



CT State Library

Preserving the Past. Informing the Future.

In This Issue

[*History & Genealogy Reading Room Renovation Update*](#) by Mel Smith, Page 2-4

[*The Lincoln Funeral*](#) by Robert Kinney, Page 5

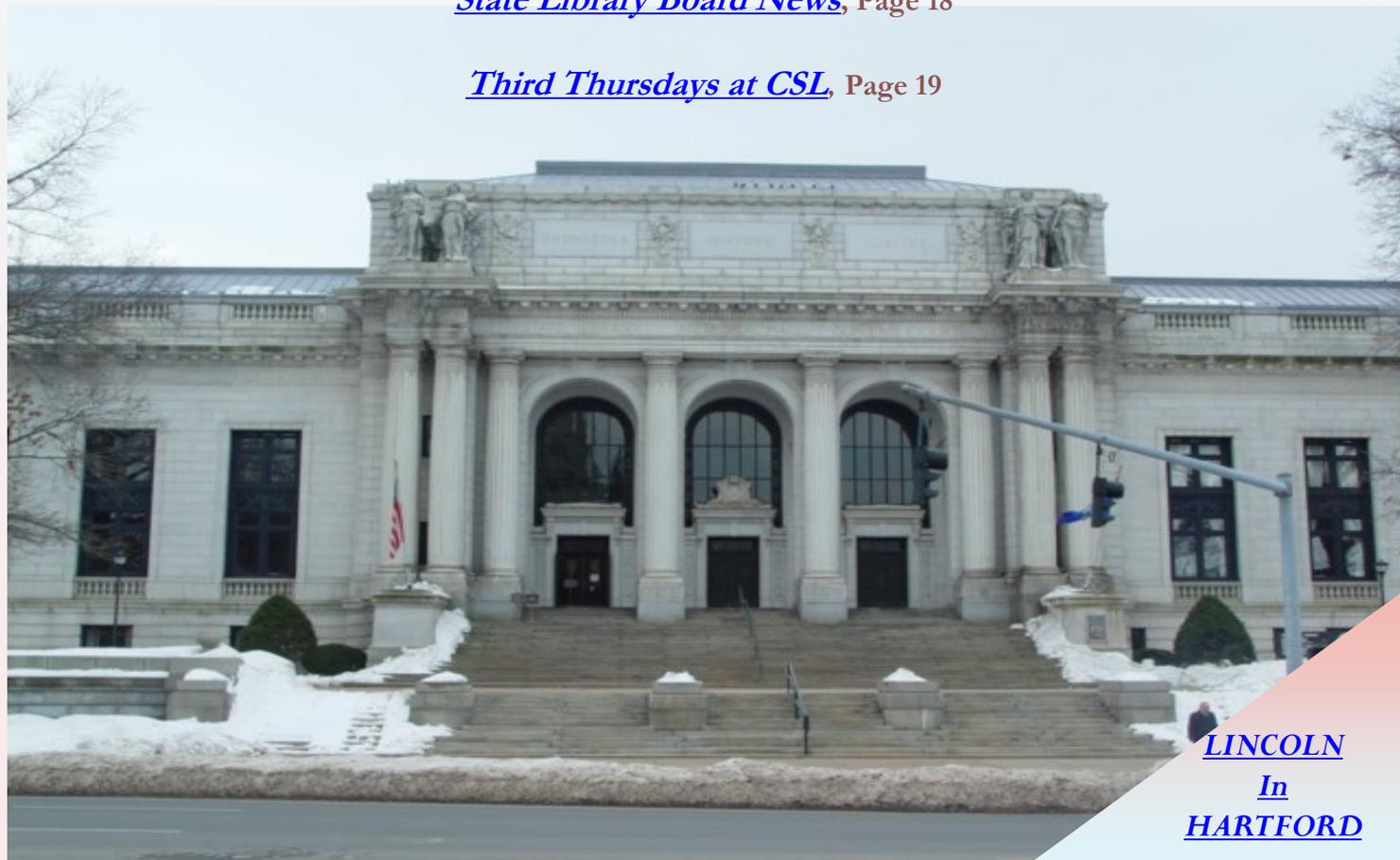
[*A Connecticut Soldier's Civil War Diary*](#) by Robert Kinney, Page 6-7

[*A Connecticut Tale of a Woman with Two Husbands*](#) by Mel Smith, Page 8-9

[*New & Noteworthy at CSL*](#), Page 10-17

[*State Library Board News*](#), Page 18

[*Third Thursdays at CSL*](#), Page 19



[LINCOLN](#)
[In](#)
[HARTFORD](#)

History & Genealogy Reading Room Renovation Update

by Mel Smith, History & Genealogy Reference Librarian

The October 2014 issue of the CONNector highlighted the long overdue renovations that were taking place in the History and Genealogy Reference Area as well as the Archives Reading Area of the Connecticut State Library. New carpeting was installed, along with walls for the Archives Reading Area, new electrical access points were created, and the entire room was painted a warm cream color to welcome our patrons. A new entrance area was created that highlights the architecture of the genealogical index corridor, particularly the impressive tiled ceiling that features a herring-bone pattern which is very similar to the work done by noted building designer Rafael Guastavina and his son Rafael Jr. This new entrance point also allows for a new single centralized copy center for patron and staff use.



The new entrance to the genealogical index corridor highlights the genealogy indexes and ceiling. A new display case will allow for periodic exhibits of Connecticut State Library materials.



Jeannie Sherman of the History & Genealogy Unit has created a display showcasing some of our World War I materials.

Continued



A new History & Genealogy Unit reference desk with two bookcases to hold archival finding aids and staff reference materials; the History & Genealogy reference area with two new tables and matching atlas case



A new Archives Reading Area (ARA) with a new staff desk, bookcase, and five new tables for patron use with central electric ports

Continued



Four new patron tables with central electric ports along with matching microfilm and map cabinets; another view of the new microfilm cabinets and tables in the History & Genealogy Reading Room.

