



News from the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners

Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:40 PM

From: "History Remembered, Inc." <civil-war@comcast.net>
To: pcinc@prodigy.net

History Remembered, Inc.
A Civil War History Partner

**Michigan Civil War
Sesquicentennial Circular**

April 2013

Volume 4, Issue No. 4

**Featured
Articles**

**Civil War
Symposium**

**Bread Riots in
Richmond**

**The Continuous
Roll Printing
Press**

**Upcoming
Events**

**Interesting
Websites**

History Partners

Michigan Remembers the Civil War -

I am sending the April Circular out a couple of days early because there is an April 1 deadline for registering for the Civil War Symposium scheduled for Saturday, April 6. (For more information, please see that section below.)

As I have shared in previous Circulars, I send out these email messages in order to give you as much up-to-date information about the efforts and events commemorating the Civil War Sesquicentennial here in Michigan as possible. They take me anywhere from several hours to half a day to create. The cost for each Circular is about \$35. I truly enjoy sharing the calendar of events and more importantly, the additional stories I like to refer to as "historical trivia."

So with this Circular, I extend to you my sincerest thanks for making this work worthwhile. I also say THANK YOU for helping History Remembered's Michigan Civil

[Keith Harrison](#)

Chair

*The Military Order
of the Loyal Legion
of the United States,
Michigan Commandery*

*Sons of
Union Veterans
of the Civil War,
Department of Michigan*

[Tom Berlucchi](#)

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Reenactors

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Museums & Roundtables

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Chair

*Libraries, Historical
& Genealogical Societies*

[Donna Ullrich](#)

Publicity



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War Sesquicentennial Circular a winner for 2012!



What does that mean? It means that over 25% of you open and read the contents. The industry average for non-profits is about 21% and our average since the first issue in 2010 is 30.9%

This Sunday is Easter and the weather forecast for the Grand Rapids area is calling for snow showers. It's just a reminder we live in Michigan.

A look at the events of April 1863 show a rather routine month with several naval battles and regular troop movements. Easter in 1863 was April 5. In Richmond, just a few days earlier, there was an event that would be known as the Bread Riot.

Thank you for commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Please feel free to use the Forwarding function at the bottom to share with others and encourage your friends to Subscribe using that feature as well.

Respectfully,

Bruce B. Butgereit, Executive Director
History Remembered, Inc.
Grand Rapids, MI

Quick Links...



[Seeking Michigan:
Michigan and
the Civil War](#)

[iMichigan
Productions](#)

[Restoration:
Detroit GAR
Building](#)

A Civil War Symposium -

April 6, 2013
Saturday, 8 AM to 2:30 PM
Michigan Historical Center
702 West Kalamazoo Ave.
Lansing, MI

Cost is \$20

[Event Flyer](#)

[Registration Form](#)

Civil War Symposium:
1863 The Turning Point of the Civil War

Sponsored by the **Friends of Michigan History, Inc.** and the **Michigan Historical Center**, the event is \$20 and includes registration, a box lunch and free parking. For more information, contact Keith Harrison, Friends of Michigan History at pcinc@prodigy.net

The schedule is as follows -

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Registration and Refreshments

9:00 AM - 9:15 AM
Welcome - Sandra S. Clark, Michigan Historical Center Director
Welcome - Keith G. Harrison, Friends of Michigan History Inc. Board Member & Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners Chair

9:15 AM - 9:20 AM
Sandra Clark - Introduction of Keynote Speaker

9:20AM - 10:20 AM
Keynote Presentation
Dr. Roger Rosentreter, MSU Professor of History

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM: Early Concurrent Session

Women in the Civil War

Dr. Marilyn Culpepper, Retired MSU Professor of
American Thought and Language

Food during the Civil War

Mr. Eric Perkins, Michigan Historical Center Historian

Tools and Resources to Research the Civil War

Mr. Mark Harvey, State Archivist and Mr. Jesse Lasorda,
Lansing Historian

Recent Books on the Civil War

Mr. Mark Hoffman, Civil War Author &
Michigan Department of Natural Resources Chief
Administrative Officer

Lunch Break

11:45 AM - 12:45 PM: Concurrent Morning Sessions

The Battle of Gettysburg Revisited

Mr. David Finney, Renowned Civil War Historian &
Retired Farmington Hills Teacher

