



# *The Charger*

## **CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE**

P.O. Box 5786, Cleveland, Ohio 44101

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FEBRUARY 1991

295th MEETING

VOL. 12 #6

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Date: February 12, 1991

Place: The Hermit Club

SUBJECT: "That Man Haupt: Lincoln's  
Railroad Man"

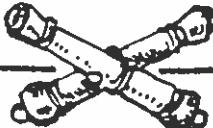
SPEAKER: Robert R. Baucher. A member of our Round-table since 1984, Bob is currently our vice-president and consummate joke teller. He is employed as the Director of Human Services at Laurelwood Hospital in Willoughby. He is also an adjunct instructor at Lakeland Community College in Labor Relations. Bob is a graduate of Ohio University with a degree in Business and attended Cleveland Marshall Law School. He is a resident of Mentor where he lives with his wife Carol. They have three grown children. This is Bob's first talk before our group and should be a good one.



*Brigadier General Herman Haupt, U.S.A.*

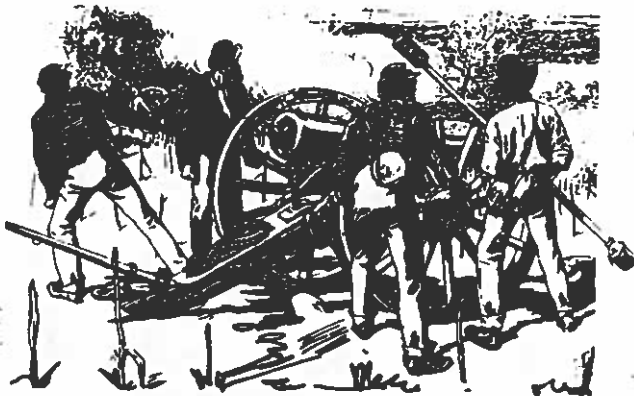
Time: Drinks 6PM Dinner 7PM

RESERVATIONS: Please call Joe Tirpak at 255-8140. RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!



# CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

1957 \* 1991



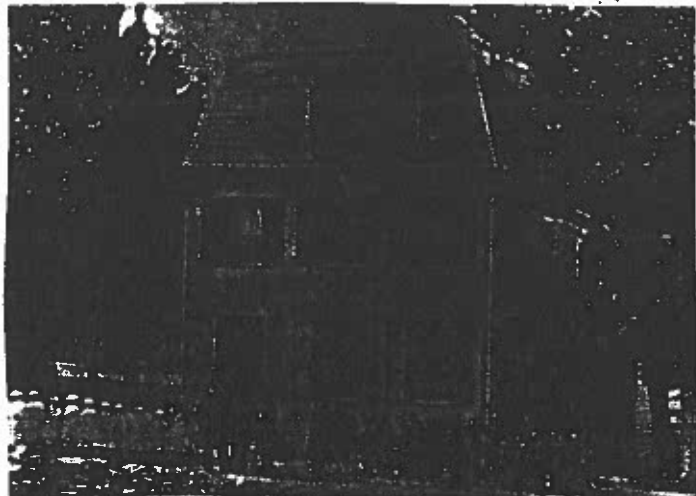
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## Editorial Office

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## Honest Abe Lincoln was right after all

Two astronomers say they have discovered evidence that may keep Abraham Lincoln's reputation as "Honest Abe" intact.

They say Lincoln, as a lawyer before he became president, played fair 133 years ago when he got a murder suspect off the hook by discrediting a witness who said he saw the crime by the light of a bright, three-quarters-full moon.

Lincoln produced an almanac that indicated the moon was setting and near the horizon at 11 p.m. on Aug. 29, 1857, when Duff Armstrong supposedly bludgeoned a man to death after a religious camp meeting in Illinois. Armstrong was acquitted.



Scientists now say Abraham Lincoln was right when he used the moon's phase to get a murder client off the hook.

But townspeople remembered that there was a full, bright moon at the camp meeting that night. Some suspected Lincoln of producing a phony almanac.

Now it appears that both Lincoln and the townspeople's memories were correct, said astronomers Donald Olson and Russell Doescher of Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.

Using computers to recreate the sky above central Illinois on the night of the murder, the astronomers found that what occurred was an unusual lunar phenomenon that caused the moon to move quickly from its highest point in the sky to setting.

The moon on that night was 74% full and near a position it reaches only once every 18.6 years, in which its arc is at its lowest in the sky as seen by people in the Northern Hemisphere.

The astronomers calculated that just before 8 p.m., during the camp meeting, the moon was due south and at its highest point for the night. But by 11 p.m., the moon was already dropping from view near the southwestern horizon.

# Students update Lincoln's ideals

by RAY FORMANEK JR.  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARPERS FERRY, W.Va. — Federal officials planning a museum honoring Abraham Lincoln are getting help from some high school students who want to update history with current civil rights movements they say Lincoln inspired.

"I used to think Lincoln was just a great man who was tall and wore a hat," said Maureen May, 17, of Copley, O. But now I want his ideals to come alive. I want everyone to know about his legacy and to use it."

The group of 17 students from high schools in 16 states are working with the federal government to make sure a museum planned at Washington's Lincoln Memorial shows the link between Lincoln and modern day civil rights movements.

