



# Civil War Press: Resisting Censorship to Print Secrets

War-Long Constitutional Struggle:  
Freedom of the Press versus  
Government Obligation to Protect its  
Citizens

Presenter: Randy Ferryman (rdferryman@msn.com)

# Key References

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- *The North Reports the Civil War*, J. Cutler Andrews, 1955
- *The South Reports the Civil War*, J. Cutler Andrews, 1970
- *War News, Blue & Gray in Black and White*, Brayton Harris, 2010
- *Civil War Journalism*, Ford Risley, 2012
- *Lincoln and the Power of the Press*, Harold Holzer, 2014
- Article about this presentation: *The Unfettered Press: The Unresolved Tension between Warriors and Journalists during the Civil War*. [cia.gov—library—center for the study of intelligence—unclassified extracts—vol 58, number 3](http://cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/unclassified-extracts/vol-58/number-3), September 2014

# Press Reports: Highly Valued for Intelligence

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- Union and Confederate leaders extensively acquired and monitored press reports for military and political purposes
- Confederates held an advantage, drawing reports from a much larger press industry in the north
- Confederate supporting networks in Washington, probably in Philadelphia, New York, and Baltimore, relayed the news
- Confederate “Secret Line” along Maryland’s eastern shore a major trafficking route for news, contraband
- Confederate Western Theater news trafficking also likely, several Confederate agents operating in the midwest
- Midwest contraband networks also likely smuggled reports
- Troops guarding the front lines frequently exchanged newspapers, among other items, under a flag of truce

# Antebellum-Civil War Press

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- A large and growing US journalism industry was poised, unlike any before it, to cover a major war
- US newspapers—2500 to 4000 of them—accounted for one-third of publishers globally, about 175 large publishers
- The North had 373 dailies, the South, 80, many weeklies
- Most major cities had at least three publishers, most newspapers, one or two of them, in smaller towns
- New York City the epicenter with 17 dailies, Richmond the southern hub with four; DC normally had three dailies
- New York *Herald* the largest US newspaper prior to the war, 77,000 daily circulation, no southern paper exceeded 10,000; northern papers most widely read in the US
- *Associated Press*, *Southern Press Association* cover the war

# Press Boom Aided by New Technologies

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- Railroads shipped newspapers daily over the world's largest rail network, 50,000 miles, special trains often added to the regular service, daily NYC to DC train
- Telegraph lines crisscross the US paralleling rail networks, making stories available for same day printing
  - Night of Fort Sumter surrender NY *Herald* prints 135,000 copies
  - 18 separate telegraph lines operate from DC
  - Seven separate lines from NYC to DC and Baltimore
- Newer steam-powered “web” printing enabled double-sided printing of 10,000 papers per hour
- Increasing numbers of steam-powered inland and coastal vessels sped-up the delivery of news
- Mail delivery services were still extensively used

# Newspaper Operations

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- Major Newspapers were profitable, the rest far less so
  - The New York *Tribune* in 1861 had 212 employees, 28 editors, the owner netted \$10,000 per month (cabinet secretary \$8K)
  - Non-battlefield reporters averaged a respectable \$27 per week
  - A staggering 200,000 circulation for *Tribune* weekly edition
- Papers typically four-page standard in a column format, the front page featured editorials, advertisements, news
- “penny press”, one cent per paper expanded circulation, price rose somewhat during the war, the South particularly
- Telegraph transmissions costly: 2,000 words from New York to DC \$100; \$450 from New Orleans to New York
- Intense competition for telegraph transmission time
  - Prompted 15 minute limit, lengthy monopolizing of wire time



# Weekly Magazines

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- Increasingly popular as the war continued, circulation, almost entirely in the North, matching that of major papers
- Thousands of illustrations were published, an advantage over newspapers
- Sketches made from photos, one to three weeks to produce, maps and cartoons were common
  - Photos could not be replicated or copied in print
- *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, *Harper's Weekly*, *Illustrated News* popular northern pubs; *Southern Illustrated* failed during the war
- Leslie's pub sold for 10 cents, 150,000 circulation
  - 30 full-time sketch artists, all white males, some in the field



# HARPER'S WEEKLY.

A JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION.

Vol. VII.—No. 314.]

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1863.

[REDACTED SIX CENTS.  
IN THE YEAR IN ADVANCE.]



SANTA CLAUS IN CAMP.—[FROM PAGE 8.]

# Examples of Major Newspapers

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## NORTH

- New York *Herald; Times; Tribune*
- Chicago *Tribune; Times*
- Cincinnati *Commercial; Gazette*
- Indianapolis *State Sentinel*
- Philadelphia *Enquirer*
- St. Louis *Democrat; Republican*
- Baltimore *American; Sun*
- Boston *Journal*

## SOUTH

- Richmond *Enquirer; Whig; Examiner; Daily Dispatch*
- Louisville *Journal*
- New Orleans *Picayune*
- Mobile *Register*
- Charleston *Courier; Mercury*
- Memphis *Appeal*
- Savannah *Republican; Morning News*
- Atlanta *Southern Confederacy*

Washington *Morning Chronicle; Nat'l Intelligencer; Evening Star*

b. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

# DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XXV. RICHMOND, VA., TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 14, 1863. NO. 12.

