

### **NEWS AND NOTES**

Hello and Happy Summer to all members and friends. We are off to a very busy summer. We kicked off with the Doylestown Memorial Day Parade. Many thanks to our vigilant and inspiring members who participated in the march through town. It was a beautiful day and we are all blessed by their total dedication and support for our round table group. Also, a special thank you to James Grimes and his group for organizing a terrific BBQ lunch at the Library/Museum. This was such a good time, that James is already thinking of the menu for Memorial Day 2023. We are also very grateful for the new grill that was donated to the Library/Museum by Tony & Doreen Barton. We are sure that Head Chef James Grimes will put it to good use.

We have really enjoyed our Round Table meeting place at the new and refurbished Borough Hall on Broad St. in Doylestown. It is a nice meeting place, with plenty of room and a terrific venue to show video and pictures. If you have not been to any of our recent meetings we urge you to come and check it out. You will not be disappointed. Meetings are still held the first Tuesday of the month at 7PM.

Here is a list of our scheduled speakers:

August 2 – A history of the Hay's Brigade – by Lee McGinnis September 6 – Three Vignettes – Three members of the Round Table will present a short 15 minute talk of a personage from the Civil War.

SAVE THE DATE —--Our Round Table is planning a trip to the Gettysburg battlefield on Sunday, September 25th. Of particular interest will be a tour of the George Spangler Farm led by Ron Kirkwood. Mr Kirkwood was a featured speaker at our Round Table meeting in May. Everyone enjoyed his presentation and there is much interest in the Spangler Farm and its importance during and after the battle. We hope you can make it. Tour will begin at 10am. Cost-\$10.00 per person. Members will need to provide their own transportation to the Spangler Farm. Any questions please contact Bill Hamill –215-429-5969 or email –williamrhamill@gmail.com. More details at the Library/Museum as well as at the summer Round Table Meetings.

And a final note — July 1st marks the start of the new fiscal year for the Round Table. Members will be receiving a letter to renew their memberships. An individual membership will be \$30.00 and a family membership will be \$40.00. There will also be a line for you to make a special donation that will go to improvements for the property. We are on a "Dump the Stump" campaign to try to remove a large tree stump that is right in the middle of the courtyard. Any amount will certainly be helpful to meet our goal.

See you at our next Round Table meeting. Enjoy your summer.

# Message from the President

Greetings fellow Roundtable Members.

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Mike Campbell. It is my honor to serve as your new President. Five years ago, I was much like many of you. I grew up in Bucks County as a Civil War buff, but the strain of time and the pressures of work and life took me away from my love of history. Perhaps like you, I discovered the BCCWRT Museum by chance, and found there a group of people and a collection of artifacts that rekindled my childhood passion. I started at the bottom: raking leaves, and running for coffee. From there I moved by stages up the ranks: first guiding tours, then research and writing, and finally to the Board of Directors. Along the way I've met many inspiring people, and had no shortage of guardian angels. I'd like to take a moment and thank a few of them. First, past director Dee Ann Smith, for her mentorship and willingness to take a chance on me. Also, Marilyn Becker, Bill Hamill and Allie Brand for their devotion to the art of research and their fellowship in the craft of writing. My predecessors as President: George Hoffman, Greg Munson, Jim Damon, and Jim Donovan, for their vision and conscientiousness. They have left me with great expectations that I intend to live up to. And finally to Dick Neddenriep, aka Lt. Edwin Fretz, for his demonstration of what a lifelong love of history looks like. This summer will be - perhaps - Dick's final season leading tours of the Doylestown Cemetery. For those of you who are looking, like I once was, for a way to rekindle your love of history, please do not pass up the chance to enjoy one of his tours. And be sure to stop by the museum, for I cannot wait to meet you all.

With my kindest regards, Mike Campbell



BANKING LENDING WEALTH MANAGMENT

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## **Taps and General Daniel Butterfield**By Marilyn Becker

Very few people hear the bugle call Taps which is played at dusk, military funerals, and flag ceremonies and don't react to the haunting tune. During the Civil War music was the signal for directions to soldiers during the day. Music was especially important since the sounds of battle would make the directions to soldiers difficult to hear.

