

# THE CHARGER

September, 2002

398 Meeting

Vol. 24 #1

Tonight's actors:

*William T. Sherman:*

**E. Chris Evans**

*Plantation Owner:*

**Joyce McGrath**

*Mayor of Atlanta:*

**Dan Zeiser**

*Businessman from Columbia,  
SC*

**Mel Maurer**

*Army Major U.S.C.T.:*

**Anthony Kellon**

*U.S. Senator John Sherman:*

**Terry Koozer**

*President Ulysses S. Grant:*

**Chris Fortunato**

*Military Court:*

**Dick Crews, Herb Jacobs, Ken Counselman**

*Lead prosecutor:* **Warren McClelland**

*Asst. prosecutor:* **George George**

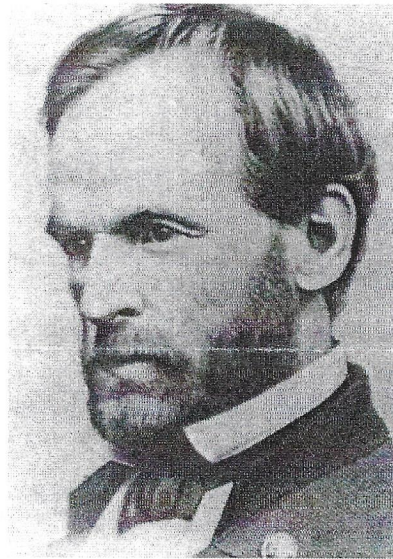
*Lead defense attorney:* **William Vodrey**

*Asst. defense attorney:* **Bob Boyda**

*Narrator:* **B. Kevin Bennett, Lt. Col., U.S. Army**

*Courtroom security by the 51st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Co. B*

*Some costumes supplied by Grand Illusions Clothing Co.*



Tonight's program:

## THE TRIAL OF GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN

The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable will hold a court of inquiry into the wartime conduct of Ohio General William T. Sherman.

Sherman's policy of total war, *war against civilians*, led to his condemnation as a war criminal. He remains deeply controversial.

The Cleveland Roundtable will decide if General Sherman was guilty, or simply was a soldier doing his duty.

*Date:* **Wednesday,  
September 11, 2002**

*Place:* **The Cleveland  
Playhouse Club  
8501 Carnegie Ave.**

*Time:* **Drinks 6 PM  
Dinner 6:45 PM  
➡ (SHARP!)**

*Reservations:* **Please Call  
JAC Communications  
(216) 861-5588**

*Meal:* Yankee Pot Roast (no choice)  
*What did you expect, a Southern pot roast?*



## CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

FOUNDED 1957

*President:* **Maynard Bauer** - (440) 835-3081  
*Vice President:* **Warren McClelland** - (216) 751-8564  
*Secretary:* **Mel Maurer** - (440) 808-1249  
*Treasurer:* **Maureen Goodyear** - (440) 888-3814  
*Historian:* **Dale Thomas** - (440) 779-6454

### Trustees

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Marilyn DeBaltzo | Jean Solyan         |
| Ty Sommershield  | William F.B. Vodrey |
| Kirk Hinman      | Bill McGrath        |

Website: **SEARCH** Cleveland Civil War Roundtable  
 email: rcrcw5369@aol.com

The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable is open to anyone with an interest in the American Civil War. The 130 members of the Roundtable, who's membership varies from 12 to 90 years old, share a belief that the American Civil War was the **defining** event in United States history.

The Roundtable normally meets on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May, at a private club of the Cleveland Playhouse, 8501 Carnegie, next to the Cleveland Clinic.

Yearly Dues: \$40.00      Dinner: \$20.00

**Dues: Maureen Goodyear**  
**5906 Hodgman Drive**  
**Parma Hts, OH 44130**  
**(440)888-3814**

*Check to: Cleveland CWRT*

## Shenandoah Valley Field Trip

**September 26, to 29, 2002**

Things are all set for our field trip to the Shenandoah Valley.