Samuel H. Early, of Gen. Early's staff, wounded. In the 19th Virginia the following losses occurred: Col. Grant, wounded in neck and arm, Lieutenant Colonel Ellis, killed, Major Charles Payton, slightly wounded, Adjutant Jas. McIntyre, seriously wounded. Co. A. Capt. J. C. Callin wounded. Co. B. Lt. Palma Hanner wounded, Lt. Wood missing. Co. C. Capt. Irving wounded and missing. Co. D. Capt. Dick Herlin wounded, private Fortune, Drummer, Stranges, and Johnson, killed, Woody missing. Co. E. Capt. Wm. Gross killed, Lieut. W. B. Lattell missing. Sergt. Munday killed. Co. F. Capt. Bennett Taylor missing. Co. G. Capt. Boyd killed, Lt. Powell wounded. Co. H. Capt. Brown wounded and reported dead. Lieut. Landrum missing. Co. K. Capt. Woodson wounded, Lt. Guin-ear killed. The regiment went in with 250 men and came out with 80.

Col. Stewart, of the 56th Va., is wounded. Col. Eppa Hunton, 8th Va., wounded; Lt. Col. Berkeley wounded and Major Berkeley missing. Col. Allen and Major Wilson, of the 25th Va., killed.

Both Kemper's and Armistead's brigades are now commanded by Majors.

In the 1st company Richmond Howitzers the following losses were sustained: Killed—Privates Allen Morton and L. DeW. Adams. Wounded—Private Wm. P. Smith, leg amputated; —McNamee, leg amputated; Geo. Booker, seriously in leg; Henry L. Terrill, painfully in both legs and arm; Somerville Gray, Jno. W. Plessante, Chas. Poinexter, Henry Kepler, and Thos. J. Mason, all slightly. The wounded are all doing well. The company was in the fight of the 2d and 3d lusts.

Paroli Battery of Richmond. Killed—Private Weaver, of 1st co. Wounded—Sergt. Hammond, arm broken, privates Tyree Poyne, arm broken, J. J. Mahoney, leg; Chas. Carter, thigh, Valentine Brown, head and shoulder. This list is up to 5 o'clock P. M. of Friday's fight.

flag, and having in front a large broom, intending to convey the idea of sweeping out the foul rebellion from the sacred inclosure of the Union. As the engine passed along, the steam was constantly whistling, which formed the music for the occasion. The Fairmont Steam Fire Engine Company had the bell in the cupola of their home ring in honor of the good news from Grant's army, and a small cannon was placed in front of their house, from which a number of salutes were fired.

Bands of music passed through the streets followed by large crowds of delighted citizens. In the evening fireworks were displayed in different parts of the city, and the scene partook more of the appearance of a Fourth of July evening than of any other occasion. The occasion will long be remembered by the citizens of Philadelphia.

A dispatch to the *New York Tribune*, dated near Vicksburg, July 13, says:

At 8 this morning flags of truce appeared before A. J. Smith's front, when Major Gen. H. W. and Col. Montgomery were led blindfold into our lines. They bore a communication from Gen. Pemberton of the following purport:

"Although I feel confident of my ability to resist your arms indefinitely, in order to stop the further effusion of blood, I propose that you appoint three Commissioners, to meet three whom I shall select, to arrange such terms as may best accomplish the result."

Grant soon replied substantially in these words:

"The appointment of Commissioners is unnecessary. While I should be glad to stop any unnecessary effusion of blood, the only terms which I can entertain are those of unconditional surrender. At the same time, myself and men and officers of this army are ready to testify to the distinguished gallantry with which the defence of Vicksburg has been conducted."

At 11 o'clock the messengers returned. This afternoon Gen. Grant met Gen. Pemberton between the lines, and after an hour's consultation settled the surrender. Gen. Pemberton urged that the soldiers might be paroled here and furnished rations to carry them to their lines, in view of the travesty they have displayed and the advantages of the plan. Gen. Grant will consent.

The number of prisoners, wounded, &c., it is said, will be 15,000, of which 12,000 are in the hands of the Union army.

stragglers from Lee's disorganized army and the roads strewn with abandoned caissons, arms and baggage. There were very few stragglers and no disorganization, owing to the perfect discipline which Gen. Lee had always maintained.

At two o'clock on Sunday morning, July 5, Gen. Stuart's cavalry reached Emattsburg, and began to enter the place. They passed directly through, without stopping, on a fast walk, and took the road towards Hagerstown. The stream of cavalry continued to flow, in a steady column, four abreast, until eleven or twelve o'clock at noon, by which time they had all left. A number of persons counted them, and they all agreed in the general total, which was about 15,000 men. General Stuart himself, with a number of his officers, stopped to breakfast at 8 o'clock and remained till 11. It was during this time that my informant conversed with them. My informant all inferred from what Stuart's officers said, that it was General Lee's design to move his columns along the crest of the South Mountain as far down as Boonsboro', leaving both Hagerstown and Williamsport on his right, and to take up a position at or near the one he held at the old battle of Antietam. They were quite satisfied with the results of the battles near Gettysburg, and spoke of General Lee's present movement as a great strategic achievement, which, in the course of two or three days, would result in the utter defeat of the Union army.

