

James City Cavalry PICKET LINES



April 2014 Dispatch - Williamsburg, Virginia - http://www.jamescitycavalry.org

Camp #2095 🧺 1st Brigade 👺 Virginia Division 🎉 Army of Northern Virginia

A PATRIOTIC HONOR SOCIETY DEDICATED TO SERVICE AND PRESERVING THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

NEXT MUSIER

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2014, 6:30pm Colonial Heritage Club http://colonialheritageclub.org/home.asp 6500 Arthur Hills Drive Williamsburg, VA 23188

Guest Speaker:

Mr. Scott Williams, Historian and Author Richmond, Virginia

"The Bermuda Hundred Campaign, May- 1864"



Meal Cost: \$17.00 Per Person —
(genuine Confederate currency gladly accepted —
will reluctantly accept US \$5 notes)
Honored Confederate Soldier:

Pvt. Caleb Ross Company H (The Virginia Rangers) 9th Virginia Cavalry

RSVP Required

APRIL GUEST SPEAKER

Mr. Scott Williams, Historian and Author Richmond, Virginia

"The Bermuda Hundred Campaign, May- 1864"

In May of 1864, Major General Benjamin F. Butler landed 38,000 men of the Army of the James at a neck of land in Chesterfield County known as Bermuda Hundred. Butler was to secure a base of operations, sever the rail link between Richmond and Petersburg, and move on Richmond. During the first days of May, battles fought at Port Walthall Junction, Swift Creek, Chester Station, and Drewry's Bluff prevented Butler from reaching his objective. Meanwhile, Confederate commanders General George Pickett and General P. G. T. Beauregard scrambled to find enough spare troops to place in Butler's path. Butler ultimately fell back to his defensive positions at Bermuda Hundred where the Confederates constructed a strong line of earthworks that kept him there. Despite being overshadowed by other battles in Grant's 1864 Overland Campaign, the fighting in Bermuda Hundred played a very important role in the last years of the Civil War. Scott's talk will focus on the fighting that took place in Chesterfield County in the Spring of 1864 and the lost opportunities of one of the lesser known campaigns of the Civil War.

Scott Williams is a Geographic Information Systems Analyst with Chesterfield County Environmental Engineering. He has worked for the county since 1996. During that time he has been active in helping to preserve, interpret, and maintain Civil War sites in the county. He wrote several sections of the Bermuda Hundred Campaign Tour Guide and created all of the maps for that book. He also created the maps for The Seventh South Carolina Cavalry: To the Defense of Richmond and Our Brave Boys, a History of the 21st North Carolina Infantry. Scott is on the committee that has planned events to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Chesterfield County and has served as the Chairman of the Military History Committee for the Chesterfield Historical Society since 2006. Scott is a 1986 graduate of Old Dominion University with a BA in Geography. Scott was born and raised in Richmond. He and his wife Sandy currently reside within earshot of the falls of the James River near Pony Pasture Park.

Bring a guest to our April meeting. Supper will be served at 6:30PM, and we will introduce Scott Williams at 7:30. Our buffet costs \$17 per person. Non-members please contact Ken Parsons, kparsons4@cox.net or (757) 564-0878, to confirm your reservations.

CAMP JOURNAL FOR LAST MUSTER

Meeting:

Held 26 Mar. at 6:30PM at Colonial Heritage Club, James City Cty., Va., 51 attendees

Call to Order & Welcome given by Commander Jeff Toalson

Invocation:

Given by Chaplain Fred Breeden

Pledge & Salute to the Flags
Break for Supper
The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster Warren Raines
Guest Introduction by Commander Jeff Toalson

Ancestral Memorial Candle:

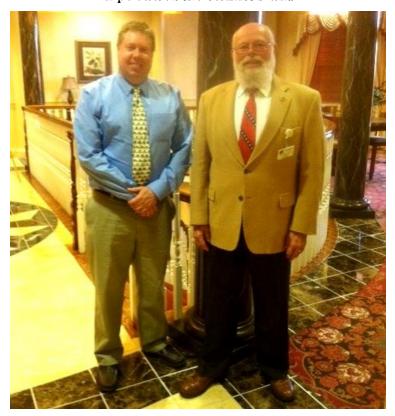
Read by Compatriot Charles Eugene Bush in honor of

Lt. Jacob H. Engle,

Co. A - 12th Virginia Cavalry.