While recovering from wounds, Butterfield who did not like the melody for the second call of the night and wanted something that gave the men a more restful outlook, asked his bugler to play the tune he whistled for him. Private Oliver Norton did and the new tune became Taps and was implemented immediately as the signal for lights-out. It became the standard days end tune officially in 1874. Taps is also known as Butterfield's Lullaby or Day is Done. Union General Daniel Butterfield adopted the tune for his Third Brigade, First Division, Fifth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, in July 1862. Sometimes words are sung to the tune, but it is a bugle call:

Day is done
Gone the sun
From the lakes, from the hills, from the sky
All is well, safely rest
God is nigh

Daniel Butterfield was born in 1831 in Utica, New York. He graduated from Union College in Schenectady, New York, and worked for a business which became American Express and which his father had co-founded. Working in New York City, he joined the 71st regiment of New York militia with the rank of captain. When Fort Sumter fell, he joined the Clay Guards of Washington, D.C with first sergeant rank and then transferred to the 12th New York Volunteer Infantry with colonel ranking. He became brigadier major general of the volunteers and led a division of the V Corps.

In July 1861, Daniel fought in the battle of Bull Run. After joining Major general McClellan's Army of the Potomac, He participated in the Seven Days Battles and Gaines' Mill where he was wounded. In 1892, he received the Medal of Honor for his bravery there. Other battles he participated in were Second Battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg and the Atlanta Campaign.

Butterfield was pleased to serve under General Hooker, he was Hooker's Chief of Staff. When Joseph Hooker was relieved and Major General George Meade was made Commander of the Army of the Potomac, Meade kept Butterfield as Chief of Staff, Butterfield was not happy. After the Gettysburg Battle, Butterfield and Sickles testified against Meade at the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War which damaged Meade's reputation.

Butterfield served in the military from 1861 until 1870. He served under President Grant as Assistant Treasurer of the United States.

General Butterfield made the following improvements to the military:

1862 Army Field Manual, Camp and Outpost Duty for Infantry Developed Taps Famous bugle call

Designed patches for hat and shoulder to denote the soldier's Unit

General Butterfield is buried at West Point, although he did not

attend the military academy. Taps were played at his funeral.



## **Did You Know?**

In our recent newsletter, we did a story about a lost gold shipment that occurred during the Civil War. The incident happened in the summer of 1863. Eight soldiers were transporting 26 gold bars through upstate Pennsylvania. For whatever reason, they never made it to their final destination, the US mint in Philadelphia. A lot of our members have never heard of this bizarre event, and there is still much mystery and suspicion about what really happened. Apparently two of the gold bars have been recovered. However, the rest of the gold bars are still missing somewhere in Elk County.

In the spring of 2018, the FBI spent several weeks in the area, conducting their own search for the missing gold. They were led to a specific location by Dennis Parada and his son Kem, owners of the Finders Keepers, who have spent many years searching for the lost gold shipment. Once the FBI was finished with their investigation, they would not release any of the details of their work

Finders Keepers filed a suit in court under the Freedom of Information Act requesting that the FBI turn over any records from their search in 2018. A judge has ruled in favor of Finders Keepers and has requested the FBI to turn over any information they may have about the lost gold.

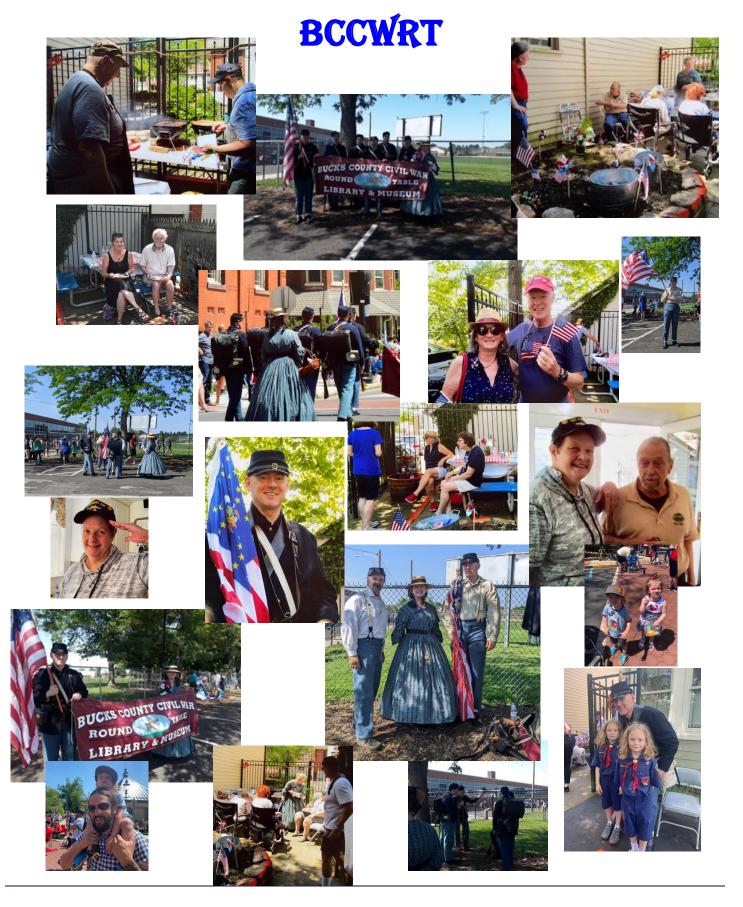
The FBI has long insisted that its March 2018 dig came up empty, but Finders Keepers says the government has acted suspiciously throughout the four year saga. I know – hard to believe. The judge ruled that the FBI must turn over 1000 pages of records per month and the first batch of records must include a key report sought z said it had no files about the investigation at all. Later, after a review, the FBI said its records were exempt from public disclosure.