President Lincoln - A Portrait in Time

Mr. Rick Brown, Lincoln Historian

The 102nd United States Colored Troops

Mr. Jerome Peebles, 102nd USCT Historian

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM: Concurrent Afternoon Sessions

*The Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi and the Battle of Gettysburg
from a Geographer's Perspective*

Mr. Morris Thomas, MSU Professor of Geography

International Intrigue or "Cotton was not King"

Dr. Tim McLin, LCC History Professor

In Their Words - the Story of Annie Etheridge, Civil War Nurse

Mr. Bruce Butgereit, History Remembered, Inc Executive
Director & Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History
Partners Board Member.

*The Michigan Cavalry Brigades and Weapons of Mass
Destruction*

Dr. Roger Rosentreter, MSU Professor of History.

Bread Riots in Richmond, 1863 -

By 1863, the combination of the Northern blockade of Southern ports, the diversion of Southern food supplies from the home front to the war front and the escalating inflation of its currency began to negatively affect the Confederacy's civilian population. Tensions boiled to the surface on April 2, 1863 when a group of hungry and desperate women descended upon the Confederate capitol in Richmond demanding relief. Rebuffed by the Governor, the mob took their complaints to the streets and sparked a spontaneous protest by a crowd estimated in the thousands. Shouting "Bread, Bread, Bread!" the mob vented its frustrations by smashing store windows and looted their contents.

The chaos was curbed only when Confederate President Jefferson Davis called upon the crowd to disperse, backing up his entreaty with troops armed with fixed bayonets

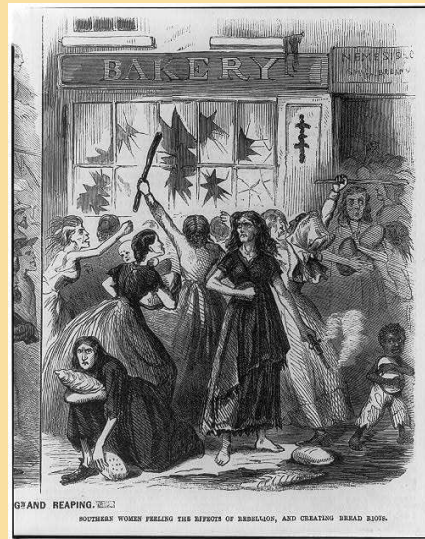
A Richmond woman described the scene in a letter written to a friend on April 2, 1863:

"Something very sad has just happened in Richmond - something that makes me ashamed of all my jeremiads over the loss of the petty comforts and conveniences of life - hats, bonnets, gowns, stationery, books, magazines, dainty food.

Since the weather has been so pleasant, I have been in the habit of walking in the Capitol Square before breakfast every morning. . . Yesterday, upon arriving, I found within the gates a crowd of women and boys - several hundreds of them, standing quietly together.

I sat on a bench near, and one of the number left the rest and took the seat beside me. She was a pale, emaciated girl, not more than eighteen. . . As she

raised her hand to remove her sunbonnet and use it for a fan, her loose calico sleeve slipped up and revealed the mere skeleton of an arm. She perceived my expression as I looked at it, and hastily pulled down her sleeve with a short laugh. 'This is all that's left of me!' she said. 'It seems real funny, don't it? . . . We are starving. As soon as enough of us get together, we are going to the bakeries and each of us will take a loaf of bread. That is little enough for the government to give us after it has taken all our men.'



. . . The crowd now rapidly increased, and numbered, I am sure, more than a thousand women and children. It grew and grew until it reached the dignity of a mob - a bread riot. They impressed all the light carts they met, and marched along silently and in order. They

marched through Cary Street and Main, visiting the stores of the speculators and emptying them of their contents. Governor Letcher sent the mayor to read the Riot Act, and as this had no effect on the crowd. The city battalion came up. The women fell back with frightened eyes, but did not obey the order to disperse.