GEN. MORGAN IN INDIANA—GREAT INTEREST.—THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND CARRIAGES OUT.—STANTON DEPARTED FOR INDIANAPOLIS.

That famous cavalry chief, General Morgan, has gone through Kentucky and gotten into Indiana, much to the terror of its inhabitants. He crossed into Indiana on the 7th, with cavalry, infantry, and artillery, to the number of 5,000 men, and captured Corydon, a town about 25 miles from Louisville, Ky. It was formerly the capital of Indiana. Gov. Morton, of Indiana, immediately issued a proclamation, calling for 10,000 men, and declared martial law in the border counties. At Indianapolis, 125 miles from Corydon, a Michigan regiment had arrived with a battery of artillery, and on the night of the 9th, eleven regiments, aggregating 17,000 men, with ten pieces of artillery, passed through Louisville, en route to

or explanation," but while awaiting the answer from Washington merely cruised about the James river beyond our lines. Col. Ledlow parted with Messrs. Stephens and Ould on amicable terms.

The *Philadelphia Inquirer* sees a deep-hatched scheme concealed under this trip of Mr. Stephens, it being nothing less than a plan to "de-chaire" the Confederacy in Washington. It says:

Of course, if Stephens had succeeded in getting to Washington, he would have improved all the chances for opening negotiations on other subjects. His contemplated visit was timed at a critical juncture. Lee had just made a formidable advance into the loyal States, and was threatening at once Harriburg, Baltimore and Washington, but Lee himself was also in some peril. If he should be defeated Stephens would be in a situation to learn promptly the effect of such an event at the North, and advise Davis accordingly; but, on the other hand—and this was the confident expectation of the rebels—if Lee had taken Washington or Baltimore, Stephens would have been in a favorable position to declare the "Confederacy" in Washington, or to make a treaty, offensive and defensive, between Maryland and the rebel authorities, as he did on a similar occasion between the rebel Provisional Government and Virginia, in April, 1861. It will be remembered that he was conventionally at hand in Richmond at that time.

We are satisfied that some trivial affair about prisoners or retaliation would have been put forward as the pretext for his visit, but it was timed at such an important period, that we feel confident that it was underlain by some deep scheme. It was doubtless for some such reason that the Government packed him back. He is much wiser by this time, both by way of Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

LINCOLN OFFERS TO RELEASE VALLANDIGHAM FROM AN LE—THE TERMS UPON WHICH HE WILL DO IT.

The Committee of the Democratic Convention, which nominated Vallandigham for Governor of Ohio, addressed a letter to Lincoln, demanding the revocation of his order expelling his candidate from the United States. Lincoln has published a reply, of which the following is an extract.

I send you duplicates of this letter, in order

The U. S. (chartered) steamer *Ericsson*, with three guns, was sent out from New York on the 7th ult., and on the 8th inst. found what she was sent for—a pirate. A writer on board gives the following result of the discovery:

She had an English ensign at her peak, and as soon as she had ascertained who we were she altered her ensign, hoisting straight for us, but in a short time again heeding to the West, as if anxious to try our speed. Meanwhile, all hands were called to quarters, and everything necessary for fighting our ship got ready: the guns fired, and powder and shell passed up in a short time. However, he again heeded to the eastward, passing us on our starboard, now not more than half a mile distant from us, and we came to the conclusion that she must in reality be nothing more than she pretended to be—the English man-of-war—Just as she had ranged herself well on our starboard quarter a fog set in, nearly enveloping her from our sight, and almost instantaneously with the puff of white smoke that curled slowly above her, down came the English colors, and the "stars and bars" floated in their place, and almost immediately afterwards the whizzing shriek of a rifled shell struck close to our vessel, making music enough for all of us, and, ricocheting, struck the rim of our foretop, and then plunged into the sea ahead. This was immediately followed by two others, which struck close to us. What could we do? Fighting her was out of the question, our armament consisting only of one 30-pounder Parrott and two 12-pounder rifled howitzers, and as soon as the fog could clear up, he would have lain out at the extremest point of our guns; and, like the Pope of Rome, the game would have been entirely in his hands, and so—*adieu* to *Dixie*! why do I hesitate to tell it?—we pursued the next wisest course, and steered to the south and west with a full load of steam on, making ten knots by the log. The fog lifted in about half an hour's sailing, and the privateer was seen standing across our stern, but no sooner did she see that we had taken to flight than she stood for us. But a fierce chase is a long chase, and, notwithstanding that through the defect of a turn one of our batteries became useless—directing a knot from our former speed—we steadily gained upon him. At five P. M. she distanced from us about five or six miles, when she gave up the chase and hauled to the southward.

Clipped By:



rdferryman

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copies, with or without wrappers, TWO CENTS.

ADVERTISEMENTS should be sent to the  
office before 11 o'clock M., otherwise they may  
not appear until the next day.

# Evening Star.

VOL. XXII.      WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1863.      No. 3,238.

