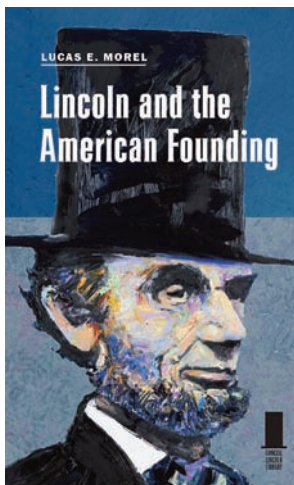
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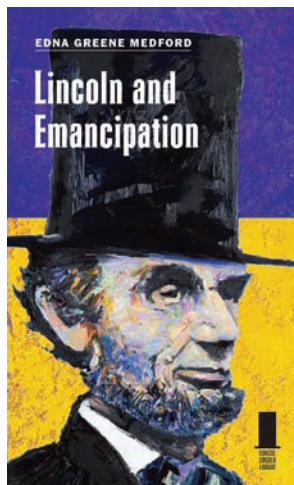
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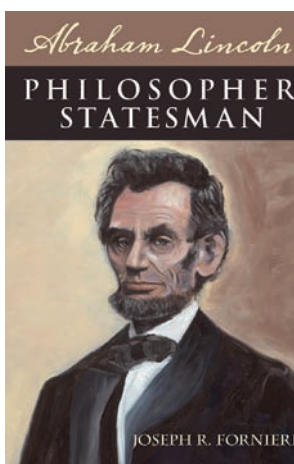
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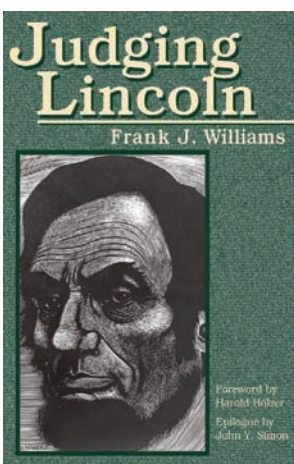
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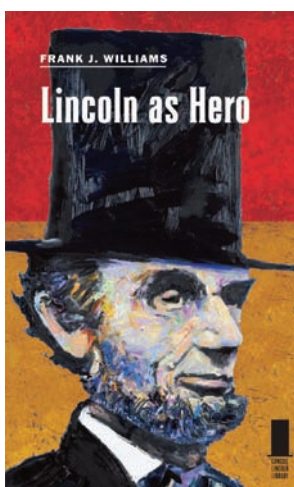
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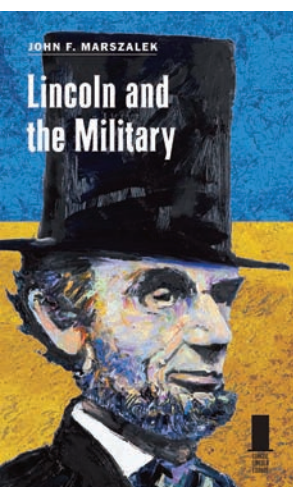
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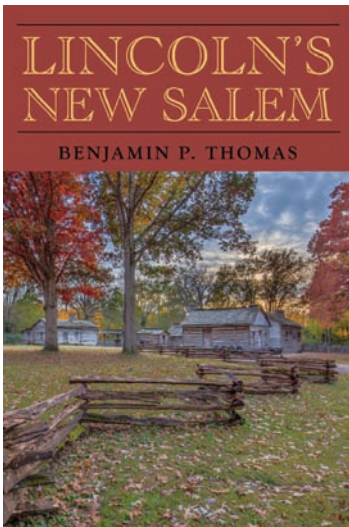
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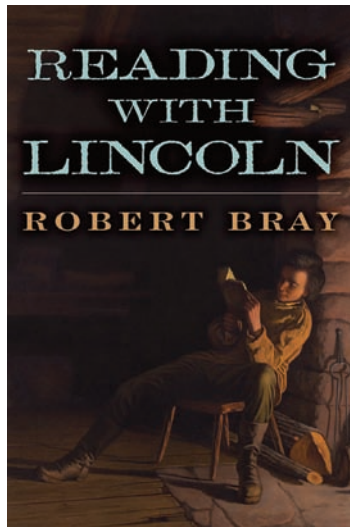
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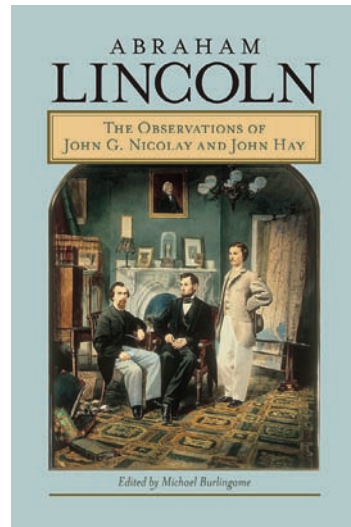
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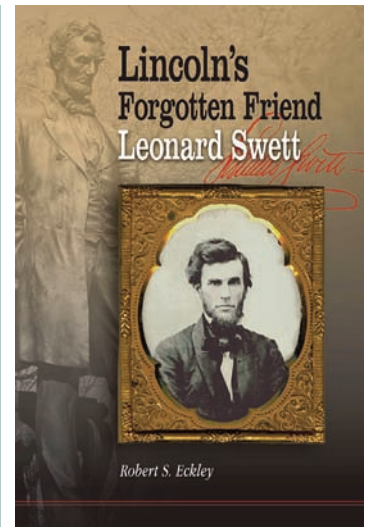