I think we will likely hear more information about the lost gold shipment for the next several years. Elk County is a beautiful area in the state of Pennsylvania especially for a Fall visit when the leaves are turning color and the local Elk are quite active. You will not be disappointed.

Michael Rubinkam, Associated Press, Philadelphia Inquirer, Spring 2022

By Bill Hamill

## **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND PICNIC 2022**



## The Paths to Charity are over Roadways of Ashes

### Article part I of II

### By Michael M. Braun

Antietam 1862: Bullets whizzed over her head. Cannon fire filled the air and shook the ground. The screams of the wounded surrounded her as she entered the cornfield around noon. Clara Barton immediately began to assist the beleaguered surgeons and medical staff who had run out of supplies and resorted to using corn husks for bandages. She provided wagons full of medications, bandages, and other supplies. After dropping off her supplies, she leaned down to assist a wounded soldier on the ground. She gently wrapped him in her right arm and began to comfort and treat her patient. Suddenly his body went limp. He was dead. A bullet had passed through her sleeve and struck her patient ending his life. For the rest of her life, Clara Barton would never fix the hole in her sleeve left by that bullet. For a lesser person, the apparent futility of the day would have ended their services right then and there. However, Clara Barton was no ordinary person. She would work tirelessly all day and night. By the battle's end, she would collapse due to exhaustion and typhoid fever.

Clara Barton's journey to Antietam began in the sleepy town of North Oxford, Massachusetts. A shy girl, her parents pushed her to pursue a career in teaching to overcome her timidity. At age 17, she began teaching in Massachusetts. Over the next 12 years she moved from Canada to West Virginia eventually settling in Hightstown, NJ. She was informed that the neighboring town of Bordentown did not have a school or a teacher. Clara volunteered to teach for free providing the town supply a building. Her first class consisted of six students. Within 12 months, the school would balloon to 600 students and become the first free school in the state of NJ. In light of her success, the town raised money and built a new school. Upon its completion, Clara Barton was replaced by a man at the school board's request and denied the job of principal.

Bitter and broken, she moved to Baltimore to begin working for the US Government patent office. Clara Barton demanded and got the same pay as her male counterparts in the patent office - a first for female government employee. April 19, 1861 would forever change Clara Barton's life. While marching through Baltimore, the 6th Massachusetts Militia became entangled in a fight with antiwar Copperhead Democrats resulting in the deadly Baltimore riots. Hearing about the violence, Barton left her apartment and began to assist the wounded. One can only imagine the horror she felt upon discovering that some of the wounded were her former students from Massachusetts. For the rest of the war, Barton would collect and deliver supplies to the frontlines constantly putting herself in danger. At Fredericksburg, she started to record the names of the dead and where they were buried. A practice that would foreshadow her work at the end of the war. She was present at the Battle of Fort Wagner and watched helplessly as the valiant 54th Massachusetts were gunned down assaulting the fortifications. She would write in her diary, "I can never forget the patient bravery with which they endured their wounds received in the cruel assault upon Wagner... I could not forbear hastening to tell him lest he die in ignorance of the truth, that he was the soldier of Freedom he had sought to be, and that the world as well as Heaven would so record it...". During the

Wilderness and Spotsylvania Campaigns, she encouraged local people to open their homes for the wounded. She would provide relief for the wounded again and again ultimately serving in the following battles: Fairfax Station, Chantilly, Harpers Ferry, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Charleston, Petersburg and Cold Harbor. An Army Surgeon would write a that Miss Barton "was the heroine of the age, the angel of the battle-field."