Please call with questions.

**Maynard Bauer (440) 835-3081**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER, 2002      NEW PROGRAM YEAR SET

Our new program year is about to start and we are looking forward to an interesting and rewarding year. General William T. Sherman (E. Chris Evans) goes on trial for his command decisions during his march from Atlanta to the sea at our initial meeting. William Vodrey and his crew are sure to give him a rough time. The program will be in the Playhouse dinning room as the use of other locations proved logistically unworkable.

**Don't miss this rousing kick off to the year.**

I am about to send in the names of members joining our Shenandoah Valley campaign. We are expecting the number of campaigners to somewhere between 25-30. The trip is not until after our September meeting so you will have to wait until October to hear the report on this activity.

The remainder of this year has many programs that should increase your knowledge of the great conflict. Our organization requires an annual influx of new members to maintain its vitality. There are a large pool people in our community who share our interests in the Civil War. If each of us invites a few an individuals to visit a meeting we can easily add to our membership.

I look forward to seeing you in September.

*Maynard Bauer*

## Cleveland Civil War Roundtable Past Presidents

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2002 Bill McGrath        | 1979 William Bates       |
| 2001 William Vodrey      | 1978 Richard McCrae      |
| 2000 Bob Boyda           | 1977 James Chapman       |
| 1999 Dick Crews          | 1976 Milton Holmes       |
| 1998 John Moore          | 1975 Thomas Gretter      |
| 1997 Dan Zeiser          | 1974 Nolan Heidelbaugh   |
| 1996 John Sutula         | 1973 Arthur Jordan       |
| 1995 Norton London       | 1972 Bernard Drews       |
| 1994 Robert Battisti     | 1971 Kenneth Callahan    |
| 1993 Kevin Callahan      | 1970 Frank Schuhle       |
| 1992 Bob Baucher         | 1969 Donald Heckaman     |
| 1991 Joe Tirpak          | 1968 Frank Moran         |
| 1990 Ken Callahan Jr.    | 1967 William Schlesinger |
| 1989 Neil Glaser         | 1966 Donald Hamill       |
| 1988 Martin Graham       | 1965 Lester Swift        |
| 1987 George Vourlojianis | 1964 Guy DiCarlo, Jr.    |
| 1986 Tim Beatty          | 1963 Paul Guenther       |
| 1995 Brian Kowell        | 1962 Edward Downer       |
| 1984 Neil Evans          | 1961 Charles Clarke      |
| 1983 William Victory     | 1960 Howard Preston      |
| 1982 John Harkness       | 1959 John Cullen, Jr.    |
| 1981 Thomas Geschke      | 1958 George Farr, Jr.    |
| 1980 Charles Spiegle     | 1957 Kenneth Grant       |

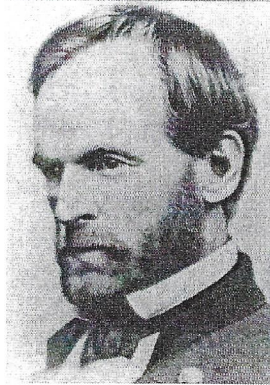


**CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE  
2002/2003 SCHEDULE**

September 11, 2002

**Sherman on Trial  
A Military Court of Inquiry**

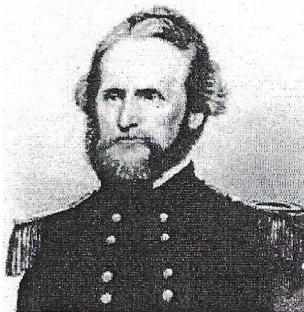
**E. Chris Evans  
as Gen. William T. Sherman**



October 9, 2002

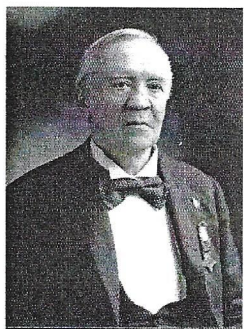
**Union General Nathaniel Lyon  
killed at the ..  
Battle of Wilson Creek**

