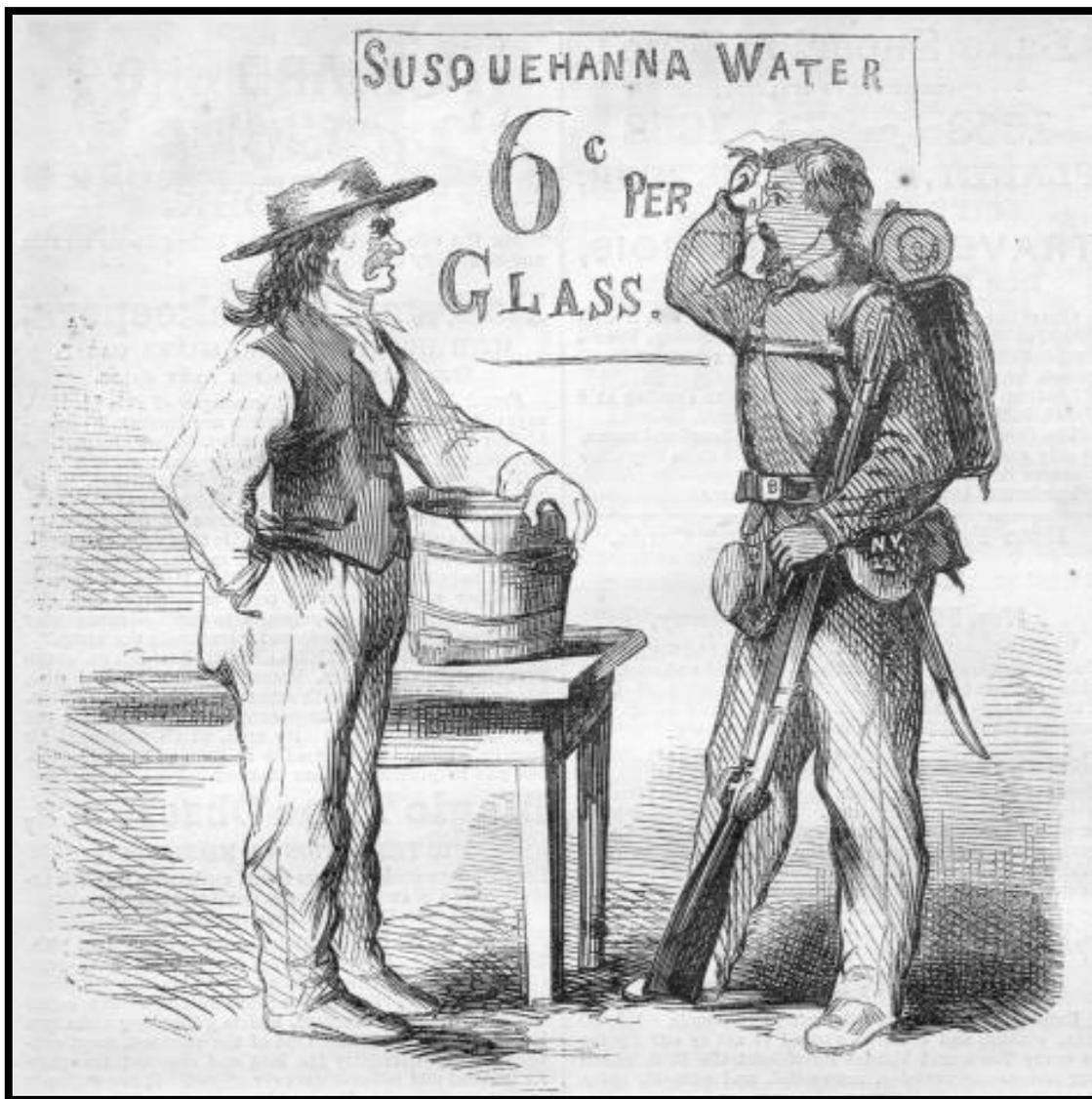


The Bugle



Quarterly Journal of the
Camp Curtin Historical Society
and Civil War Round Table, Inc.