After the Civil War, the US Army had no way to find any of its missing in action. Barton accompanied the US Army expedition to review the atrocities at the notorious Southern prisoner camp at Andersonville. Shocked by what she saw, she joined Dorence Atwater (a former prisoner) and poured her efforts into answering letters and inquiries about missing Union soldiers. After the expedition and at Miss Barton's request, President Lincoln personally sanctioned the development of the Bureau of Records of Missing Men of the Armies of the United States which was headed by Barton. This office sought to find, identify, and bury the thousands of missing Union soldiers. Heartbroken families across the country flooded the office with thousands of letters. In four years, the office would review 63,000 inquiries, write 41,000 letters, mail 59,000 circulars, identify and bury 22,000 Union soldiers. More than half of these soldiers were located at Andersonville. In 1868, Barton and Atwater would publish "A List of Union Soldiers Buried at Andersonville". Atwater wrote the following to open his masterpiece, "This Record was originally copied for you because I feared that neither you nor the Government of the United States would ever otherwise learn the fate of your loved ones whom I saw daily dying before me. I could do nothing for them, but I resolved that I would at least try to let you sometime know when and how they died. This at last I am now able to do." This painstaking and monumental effort represented the first time anyone in U.S history attempted to account for the missing in action. As a testament to Barton's work, she was given the honor of raising the first American flag over the Andersonville National Cemetery.

In the late 1800s, Clara Barton travelled throughout the country on a speaking tour that brought her national recognition. She developed friendships with Susan B. Anthony and Fredrick Douglas and become a recognized leader in the Women's Suffrage and Civil Rights movements. Nonstop traveling and work exhausted Barton. By the end of the tour, she was in need of rest and recuperation. She left the United States and travelled to Switzerland to find peace. This trip would prove fateful and launch the next chapter in her life.

### Sources:

Clara Barton | American Battlefield Trust (battlefields.org) Clara Barton (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov) Clara Barton - Biography - Clara Barton Museum Clara Barton | Selected Bibliography - National Museum of Civil