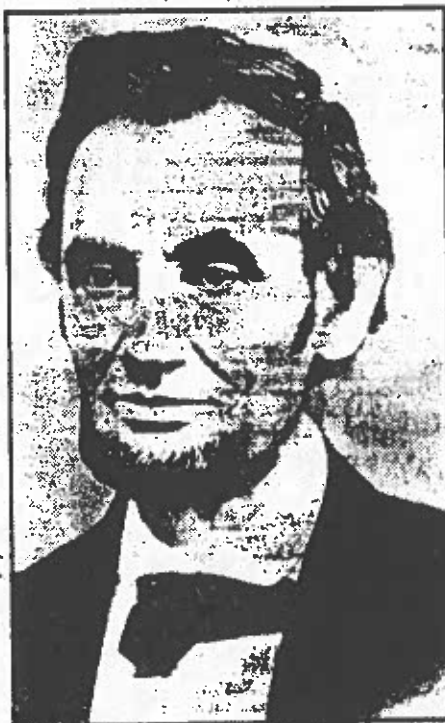
The students last weekend submitted their proposal for an exhibit featuring interactive videos, continuous films, computer quizzes, artifacts and recordings of planners at the National Park Service's design center in Harpers Ferry.

The museum should include exhibits on women's struggle for equality and the battle for civil rights in Eastern Europe, South Africa and China, according to the proposal.

The proposal capped a two-year effort by a Scottsdale, Ariz., high school history class to recognize Lincoln and the legacy he left to the civil rights struggle worldwide.

"Now, we will take these ideas and try to translate them into reality," said Robert Johnsson, chief of exhibit design and planning for the National Park Service.

The students became involved in planning the museum after history teacher John Calvin decided to do something special to mark the anniversary of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday in 1989.



**ABRAHAM LINCOLN:** A museum in his honor is getting a little help from high school students.

The memorial and its huge white statue of a seated Lincoln was a rallying point for 200,000 demonstrators during King's 1963 march on Washington and was the site of his "I have a dream" speech.

Calvin wanted to put a plaque honoring King on the grounds of the Memorial, but was told federal law prohibited it, he said.

So Calvin and about six of his students sought to help plan the Lincoln museum already in the works at the park service.

The museum is planned for an area under the monument that houses a small photographic exhibit of the na-

tion's 16th president; said Jane Radford, exhibit planner for the Lincoln Memorial.

By Nov. 1989, 26 congressmen, including U.S. Reps. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., and Bruce Vento, D-Minn., had endorsed the idea, saying students should play a major role in the museum's design.

Udall is chairman of the House Interior Committee. Vento chairs the House Interior subcommittee on national parks and public lands.

The program was expanded when the American Federation of Teachers lent its support. The Close Up Foundation, a non-profit group that funds tours of Washington, D.C., for thousands of high school students, agreed to cover most of the expenses.

The students came from high schools in Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Florida, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Utah and Washington.

They were chosen based on a demonstrated interest in Lincoln and good communication and leadership skills.

The group spent a week in the Washington area visiting historic sites including Ford's Theater where Lincoln was assassinated.

Calvin said organizers hope to collect \$300,000 to help pay for the museum during a penny collection at schools nationwide on Feb. 12, Lincoln's birthday.

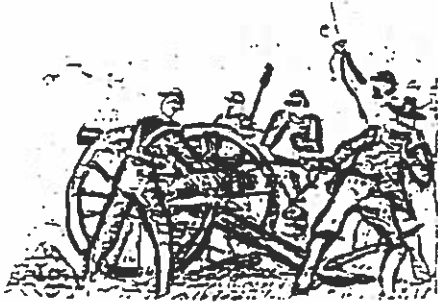
Radford said the museum, still in its planning stages, probably would cost between \$300,000 and \$1 million to build.

"I never dreamed it would turn into anything like this," said Lizz Cohen, 17, one of Calvin's students who first pushed for the project.

"I'm going to be able to tell my children and my grandchildren all about the museum and how I helped it come about," she said. "We've accomplished more than I ever thought we would."

After the death of Chief Justice Taney, and before the appointment of Mr. Chase to that post, a committee of citizens from the Philadelphia Union League, with a distinguished journalist at their head as chairman, proceeded to Washington for the purpose of laying before President Lincoln the reason why, in their opinion, Mr. Chase should be appointed to the vacancy on the bench. After listening to the memorial, the President said, "Will you do me the favor to leave that paper with me? I want it in order that, if I appoint Mr. Chase, I may show the friends of the other candidates by how powerful an influence, and by what strong personal recommendations, the claims of Mr. Chase were supported.

The committee listened with great satisfaction, sure of Chase's appointment, until the President added, "And I want the paper also in order that if I should appoint another, I may show his friends how powerful an influence, and what strong recommendations, I was obliged to disregard in appointing him."



## PRESERVATION REPORT by BILL STARK

# Gettysburg to get lifelike Lincoln statue

GETTYSBURG, Pa. (AP) — J. Seward Johnson, whose statues are so lifelike a security guard once shot one, envisions a down-to-earth rendering of Abraham Lincoln for the town where the 16th president delivered his most famous speech.