Fall 2017
Volume 27, Number 3



Civil War Editorial Cartoons

"The field upon which we now stand will be known as classic ground, for here has been the great central point of the organization of our military forces. When my administration of public affairs will have been forgotten and the good and evil will be only known to the investigation of the antiquarian, Camp Curtin, with its memories and associations, will be immortal."

- Governor Andrew Curtin, 1865

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Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

October 29, Sunday, 2:00PM

Monument Clean-Up

Fall clean-up of the 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry monument site at Gettysburg National Military Park. For information, contact Jim Schmick, telephone 717-732-5115 or email genjenkins@aol.com.



November 12, Sunday, 2:00PM

Gettysburg Cyclorama Presentation

Chris Brenneman, co-author of *The Gettysburg Cyclorama: The Turning Point of the Civil War on Canvas*, will discuss the great painting. See back cover for details.

Cover: Our lead article in this issue looks at editorial cartoons during the Civil War. Newspapers like *Harper's Weekly*, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, *New York Illustrated News*, and *Ballou's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion* published hundreds of cartoons expressing opinions about the course of the Civil War. The example on our cover from *Harper's Weekly* appeared in July 1863 after the Gettysburg Campaign. It is critical of the treatment of New York militia troops who were sent to Harrisburg to bolster the defenses. The soldiers, who were there to defend against the Confederates, reported that locals took advantage of them by raising prices. The caption read: Able-bodied Pennsylvanian: "Six cents a glass rather dear, you think? Pshaw! What's the good of having you fellows here from New York, if we can't make something out of you to cover what we lose by the rebel raiders?"

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Camp Curtin Historical Society and Civil War Round Table

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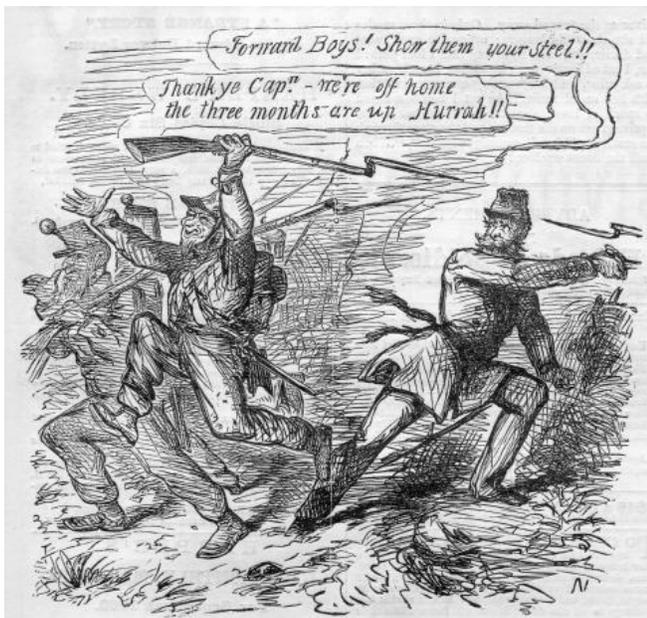
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Civil War Editorial Cartoons

Illustrated newspapers were a relatively new phenomenon during the Civil War. It was not yet technically possible to print photographs so publishers relied on drawings, and wartime newspapers were filled with illustrations of the action. They also printed many editorial cartoons on a variety of topics that offered praise, hope, advice, and criticism. Since most newspapers were partisan, some of the criticism could be quite scathing.

After the firing on Fort Sumter, President Lincoln called for volunteers to serve for 90 days to put down the rebellion. The reason for the limited term was not that Lincoln thought it would be a short war but because federal law restricted the President's authority to call for state troops without the authorization of Congress. Oddly, with the secession crisis ongoing in the spring of 1861, Congress was not in session. Thus, the first troops were enlisted for 90 days. This led to a problem as the Union Army marched out to fight the First Battle of Bull Run. Some of the regiments' enlistments were about to expire, and some troops literally walked off the battlefield as noted in this editorial cartoon.