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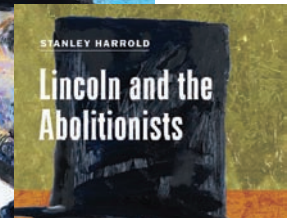
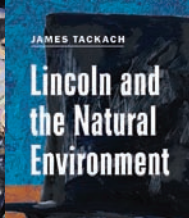
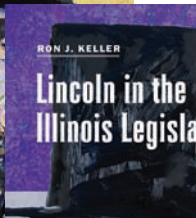
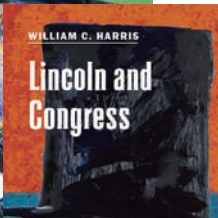
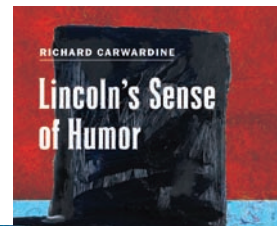
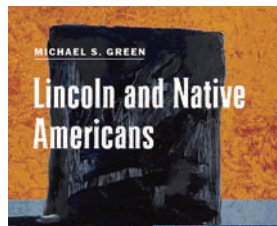
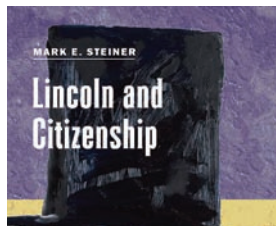
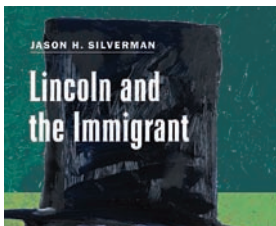
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Ed Beears, author of *Ed Beears' Civil War*, has chosen his favorite Civil War books. The list includes *The Battle of Gettysburg* by John S. Slocum, *The Civil War: A Narrative* by Shelby Steele, and *The Civil War: A History* by Bruce Catton.

Man of the Year at Vicksburg

Man of the Year at Vicksburg is a book by Robert E. Lee, Jr. It tells the story of the young Robert E. Lee's military career during the American Civil War.