Johnson's Lincoln will be near the town square, but on the sidewalk instead of a pedestal — and aside a likeness of a 20th century tourist. The tourist, dressed in slacks and a cable-knit sweater, holds a copy of the Gettysburg Address as he listens to the president.

The artist, who lives near Princeton, N.J., has been commissioned to create the statue for this rural Pennsylvania town where Lincoln delivered the famed Civil War speech 127 years ago.

Johnson, perched on an antique chair in the office of Civil War scholar Gabor Boritt, said the statue is designed "to celebrate Lincoln's humanity, bring him off a pedestal, celebrate the greatness of him as a human being."

Another purpose is "to show that the

Gettysburg Address was still a meaningful document today."

The 268-word address, whose opening, "Four score and seven years ago," is familiar to millions, is regarded by scholars as one of the most forceful and elegant speeches ever made.

Lincoln delivered the address at a dedication of the national military cemetery in Gettysburg on Nov. 19, 1863.

In Johnson's artwork, Lincoln is saying something to the tourist as he points to the nearby Wills House, where he stayed the night before the Nov. 19, 1863 speech.

"He might have been saying how uncomfortable the bed was," Johnson said with a laugh as he flexed his long, thick fingers. "Whatever it is, the fellow is a little bit in awe of him."

Johnson hopes to have the artwork completed in time for next November's annual Gettysburg celebration.

A model has been on display around town for several weeks, and the reception has been positive, Johnson said. He

resisted suggestions that he replace the tourist's sweater with a jacket, but agreed to some minor changes.

"On something like this, I feel an artist has to be very sensitive to the people who have to live with it," he said.

He was commissioned for the work by the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, which sponsors the annual ceremony marking the speech. The group has sought a statue honoring Lincoln for nearly 50 years.

"The hope has been here for a long, long time and finally we are doing it," said Boritt, a professor of history at Gettysburg College. He said the Lincoln Fellowship is trying to raise \$100,000 to pay for the statue and provide a maintenance fund.

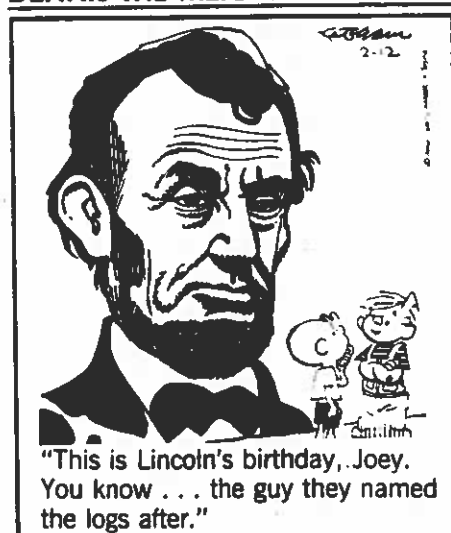
"We are willing to accept a dollar and we will accept \$10,000," Boritt said.

The figures will be cast in bronze, but they will wear real clothes coated with a plastic-like resin.

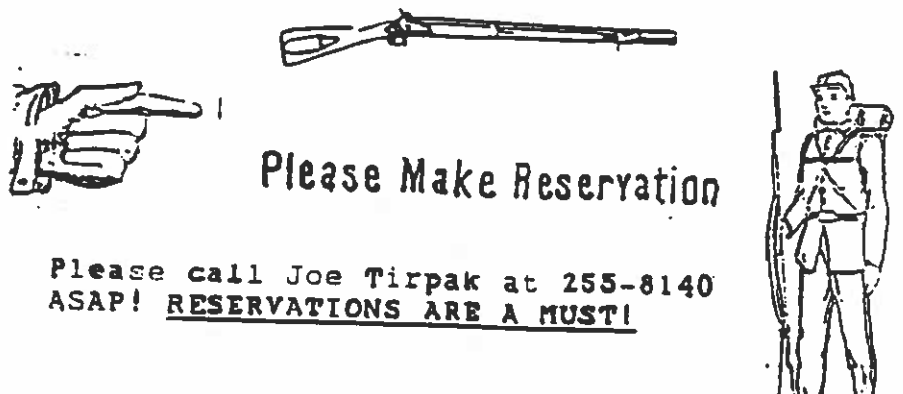
Johnson's lifelike sculptures are displayed in 26 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign countries.

THE PLAIN DEALER, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1990

### DENNIS THE MENACE H. KETCHAM



"This is Lincoln's birthday, Joey. You know . . . the guy they named the logs after."





William C. Stark  
3937 West 224th Street .  
Fairview Park, Ohio 44126

January 1991

#### JOHNSON'S ISLAND UPDATE

10 A.M. on Tuesday, December 18, 1990 a four-hour meeting to discuss the Section 106 Historical Review under the National Historic Preservation Act involving the Johnson's Island Civil War Prison Site was held in Cleveland, Ohio at the offices of John Brown, attorney and would-be developer, Carl Zipfel, of Baycliffs Inc. Zipfel wishes to construct a multi-million dollar housing and marina complex which would invariably alter the remains and historicity of the Federal Civil War prison site for Confederate officers.