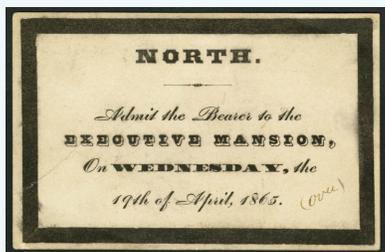


Four new single patron carrels have been added to the History & Genealogy Reading Room for patron use. Two new computer desks will hold four public access computers

Please stop by the History & Genealogy Unit at the Connecticut State Library, and see first hand the changes that have been made!

The Lincoln Funeral by Robert Kinney, Outreach Services Librarian

April 14, 1865 will mark the 150th anniversary of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The nation's sixteenth President was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth, a famous actor and confederate sympathizer. Four days after the assassination, the general public was allowed to view the President's remains in the East Room of the White House from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., followed by a private viewing that would take place from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The next day over six hundred mourners gathered at the Executive Mansion to attend the President's funeral.



Pass issued to Connecticut Governor William Buckingham allowing him entrance to the White House for President Lincoln's funeral service.

Museum of Connecticut History



Upon his death in 1800, George Washington was exalted to virtually divine status, serving as the nation's idealized personification. Lincoln also underwent an apotheosis to such status and, in this carte-de-visite, Lincoln is embraced by Washington as he places a laurel wreath on Lincoln's head.

Museum of Connecticut History

A journalist by the name of Noah Brooks described the setting of the Lincoln funeral and the placement of guests in his 1895 acclaimed biography of President Lincoln entitled *Washington in Lincoln's Time*:

The room, darkened for the occasion, had been transformed into something like an amphitheatre. At center was the open coffin on a raised catafalque with a black canopy, and surrounding it on three sides, an inclined platform, broken into steps. At one end of the coffin, near Lincoln's head, was a cross of lilies; General Ulysses S. Grant was seated on this side. At the opposite end of the coffin were Robert and Tad Lincoln and some of their mother's relatives. The Cabinet stood on one side of the room behind

President Andrew Johnson and former Vice President Hannibal Hamlin. The Justices of the Supreme Court, Congressmen, Senators, Governors, Mayors, and the heads of government bureaus, filled the rest of the space. An Episcopalian priest began the service with the words: "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord." Then three other clergymen – a Presbyterian, a Methodist and a Baptist – prayed and spoke. The service was brief.

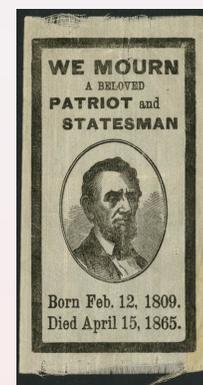
Attending the funeral was Connecticut's Governor William Buckingham and his staff. Governor Buckingham was a close friend of President Lincoln and an ally during the Civil War. The two met when Lincoln campaigned in Connecticut.

Each person who was invited received a small, black-bordered pass that read: "Admit the Bearer to the Executive Mansion Wednesday, April 19, 1865", with wording at the top of the pass that likely indicated either a White House entrance location or a section for seating. According to an article published on the University of Virginia, Center for Politics website, 600 cards were printed and there are only one half dozen known to have survived to the present day. In April, 2015, the Connecticut State Library will have on display the card that was used by Governor Buckingham and staff to enter the White House for the funeral. Also on display will be a piece of cloth from the catafalque that was draped at the bottom of Lincoln's casket, along with a mourning ribbon and a carte-de-visite.



Piece of black gauze from the catafalque which supported President Abraham Lincoln's coffin as he lay in state in the East Room of the White House on April 19th, 1865.

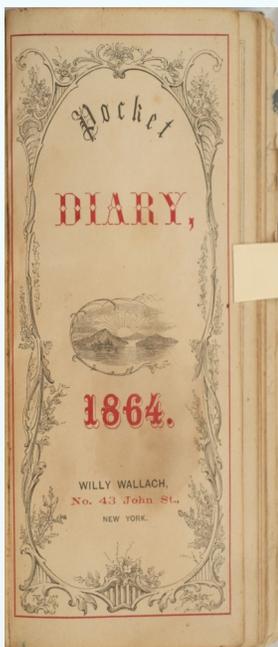
Museum of Connecticut History



Mourning ribbon honoring the memory of President Abraham Lincoln.

Museum of Connecticut History

A Connecticut Soldier's Civil War Diary
 by Robert Kinney, Outreach Services Librarian



Pocket Diary, 1864
 belonging to Napoleon Neal
 Museum of
 Connecticut History

In August, 1862, the 16th Connecticut Volunteer Regiment was recruited and organized under the command of Colonel Frank Beach in Hartford County, after President Abraham Lincoln's call for three hundred thousand volunteers. On Sunday, August 24, 1862, the regiment, numbering 10,010 men, was mustered into the United States service by Lieutenant Watson Webb of the Union army.

Two years later, Napoleon B. Neal was mustered into the 16th Connecticut Volunteer Regiment on

Tuesday, February 16, 1864. He left his home in Middletown, Connecticut at seven o'clock for New Haven, Connecticut, to be sworn in. He received \$320 from his recruiting officer. He would send \$300 of the money home the following day.

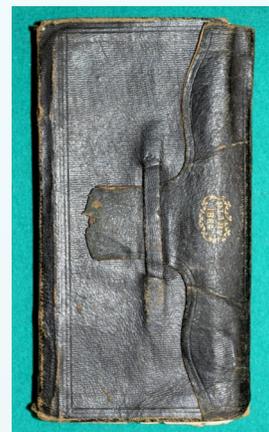
The Diary of Napoleon B. Neal was recently donated to the Connecticut State Library. The diary captures the life of a Connecticut soldier and his imprisonment at the infamous Confederate POW Camp Andersonville during the American Civil War.