War Medicine



# "A Union of Hands" W.W.H. Davis and the Business of War

By Mike Campbell

For almost a week W.W.H. Davis had been anxiously waiting to take the Doylestown Guards to war. "To Captain W.W.H. Davis," read the telegram from Gov. Andrew Curtin, dated April 22, 1861. "Await orders. We may send you [to Harrisburg] by way of Philadelphia. We have no arms here to give you." Affectionately referred to as Pennsylvania's "War Governor," in the ten days since the fall of Fort Sumter Andrew Curtin had stood constant guard, alone, with his back to the political barricades of Harrisburg and D.C., begging for help. Just now he was caught in a position much like a juggler with too many balls in the air, and not enough hands to catch them with. Pennsylvanians had enthusiastically overfilled the states enlistment quotas at the behest of Lincoln's Call for 75,000 troops; Curtin had 25 organized regiments in hand, while Washington had only offered to pick up the tab for fourteen. It had been like this ever since an early April meeting at The White House, where Lincoln had asked Curtin to have the PA Legislature ready to act in the event of a civil war breaking out. Ever since, Curtin had been tirelessly fighting Washington for funds and authority. By late April he was ready to go it alone. Moving past the Secretary of War, fellow Pennsylvanian Simon Cameron, and "in view of the present condition of the country," according to PA State Senate Majority Leader L.W. Hall, "the impracticability of our present military system must be obvious to all... the statutes regulating and organizing the military forces of the State were adopted in a time of peace, when there was no immediate apprehension of war... the legislative power of the State is properly called on to render it available and effective." But this was much easier said than done. Adopted during the era of recessions and rebellions following the Revolution, the Pennsylvania militia system was ill suited for mass mobilization. Service had long been only nominally compulsory, just as membership, over the decades, had been largely supplanted by Democratic-leaning "volunteer companies." Yet even these had suffered from attrition in the years leading up to Sumter. According to Davis, "the volunteer companies," of Bucks County, were "hanging by the eyelids," in early 1861, "but the war changed all this, and some of the languishing military organizations were the first to spring to the defense of the Union." The Doylestown Guards, which had on its roster an array of prominent Democrats from both political and business life - including a private named Andrew Jackson Pierce were one such company. Sidestepping the problem of an empty purse in Harrisburg, they instead relied on Mexican War era church and civic groups for supplies. Davis notes, "money was collected and goods purchased," in Doylestown, "and the ladies of the town made up a complete outfit of underclothing for the men, besides supplying them with many other necessary articles." "A union of hands," Davis wrote, "active in efforts to fit out husbands, sons and fathers for the field." Still without up to date weapons, but with the best undergarments Bucks County could provide, the Guards left Doylestown on April 29, after much back and forth between Davis and Curtin. They arrived in Harrisburg the same evening, after a stop in Philadelphia for, "pants, blouse and overcoats," according to Lt. Jacob Swartzlander. Taking dinner in Harrisburg, Swartzlander continued, "after supper we took up the line of march for the camp (Camp Curtin) that is about 1 ½ miles above the town. We were quartered in a large Methodist camp meeting tent piled knee deep with straw... Lieut. Harvey and I slept together on a buffalo robe, covered by a white blanket, and a knapsack for a pillow. I slept first rate and feel better this morning (30 APR) than I felt any morning last week." Davis picks up: "the next morning (30 APR) the company was marched into town (Harrisburg) to be mustered into the military service of the United States... a ceremony... clothed with a solemnity befitting the occasion." Afterwards, "the company was marched back to Camp Curtin, where the men were set at work putting their quarters in order. On the following day the company held a meeting... the captain in the chair, and passed resolutions thanking the citizens of Doylestown, the ladies especially... for the courtesy extended them and the assistance rendered in fitting them out." Warm and dry, thoughts "of the girls they left behind," in their heads, "it was a new

experience for these patriotic young men," according to Davis. Mostly concerned with the simple things in life, they saw the debate and dysfunction between Harrisburg and Washington as typical political nonsense. Many were roughing it for the first time; a yet unruffled sense of humor about the trappings of polite society was developing by the campfire light. One correspondent noted, "among us privates, the style of wearing the hair is to have it entirely cut off... among those who are superior to us... the many Captains and Colonels... an abortive attempt has been made to inaugurate a system of sorrel-hued goatees and moustaches." Harmless kidding aside, times would soon get tougher. Davis continues: "the Doylestown Guards were not permitted to tarry long at Camp Curtin. On May 2 Captain Davis was ordered to proceed to Camp Scott, at York, with his own and five unarmed and ununiformed companies, and report to General William H. Keim." "Our company had a hard experience at Camp Scott," wrote Davis. Still at the mercy of the Pennsylvania spring, on Friday night, May 3, a cold rain began to fall. It continued off and on for several days. Davis remembered, "It rained or snowed much of the time we were there... drilling, or other military exercise, was out of the question, and the men, who had to sleep in puddles of wet straw, rapidly fell sick." The Philadelphia Inquirer described the water spigots at Camp Scott as, "a hydrant... near the entrance gate... which furnishes all of the water for our use... dozens of men are constantly grouped around it with tin cups, kettles, or soup-pots, and a squabble for the rights of precedence is not unusual." Faced with the "impracticability" of Pennsylvania's "present military system," Davis responded with quick resolve. He continues: "the sick list of the Guards increased so rapidly at this period that the captain applied for permission to remove the company into town... a Mr. Rupp, a patriotic citizen, offered a comfortable dwelling for quarters." Although Rupp was a common name in York County at the time, locating this Rupp can be tricky. The historic Rupp-Schmidt building at Continental Square, York, dates from 1892; but records from the 1860's show earlier Rupp owned buildings in downtown York, including one in Continental Square that rented space to an Army Recruitment Station during the Civil War. The records also show us a Mr. Daniel Augustus (D.A.) Rupp, a scion of a prominent local family, who ran a Dry Goods store somewhere adjacent to the current Rupp building. He is almost certainly the same landlord to the previously mentioned recruitment station as well. He is in fact the same man who in 1892 built his namesake, the Rupp building, along the same Market Street block where he lived and worked, and in 1861 was one of the richest men in York. He is likely the man who, and his Continental Square store likely the place that sheltered the Doylestown Guards in May, 1861.