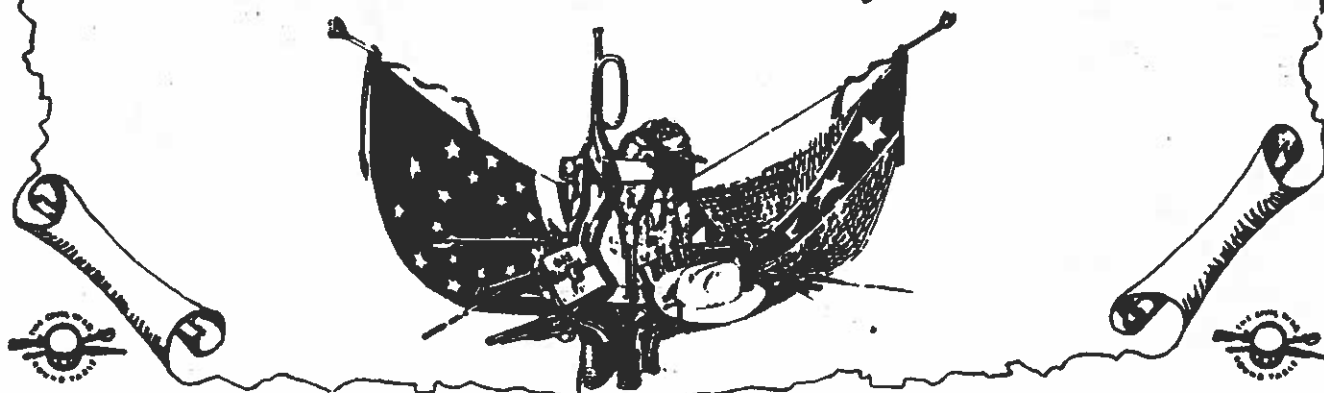
Also representing the would-be developer were Robert Brindza, attorney, Robert Masoni, partner Baycliffs Inc., David Bush, anthropologist of David Bush, Inc. a cultural resources management survey company and senior research assistant at Case-Western Reserve University, who was hired as a contract archaeologist by Baycliffs Inc., and W. Ray Luce, Ohio Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Jeff Thompson and Frank Ruffini of the SHPO staff. Others present were Katherine Jahn, Army Corps of Engineers, Mike Colvin, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and Bertram Herbert, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, representing the National Park Service.

Those in attendance on the side of preservation were Joe Hutman, President of the Johnson's Island Property Owners Association (JIPOA) and Jack Jewitt of Cleveland, JIPOA attorney. Neil Hahn of the Cleveland Civil War Round Table attorney in the law firm of Hahn Loeser and Marks of Cleveland represented JIPOA in relation to the 106 Review specifically. Another JIPOA member, Bob Ibos of Cleveland represented the concerns of the Johnson's Island Historical Society. Charlene Vaughn of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) based in Washington, D.C. also attended.

Groundwork was set for the flow of information to interested parties for review. Baycliffs Incorporated presented its plan for the development of the area southeast of the quarry. Reservations expressed concern about Bush's archaeology report based on his survey of 1990 that there was no concern given to the Old Federal Dock, bone fragments of humans found in the area and a stone wall at the neck of the Fingers Area. The Dock was important as an entry and exit point for all individuals during the Civil War. Bone fragments could be those of Confederate prisoners who had not been buried in the Confederate Cemetery on the northern end of Johnson's Island. It should be mentioned that Bush has conveniently neutralized the historical significance of the parts of the island that his employer, Zipfel, wants to develop. Bush claimed that JIPOA members had been uncooperative in sharing information that would have aided him in his survey. It was pointed out to Bush that had he not referred to relic hunters as "vandals" and/or "looters" there would have been less antagonism.

Ray Luce (SHPO) will submit comments on Bush's reports as will JIPOA and submit them to Bush by January 15, 1991. Jahn (Army Corps.) will then pass those comments to Vaughn (ACHP) for evaluation. That evaluation will be returned to Jahn. The Army Corps will then have to make a decision on whether or not to issue Zipfel permits, for which he has apparently applied, to construct docks. It should be mentioned that if the Corps issues permits, it will be in direct conflict with the National Park Service which opposes any Baycliffs development on Johnson's Island.

## Civil War Round Table Associates



JERRY L. RUSSELL, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, P.O. BOX 7388, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72217 / (501) 225-3998

First, let me thank your Round Table newsletter for allowing me the opportunity to share news about possibly the best year yet for Civil War history.

Each year seems to get better. In 1988, Congress voted to preserve and protect a significant portion of the Manassas battlefields. This controversy had broad repercussions, focusing national attention on the problems of Civil War sites, and giving a tremendous boost to the Civil War preservation effort. 1989 followed with increased attention and support for battlefield protection.

This year, the wealthy Mellon Foundation donated over 100,000 acres to the National Park Service, including Gettysburg's East Cavalry Field, Antietam's Corn Field, the Pigeon Ranch at Glorieta Battlefield, and key historic acreage at Five Forks (Petersburg). The land was purchased through The Conservation Fund, a private, non-profit group whose Civil War Battlefields Project published the excellent Civil War Battlefields Tour Guide (a must book!). 1990 was the best year yet for Civil War preservation in the national Congress, with new champions coming to the fore, including Secretary of Interior Manuel Lujan, Jr. The momentum is growing--from the local level to the national level!