In the early stages of his diary, Neal describes in detail the excitement and anticipation of a young soldier going off to war. His first entry was on Tuesday, February 9, 1864:

I Left home this morning and and Henry Hubbard and I went to Hartford together and Henry went to

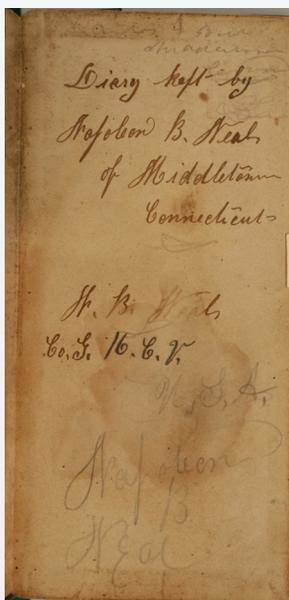
Union from there and I went to Collinsville and then I went to Wolcotville with William Cone and Charles Champlin to a masquarade ball.

His journey into the war began on February 19, as his regiment boarded a train in New Haven, Connecticut and traveled south. They would travel using a network of steam ships, and by Saturday, February 27, they were headed to Plymouth, North Carolina.



Diary Jacket
 Napoleon Neal

Museum of
 Connecticut History



Page from Diary of
 Napoleon Neal
 Museum of
 Connecticut History

In 1862 the union army established their eastern headquarters of North Carolina in Plymouth and the town of New Bern. The union army was able to launch several offenses from those towns. The towns were located in a strategic location close to the Roanoke River. Napoleon Neal would arrive in Plymouth, NC, Saturday February 27, 1864.

The next morning he wrote in his diary that he was ordered to march to his company and fix up their tent.

SUNDAY 28

Got up this morning at six oclock lay around untill noon and then marched to our company and went to work with three others and fixed up a tent so we have things very comfortable now and am glad I have got to my Reg.

In his diary he describes the weather conditions as being cold on some nights, and warm during the day.

On Thursday March 3, he received orders to pack his knapsack and prepare to march down to the river to board a steamer and travel to New Bern, North Carolina. New Bern was a town located on the opposite side of Roanoke Island, North Carolina.

Continued

Camp life for Neal consisted of writing letters, drilling, and creating earth works around the fort. He also mentions having a sore tooth, and catching the mumps which caused him to go back to Plymouth on March 23 to receive treatment.

He would remain in Plymouth, and on Sunday, April 17, he writes in his diary of the beginnings of fighting in the battle of Plymouth.

Our pickets was attacked by the Rebs about 4 o'clock this afternoon and the Cavalry was diversion and the soldiers had came in to our camp so that we had to doge behind the breastworks the firing kept up until nine o'clock in the evening and firing ceased by the pickets

The confederate plan was to regain control of some of the waterways in North Carolina. Their plan consisted of the building of two ships, the CSS Albemarle and the CSS Neuse, two ironclad gun boats that would be able to help overtake some of the forts along the coast of North Carolina. Confederate General Hoke was the architect of this plan to attack the Union forts. The first town to be attacked was Plymouth, North Carolina. General Hoke, along with 10,000 infantrymen attacked the town of Plymouth on April 17, 1864. Union General Henry Wessells commanded only 3,000 men in Plymouth, but was able to defend the town from the attack by Hoke's forces.

The CSS Albemarle, a steam-powered ironclad ram of the Confederate Navy, was able to sail past Fort Gray without alerting Union Forces in the early hours of April 19. However, the USS Southfield and Miami engaged the Albemarle, and a naval battle took place on the river. The CSS Albemarle was able to sink the USS Southfield, and cause the USS Miami to retreat from the battle. This would give General Hoke the artillery support he needed to overtake the fort. Neal writes in his diary on April 20, 1864:

The rebs made a heavy charge on the place this morning, Co G was a skirmishing on the columbia rhode but we had to fall back in to Fort but the fort was surrendered there was many a man killed in front of the fort but all rebs. And a few of our men killed in the fort.

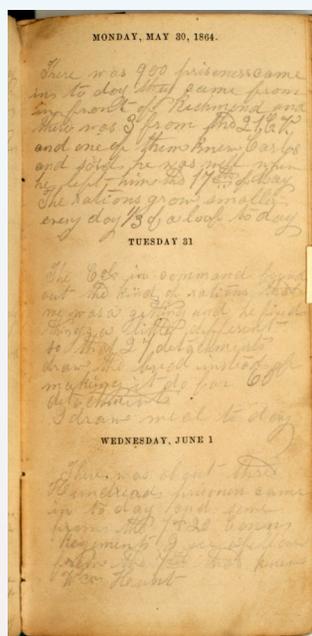
On April 20, 1864, Napoleon B. Neal was captured by the confederate forces and was sent to the infamous Andersonville prison camp. The 35th regiment of North Carolina was assigned to watch his unit. While marching to Andersonville, Neal mentions how his fellow soldiers traded some of their belongings between each other because of the lack of rations. Neal writes in his diary that he arrived in Andersonville on Tuesday, May 3, 1864.

We arived at Savannah at five o'clock and at 7 o'clock we started for Andersen Ville GA. and arived there about one o'clock in the night and marched a few rods and camped. For Rations to day the Officer on the cars gave us all we wanted of hard tack

In Andersonville his tent was composed of two blankets, and rations consisted of small portions of meal, bacon, rice, and molasses. He mentions seeing the remains of soldiers who died in the prison, fighting that takes place amongst the prisoners, and wishing he was back home in Connecticut. However, while in prison he was still able to write letters back home to Connecticut. On his 19th birthday he writes in his diary,

This is my nineteenth birth day and it is my first birth day in prison and I hope the last but I am feeling well and as contented as I expected when I was taken prisoner

While in prison, he would catch typhoid fever, and would contemplate dying away from home. Finally on Saturday November 14, 1864, he was examined by a doctor and his name was placed on a list of sick patients that were given permission to return home. And on Friday, November 16. Napoleon B. Neal was sent back home to Connecticut.