**“Ranger Rick”  
Richard Hatcher**



November 13, 2002

**400<sup>th</sup> meeting, Cleveland Civil War Roundtable**

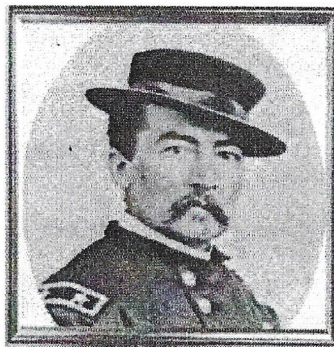


**James Madison Cutts  
“Hero of the Republic”**

Civil War Triple Medal of Honor Winner  
Sex scandal court-martial

**Bing Spitler**

December 11, 2002

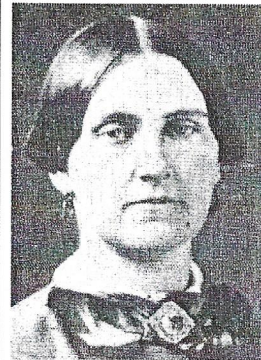


**Philip Sheridan**

**Little Phil:  
A Critical Appraisal  
of Civil War Generalship**

**Eric Wittenberg**

January 8, 2003



**The Great Debate**

*Cleveland Roundtable members  
will debate: Was Mary Surratt*

1. Guilty?
2. Should she, a civilian, have been tried by a military tribunal?
3. Should she have been hung?

**Moderator: Dick Crews**

February 12, 2003

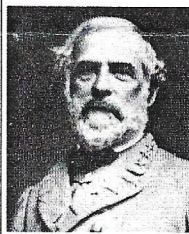


**Major John Pelham**

Pelham was famous for his “flying artillery”. Robert E. Lee called him, “gallant and courageous,” at the Battle of Fredericksburg. He was killed five months later.

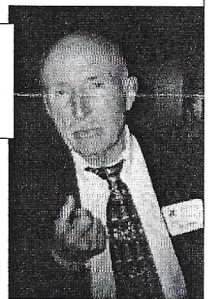
**Peggy Vogtsberger**

March 12, 2003

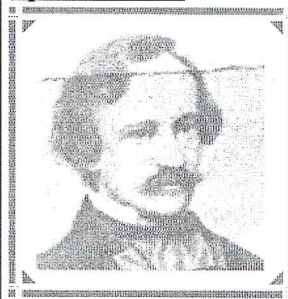


*Ed Bearss  
“Mister Civil War”  
discusses*

**Robert E. Lee  
At  
Chancellorsville**



April 9, 2003



**General Pettigrew’s  
Journal**

The story of North Carolina General Johnston Pettigrew. He led the confederate left in Pickett’s Charge and died in the retreat from Gettysburg.

**Dan Bauer**

May 14, 2003 “Guest Night”