**DENTISTRY.**

**DR. LOCKWOOD.**  
SURGEON DENTIST, Washington Building,  
corner Pa. Avenue and 9th St.—Teeth  
inserted on Vulcanized Rubber, a cheap  
and improved plan. Also, Gold and  
Silver Plates made in superior style.  
Teeth extracted without pain. ap 17-4w

**NEW AND IMPROVED INVENTION  
OF  
ARTIFICIAL  
CHEOPLASTIC BONE TEETH,  
WITHOUT METAL PLATE OR GLASS.**

**DR. S. B. SIGHEMOND.**  
310 Broadway, New York, and 269 Pennsylvania  
Avenue, between 12th and 13th sts., Washington.  
Calls the attention of the public to the following  
advantages of his improved system:

1. The Teeth of his manufacture will never ex-  
pose, or fade, nor change color by any  
acids being three-fourths lighter than any other.
2. No teeth or roots need be extracted, as the  
artificial ones can be inserted over them.
3. The roots will be made inoffensive, and never  
to ache.
4. No temporary teeth are needed, as permanent  
ones can be made immediately, thereby preserving  
the natural expression of the face, which under the  
old system is frequently disfigured.
5. This work has been fully tested over five  
years by many of the first chemists and physicians  
of this country.
6. Dr. S. has also invented a white indestructible  
metal filling, with which the most sensitive teeth

**PROPOSALS.**

**SEALED PROPOSALS** are invited till the 15th day  
of July, 1863, at 12 o'clock M., for furnishing  
the Subsistence Department with 20,000 barrels of  
FLOUR.

Bids will be received for what is known as No. 1,  
No. 2, and No. 3, and for any portion less than the  
20,000 barrels. Separate bids will be received for  
Flour put in good second-hand barrels of the same  
grade as above. Bids for different grades, and for  
second hand barrels, should be upon separate  
sheets of paper.

The delivery of the Flour to be commenced on  
or about the 25th July, or as soon thereafter as  
the Government may direct, at the rate of 800  
barrels daily, delivered either at the Wharves, or at  
the Railroad Depot, Washington, D. C.

The barrels to be strong and head lined.  
Payment will be made in certificates of indebted-  
ness or such other funds the Government may have  
for distribution.

The usual government inspection will be made  
just before the flour is received.

An oath of allegiance must accompany each bid.  
No bid will be entertained from parties who have  
previously failed to comply with their bids, or from  
bidders not present to respond.

Bids to be directed to Col. A. BECKWITH, at  
D. C. & C. S. U. S. A., Washington, D. C., and en-  
closed "Proposals for Flour."  
Jy 1-1d

**PROPOSALS FOR HATS, CAPS, SHOES, DRY  
GOODS, &c.**

**HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON.**  
Office of Chief Quartermaster, July 1, 1863.  
Written proposals are invited for furnishing for  
the Department, &c.

**OFFICIAL.**

**WAR DEPARTMENT.**  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
WASHINGTON, June 29, 1863.

**General Order, No. 195.**

The Adjutant General will provide an appropri-  
ate medal of honor for the troops who, after the  
expiration of their term, have offered their services  
to the Government in the present emergency, and  
also for the volunteer troops from other States that  
have volunteered their service in the States of  
Pennsylvania and Maryland.

By order of the Secretary of War.  
E. D. TOWNSEND,  
Assistant Adjutant General.  
Jc 50

**HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF WASH-  
INGTON.**  
Office Chief Quartermaster, May 23, 1863.

**DEALERS IN AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, GAR-  
DEN SEEDS, &c.,** are requested to furnish this office  
price lists of the various articles of their trade.

The same should be directed to Lieutenant Colo-  
nel Elias M. Cassens, Chief Quartermaster, De-  
partment of Washington.  
my 25-1f

**PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL'S OFFICE.**  
WASHINGTON, May 22, 1863.

**NOTICE.**—The attention of all officers, who have  
been honorably discharged on account of wounds  
or disability, and who desire to re-enter the service

**AMUSEMENTS.**

**CANTERBURY HALL,**  
LOUISIANA AVENUE, NEAR SIXTH STREET.  
Wm. E. Sims, Sole Manager and Proprietor

**THE PIONEER MUSIC HALL!**  
**THE STANDARD PLACE OF AMUSEMENT.**  
The only place in the city where  
**FIRST CLASS DRAMATIC REPRESENTATIONS**  
can be witnessed

**DURING THE SUMMER SEASON,**  
and which are presented nightly, in addition to the  
unrivalled Operatic, Pantomimic and Terpei-  
chean or Olio Performances by the  
**STAR TROUPE OF THE WORLD.**  
TO-NIGHT.