Page 25 Napoleon Neal Diary
Museum of Connecticut History

Connecticut Tale of a Woman with Two Husbands

by Mel Smith, History & Genealogy Reference Librarian

When romance is involved, fact is often stranger than fiction. Countless tales of love and romance are to be found in all kinds of places, but a recently discovered divorce account in the judicial court records of the State Archives of the Connecticut State Library leads to a very interesting story of a woman and her two husbands.

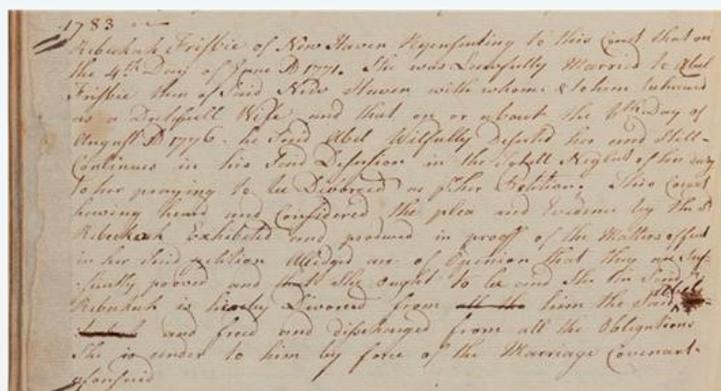
Rebecca Mix had a problem - a really big problem. She had less than a day to choose her husband. It was not a case of having the choice of marriage proposals from two young eager suitors, but something much more complicated. Perhaps to tell this tale properly we should start at the beginning.

Rebecca was born in Branford, Connecticut, the daughter of Captain Ezekiel and Rebecca (Russell) Hayes, on October 30, 1750. The Hayes family was a prosperous family with Ezekiel serving as the local blacksmith, scythe-maker, and inn keeper. In fact, Ezekiel's great-grandson Rutherford B. Hayes would one day become the 19th President of the United States.

Rebecca was to fall in love and marry Captain Abel Frisbie of Branford on June 3, 1771, when she was twenty years old. Captain Frisbie was a master of sailing vessels that plied the West India trade routes. The marriage seemed to have been a happy one, even though it was likely that he was away from home for long stretches of time. Two children were born to the young family in rapid succession, John Howell in 1772 and Rebecca in 1774.

The year 1776 was a momentous one for Connecticut, as well as the Frisbie family. Little did Rebecca know, her husband on one of his voyages on the high seas was shipwrecked and disappeared. Seven long years passed with no word of Captain

Frisbie. Rebecca meanwhile had once again found love, and wished to marry John Mix of New Haven. Rebecca, not knowing for certain the fate of her husband, decided that seven years was long enough to wait and took the formal steps to dissolve her marriage. In August of 1783, Rebecca Frisbie petitioned the Connecticut Superior Court, which was then in session at New Haven, for a divorce on the grounds of desertion. The record shows that



Divorce decree of Rebecca Frisbie

Connecticut State Archives, RG #003, Judicial Dept.,
Connecticut Superior Court Records, Vol. 23, Pg. 210

"...Abel [Frisbie] did on or about August 6, 1776 willfully deserted her [Rebecca] and has totally neglected his duty to her..." Rebecca was granted her divorce, and she was free to marry once again.

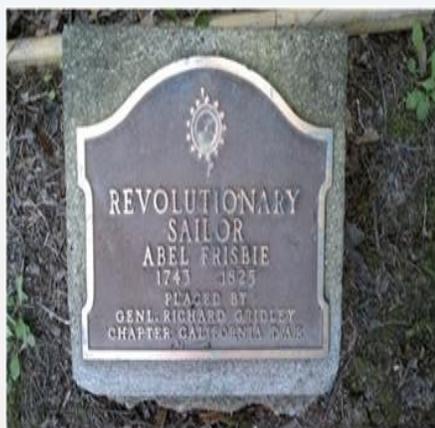
Rebecca and John Mix were likely married [no marriage record was found in my research for this article] and in short order they had a baby girl born to them on June 26, 1784, who they named Elizabeth. One month after the birth of their daughter, the unthinkable happened. Captain Abel Frisbie reappeared with a tale of his shipwreck and subsequent enlistment in the Continental Navy. After such a long absence his reappearance must have been

Continued

quite the shock, but he also wished to have his wife and family back. After some likely heated discussion, it was decided that each man would have ten minutes alone with Rebecca to plead his case for her. She would then have to decide between the two of them. Just imagine what Rebecca's feelings must have been, having to make such a heart-wrenching, life-altering decision in such a short time.

Rebecca listened to each man; it is unclear who spoke to her first. Would she pick her first husband Abel, the father of her first two children, the man that had seemingly deserted her for over seven years, or John the father of one-month-old Elizabeth? After a short delay, she made her decision. As difficult as it must have been, she chose Abel Frisbie. John Mix was

honorable in his actions, and allowed Rebecca to depart and join Abel as his wife, though it was said that he never recovered from the shock of losing her. Abel presented a detailed petition to the New Haven Superior Court during the August 1784 term, and the divorce of the previous year was reversed. Abel and Rebecca were once again legally man and wife. They were to have three more children, Mary born in 1786, Russell born in 1788, and William born in 1789. His sailing days nearly over, Abel and his family eventually moved to Romulus, New York, where they were among the early settlers of that town. Abel died in 1825 and Rebecca in 1827. They are still together, side by side, in the Mt. Green Cemetery in Romulus, New York.



Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd, ed., *Burke's Presidential Families of the United States of America*, second edition, (London: Burke's Peerage; Elmsford, N.Y.: distributed in North America by British Book Center, 1981), p.334.

Donald Lines Jacobus, comp., *Families of Ancient New Haven*, (Baltimore, [Md.]: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 1200, 1206-1207.

Edward S. Frisbee, *The Frisbee-Frisbie Genealogy Edward Frisbye of Branford, Connecticut and his Descendants*, (Rutland, Vt.: The Tuttle company, 1926), p. 66-67.

David Ansley's Genealogy Pages, Reed Family Bible, Source S3425: <http://davidansley.com/family/getperson.php?personID=11152&tree=ourfamily#cite1>

Findagrave image for Abel Frisbee's grave marker, Romulus, New York, Mt. Green Cemetery: <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=frisbie&GSfn=abel&GSbyrel=all&GSdyrel=all&GSob=n&GRid=75661162&df=all&>

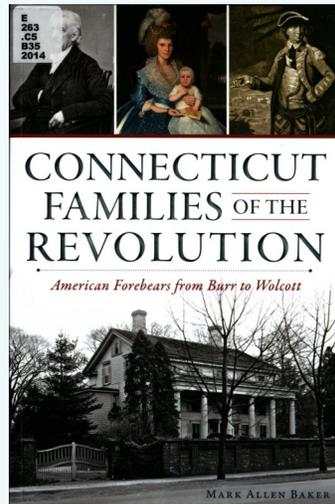
Divorce decree of Rebecca Frisbie, Connecticut State Library & State Archives, Archival Record Group #003, Records of the Judicial Department, Connecticut Superior Court Records, March 1782 - Nov. 1784, Volume 23, p. 210.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL

Connecticut Families of the Revolution : American Forebears from Burr to Wolcott

Mark Allen Baker

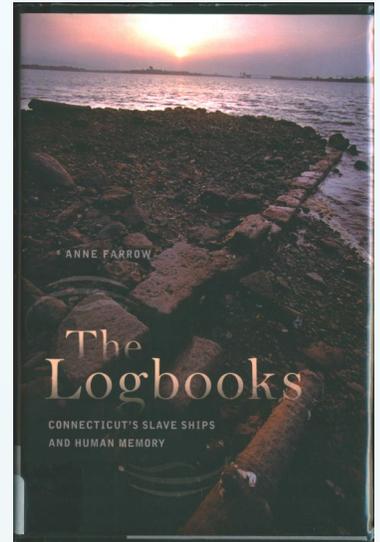
[E263.C5 B35 2014](#)



The Logbooks: Connecticut's Slave Ships and Human Memory

Anne Farrow

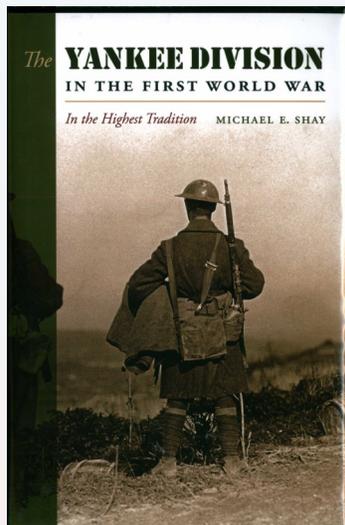
[E445.C7 F37 2014](#)



The Yankee Division in the First World War: in the Highest Tradition

Michael E. Shay

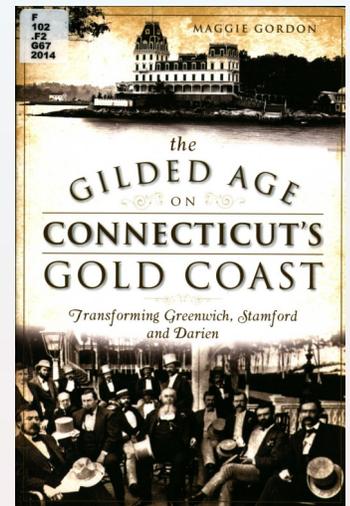
[D570.3 26th .S46 2008](#)



The Gilded Age on Connecticut's Gold Coast: Transforming Greenwich, Stamford and Darien

Maggie Gordon

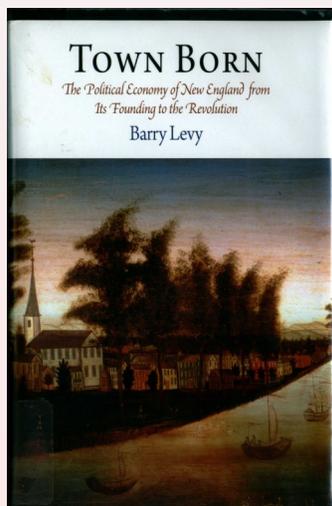
[F102.F2 G67 2014](#)



Town Born: The Political Economy of New England from its Founding to the Revolution

Barry Levy

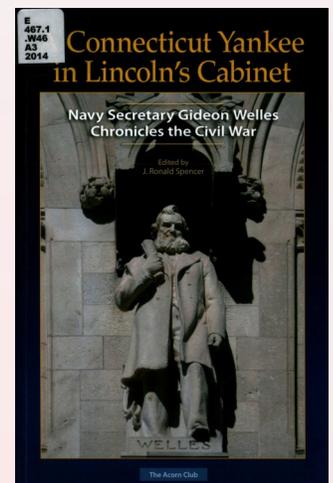
[HC107.A11 L48 2009](#)



A Connecticut Yankee in Lincoln's Cabinet: Navy Secretary Gideon Welles Chronicles the Civil War

Edited by J. Ronald Spencer

[E467.1.W46 A3 2014](#)