*During the Civil War, Canada was a British Colony*

**Canada  
and the  
American  
Civil War**

**Mark Vinet**

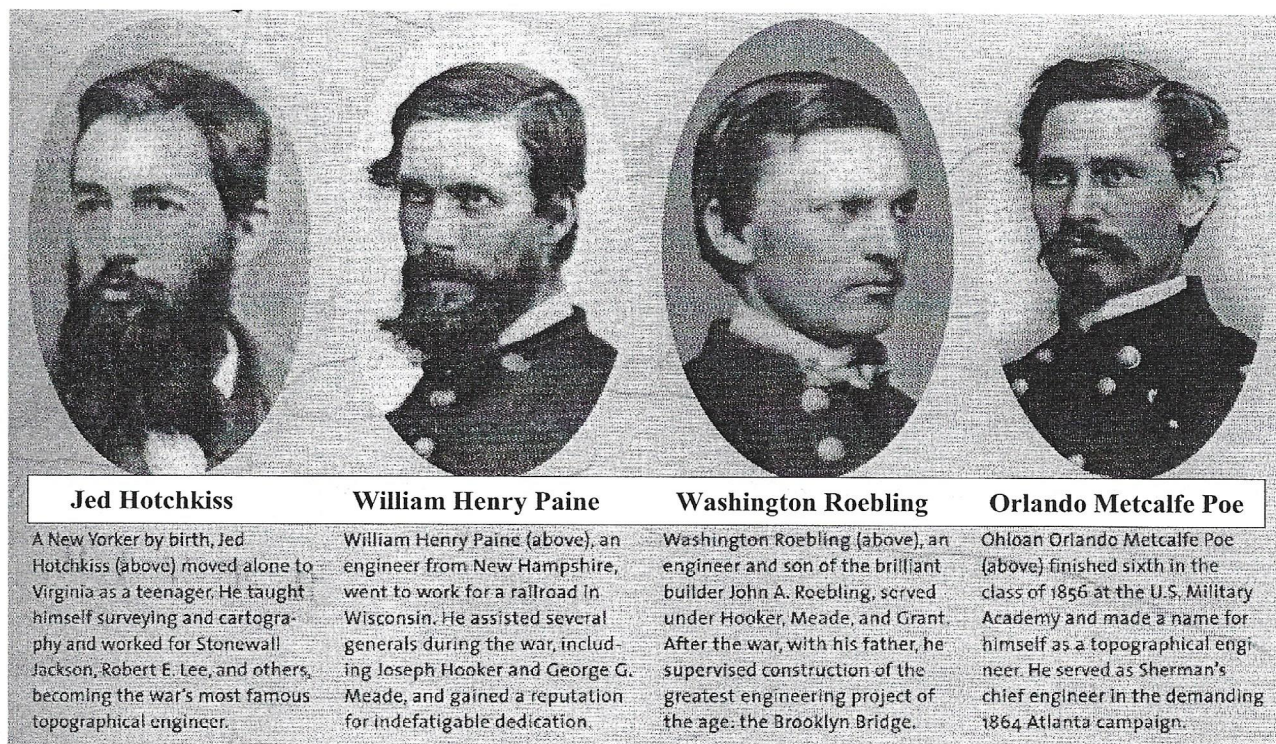
Membership information: Call 800-800-8310

email: rcrews5369@aol.com

Web site: use [search](#) Cleveland Civil War Roundtable



# Map Makers of the Civil



*Civil War map authors Earl McElfresh and Bill Miller presenting,*

## **“Maps and Mapmakers of the Civil War”**

**Thursday, September 12, 2002**

**6:30 PM**

### **Louis Stokes Auditorium of the main Cleveland Library**

The Cleveland Public Library and the Northern Ohio Map Society will present a Maps & Mapmakers of the Civil War program in the Louis Stokes auditorium on Thursday, September 12, 2002 at 6:30p. Authors Earl McElfresh and Bill Miller will be on hand to discuss the pros and **Cons** of cartography for the North and South during the Civil War. Mr. McElfresh is the author of *Maps and Mapmakers of the Civil War* and *Mapping and Marching with William Tecumseh Sherman*. A cartographer by trade, he has lectured extensively throughout the country and most recently at the ALA (American Libraries Association) annual meeting in Atlanta this past year. Mr. Miller has authored several books including *Mapping for Stonewall: the Civil War Service of Jed Hotchkiss*, *The Peninsula Campaign of 1862: Yorktown to Seven Days* and *An Illustrated history of the Civil War*. Mr. Miller has also lectured throughout the country and published many articles on the Civil War. He currently runs Black Tree History Group, a consulting firm, in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. The program will be held in the Louis Stokes Auditorium located in the Louis Stokes Wing of Cleveland Public Library. So join us, as Mr. McElfresh and Mr. Miller discuss the advantages and disadvantages of mapping for the North and The South during the Civil War.