Program:

Commander Jeff Toalson introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Robert Dunkerly, Historian and Author of Richmond, Virginia. Drawing on eyewitness accounts, Mr. Dunkerly described the largest troop surrender of the War, at Greensboro, along with the confusion, frustration and tension that ensued. Overshadowed by Appomattox, this event was equally important in ending the War and much more representative of how most Americans in 1865 experienced the conflict's end.



Mr. Robert Dunkerly of Richmond (l.) and 1st Lt. Commander Ed Engle.

Committee Reports and Announcements

Treasurer's Report

Adjutant Ken Parsons indicated the Camp has \$2028.90 in the bank.

Cemetery Report

(Please see Page 3)

Support the Troops

Reporting for Scott Summerfield, Adjutant Ken Parsons said that four more boxes were sent to Cpl. Dalton Simmons, USMC, 9th Comm Battalion. Thanks to all who brought supplies to the meeting. Needed Items:

Baby Wipes
Q-Tips
Hard Candy
Slim Jims
Lip Balm
Beef Jerky
Dental Floss
Moisture Lotion

Old & New Business

- 1. Commander Jeff Toalson announced that Jack Herrick of Lafayette High School was this year's winner of the Col. Allen Scholarship (please see pp. 6-9).
- The Camp donated \$200 for fence repair at Ft. Magruder.
 The UDC will host a Ceremony at Ft. Magruder on Sunday, May 5th at 4:00pm
- 4. Our Memorial/Remembrence Day Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 23rd at 5:00pm at the James City Chapel and the Picnic Supper will convene at 6:00pm

 At Compatriot Fred Boelt's farm in Toano.
 - 5. Plans have been finalized to honor Bridget Grimes at Oakwood Cemetery on Saturday, June 7th at 11:30am at the Oakwood Cemetery (please see pp. 10-11).

Trivia Question

What distinguished Shiloh from the battles fought before then?

A. It was the first large-scale battle of the War.

Book Raffle

\$105 in proceeds were donated to the Camp Treasury for the raffle of the three donations:

"Sherman's March" by Burke Davis;

"The Confederacy's Last Hurrah" by Wiley Sword; and "Becoming Confederates" by Garry Gallagher.

"Dixie"

Led by Compatriot Bill Young.

Benediction

Given by Chaplain Fred Breeden.

CEMETERY REPORT

Feb. 27 - Berm at Ft. Magruder was cut on the front side.

Feb. 28 - All limbs at Ft. Magruder from our previous clean-up day were removed.

Mar 7 - On our scheduled work-day, Compatriot Joel Goodwin an I picked up trash, limbs, and grubbed out some stubs at the Cowles-Spencer Cemetery. Located another gravesite by finding a depression-glass-type of pitcher. Continued on to Peach Park Cemetery. Joel fluffed-up the mulch walkway and around the trees while I cut down saplings along the ditch-line. We both filled in ground-hog holes and copies of the Peach Park brochure were placed in the mailbox on-site.

Mar 8 – Walk-behind brush-hogged the Cowles-Spencer Cemetery and Sunnyside Cemetery. Sunnyside has what appears to be a dead dogwood tree. Will check after the area dogwoods bloom and will remove. New Battle Flags were placed on the five graves at Sunnyside.

Mar 12 - Met with Iva Richardson and gave her the five Battle Flags for CS Veterans buried in the Richardson Family Cemetery to replace one from last year.

Another working day will be scheduled for April 26th at 1:00pm to get Ft. Magruder in-shape for the May Battle of Williamsburg Dedication Ceremony.

Respectfully Submitted & Yours in Preservation, 2nd Lt. Commander Steve White, Cemetery Liaison





Commander Jeff Toalson (l.) and Williamsburg Civil War Round Table President and FOC Bill Miller, guest at our meeting, hold one of the many flags presented by Jeff at the WCWRT meeting on March 25th. The Commander's presentation was "Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive – A Composite Diary of 1863 in the Confederacy", one thoroughly enjoyed by the Camp a few months ago. Please make plans to hear Mr. Steve French speak on "Captain Redmond Burke – Stuart's Border Scout" at the next WCWRT.