**MRS. EVA BEENT.**  
The Charming Cantatrice.  
The great drama in one act entitled  
**THE FORTUNES OF WAR.**  
OR, **THE BOY OF THE IRISH BRIGADE.**  
Mons. J. B. L. Scollony, ..... Mons. Canthlower  
The Laughable Negro Farce, entitled  
**FURNISHED ROOMS TO LET.**

**LAUGHING GAS**  
A beautiful ballet, arranged by Mons. Scollony  
in which the great Court of Beauty will appear.  
Johny Mack, Denny Gallagher, A. H. Collins,  
And the Great Ethiopian Corps.  
G. B. Edson, J. S. Edwards,  
And the Splendid Dramatic Company.  
**SEE BILLS EVERY DAY.**

Admission twenty five and fifty cents.  
Grand Family Matinee every Saturday Afternoon  
at Reduced Prices.  
Jy 13-6t

**PIC NICS, &c.**

**REVENUE.**  
**THE UNITED GLEE CLUB** of Georgetown  
give their sixth GRAND PIC NIO  
at Green Spring Pavilion MONDAY  
July 20th, 1863. A splendid cotton  
band has been engaged for the occasion. Stages  
will leave the car stand every half hour for the pa-  
villion. Tickets 50 cents, admitting a gentleman  
and ladies.

**MANAGERS:**  
S. B. Fox, T. T. Steekman,  
Wm. T. Paul, S. Manning,  
Jy 14-6t Wm. H. Robertson, T. H. Hayscomb.

**THE YOUNG UNITED CLUB HAVE PO-T-**  
toned their Afternoon and Evening Pic Nic  
until THURSDAY next, the 16th inst. Jy 14-6t

**POSTPONEMENT.**  
**THE** Second grand annual Pic Nic of the Ken-  
nec Assembly is postponed until THURSDAY,  
the 16th inst.

**MANAGERS:**  
J. C. Clements, W. B. Sebastian,  
J. L. Davis, J. W. Kelly,  
Jy 15-3t K. A. Kenney.

**THE FIRST GRAND FARE AND AFTERNOON  
PIC-NIO OF THE CHAMBER CLUB** will  
be given at SEVENTH STREET PARK on  
THURSDAY, July 16th instant, for the ben-  
efit of St. Ann's Infant Asylum. The man-  
agers take pleasure in announcing to their friends  
and the public that no pains nor expense shall be  
spared to make this the most agreeable Pic Nic of  
the season. A splendid brass and cotton band  
has been engaged for the occasion.

Clipped By:



rdferryan  
Wed, Sep 6, 2017



**THE BALTIMORE SUN**

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**VOL LIII.---NO. 501**

**BALTIMORE, TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 14, 1863.**

**[PRICE ONE CENT!]**

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**For Ten Days Only.**  
*At Private Sale, a Splendid Assortment of Photograph Albums, Square Albums for Forty and Fifty Pictures—Your Choice for \$2 50, worth \$4 00.*  
*Oblong, for eighty and one hundred Pictures—your choice for \$4, worth from \$7 to \$10; all bound in the best Turkey morocco.—Call immediately, as the stock must be sold within ten days.*  
**L. Clark & Co.,**  
 No. 151 Baltimore street,  
 opposite Light.

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**THE SUN.**

**FOREIGN DETAILS:**

**American Affairs in England—Interesting Debate in Parliament.**

In the House of Commons, June 30, Mr. Roebuck rose to renew his motion with respect to the recognition of the Confederates. He said he well knew the importance of the motion, and the obsequy to which he was exposing himself, for he was acting against those who considered themselves the silt of the earth, and no one had a right to discuss question or conduct. In spite of this he adopted this course, because he believed it was for the honor and interest of this country, and he therefore appealed to the honor and impartiality of the House to support this motion for negotiations, with a view to the recognition of the Confederate States.—Some eighty years ago the American colonies revolted: they were resisted by a narrow-minded King, but they succeeded in establishing their independence. These, then, established two doctrines of international

**MORGAN'S RAID INTO INDIANA.**

**Capture of the Steamers J. T. McCombs and Alice Dean—Morgan has 5,000 Cavalry—Corydon Captured—Rebel Batteries on the Ohio—Gen. Burnside Preparing to Overtake the Raiders.**

[From the Cincinnati Gazette.]

Dispatches from Louisville on Thursday, announced the capture of the steamers John T. McCombs and Alice Dean, at Brandenburg, on Wednesday morning, by the rebel Morgan's forces. Five gentlemen arrived at Cincinnati on Thursday evening, direct from Brandenburg, and reported that the McCombs stopped at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon as they came up the river at Brandenburg, for the purpose of putting off and taking on passengers and freight. The instant the boat touched, thirty or forty Confederate soldiers, fully armed and equipped, jumped on board the steamer and took possession of the boat, the captain and crew being unarmed, and consequently powerless to offer any resistance. There were some forty or fifty passengers on the boat, and they were ordered on shore and secured, while the engineers and pilots were kept on board, a guard being placed over them to see that they obeyed every order given by the rebel captain in command.

The boat still laid to the wharf-boat, and there was at first some anxiety among the passengers to know what the next move of the rebels would be, but their object was soon made manifest, as in a short time the steamer Alice Dean came rounding the bend of the river. It was soon evident that the Dean intended making no stoppage at Brandenburg, so the McCombs was headed out just in time to touch her bows, when the

**PROGRESS OF THE DRAFT.**

**SCENES AND INCIDENTS.**

The draft, under the conscription law, has been commenced in several Northern States, and progresses with commendable order and We subjoin a number of facts and incidents of more or less interest to those in this section of the country:

WHERE THE THREE HUNDRED DOLLAR COM-MUTATION FEE IS TO BE PAID.