**This program is free of charge and open to the public.**

*NORTHERN OHIO MAP SOCIETY:* A Map Interest Group of Northern Ohio Bibliographic Society



# FORT HILL CEMETERY

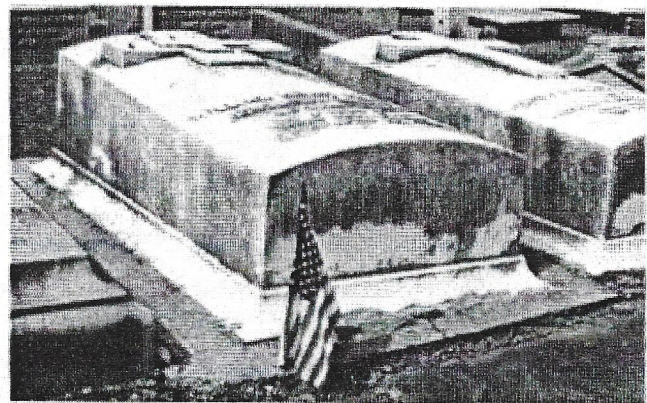
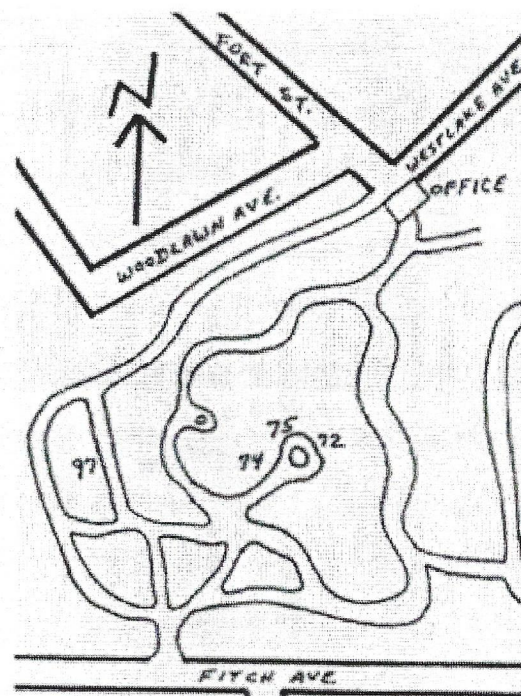
19 FORT STREET  
AUBURN, NY 13021

*(Auburn, New York is 300 miles from Cleveland)*

In each issue of *Grave Matters* we will feature a different cemetery from around the country. We will point out some of the major Civil War figures buried in that cemetery, and provide our readers with photos of those grave sites and a map or directions for finding the grave sites. Our featured cemetery in this issue is Fort Hill Cemetery, in Auburn, New York. Auburn is located in central New York, about 20 miles west of Syracuse, and it is well known as the hometown of **William Seward**, President's Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of State. (For those who have time while visiting Auburn, we recommend taking the guided tour of Seward's home, located at 33 South Street.) Fort Hill is a nice, well-maintained cemetery, and it is a manageable size for maneuvering around. Conveniently, within a short distance of each other in Fort Hill are the burial sites of two full rank Union generals, two Brevet Union generals, Secretary Seward, and a cenotaph for a Brevet Union general.

Using the map (right), park your vehicle at the circle near Section 72 (Glen Haven) and in front of you on the hillside is the Seward family plot. In this plot is the grave of Sec. Seward, as well as his son, Brig. Gen. William H. Seward. A short distance to the left of the Seward plot, on the hillside, you will see the impressive monument marked "MacDougall." On one side of this monument is a marker for Brevet Brig. Gen. Clinton D. MacDougall, who is actually buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Farther up the hill to your left, in Section 75 (Sunnyside), is the grave of Brevet Brig. Gen. John S. Clark, who died at the age of 88. Then a short distance to your left, in Section 74 (Mount Hope) is a small hill where you will find the graves of **Maj. Gen. Emory Upton** and Brevet Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Alexander. The latter married a sister of Upton's wife, and the two