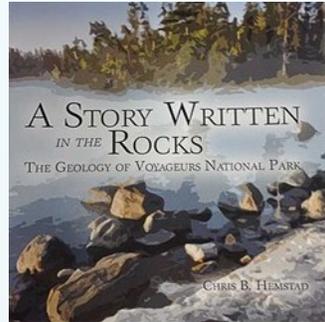
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NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL

A Story Written in the Rocks

National Park Service

[I 29.2:V 94/5](#)



A History of the United States General Land Office in Oregon

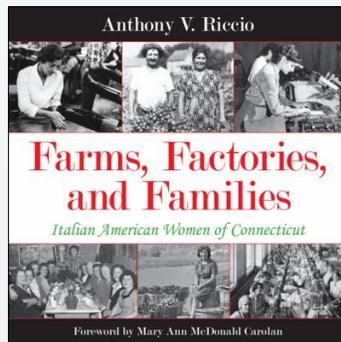
Bureau of Land Management



Farms, Factories, and Families: Italian American Women of Connecticut

Anthony V. Riccio

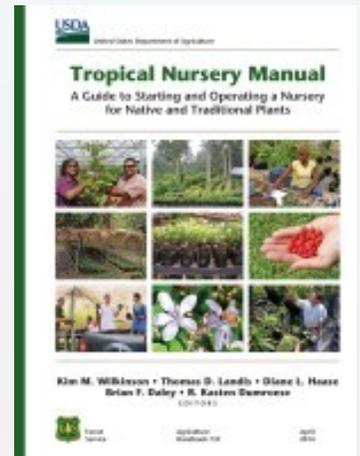
[F105.I8 R53 2014](#)



Tropical Nursery Manual: a Guide to Starting and Operating a Nursery for Native and Traditional Plants

U.S. Department of Agriculture

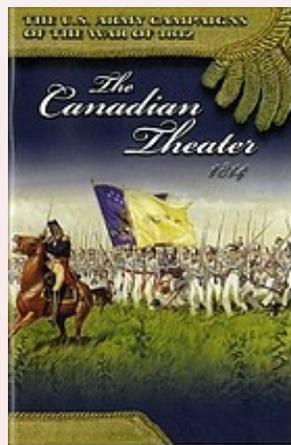
[A 1.76:732](#)



The Canadian Theater, 1814

Richard V. Barbuto

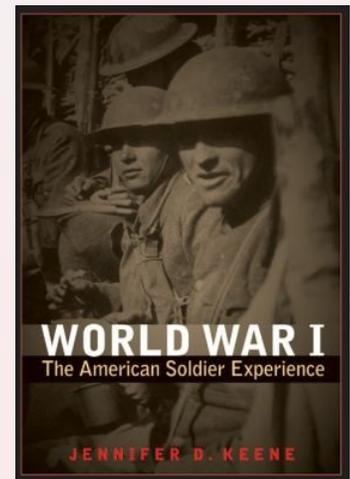
[D 114.2:C 16/2](#)



World War I: The American Soldier Experience

Jennifer D. Keene

[D570 .K39 2011](#)



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NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL

Qui Transtulit Sustinet: Connecticut Battle Flag Collection

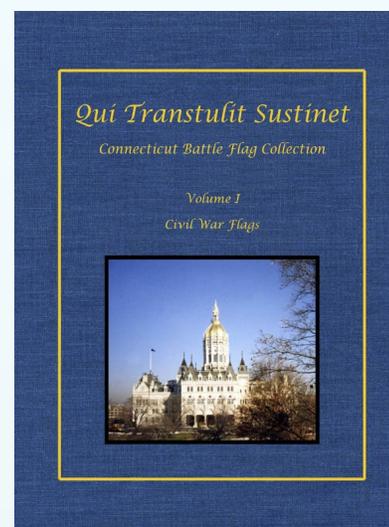
This book is an extraordinary history of all known Connecticut battle flags used during Connecticut's military history.

Permission to have the two volume set digitized was granted by the author's husband, Nesbitt H. (Bill) Caughman.

About the author:

Geraldine S. (Gerry) Caughman, was a noted expert on Connecticut flag history. She served as a member of the Connecticut Capitol tour guide program for over three decades where she was able to utilize her passion for history by immersing herself in the artifacts and stories of the State Capitol. While giving tours, Gerry was attracted to the Capitol's battle flag collection in the Hall of Flags, and in time, she embarked on the arduous task of evaluating each flag, photographing, cataloging, marking and writing condition reports for each one. It was readily apparent to her that many flags in the collection required conservation. To that end, she diligently studied the various conservation methods and procedures that could be used to stabilize or restore the Civil War battle flag collection. As funds became available for conservation, she wrote the specifications for each flag's unique conservation needs and oversaw the work in progress. She realized that many of the flags would never be seen by others since they were in such fragile condition and conservation was extremely expensive. As a result, she had the idea of writing a book with pictures of all the flags with commentary about them and the men who carried them. Gerry spent years conducting research at the Connecticut State Library and countless other libraries doing extensive research as well as other pertinent Civil War locations. The result was *Qui Transtulit Sustinet, Volume I* which focused on the 110 Civil War flags and *Volume II* which details the 61 flags from the World Wars and other contemporary conflicts. This two volume set has quickly become the ultimate authority on Connecticut Civil War and post-Civil War battle flags.

In March of 2011, Gerry stepped down as a Connecticut Capitol guide due to declining health, but she continued her historical research making infrequent visits to the State Library or phoning the History & Genealogy staff for assistance. Gerry passed away on July 7, 2012, but her work on her beloved flag collection lives on thanks to her tireless efforts to tell the story of Connecticut's military battle flags in *Qui Transtulit Sustinet*.