The three hundred dollars, says a New York paper, which must be paid in order to exempt from the draft those who can bring forward no other cause of exemption, must be handed over to a collector of internal revenue. It is not necessary that it should be paid to the collector of the district in which the drafted person resides, but can be paid to any collector of the United States.

When these names are drawn, the following notification is sent to each person, which of course is properly filled up before so doing:

*Protest Marshal's Office, — District, State of — To — Sir:—You are hereby notified that you were on the — day of —, 1863, legally drafted in the service of the United States for the period of —, in accordance with the provisions of the act of Congress, "for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1863. You will accordingly report on or before the —, at the place of rendezvous, in —, or be deemed a deserter, and be subject to the penalty prescribed herefor by the rules and articles of war.*

Transportation will be furnished you on presenting this notification at —, on the —, or at the station nearest your place of residence.

— Protest Marshal,  
— District of —.

wonders if they were drafted, but we lack faith in such exhibitions of patriotism.

Those alone whose pecuniary circumstances are such that the cannot buy a reprieve will be compelled to serve. Many of this class have families dependent upon their daily earnings for support, and thus taken away at once become subjects of charity.—The families of such should be provided for at public expense, and the sooner steps are taken to do this the more cheerfully will men of this class take their places in the ranks, knowing that their wives and little ones will be cared for during their absence. The pay of the soldier from government would little more than pay the rent of a small tenement, leaving food and clothing to be provided—how? That is the question for consideration.

**CONNECTICUT.**

[From the New Haven Journal, July 11.]

Our announcement of the draft yesterday, and explanation of the process by which it was to be made, had the effect of quieting to a great extent the rising anxiety of those liable to be called upon. We understand that hundreds of patriotic gentlemen have anticipated the action of the government and left the State before their names were drawn out of the box. It is said that two hundred left in the New York boat yesterday morning, all anxious to save the government any trouble on their account; and the prospect is that the rush of volunteer emigrants will continue to so great an extent that gentlemen patriots of the second class will be called upon to complete the draft.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**

[From the Pittsburg Gazette.]

There was good deal of excitement in the city on Thursday, consequent upon the commencement of the draft, and during the drawing the office of Captain Foster, the provost marshal, was filled with a very anxious and deeply interested audience. Among

**From Fortress Monroe.**

**A Murder at Norfolk of an Officer of a Negro Regiment, &c.**

Fortress Monroe, July 12.—Yesterday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, Lieut. Sanborn, who was drilling a colored military company, and while in front of Andrew Foster's dry goods store, on Main street, Norfolk, was shot, one ball passing in at the mouth and out behind the ear, and another ball passed through his body, entering the left shoulder and coming out at the right, from which he died in fifteen minutes. Doctor Wright, of Norfolk, is charged with the murder, and had a preliminary examination last evening before the provost marshal, Major Hovey.

The first witness called was Lieut. Colonel Guyon, 18th New York Regiment, who testifies that Lieut. Sanborn had drawn up his company on Main street, in front of Andrew Foster's store, and was in front of his men dressing them, when Dr. Wright, who was in the store, addressed some remarks to Lieut. Sanborn, who replied if he was further interrupted with in that way he would arrest him.

The doctor thereupon advanced and shot Lieut. S. in the head. The lieutenant then turned upon the doctor with sword uplifted, when the doctor fired a second time, hitting the lieutenant first in the hand, and passing through from his left to right shoulder. The lieutenant seized the doctor and endeavored to wrench the pistol from his hand, and whilst thus struggling they entered the store, a great crowd following them. They continued struggling for several minutes when the witness took the pistol from Dr. Wright and arrested him. Lieut. S. died in about fifteen minutes.

Six other witnesses were examined, whose testimony was in substance as the above. The doctor was committed to jail.

## International and war news

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rdferryman  
Wed, Sep 6, 2017





# Titans of the Industry

## Greeley, Bennett, Raymond

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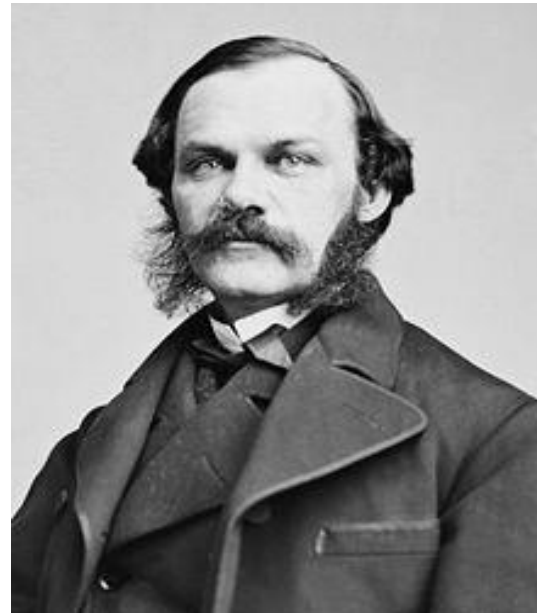
- New York City news bureaus led the way, 174 newspapers
- Horace Greeley of the *Tribune*, James G. Bennett of the *Herald*, Henry J. Raymond of the *Times* vied for top billing—their papers are national in scope
- These competitors essentially despised each other, routinely criticized the other in print
- Greeley's editorials carried the greatest national following, Bennett the best newsman, Raymond an even keel editor
- Bennett supported Stephen Douglas for president, Greeley and Raymond backed Lincoln
- Lincoln recognized their sweeping influence, leaving him to carefully manage his relationship with them and the press in general