The President [Jefferson Davis] then appeared ascended a dray, and addressed them. It is, said he was received at first with hisses from the boys, but after he had spoken some little time with great kindness and sympathy, the women moved quietly on, taking their food with them. General Elze and General Winder wished to call troops from the camps to 'suppress the women,' but [Secretary of

War James] Seddon, a wise man, declined to issue the order. While I write women and children are still standing in the streets, demanding food, and the government is issuing to them rations of rice."

From: "Bread Riot in Richmond, 1863" EyeWitness to History, www.eyewitnesstohistory.com (2009).

Clicking on the link below will open a sixty-six page document you can download titled:

[The Richmond Bread Riot of 1863](#)

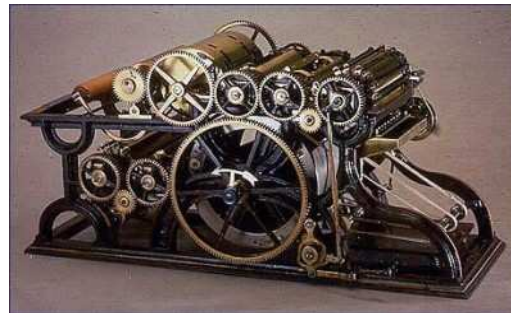
Class, Race, and Gender in the Urban Confederacy
By Katherine R. Titus, U.S. Naval Academy

Source http://www.usna.edu/History/Docs/Honors%20Theses%202010/Titus_HH509-Compiled.pdf

The Continuous-Roll Printing Press -

On a personal note: Since 2003, I have been employed in the printing industry at FedEx Office (formerly Kinko's) and now Crop Marks Printing in Grand Rapids. Although not directly connected to the Civil War, sharing this story of a printing event that took place 150 years ago just made sense.

William Bullock received patent No. 38,200 for his continuous-roll printing press on April 14, 1863.



In 1865, William Bullock invented the Bullock Press, which was the first press to be fed by

continuous-roll paper. Once threaded into the machine, the paper was then printed simultaneously on both sides by two cylinder forms and cut by a serrated knife. The press could print up to 12,000 pages per hour, and later models could produce 30,000 pages per hour. The first roll papers were over five miles in length.

The first newspaper to use this press was the *Cincinnati Times*. The cost was about \$25,000 or \$352,112.68 today.

A story from Petersburg, Virginia in 1867 stated these amazing facts: *There has just been completed and put in running order at the Government Printing Office one of the most wonderful pieces of mechanism in the shape of a printing press that has ever been exhibited, The press is of the Bullock patent, and as an exhibition of some of its powers, we will mention: The press will print in one hour 20,000 sheets of 64 pages of document matter; while doing this it feeds itself, the paper being in rolls, wets the paper, cuts the sheets, folds them, and by a dial connected to the press keeps tally of the number of sheets printed. Only two men are required to have entire control of the press, thus doing away with the necessity of persons to supply it with sheets, (or, as they are called, feeders). The invention is certainly a wonderful one, and has been visited since Wednesday by a large number of persons, who could not realize the power and utility of the machine.*

Mr. Bullock's oldest son Clarence would die a casualty of the Civil War and another son Charles also served and survived the war.

Upcoming Events -

To those of you who sent me information about your upcoming event, I apologize for not highlighting it here. I normally post a few of the upcoming events but this month, I will only direct you to the History Partners website and the calendar of events.

My computer required some maintenance and earlier this morning I took it to my computer repair guy. I have no way of retrieving those emails at present. (I know, great timing indeed.)

[Calendar of Events](#)

Please remember to send your information via email to Keith Harrison who maintains our website and calendar:

pcinc@prodigy.net

Interesting Websites -

History Remembered is not responsible for any additional content (advertisements/videos) shown on the following pages.

This month, we are highlighting the Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial History Partners website.

If you would like something added - an event or if you are a speaker or author - just let [Keith Harrison](#) know.

iMichigan Productions:

[American Civil War Years](#)

Michigan State University:

[Civil War Sesquicentennial Resources](#)

Commemorating Michigan's Role:

[Senate Resolution No. 36](#)

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War:

[Searchable Grave Registration Database](#)

[Searchable G.A.R. Members Database](#)

Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the U.S.:

[War Papers](#)

Michigan History Foundation:

[Seeking Michigan](#)

New Sesquicentennial Publication:

[Lt. Curtis Z. Pratt](#)

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