WILLIAMSBURG CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

Tuesday, April 22nd, 2014, 7:00pm Williamsburg Regional Library: Mr. Steve French – "Captain Redmond Burke – Stuart's Border Scout"

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2nd Lt. Commander

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Archivist/Editor

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CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

(Contributed by Historian/Genealogist Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Williamsburg residents Leonard Henley and his wife Harriett T. Coke had five daughters and two sons. Their older son, John Alexander Henley, was born on January 13, 1818. Leonard Henley was clerk of the county and circuit courts until his early death in 1831. He had purchased the Charlton House on Duke of Gloucester Street in 1819, and several generations of his family lived there 1886.

John Henley's name appears the Provisional List of Alumni of the College of William and Mary for 1834-36. On the 1850 census, John was listed as head of the household that included his mother, one married sister, two nieces and a nephew, and he was serving as City Sergeant at that time. Like his father, he served as clerk of the circuit court during 1858-61. Unmarried, he continued to live with his mother when the 1860 census was taken. He was captain of the Williamsburg Junior Guard from June 1860 until May 11, 1862.

Henley mustered into Company C, 32nd Virginia Infantry, on April 28, 1861, and was commissioned as Captain on July 1st. He was stationed at Spratley's farm in James City County during the winter of 1861-62, and was present on all rolls except for January 1862 when he was on leave. He requisitioned many supplies during this period. In the fall, he requested hammers, saws and carpenters' materials, undoubtedly for his troops to build winter quarters. Other supplies requested were army overcoats, shoes, blankets, fuel, stationary and musket cartridges.

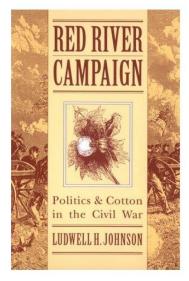
Henley was not re-elected as captain on May 11, 1862. His record is not specific from this point until February 24, 1863, when he was assigned for medical treatment in Richmond. On June 12th in Richmond, he enlisted in Captain Robert White's company for local defense. This company was composed of employees of the War

Department of the Confederate States of America. Henley became captain of Company A, organized on June 29, 1863, and his official residence was listed as Richmond. A few days later, he was appointed Major of the 3rd Battalion, local defense troops on July 2, 1863, holding that position until April 22, 1864. He served as clerk in the Adjutant & Inspector General's Office until he resigned due to ill health in March 1864.

In May 1864 in his application for a position as a clerk in the 2nd Auditor's Office, Treasury Department, Henley stated, "two months of leisure and rest have refreshed me, and I now feel able to work again." He was again employed as a clerk. But perhaps in his role in local defense, he was captured and taken to Harrison's Landing on October 9, 1864. He refused to take the oath, was transferred to City Point, and from there to Point Lookout. He was exchanged on February 10, 1865. After this Henley served as a private in the 3rd Battalion and was paroled in Richmond on April 21, 1865

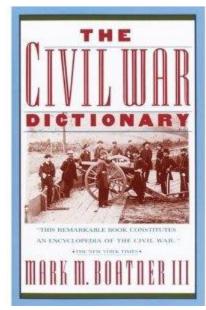
John Henley returned to the family home in Williamsburg. Before the 1870 census, he had married a woman twenty years younger than himself, and he was listed as a "clerk in store." John and Ella Henley had a son born in 1870 and a daughter born in 1876. John Henley served several terms as mayor of Williamsburg, and at other times, clerk of the school board, assessor for the city, and as a member of the Board of Directors for the Eastern Lunatic Asylum. After his wife died, he moved to Newport News a few years before his death to be near his children. John Alexander Henley died there on May 9, 1899. His funeral service took place the following day at Bruton Parish Church, and he was interred in the church gravevard. There is no gravestone there for him; knowledge of his burial place is taken from his obituary.

APRIL BOOK RAFFLE



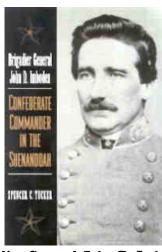
"Red River Campaign" Ludwell Johnson, Kent State Press, 1993, Soft Cover, 300 pages

Written by W&M professor Ludwell Johnson and first published in 1958. This was the first study to focus on the Red River Campaign of 1864, New England textile manufacturings need for cotton, and the many flawed campaign of Union General Nathaniel Banks.