*Qui Transtulit Sustinet:
Connecticut Battle Flag
Collection*

Geraldine S. Caughman

[E499.4 .C384 2011](#)

New digitized book
available at [http://
cdmresolver.worldcat.or
g/oclc/774036440/
viewonline](http://cdmresolver.worldcat.org/oclc/774036440/viewonline)

NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL

Lincoln in Hartford

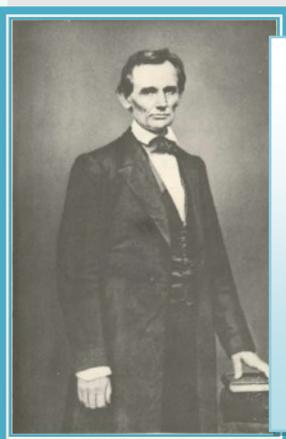
J. Doyle DeWitt

[C489 Liha](#)

Newly digitized by the Preservation Office; available at <http://cdm15019.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p128501coll2/id/327049>



Procession of the Wide-Awake Club down Main Street, Hartford, July 27, 1860.



Portrait of Abraham Lincoln, 1860. Photo: "Cooper Institute" photograph of Lincoln, taken by Matthew Brady (Feb. 27, 1860), one week before his trip to Hartford.

"Lincoln arrived in Hartford by train on the afternoon of Monday, March 5th. He was a guest at Mayor Allyn's house on Trumbull Street. Later as he walked up Asylum Street, he stopped at the bookstore of Brown & Gross, located on the southwest corner of Main and Asylum Streets, where he met and conversed with Gideon Welles, then an editorial writer for the Hartford Evening Press, located at 66 State Street. Tradition has it that the future President Lincoln, and his future Secretary of the Navy, Welles, sat conversing on a bench near the front door in the store placed there by the proprietors as a convenience for passengers waiting for the horsecars that operated on Main Street." (Dewitt, page 5)

"No one can doubt the political significance of Lincoln's trip to the East in the spring of 1860." (page 14)

"At the appointed time, Lincoln arrived at City Hall, then located on Market between Temple and Kingsley Streets. An overflowing crowd greeted him with considerable curiosity and moderate enthusiasm. Lincoln had written his wife the day before from Exeter that he was having difficulty making so many speeches "before reading audiences who had already seen all my ideas in print." He spoke for over two hours from notes he had made on a small sheet of paper." (Dewitt, page 5)

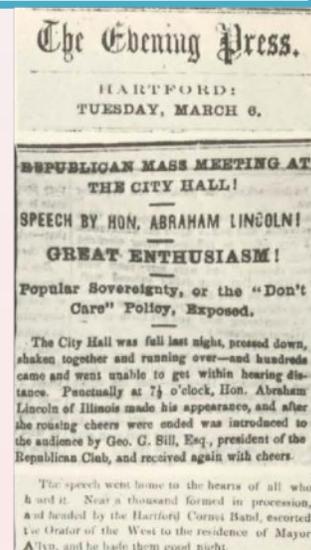
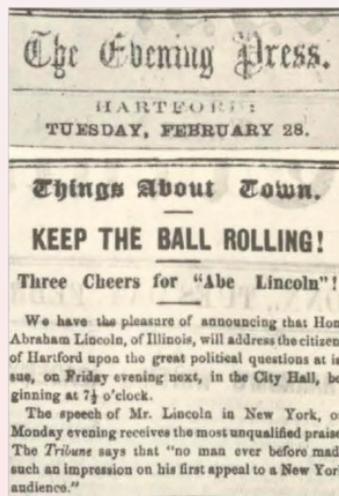


Grand Banquet held by the "Wide Awakes" of the New England States and New Jersey, at the City Hall of Hartford, Conn., on the Evening of Thursday, July 27. Sketched by a staff artist of the NEW YORK ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

"In Hartford where Lincoln delivered what has been called his second best speech of the tour, his visit brought into being the first great political marching organization which provided a great deal of enthusiasm and strength for his presidential campaign." (Dewitt, page 15)

The Wide-Awakes, a name coined by the Hartford Courant, was a club formed to support Lincoln in the 1860 election.

Lincoln's visit was announced and his speech was reported in full by the local newspapers.



NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL**Welcome to LoislawConnect**

The Connecticut State Library has recently added LoislawConnect to its electronic resources. LoislawConnect provides access to primary law (statutes, cases, and regulations) for all fifty states and the federal government. It also includes a large treatise library with topics such as estate planning, employment law, family law, and real estate law.

LoislawConnect is an excellent resource for patrons needing to do legal research, as it is comprehensive, up to date, and easily searchable. The treatises provide explanatory material about various legal topics, and primary law cited can be accessed immediately through links right in the treatises.

Most importantly, you do not have to visit the library to use this database. Anyone with a library card issued by the Connecticut State Library can access LoislawConnect remotely. To access LoislawConnect, or any of the State Library's remote-access databases, visit the following link: <http://www.ctstatelibrary.org/subscrindex.htm?remotely=Yes>

The Connecticut State Library Receives The Betty M. Linsley Award

The recipient of this year's Betty M. Linsley Award is the Connecticut State Library for its most recent publication, *The Public Records of the State of Connecticut from 1819 to 1820, vol. 20*. Under the expert guidance of its editor, Dr. Douglas M. Arnold, this volume supplies historians and the public with further documentation essential to understanding the state's early nineteenth century history. This volume includes debates over the Missouri Controversy, the impact of the financial panic of 1819, Governor Oliver Wolcott's important annual messages to the General Assembly along with much other material pertaining to the state's political, economic, and social concerns.

Volumes 18 (1816-1817) and 19 (1818) won the Homer D. Babbidge, Jr. Award from the Association for the Study of Connecticut History in 2008. Dr. Arnold and his colleagues are currently preparing Volume 21 (1821-1822) for publication in 2015. The Public Records are edited and published in accordance with an Act of The General Assembly and funded through the Historic Documents Preservation account.