In any case, now that the men were situated Davis could turn his attention to other matters: promotions. He continues, "when Captain Davis was sent to Camp Scott with the six companies, it was for the purpose of organizing a new regiment, to be called the Sixteenth, of which he was to be Colonel. This Governor Curtin told him before leaving Harrisburg (30 APR)." Apparently the back and forth between Davis and Curtin had been profitable for Davis afterall, or it would have been were it not for Cameron's incessant poor-mouthing in Washington. While pointing the finger at Lincoln, the Secretary of War had been steadily poking at Curtin to "reduce, rather than enlarge," the number of PA Regiments in Federal Service, prompting an angry letter in reply from the Commonwealth's ranking Major General, Robert Patterson, demanding that an additional 25 regiments be put into the field. Still reeling from the secessionist riots in Baltimore, and sensing the hand of Curtin at work behind the scenes, Cameron demurred, pleading poverty, to which Curtin responded by sending a "letter to the Colonels of all the regiments," exploring the prospect of transferring soldiers enlisted for 3 months to enlistments of 3 years, both as a way for extraneous soldiers to "retire with honor," and as a means to begin consolidating the remaining commands on terms more favorable to Washington.



Small Town, Big Service

Continued from page 5

His point made, Curtin had intended to resume negotiations for more funding, but the reaction at Camp Scott, with the men scattered throughout York waiting out winter, was immediate. The 16th was one of the regiments rumored to be "cut off." Panic quickly set in amongst the "sorrel-hued goatees and moustaches," and a hastily called conference of the 16th's company commanders was assembled. A vote for Colonel was unceremoniously taken, a vote that Davis would lose to "Thomas A. Ziegle, of the Worth Infantry, York." Obviously unaware or unsympathetic to his agreement with Curtin - half of the regiment was from the York area - the other Captains would "tender the position" of Lt. Colonel to Davis as a consolation, an honor he declined, declaring "he must be Caesar or nobody." Seeing no benefit to weighing in on the side of the would-be Emperor from Bucks County, when called upon Curtin, let the whole thing drop, and the election stood. Davis was flabbergasted. "This failure to carry out the wishes of Governor Curtin," he wrote, "caused some friction in military circles, and subsequently changed the destiny of the Doylestown Guards." Friction aside, "this failure" would change the destiny of all three men. Ziegle would end up Colonel of the 107th PA, and die chasing Stonewall Jackson through the Shenandoah Valley in the summer of 1862. Curtin would shake off the Davis controversy by shifting the blame onto Cameron, and by increasing the pressure on the PA Legislature to act. They finally would on May 15th, by creating a 15 regiment "Reserve Corps," nearly 16,000 men, who would go into history known as The Pennsylvania Reserves. Meanwhile Davis' star pointed south. "The Guards were looked upon as a pet company, and so it was with its officers," he noted. Still smarting from the snap election loss, Davis had one last card left to play. "On May 12 the Doylestown Guards were detached from the Sixteenth Regiment, and ordered to Washington... General Keim telling Captain Davis this was done at the special request of the Secretary of War" An old political ally of the Davis family, Cameron would prove to be a lifeline. Where he had been ultimately let down by Curtin, Davis could expect a helping hand from his old friend Cameron. "Captain Davis is detached to take charge of the Reading Light Artillery, and guard its safety - taking the safest route to Washington City," read Brig. Gen Francis Wynkoop's Special Order No. 61. That route would, by necessity, go through secessionist occupied Baltimore. "This looked like business," wrote Davis, "and the company made immediate preparations to carry out the order."

History of the Doylestown Guards (Davis); Pennsylvania Military History (Godcharles); Decline of PA Militia 1815-70 (Holmes); Swartzlander letters (BCCWRT); Philadelphia Times; York Daily Record

# HENRY MERCER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT THE JAMES LORAH HOUSE







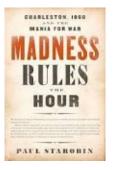








### RECOMMENDED READING





From Lincoln's election to secession from the Union, this compelling history explains how South Carolina was swept into a cultural crisis at the heart of the Civil War.

"The tea has been thrown overboard – the revolution of 1860 has been initiated"- *Charleston Mercury, November 8, 1860* 

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### SWAMP ANGEL II NEWS

newsletter of the
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