"The Civil War Dictionary" Mark M. Boatner, New York, 1959, Hard Cover, 973 pages

A massive dictionary of people and places and things of the WBTS. A great source of some basic thumbnail info on Burnt Hickory, Georgia, the Burnside carbine, and Casper Crowninshield... should anyone be interested.



"Brigadier General John D. Imboden – Confederate Commander in the Shenandoah" Spencer C. Tucker, Lexington, 2003, Hard Cover, 365 pages

The first in depth study of this CSA cavalry commander, his insights regarding Stonewall Jackson, his key campaigns [specifically the Jones-Imboden Raid, the Gettysburg Campaign, and the Valley in 1864], and his postwar career of railroads and mining in Virginia.

APRIL TRIVIA QUESTION:

What conditions and decisions led to the Battle of New Market on May 15th, 1864?



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The Emancipation Proclamation

The Document that vindicated America

By Jack Herrick - Lafayette High School

The Emancipation Proclamation was undoubtedly the single most essential act of Abraham Lincoln's presidency. The text of this immortal document exposes the most important themes of the Civil Warby affirming slavery's role in precipitating the war itself, establishing the importance of black soldiers, and also by expressing Lincoln's own personal hopes to reunite the Union.

"All persons held as slaves within any state or designated part of a state, the people whereof shall be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free..." 1

In addition to the interse moral implications and impact of the document, the Proclamation aided the Unions cause instrumentally. As a result of its exclusivity to territory still held by the Confederacy, only a small number of slaves were actually immediately freed. However, the importance of the Proclamation could be easily seen by the deprivation of the South's essential labor force by incentivizing all slaves to escape to nearby Union lines. Black slaves, who had been escaping to Union lines ever since the war had been brought to the South, were made free by the Proclamation. The tactical importance of this Emancipation was instrumental in ending the war. Thousands of these slaves immediately enlisted in the Union Army once emancipated. Lincoln declared that "such persons of suitable condition will be received into the armed service of the United States to garris on forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service." This impact caused by the Proclamation made itself apparent almost immediately. Black men could at long last fight for their freedom, and subsequently focused their efforts on enlisting. The Union Army finally accepted them into their ranks, ab andoming the

Roy P. Basler, The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers UP, 1953) Vol. 2: 323, Vol. 5: 442-443, Vol. 7: 394-396

² Ira Berlin, "The Slaves Were the Primary Force Behind Their Errancipation," in The Civil War. Opposing Viewpoints, ed. William Dudley (San Diego: Greenhaven, 1995) 284

idea that the war was only one that "white men" could fight. Lincoln reported in his December 8,1863.

State of the Union Address that close to 100,000 black troops had joined the Union's Army and Navy.

"So far as tested it is difficult to say they are not as good soldiers as any," Lincoln reported. He was also quick to allay early fears of the Proclamation's opponents: "No servile insurrection or tendency to violence or cruelty has marked the measures of emancipation and arming the blacks." As the Union Army advanced through the South, Lincoln again noted the changed condition of the military in his 1864 message to Congress: "thousands, white and black, join us as the national arms press back the insurgent lines". Almost 300,000 African Americans joined the Union Military between 1863 and 1865. By war's end, they made up ten percent of Union forces and performed key roles in the Union victory.

Lincoln took a magnificent political risk when pursuing the Emancipation Proclamation In 1860, Lincoln has been elected with considerably less than half of the popular vote. In 1863, as the Emancipation took effect, the Proclamation was finding increasing support among the Northern public and Union soldiers. However, the vast majority of soldiers within the armed forces were not by any means abolitionists. The soldiers, as written by an Indiana Colonel, only wanted "to destroy everything that in aught gives the rebels strength" so "this army will sustain the emancipation proclamation and enforce it with the bayonet." Acceptance of Emancipation was by no means universal among the Northerners. A New York newspaper editor told a mass meeting that "when the President called upon them to go and carry on a war for the nigger, he would be danned if he believed they would go." Some of the worst mob violence in American History happened in July 1863. In draft riots in New York City, as well as other cities, northerners who felt they were being threatened with conscription to fight a war of