generals' graves are almost next to each other. In fact, between them is the grave site of Capt. **Myles Keogh**, who was killed on June 25, 1876, while commanding one of the companies wiped out with Gen. George A. Custer at the Little Big Horn. The other major Civil War-era figure buried in Fort Hill is **Harriet Tubman**, who is famous for her involvement in the Underground Railroad. Her grave is a distance away, in Section 97 (West Lawn C), so you might want to drive to that area and park your vehicle nearby. As you can gather, for a modest-sized city. Auburn has a considerable number of grave sites of major Civil War figures, and it is well worth a visit.



Brig. Gen. William H. Seward

This article is published with the permission of *Grave Matters* published in Ithaca, New York by David Callihan.

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**GRAVE MATTERS**  
123 BIRCHWOOD DRIVE #1  
ITHACA, NY 14850



# FORT HILL CEMETERY

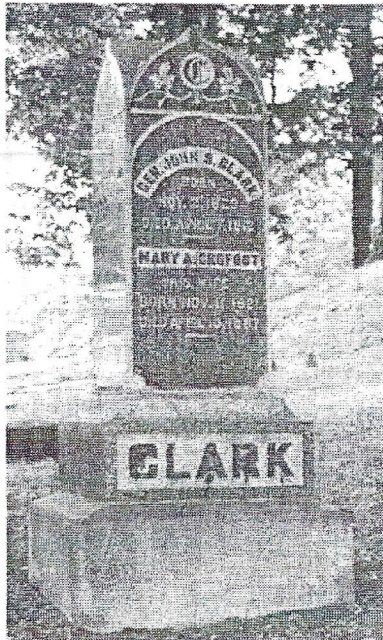
# AUBURN, NEW YORK



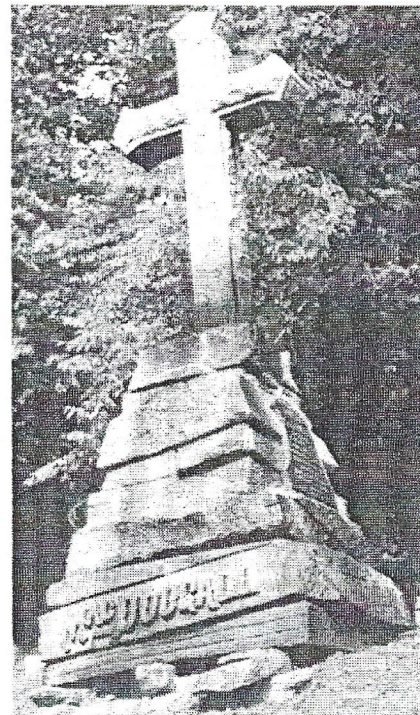
Maj. Gen. Emory Upton



Bvt. Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Alexander



Bvt. Brig. Gen. John S. Clark



Bvt. Brig. Gen. MacDougall's Cenotaph



Sec. William H. Seward



Harriet Tubman



# CHURCHILL AND THE CIVIL WAR

By William F.B. Vodrey

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Sir Winston S. Churchill remains, four decades after his death, perhaps the most admired Englishman of all time. His indomitable leadership as British prime minister during World War II and his close personal ties to both Roosevelt and Truman are still remembered here; less well-known is the fact that his mother, Jennie Jerome, was an American.

Churchill loved history throughout his life, and often wrote about it. When he was virtually exiled from the British government in the 1930s, he supported his family through his writing. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature for his four-volume *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, and it is from those books and several others that Churchill's grandson, who bears the same name, has collected and edited Churchill's writings on America. Churchill's *The Great Republic: A History of America* (Random House 1999) is a sweeping overview of American history from Columbus's voyages to the dawn of the Cold War.