James Gordon Bennett  
1795-1872  
*New York Herald*



Horace Greeley  
1811-1872  
*New York Tribune*



Henry J. Raymond  
1820-1869  
*New York Times*



# Reporting From Washington

## Richmond Reporting Unknown but Likely Similar

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- Best reporters posted to DC, few before the war, during the war 18-50 from major bureaus
- Most reporters worked for three or more bureaus, several female reporters
- Better paid, one veteran reporter Shad Adams earns \$10K annually (Union army private \$156)
- Considerable camaraderie and competition
- Operated from “newspaper row”, 14<sup>th</sup> St. between F St. and Penn. Ave., near the Willard Hotel & telegraph offices
- Hounded Lincoln officials, congressman, soldiers for stories
- Went aloft in balloons tethered locally to create stories
- *Associated Press* exclusive outlet for official govt. reporting

## “Newspaper Row”, Harper’s New Monthly Magazine 1874



# Reporting From the Field

## Modern Military Correspondence Evolves

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- “Special” reporters deployed to cover the armies, referred to as the “Bohemian Brigade”, report on all major battles
- Five hundred specials, 350 from northern papers, most become exhausted and quit by war’s end
- Twenty year olds predominately, most with high school or higher education, field reporting salaries much higher
- Several had reporting experience but were novices in field reporting, mixed results reflect this
- Independent, assertive, brave, yet specials often broke the rules, were reckless, lived on the edge, were widely disliked
- Heated competition to secure the news and be the first to get it to editors pressuring reporters for their copy
- 100 Union regiments published unit newspapers

# Field Operations

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- New York *Herald* had the largest by war's end
  - 63 specials with Union Armies reporting from the division unit level and above
  - Resourced with horses, wagons, tents, boats, supplies
- Specials typically roamed the camps, interviewing anyone, including prisoners, to uncover stories
- Some served in official capacities such as a staff officer or official recorder, many reported for several papers
- Several employed espionage techniques when denied access to operations and communications
  - Masqueraded as a military functionary
  - Used dead drops, couriers, the post, bribes to send stories



# What Was Published

## *No Standard For Objectivity Existed*

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- For the first time news competed with front-page editorials and advertisements—readers craved for military news
- Extreme partisan journalism contoured both the news and editorials, fair and balanced reporting the rare exception
  - 1860 Census: 80% of US newspapers “decidedly political”
  - Many owned by office holders or seekers, including Lincoln
  - Govt. actions treated according to biases, agendas
  - Victories or defeats exaggerated or downplayed
  - Each side demonized for their conduct of the war
  - Senior leaders and commanders lavished with praise or condemned for their actions, fairness was uncommon
- Reader accountable for sifting for the truth
- Grammar and readability standards were consistent

# Demonizing the Enemy by Each Side

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Richmond *Examiner*, April 23, 1861

“From the mountain tops and the valleys to the shores of the sea there is one wild shout of fierce resolve to capture Washington City at all and every human hazard. **The filthy cage of unclean birds must and will assuredly be purified by fire...many indeed will be the carcasses of dogs, and caitiffs that will blackened the air upon the gallows, before the great work is accomplished.**”