^a Alvin R. Kantonand Marjorie S. Kantor, Sanitary Fairs: A Philatelic and Historical Study of Civil War Benevolences (Chicago: Arros Philatelics, 1992).

emancipation targeted black people with beatings, lynching's and the destruction of property, including the burning of the Colored Orphan Asylum. More than 100 people were killed in the violence. 4

The backlash brought on by the mere suggestion of emancipation greatly threatened Lincolns reelection chances in 1864. Henry J. Raymond, chairman of the Republican National Committee, told the
President. "The tide is setting strongly against us... Two special causes are assigned to this great
reaction in public sentiment,—the want of military success, and the impression...that we can have peace
with Union... [but that you are] fighting not for Union but for the abolition of slavery."

Despite the public resistance, Lincoln went on to forge the Emancipation Proclamation. He invoked a moral commitment, by stating "There have been men who have proposed to me to return to slavery the black warriors of Port Hudson and Olustee. I should be damned in time & in eternity for so doing. The world shall know that I will keep my faith to friends & enemies, come what will." ⁵

The question of slavery's role in causing the Civil War has provoked some of the most intense deb ates in American history. Multitudes of Southerners have argued that the true cause of Civil War was not to defend slavery, but rather States' rights. That argument became invalid, however, with the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, which demanded the use of Federal Mars halls to return their runaway slaves. This action made slavery one of Federal dictation, rather than a state's rights is sue. Southern leaders, namely Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens, often blatartly admitted the importance of slavery to the majority of Confederate State's grievances with the Union. In March 1861 he called slavery the "cornerstone" of the Confederacy. "The new [Confederate] constitution has put at rest, forever, all the agitating questions relating to our peculiar institution African slavery as it exists amongs t us is the proper status of the Negro in our form of civilization ... Though not incorporated in the [U.S.] constitution [its framers] rested upon the assumption of the equality of races. This was an error... Our

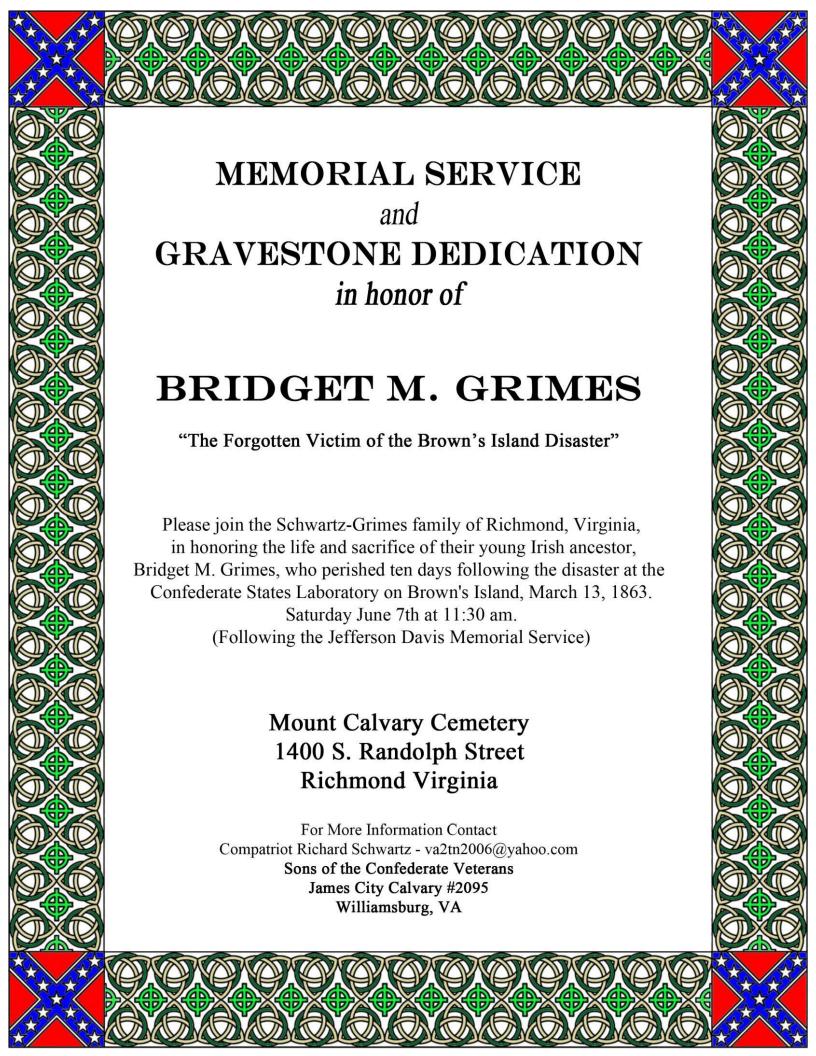
Larnes Oliver Horton and Lois E. Horton, In Hope of Liberty: Culture, Community and Protest Among Northern Free Blacks, 1700-1860 (New York: Oxford UP, 1997) ix.