Churchill was very interested in the Civil War. He took an extended coast-to-coast tour of the U.S. in late 1929, and visited Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Spotsylvania, and the battlefields of the Seven Days campaign. He knew the war well, and once corrected FDR when the President mistakenly referred to the Battle of Gettysburg as having been fought in 1864. In "Old Battlefields of Virginia," Churchill wrote that Virginia was "beaten down, trampled upon, disinherited, impoverished, riven asunder and flung aside while Northern wealth and power and progress strode on to empire. And yet it had to be. Hardly even would the adherents of the Lost Cause wish it otherwise." At Spotsylvania, Churchill's battlefield guide was a man who'd been just eight at the time of the battle, but still remembered its tumult and carnage. Churchill, always a glutton for military detail, was thrilled.

In "If Lee Had Not Won the Battle of Gettysburg," Churchill spun a bizarre what-if tale in which Jeb Stuart's cavalry wreaks havoc in the Union rear while Gen. Robert E. Lee's troops are able to seize Little Round Top. The Army of the Potomac is routed. Lee captures Washington, D.C. and abolishes slavery throughout the South. Oh, sure. Even if Lee had wanted to, he was too much the obedient soldier to issue such an edict, which would have been strenuously opposed by his commander-in-chief, to say nothing of the Confederate Congress. Even so, it makes for an interesting — if utterly implausible — read.

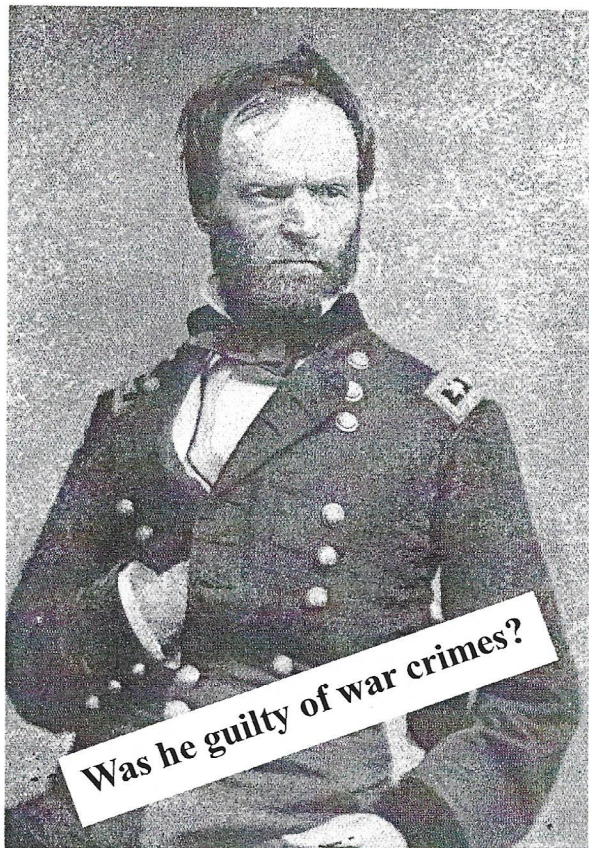
In his nonfiction writing on the Civil War, Churchill largely reflected the conventional wisdom of his times. He admired Lee and Jackson, criticized Grant for butchery, and thought Union victory was virtually inevitable. I was most surprised by his defense of Gen. George B. McClellan. Churchill believed that McClellan got "ill treatment" from the Lincoln administration, and that he was held to impossibly high expectations after assuming command. Churchill didn't seem to understand that McClellan was largely responsible for these unrealistic expectations in the first place, and he wrote little about McClellan's obvious arrogance, lack of fighting will, and contempt for President Lincoln. Still, for a trans-Atlantic view of American history by a masterful writer, I recommend Churchill's book.



**Winston S. Churchill**

*At Potsdam, 1945*





# THE TRIAL OF GENERAL WILLIAM T. SHERMAN

WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2002