AFFECTIONATE TESTIMONIAL TO THE PENNSYLVANIA FOURTH, AND TO VARIAN'S (N. Y.) FIELD BATTERY.

Captain: *Forward boys, Shown them your steel!!*

Soldier: *Thank ye Cap.ⁿ - we're off home the three months are up. Hurrah!!*

The caption makes particular reference to the 4th Pennsylvania Infantry and Varian's New York

Artillery Battery leaving the field although other units did the same. Colonel John Hartranft, commander of the 4th Pennsylvania, tried to convince his men to remain and fight. When they refused, he remained on the field and received the Medal of Honor for his services.

In July 1861, Congress authorized three year regiments, and this cartoon praised the 90 day men who saw it as their duty to reenlist for the longer duration.



THE THREE MONTHS VOLUNTEER AT HOME.
(Bubby presenting Boot-jack.) ***"No, Bubby, take that away. I won't pull off my Boots; but jest have a cup of tea and be off again!"***

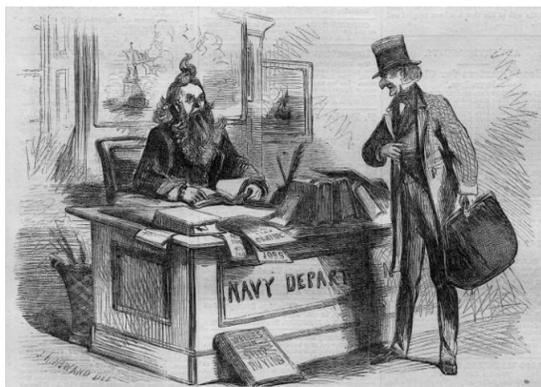
Col. Hartranft would return to Pennsylvania and recruit the 51st Pennsylvania Infantry and fight in the eastern and western campaigns, rising to the rank of Major General. After the Civil War, he was elected Governor of Pennsylvania, and his equestrian statue stands near the Capitol Building in Harrisburg.

The Civil War was bigger than any other war the country had fought up to that time. Weapons, ammunition, uniforms, equipment, and food were needed for hundreds of thousands of men. That meant that the Army had to contract with private manufacturers to make many of these items. Corruption and bribery were rampant and the Army often paid exorbitant prices, leading to great profit for the manufacturers. This cartoon shows the wife of a contractor making extravagant purchases with those ill-gotten gains.



Army Contractor's Wife: "And say, Young Man, put me up a Diamond Necklace and a couple of Gold Watches along of them other things!"

One of the government officials implicated in the contract scandals and a recipient of bribes was Pennsylvania's own Simon Cameron, Lincoln's first Secretary of War. He was forced to resign and was appointed Ambassador to Russia to get him as far away as possible.



Cameron: "Good-by, Welles! I'm off for Russia! There's too much talk of hanging here to suit me!"

One of the biggest problems that faced the Union was the possibility of European intervention in the Civil War on the side of the South. Many editorial cartoons touched on this topic. England was usually portrayed as "John Bull" an overweight businessman and France was a caricature of Emperor Napoleon III. Lincoln and Secretary of State William Seward worked continually, often behind the scenes, to ensure that the South was not recognized as an independent nation. In this cartoon, Lincoln - that Big Fellow - is depicted as blocking recognition by the European powers.



"RECOGNITION," or "NO."

J. Bull to Napoleon III: "Can you recognize that thing they call the C. S. A.?" Nap: "Well, I think I could, if 'twere not for that Big Fellow who stands in front."

Lincoln did not always fare so well in the cartoons. After the disastrous defeat at Fredericksburg in December 1862, Lincoln, Secretary of War Stanton and General Burnside were blamed for the many deaths by Columbia, the spirit of the nation. Lincoln's penchant for stories and jokes was also mocked.



Columbia: "Where are my 15,000 Sons—murdered at Fredericksburg?" Lincoln: "This reminds me of a little Joke." Columbia: "Go tell your Joke at Springfield!!"

Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation in September 1862, freeing the slaves on January 1, 1863, if the South did not cease the rebellion and return to the Union. As the deadline approached, Lincoln was shown cutting down the tree where the Confederacy was cowering.



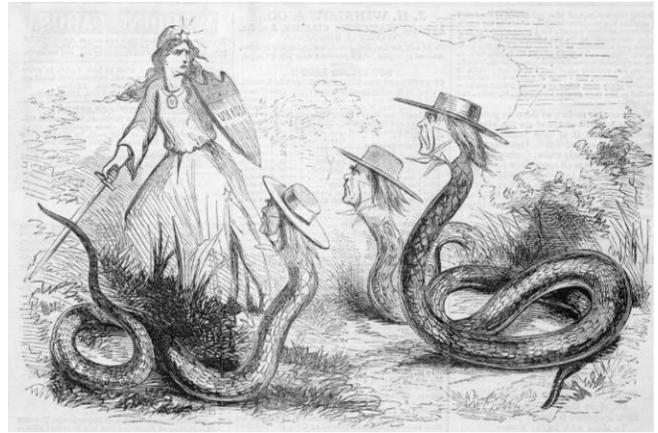
LINCOLN'S LAST WARNING.
*"Now, if you don't come down,
 I'll cut the Tree from under you."*

The North instituted a conscription in 1863, but men with money could avoid the draft by hiring a substitute to take his place. Many considered it a dishonorable act and shunned the men who took that option.



SCENE, FIFTH AVENUE.
*HE. "Ah! Dearest Addie! I've succeeded. I've got
 a Substitute!" SHE. "Have you? What a curious
 coincidence! And I have found one for you!"*

Those in the North who opposed the war and were willing to let the South go its own way were vilified as traitors and were called Copperheads after the deadly snake. Many editorial cartoons pictured them as vicious reptiles attacking Lady Liberty.



Confederates were almost always pictured as emaciated, with dark sunken eyes. This characterization was especially highlighted when food shortages in the South pressured Confederate President Jefferson Davis to issue various proclamations for a day of fasting and prayer. In this drawing the Southern leader has a definite Satanic look with horns.



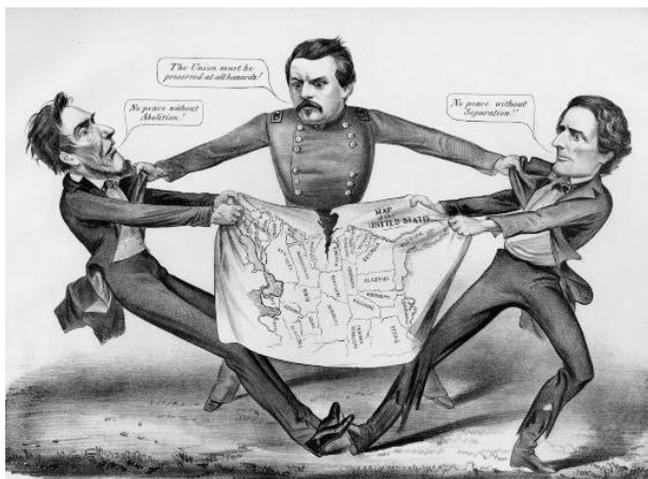
SCENE IN RICHMOND, VA.
*The President stands in a corner and proclaims a third
 fast while the sufferings endured by the people have
 never been paralleled in history.*

When Gen. Ulysses S. Grant was appointed to head all Union Armies in 1864, he made his headquarters with the Army of the Potomac and for the first time faced Gen. Robert E. Lee in the Overland Campaign. Unlike other commanders, Grant did not fall back after a defeat. Instead, he moved to the left around Lee's flank and kept marching on Richmond. In this cartoon, Grant is seen spanking the once seemingly invincible Lee.



Grant turning Lee's Flank.