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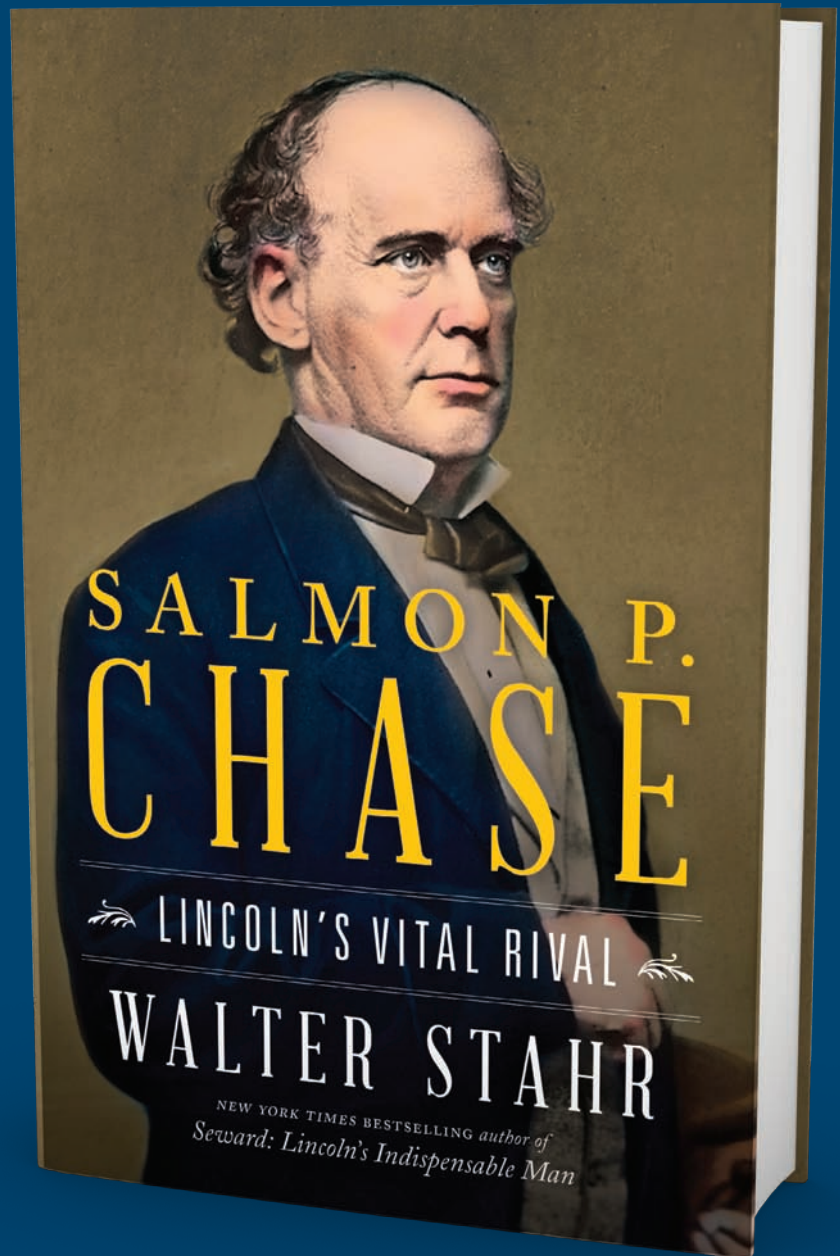
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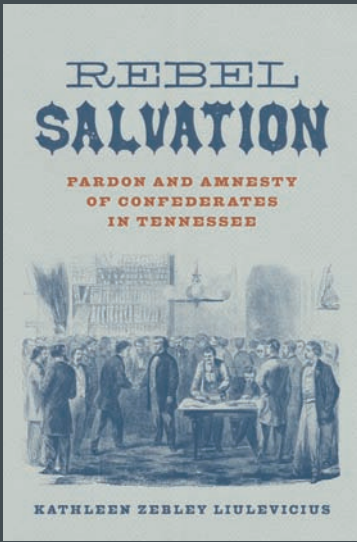


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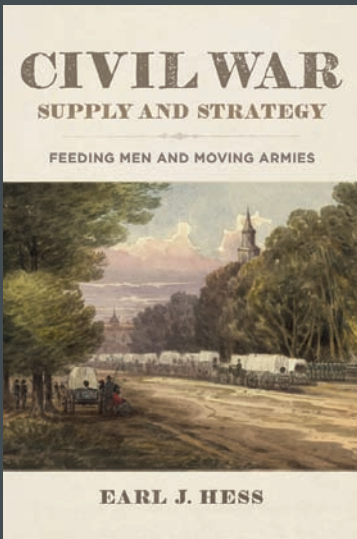
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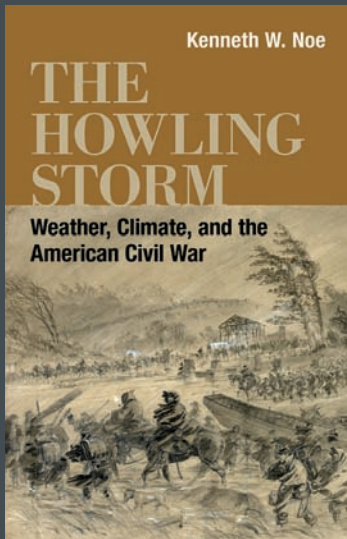
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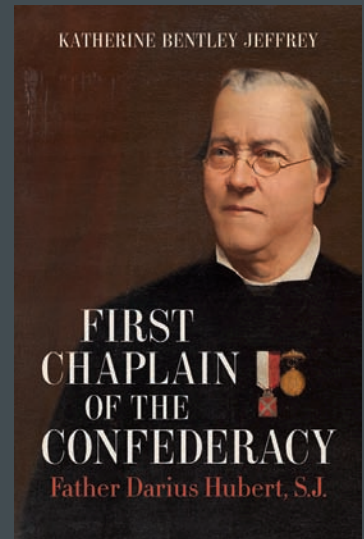
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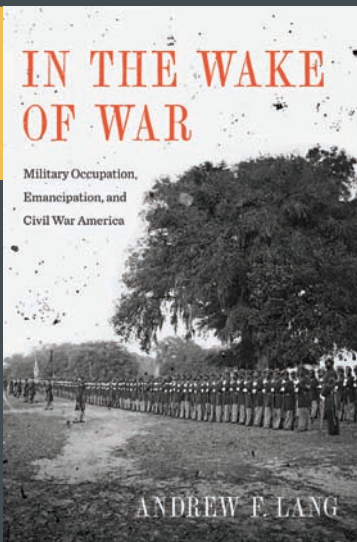