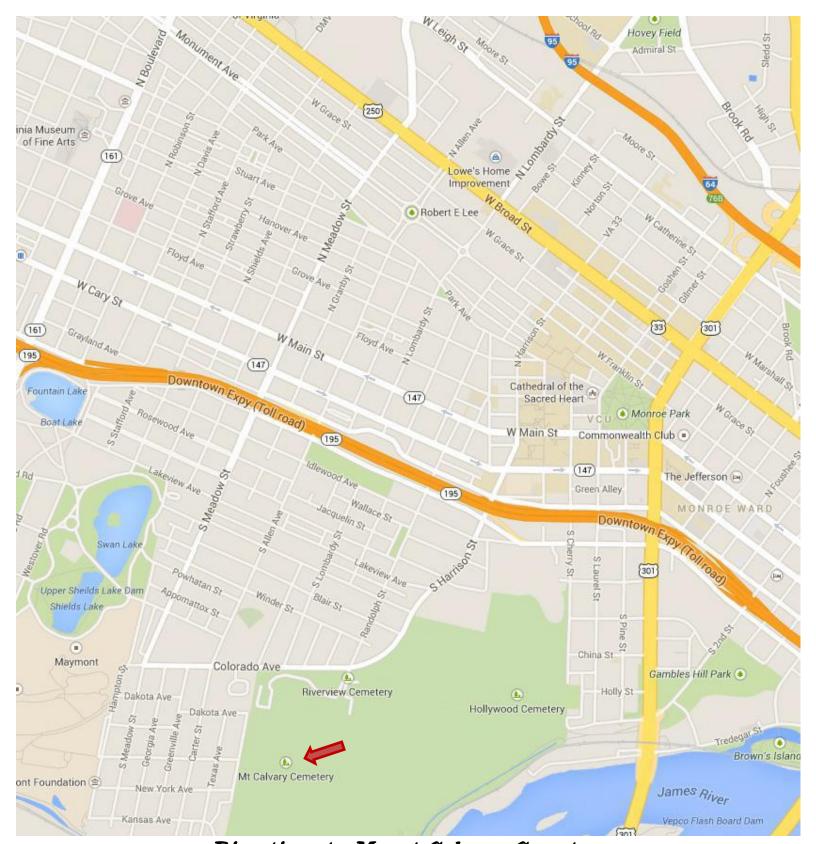
[🏝] Lames M. McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era (New York: Oxford UP, 1988) 312.

new government is founded upon exactly the opposite idea; its foundations are laid, its corner-stone rests, upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery subordination to the superior race is his natural and normal condition. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth."

What the Emancipation Proclamation did was affirm that the central conflict that precipitated the Civil War was, in fact, slavery. Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation as soon as the dire needs of war made it possible for him to make such a radical step towards abolition. Despite the knowledge that the Proclamation could cost him re-election, he insisted on re-integration of the Union, and the Emancipation itself, as an essential pre-condition to any peace regotiation. Even though the struggle for civil rights would undoubtedly follow, Abraham Lincoln regarded the Proclamation as "the central act of my administration, and the great event of the nineteenth century."

⁶ Alexander Stephens, "Cornerstone Speech, March 21, 1861





Directions to Mount Calvary Cemetery Exit Hollywood Cemetery onto South Cherry Street (One Way).

Take left turn onto Cumberland Street

(Just past the 195 Downtown Expressway).

Follow Cumberland Street, then turn left onto South Harrison Street at stop light.

Follow South Harrison Street, take left onto South Randolph Street. Mount Calvary Cemetery entrance straight ahead.