The Civil War Round Table movement reached a milestone, as The Civil War Round Table, founded in 1940 in Chicago, held its 50th anniversary celebration. Little did that group of men know, a half century ago, that the discussion sessions they were initiating then would result in nearly 200 Civil War study groups, in this country and overseas, by 1990--including your Round Table.

PBS producer Ken Burns' "Civil War" burst upon the nation amid the kind of media hoopla generally found only in presidential campaigns. While the mini-series left much to be desired historically (New Orleans CWRT editor Jack Dunlap says, "The more you know about Civil War history, the less you enjoyed 'the Civil War according to Ken Burns'."), it did focus great attention on Our War, drawing viewers in 14 million homes, the highest rated PBS offering of all time. It will be shown again in January and again in July, perpetuating some of the mistakes and myths it contains, perhaps, but also accelerating the steadily growing national interest in Civil War history. And we need that new interest to strengthen the preservation movement. Just as we need YOUR help and active support. Get involved! If YOU don't care, who will????

More and more Civil War Round Tables are doing something about their interest in Civil War history. Following the lead of the Kansas City CWRT and the Jackson (Miss.) CRT, other RTs are beginning to involve their members in such preservation projects. We Who Study Must Also Strive To Save!

A national lobbying group, HFRITAGEPAC, formed in 1989, continues to grow, although it still needs broad support to make an even greater impact on the national scene. You can help by contributing! (Box 7281, Little Rock AR 72217)

And Civil War Round Table Associates, the first national Civil War preservation group, continues its leadership role in the effort, with the invaluable assistance of people like the dedicated members of YOUR Civil War Round Table.

Jerry L. Russell,  
Director,  
(501) 225-3996

# HERITAGEPAC

FOR RELEASE ANY TIME  
December 26, 1990

A National Lobbying Group Dedicated To Preservation of American Battlefields.

P.O. Box 7281, Little Rock, AR 72217

## PRESERVATION LOBBY GROUP MAKES REPORT

LITTLE ROCK--During the two years of its existence, HERITAGEPAC, a national lobbying group dedicated to the preservation of American battlefields, has received over \$9,000 in contributions, according to a report issued by the group this month.

"One hundred forty four military history enthusiasts and groups throughout the nation have contributed \$9,195 in just under two years," said Jerry L. Russell of Little Rock, chairman of Civil War Round Table Associates and The Order of the Indian Wars, two national membership groups which established HERITAGEPAC in 1989.

"Contributions have been received from the Antietam-South Mountain Association, the Baton Rouge CWRT, the CWRT of Brevard County (Fla.), the East Texas CWRT, the Glorieta Battlefield Preservation Association, the Los Angeles CWRT, the CWRT of Central Massachusetts, the Midwest Civil War Conference, and the Western Reserve CWRT, in amounts from \$100 to \$15," Russell said. Twenty-three individuals have given \$100 or more, 32 have given \$50-\$100, and 34 have given \$25-50. Contributions, which can be sent to P.O. Box 7281, Little Rock AR 72217, have ranged from \$1 to \$700.

Over half--\$5,813--of the \$9,195 has been spent on printing and postage, as the group has worked to notify military history students throughout the nation about threats to Civil War, Revolutionary War, and Indian Wars battlefields, and actions that need to be taken in lobbying Congress or other governmental units to help preserve and protect these battlefields. The remainder has been spent on travel expenses, advertising and marketing expenses, and research material. None has been spent on salaries or fees. At this time, Russell said, the group owes over \$4,900 for additional printing, postage, advertising, and travel expenses.

"We hope to improve our contributions from groups during 1991," Russell said. "As our mailing list--now over 25,000 names--continues to grow, it becomes increasingly expensive to 'spread the word' about needed lobbying. We were very active in the recent passage of legislation to establish a Civil War Sites Advisory Commission, and are strongly supportive of the new American Battlefields Protection Program begun by Secretary of Interior Manuel Lujan, Jr. Working for battlefield preservation on many fronts is a constant and expensive process, and we must greatly expand our contributor base if we are to continue the high level of success we have had during the past 22 months." Copies of HERITAGEPAC's reports are on file with the Federal Election Commission.

####



# Lincoln's lingering last hours

By W. EMERSON RECK

**A**braham Lincoln would undoubtedly have died in a saloon 125 years ago if the proprietor had not spoken up.

It was not possible to take Lincoln to the White House eight blocks away after John Wilkes Booth shot him in Ford's Theater at about 10:15 p.m. on April 14, 1865. He would have died traveling over the rough streets.

Surgeons trying to save Lincoln thought first of the Star Saloon, adjoining Ford's on the south, as the nearest place where they could work freely.

"Don't bring him in here," ordered Peter Taltavull, the proprietor. "It shouldn't be said that the president of the United States died in a saloon."

With difficulty, the surgeons and soldier helpers then slowly carried Lincoln on a makeshift stretcher through a dense crowd to the William Petersen house on the other side of Tenth St.