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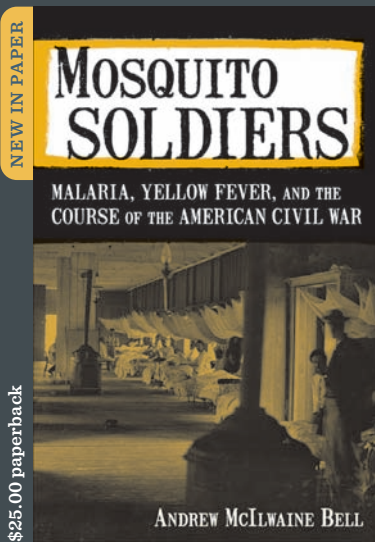
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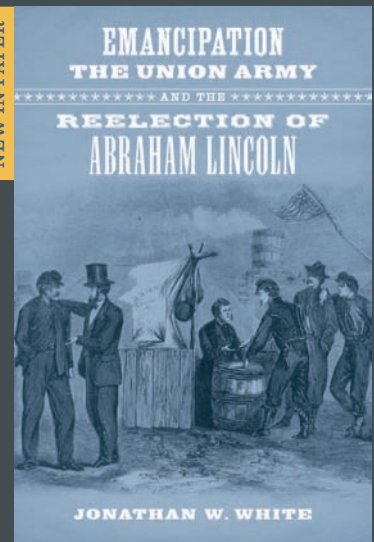
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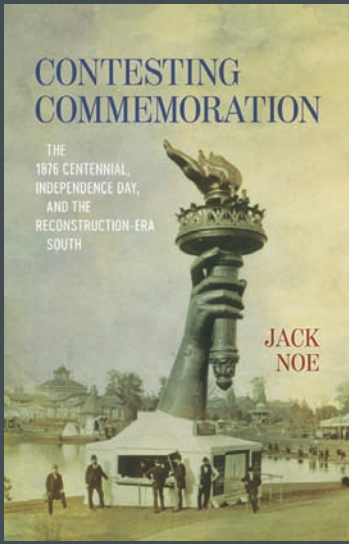
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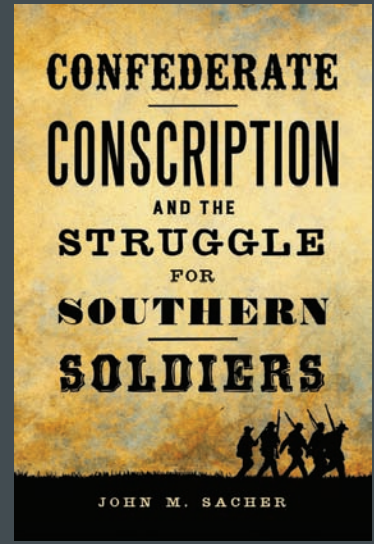
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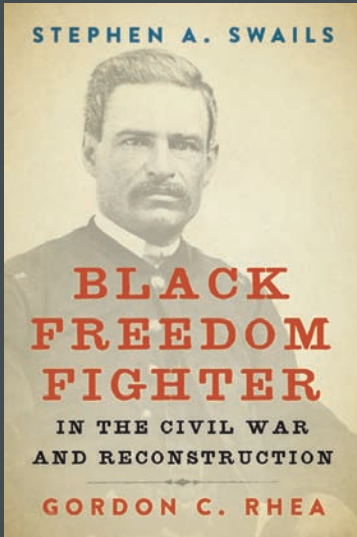
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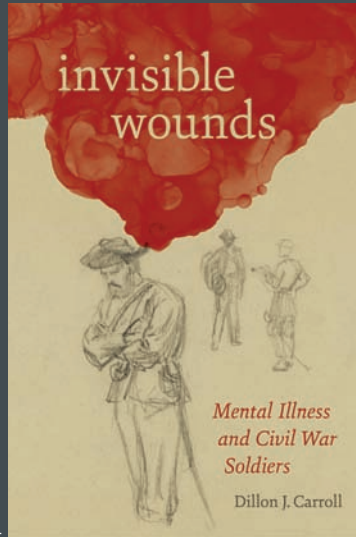