The presidential election of 1864 pitted President Lincoln against former army commander George McClellan. In this cartoon McClellan is pictured as a moderating force between Lincoln and Davis who are tearing the country apart.



Lincoln: "No Peace without Abolition!"
Davis: "No peace without Separation!"
McClellan: "The Union must be preserved at all hazards!"

McClellan, who was often ridiculed in the newspapers as "Little Mac," was depicted as a little threat and a joke to Lincoln's reelection campaign.



Lincoln: This reminds me of a little joke.

When Lincoln was assassinated in April 1865, *Punch*, the British humor magazine that had often ridiculed Lincoln through the years, published a very touching cartoon. Britannia is shown placing a mourning wreath on the shroud covered body of Lincoln while Columbia (left) and a freed slave (right) weep at the side of the dead President.



Britannia sympathizes with Columbia.

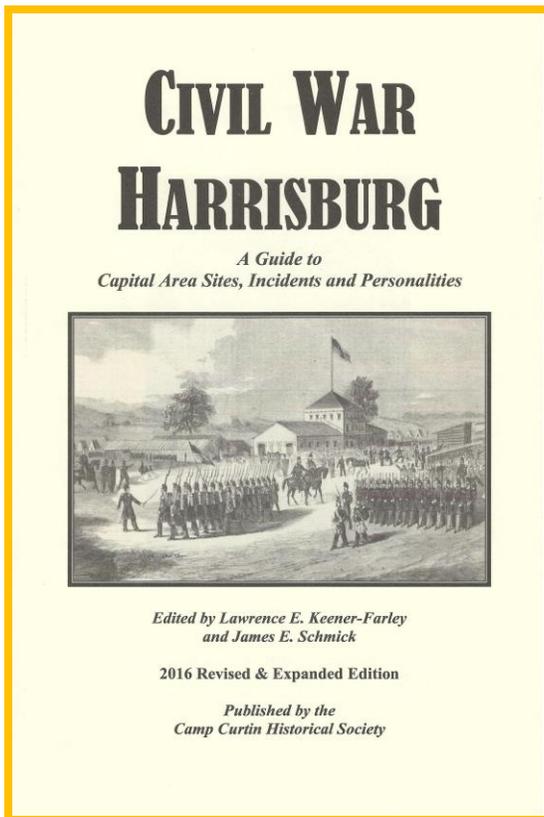
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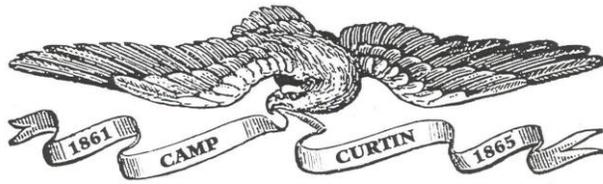


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*Camp Curtin Historical Society
presents*

Chris Brenneman

speaking on

The Gettysburg Cyclorama

*2:00PM, Sunday, November 12th
at the*

National Civil War Museum

1 Lincoln Circle, Reservoir Park, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



Chris Brenneman was born in York and is a lifelong student of history, especially the Civil War. He has been visiting Gettysburg since he was very young in the 1970's. Chris graduated in 1992 from the University of Delaware. He followed his dreams and moved to Gettysburg. Chris has been a Licensed Battlefield Guide at the Gettysburg National Military Park since 2009. He is also an employee of the

Gettysburg Foundation, the nonprofit organization that oversees the Visitor Center and Museum at the park. As part of his job, Chris spends several hours each day with the cyclorama. As a result of thousands of hours of study, he is familiar with all of the intricate details of the painting. In his book, *The Gettysburg Cyclorama: the Turning Point of the Civil War on Canvas*, Chris focuses on all of the people and places depicted in the Gettysburg Cyclorama. Chris will discuss how the huge painting was created and what it depicts plus the changes it has undergone and where and how it was moved. Chris will also discuss how the painting was interpreted by Civil War veterans in the late 19th Century.

This presentation is free and open to the public. Bring a friend.

For information call 717-732-5115 or email genjenkins@aol.com.