***State Librarian Kendall Wiggin,
Editor Dr. Douglas Arnold,
State Archivist Lizette Pelletier,
Assistant State Archivist Allen Ramsey***

*NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL
Staff Day November 17, 2014*



Staff Day activities included: a longevity award ceremony, CT Trivia contest, presentations by Library staff, introduction of Department of Administrative Services staff, an overview of the Health Enhancement Program given by staff from the Comptroller’s Office, a presentation from Mystic Seaport Staff about the recent voyage of the “Charles Morgan”, entertainment by State Troubadour Kristen Graves, and participation in stress relief exercises with Performer and Teacher, Robert Rivest. Staff also enjoyed a light lunch and snacks, and the camaraderie of coworkers.

*NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL
Third Thursday Luncheon Speaker Series*



Clockwise from left:

September 18, 2014—*Museum Director Dave Corrigan discussed Samuel Colt's inventions and Museum acquisitions.*

October 16, 2014—*Editor Ron Spencer, discussed "A Connecticut Yankee in Lincoln's Cabinet; Navy Secretary Gideon Welles Chronicles the Civil War".*

November 20, 2014—*Author Bob Steele discussed his book, "The Curse", which chronicles the history and effect of the gambling casinos on the citizens of Connecticut.*

January 15, 2015—*Connecticut Digital Newspaper Project Coordinator Christine Gauvreau presented slides and stories about the World War I Homefront from Connecticut Newspapers.*

February 19, 2015—*Former Legislator Don Williams discussed his book, "Prudence Crandall's Legacy: The Fight for Equality in the 1830s, Dred Scott, and Brown v. Board of Education".*

March 19, 2015—*Katherine Wiltshire, Executive Director of the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame gave a presentation with a slideshow about the CT organization.*

NEW & NOTEWORTHY AT CSL

Staff

*Appointment of
State Archivist*

Lizette Pelletier was appointed to the position of State Archivist, effective October 3, 2014.

For the past 8 years, Lizette has worked as Public Records Archivist (Librarian 2) in the Office of the Public Records Administrator. Lizette served as Assistant State Archivist from 1988-1998. Her experience includes 8 years as a records and information management consultant and serving as a project archivist for CIGNA and on the CCSU Polish American Archives. Lizette holds a B.A. in History from the College of St. Benedict and a M.A. in History and a M.L.S. with a major in Archives and Records Management from the University of Maryland, College Park..

*Appointment of
Access Services Unit Head*

Nancy Lieffort was promoted to State Library Unit Head for Access Services effective November 30, 2014.

Nancy has worked as a Reference Librarian for the Government and Information Services Unit since coming to the State Library in 1996. Additionally, she has overseen the Connecticut State Documents Collection and the Connecticut State Documents Depository Library program since 2003. Prior to coming to the State Library, Nancy was a Librarian at the Fair Hills Hospital in Newtown, first as the Patients' Librarian and later in their Health Sciences Library. Nancy holds a B.A. in Social Work from Concordia College and a M.A. in Librarianship from the University of Denver.

STATE LIBRARY BOARD NEWS

Mollie Keller, Ph.D. of Trumbull, a member of the State Library Board since 1997, stepped down from the Board in November 2014. Dr. Keller served as Chair of the Board for many years and chaired the Search Committee that recommended the appointment of Kendall Wiggin as State Librarian. One of the gubernatorial appointments to the Board has to be an experienced Archivist. Dr. Keller, a former archivist in the City of Bridgeport, was originally appointed to the Board by Governor Rowland, to fill that position. Dr. Keller was a strong supporter of the State Library and will be greatly missed.

Joy Hostage of Cheshire, stepped down from the State Library Board in November 2014. Mrs. Hostage, a long serving member of the Cheshire Public Library Board of Trustees, first served on the Board from 1995 - 1996 having been appointed by Senate Minority Leader William DiBella. In 1998, she was appointed by the Senate Pro Tempore Kevin Sullivan and subsequently reappointed by Senate Pro Tempore Donald Williams. Mrs. Hostage contributed a great deal to the Board's discussion and was a strong advocate for the State Library and its statewide services. She will be greatly missed.

Linda Anderson of Ridgefield, a member of the State Library Board since 2008, stepped down from the Board in February 2015. Ms. Anderson was appointed to the Board by House Republican Leader Lawrence F. Cafero, Jr. Linda, a Connecticut licensed real estate agent and whose career included that of a client management professional, brought business expertise to the Board as well as a strong interest in education and libraries. Linda will be missed.

Third Thursdays
at the
Connecticut State Library
2015 Schedule

12:00 PM-12:45 PM, Memorial Hall
231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

February 19, 2015



Author Don Williams will discuss his latest book, *Prudence Crandall's Legacy: The Fight for Equality in the 1830s, Dred Scott, and Brown v. Board of Education*.

March 19, 2015

Bambi Mroz from the Connecticut's Womens Hall of Fame will discuss the impact of women in the State of Connecticut. The Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame is an educational outreach organization that honors the achievement of Connecticut women.



April 16, 2015



Dr. Ira Spar, M.D, will discuss his new book: *New Haven's Civil War Hospital: A History of Knight U.S. General Hospital, 1862-1865*.

May 21, 2015

Author Lesley J. Gorden will discuss her latest book, *A Broken Regiment*, which recounts the tragic history of one of the Civil War's most ill-fated Union military units, the 16th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry.



June 18, 2015



Cold War Historian John Ramsey will discuss some surprising facts about the impact of the Cold War on Connecticut.

More information is available at www.ctstatelibrary.org or by calling 860-757-6668. Funding for this series is provided by the Connecticut Heritage Foundation.

The State Library and Museum of Connecticut History's Third Thursdays BrownBag Lunchtime speaker series features a variety of speakers on various aspects of Connecticut history. All programs are free and open to the public and attendees should feel free to bring their lunch.

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