Artificial respiration, followed closely by CPR, had a few minutes earlier brought life back to Lincoln.

Dr. Charles A. Leale, 23-year-old surgeon in charge of the wounded commissioned officers ward at the U.S. General Hospital, was the first person from the audience to reach Lincoln's box. He thought the president had been stabbed because Booth had flourished a dagger as he fled. Leale found no stab wound, discovered the head wound made by Booth's .44-caliber derringer, and detected no pulse.

While each of two companions manipulated an arm, Leale pressed Lincoln's diaphragm to cause air to be drawn in, then forced out of the lungs. At times, he also stimulated the apex of the heart by exerting sliding pressure under the ribs with the thumb and index finger of his right hand.

After a few minutes, Leale noted feeble action of the heart and irregular breathing. Realizing that more must be done to retain life, he leaned over the president, thorax to thorax, face to face, drew in a deep breath and forcibly breathed into the mouth and nostrils.

Action of Lincoln's heart improved after a few minutes of CPR, and Leale saw that the president could continue to breath independently. He nevertheless announced that the situation was hopeless. "His wound is mortal," he declared. "It is impossible for him to survive."

In a 9½-by-17½-foot room in the Petersen house, the bearers laid Lincoln diagonally across the bed of William Clark, a 23-year-old Massachusetts soldier serving as a government clerk. The bed was too short for the tall president. His body was examined from head to foot; no additional injury was found.

Using a finger as probe, Dr. Charles S. Taft, a surgeon of the Army's Signal Corps at Georgetown, then examined the wound. The ball had passed beyond reach of the finger.



When Dr. Robert King Stone, the Lincolns' physician, arrived at 11 o'clock, the case was turned over to him. Dr. Stone inserted his finger into the wound as Taft had done, then confirmed Leale's prognosis. The case was hopeless; the president would die. He added, however, that Lincoln's "vital tenacity is very strong and he will resist as long as any man could."

After Stone's statement, effort was exerted only to make the president as comfortable as possible. His lower extremities were found to be cold. Hot water bottles, blankets and a large mustard plaster were applied to the anterior surface of his body. Clots and brain tissue were frequently cleared from the wound so blood could ooze out, thus relieving pressure on the brain. Respiration was easier, and the pulse became stronger when the wound was discharging freely.

It's likely that no one will ever know how many persons were in Clark's little room when Lincoln breathed his last. More than a score of sketches and paintings made of the death scene show from 11 to 45 persons present. The most plausible number lies between 20 and 25.

Of the family only a distraught son, Robert, was present. Mary Lincoln was in another room after four visits to her husband's side, resulting in scenes that "pierced every heart and brought tears to every eye."

Physicians present agreed that the average man, wounded as Lincoln had been, would not have lived more than two hours. But Stone's statement proved to be accurate. Lincoln's "vital tenacity" had enabled him to survive for more than nine hours. He drew his last breath at 21 minutes and 55 seconds after 7 a.m. on April 15, 1865.

In the 125 years since Lincoln's death, nearly 10,000 books, articles, essays, editorials and poems have been published about the man many regard as America's greatest president. And as many as 100 Lincoln groups, some of them in foreign countries, hold meetings regularly to consider and get inspiration from the unnumbered facets of this great leader's life.

It seems unlikely that Abraham Lincoln will ever really die.

*Reck is vice president emeritus of Wittenberg University. He wrote "A. Lincoln: His Last 24 Hours."*





## MORE LINCOLN PAPERS FOUND

*Illinois state researchers seeking traces of Abraham Lincoln's legal life have found a mother lode in a sleepy Illinois town where the former president practiced as a prosecutor and defense lawyer before his ascent to the presidency.*

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency's Lincoln Legal Papers project has documented twice as many legal cases as expected in the Menard County town of Petersburg, including Lincoln's unsuccessful prosecution of a pair of ax wielding brothers.

"We knew at the start that Lincoln and his legal partners handled at least 125 cases at the Menard County courthouse," said Cullom Davis, senior editor of the project. "But the 360 cases, with about 10,000 individual documents, that we discovered there far exceeded our expectations."

State historians began combing archives nationwide in 1985 to learn more about Lincoln's pre-presidential legal career. The Great Emancipator's law work began in 1836 and ended only when he was elected to the White House. It's considered one of the least-known periods of Lincoln's life.

Researchers going through archives in 30 Illinois counties found a treasure trove in Menard County, where Lincoln briefly ran a store and served as militia captain in the village of New Salem before turning his hand to law.

In one 1846 case, Lincoln acted as prosecutor against two brothers, James and George Denton. The pair was accused of the ax murder of their brother-in-law, Cassius Brown.

The Denton brothers were never convicted but Lincoln had better luck defending Marvin Pond on charges he harbored a runaway Kentucky slave. Pond, the brother of a noted abolitionist, was acquitted in 1845.

The state also helped Menard County authorities preserve 48 deteriorating Lincoln papers on public display in the Petersburg courthouse, including a will the 16th president drafted for a friend in 1836, six months before his admission to the bar.

Conservators de-acidified the papers and repaired microscopic cracks before encapsulating them in transparent mylar for protection against moisture.