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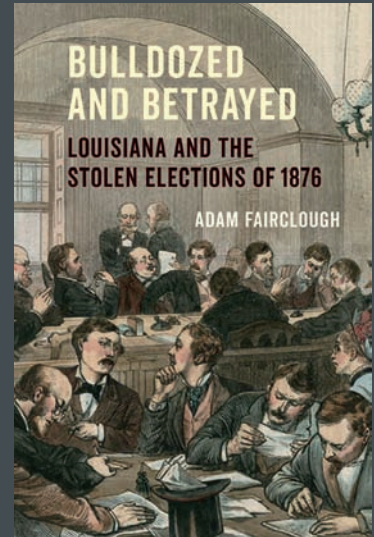
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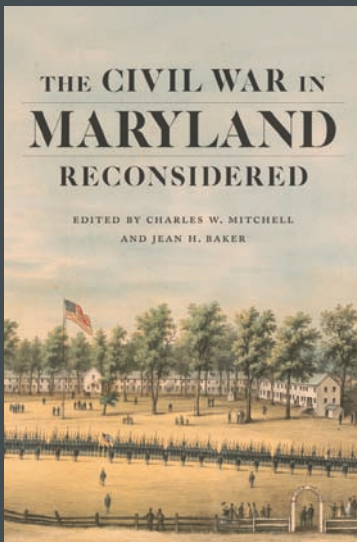
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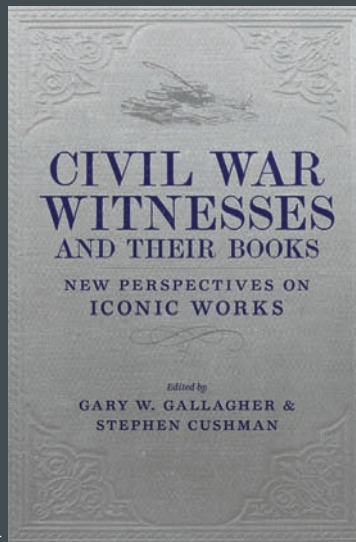
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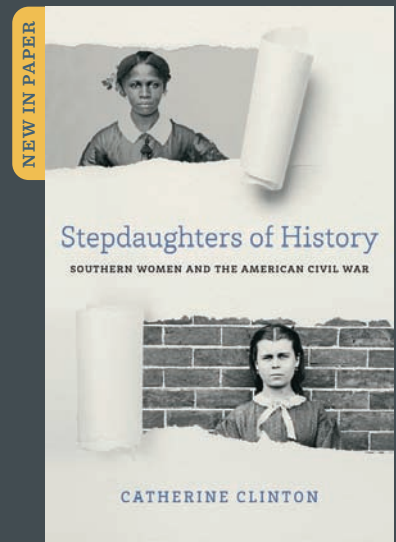
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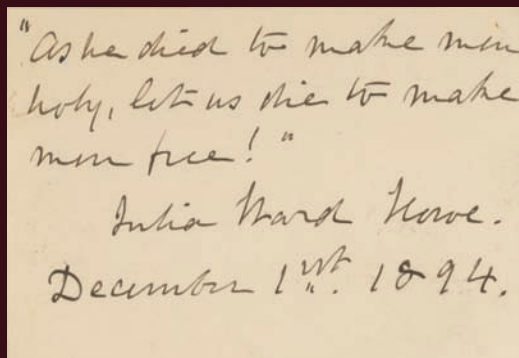
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