"We consider it a pleasure to work with materials like this and preserve them for the future," said John Daly, director of the Illinois State Archives.

Future conservation work may be offered free of charge to cash-strapped rural counties if the state's search turns up more precious Lincoln papers, Daly said.

## COPY OF GETTYSBURG ADDRESS TAKEN FROM PUBLIC VIEW

One of only five remaining manuscript copies of the Gettysburg Address has been removed from public view at Illinois' Old State Capitol in Springfield because of a fear of decay and theft.

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency has taken the copy out of the Capitol and placed it in Illinois State Historical Library vaults. Agency spokesman Maynard Crossland said despite a bulletproof case covering the document, keeping it in the light with risk of theft was "dangerous."

"Even if you have a case that has all those things, you're still risking it to light damage," Crossland said. "There really isn't a case that is going to keep it environmentally safe." The state instead plans to allow infrequent viewing of the document, Crossland said. "It will be assessed for conservation purposes to see if there has been any deterioration and we will also try to develop a plan for exhibit purposes for it," Crossland said. "It will be available but we're just going to have to be sure the condition it's in is environmentally sound and secure."

The Gettysburg Address was delivered by Abraham Lincoln in 1863 to dedicate the National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pa. Abraham Lincoln wrote the Springfield copy of the address believed to be the third of five at the request of his friend Edward Everett, a Massachusetts orator.

A Chicago rare book dealer, Ralph Newman, estimated the copy would probably be worth about \$5 million to a manuscript dealer.

The copy is the only one in Illinois. It went on display in Springfield in 1968. It was usually shown publicly four days a week and Crossland said its absence will not hurt the Old State Capitol.

The old Capitol is a replica of the building where Lincoln served as a legislator and argued cases before the Illinois Supreme Court.

"I think the Old State Capitol has a draw beyond what the Gettysburg Address has," Crossland said. "We really very rarely get asked about it."

Besides the Springfield copy, two other copies of the Gettysburg address are owned by the Library of Congress and a copy is stored at Cornell University and at the Lincoln Room of the White House.

Both ARTICLES FROM:

## THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

of Milwaukee



More Than You Ever Wanted To Know About

# BOSTON CORBETT (1822-?)



Early morning of April 26, 1865, 26 troopers of Company C, 16th New York Cavalry approached Garrett's farm. Lieutenant Edward P. Doherty was in nominal command, but he was infact subordinate to two of Layfayette Baker's detectives: Lt.Col. Everton J. Conger and Lt. Luther B. Baker, Layfayette's cousin. The troopers were almost asleep in their saddles. They had been on the move continuously for more than 24 hours in search of John Wilkes Booth, Lincoln's assassin. Lieutenant Doherty detailed a sergeant by the name of Boston Corbett to the rear of the column to prevent any stragglers from dropping out.

Corbett was himself worth keeping an eye on. He was one of the more unusual characters in the army. Born Thomas H. Corbett in London in 1822, he had migrated to the United States, married, and worked as a hatter. The death of his wife in childbirth had deranged him. Taking to drink, he had become a derelict - until, one night in Boston in the 1850's, street preachers converted him and he saw the light of God, in token whereof he adopted the city's name as his own.

From then on, as a street-corner preacher, Corbett heard heavenly voices, consorted with angels, and read Divine signs in the sky. In 1858, the fervent evangelist was solicited by two prostitutes after attending a revival meeting; although he did not succumb to temptation, he was apparently at least tempted - whereupon, in remorse, he castrated himself.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Corbett enlisted in the 12th New York Militia. He spent his military career alternatively killing Confederates, saving the Union army from eternal damnation, and spending time in the guardhouse for his peculiar means of accomplishing the afore mentioned two.

He was almost executed for desertion. He felt his discharge was slightly ahead of the date recognized by the army, and walked off sentry duty at his appropriate hour. He was pardoned by President Lincoln and subsequently re-enlisted in the cavalry. He re-enlisted two more times, and was captured by famed Confederate raider, John Singleton Mosby. Sent to Andersonville, he spent five months in the dreaded prison before he escaped, only to be recaptured, and finally exchanged as being worthless. The Rebels most likely got tired of his constant "Glory to God" shouts. He returned to his unit just prior to Lee's surrender and was stationed in Vienna, Virginia, at the time Lincoln was shot.

The officers of the 16th New York had gather information as to Booth's whereabouts. Surrounding Booth's hiding place, the tobacco barn on Garrett's farm, they called for Booth and his accomplice David Herold to surrender. Herold surrendered but Booth refused and remained. Orders were given that there be no gunfire, as Secretary of War Edwin Stanton had ordered Booth to be brought back alive so he could be tried, sentenced, and hung.

Everton Conger ordered the barn set on fire to force Booth out. Through the slats of the barn, the fugitive could be seen silhouetted against the flames. At the moment Booth seemed to limp toward the door a shot was fired. Booth fell shot through the neck, bleeding and paralyzed.

Conger and Baker, after removing Booth from the inferno, began questioning each trooper as to who fired the shot, until Sergeant Boston Corbett spoke up and said he was the man responsible. When questioned why, he first said that he feared that Booth was about to shoot one of the officers. He later claimed he was under orders from a higher authority, feeling God had spoken to him to end the life of the traitor Booth.

Corbett was put under arrest and taken back to Washington to face the wrath of Secretary Stanton. Stanton decided to release him instead and granted him a reward of \$1,653.85. "The Rebel is dead," Stanton would proclaim, "the patriot lives." A patriot who "has saved us continued excitement, delay, and expense."

Boston Corbett was an instant celebrity. After a period on the lecture circuit as the self-styled "Avenger of Blood", Corbett pursued various occupations, always supplying an ample supply of evangelism for free. He then became the doorkeeper for the Kansas legislature until 1886 when he fired two loaded revolvers in the hall, luckily without killing anyone. He was subdued, sent to an insane asylum from which he escaped and vanished from view.



**Sergeant Boston Corbett (left),  
the slayer of John Wilkes Booth, with  
Lieutenant E. P. Doherty**

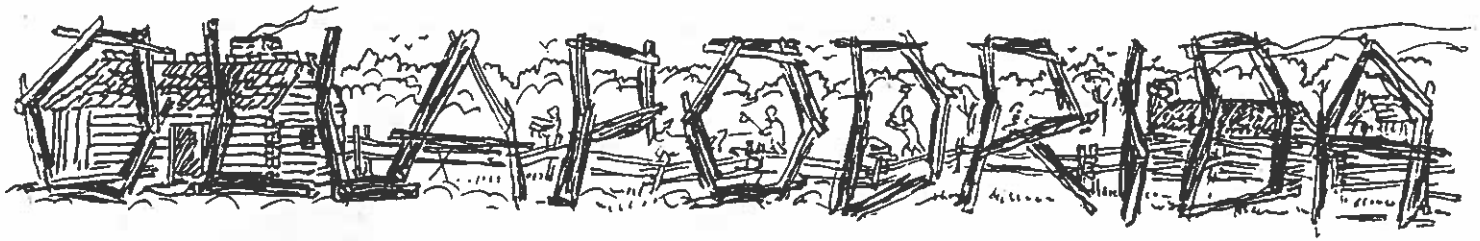
- The Assassination by Champ Clark (Time-Life Books) pp 132-136
- Who was Who in the Civil War by Stewart Sifakis
- "The Cannister" Cincinnati CWRT Newsletter
- The Lincoln Murder Conspiracies by William Hanchett pp169



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An officer called on the President accompanied by a clerical friend. The officer introduced the Reverend to Mr. Lincoln saying the cleric expressed a desire to see him. The President shook hands with the Reverend, sat down, and assumed an expression of patient waiting saying, "I am now ready to hear what you have to say."

"O, bless you, sir," said the Reverend, "I have nothing special to say. I merely called to pay my respects to you."

"My dear sir," said the President rising promptly, his face showing instant relief, and with both hands grasping that of the visitor, "I am very glad to see you; I am very glad to see you indeed. I thought you had come to preach to me!"

--- The Civil War in Song & Story by Frank Moore ppl44

One of the numerous paymasters at Washington sought an introduction to Mr. Lincoln. He arrived at the White House quite opportunely, and was introduced to the President. While shaking hands, the paymaster remarked, "I have no offical buisness with you, Mr. President, I only call to pay my compliments."

"I understand," replied Lincoln, "and from the complaints of the soldiers, I think that is all you do pay."

--- The Civil War in Song & Story by Frank Moore pp22

Four of President Lincoln's brothers-in-law wore Confederate uniforms and one of them, Lt. David P. Todd, was charged with brutality to Union prisoners in Richmond. Mary Lincoln's brother, DR. George R.C. Todd, was a volunteer Confederate surgeon, and was quoted as saying that Lincoln was "one of the greatest scoundrels unhung." Ben Hardin Helm, killed as a Confederate General at Chickamauga, was married to one of Mary Lincoln's sisters; he had spurned a personal offer of a commission from Lincoln. Mary's other two sisters were also married to Confederate officers.

--- CWRT Newsletter of Palm Beach by Kathy Nelson

During a conversation on the approaching election in 1864, a gentleman remarked to President Lincoln that nothing could defeat him except if Grant captured Richmond and the General was nominated at Chicago and accepted. "Well," said the President, "I feel very much like the man who said he didn't want to die particularly, but if he had got to die, that was precisely the disease he would like to die of."

---The Civil War in Song & Story by Frank Moore pp447

# From The President's Desk



Greetings!

Our January meeting was truly an evening of fun and games for the 31 members and guests who gathered for our Annual Civil War Quiz.

The "Blue" team was lead by young Kevin Casey, a Ninth Grader at University and son of member Pat Casey. Kevin was outstanding in his scholarly answers. The "Grey" team lead by Marty Graham who obviously has a Joseph Johnston fixation went down in flames! Final score "Blue" 40, "Grey" 30. Our thanks to Tim Beatty who did another outstanding job of putting this program together.

Next month one of our members Bob Baucher will speak on: "That Man Haupt, Lincoln's Railroad Man!" Bob has been a member since 1984 and is employed at Laurelwood Hospital as Director of Human Resources. Let's have a nice turnout for one of our own.

"JET"



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