# Military Matters Scrutinized by the Press

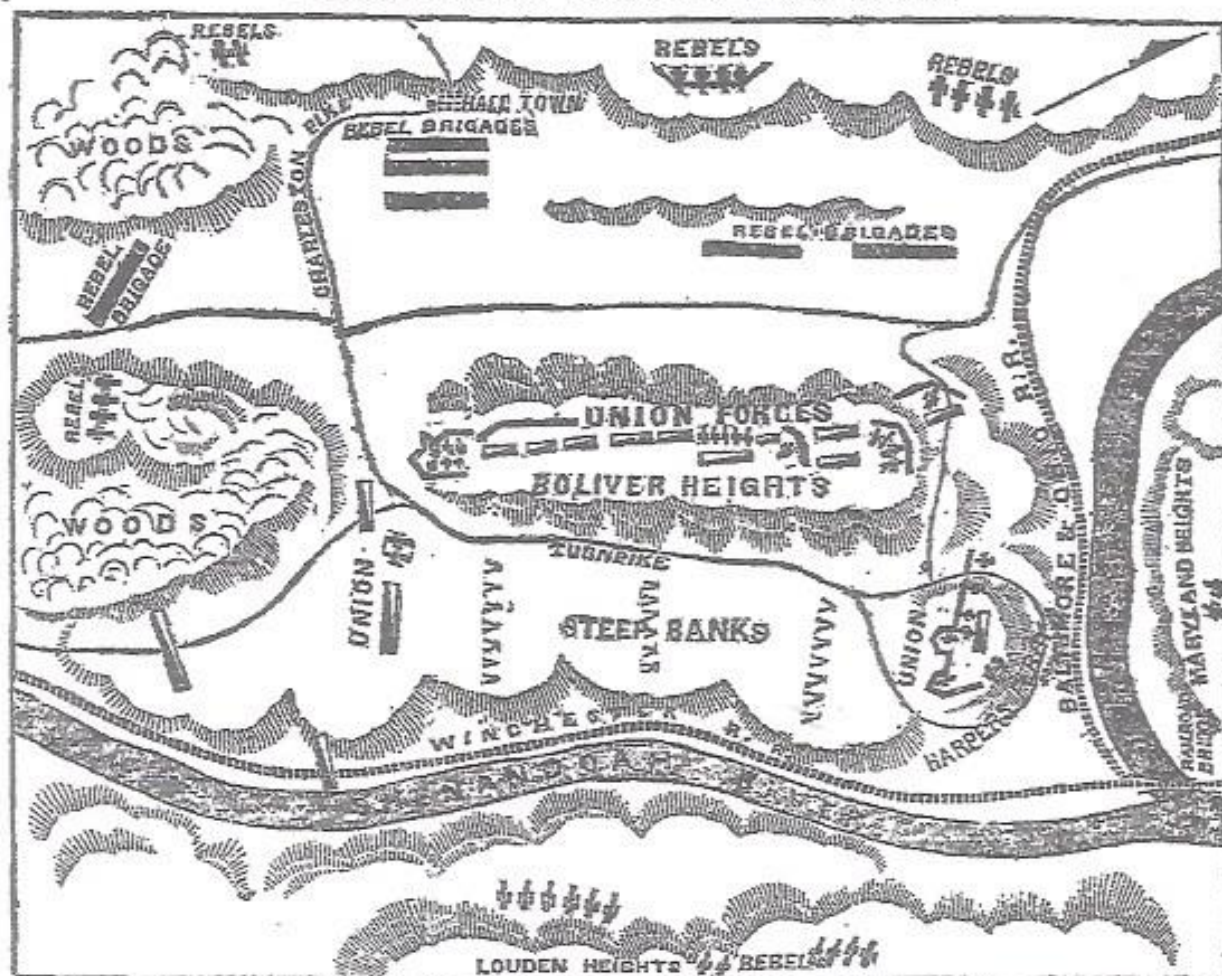
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- Editorials regularly called for major operations, criticized policies, leaders, and commanders, shaped events
- “Specials” reported on dreadful camp conditions
- Battle reports usually contained many errors, fabrications—*fake news*—and often posted by reporters not at the battle
  - At Shiloh, many specials reported from 150 miles away
- Unauthorized regular disclosures of unit locations and movements, and casualty lists containing intelligence
  - *NY Tribune*: two Ohio regiments, 1800 men, reach DC
  - *Charleston Mercury*: sixteen companies, 1200 men, camped at the Raleigh, NC camp ground



# THE BATTLE AT HARPER'S FERRY.

Positions of the Union and Rebel Forces.



Top: A Kurz and Allison lithograph of the Battle of Antietam. Above: The New York Times map showing troop positions during the Battle of Harper's Ferry, part of the Antietam campaign.

# Southern Press Collapses

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- By February 1864, only 35 of 80 major papers are operating, large majority only marginally
  - Invading Union troops shutter or take over operations
  - Southern pressmen join the army or are drafted
  - Subscriptions dramatically drop or are unpaid
  - Prices spike to at least five cents per copy in places
  - Transportation and telegraph networks breakdown
  - Severe material and supplies shortages persist, south produces only five percent of paper needs, four-page papers reduce to one or less
  - Most content derived from northern papers
- Some papers survive in limited form by relocating
- Even Republican Party newspapers begin in the south



Clipped By:



rdfferryman

Wed, Sep 6, 2017

# Officials Unprepared to Prevent Press Disclosures

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- Neither side had a blueprint to prevent unauthorized disclosures of military information
- Government and military leaders responsible for censorship, US Congress essentially deferred
- The US Supreme Court also deferred—no statutes specifically designed to stop disclosures
- Congress passes “Treason Act” in July 1862 but no reporter during the Civil War is tried or convicted under the act
- Same is true for the Articles of War, article 57, legislated in 1806 to punish individuals disclosing intelligence to a foe
- Confederate General Johnston bans reporters following a disclosure but learns no law punishes reporters, War Dept. secretary blames Johnston for permitting too much access

# Censorship Measures

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- War Dept. decrees banning or limiting reporter movements and reports, suspending newspaper operations
- Placing telegraph operators in charge of censoring reports
- Commanders demanding review of reports to screen for and remove sensitive information
- Banning reporters from covering a specific campaign
- Restricting reporters access to HQ area only or rear areas
- Expelling reporters from an army or camp
- Requiring reporters to reveal their names
- Threatening penalties such as court martial, jail time
- Denying passes, access to provisions and needed logistics
- Restricting releasable information to post-combat coverage

# First Manassas: Censorship Begins

## Big Bethel Disclosures Anger Confederate Leaders

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- To protect military matters, Richmond asks newspapers for voluntary restraint, the southern press largely complies
- The south takes over telegraph operations, the north does not but employs the AP in DC to censor military news
- Union Gen. McDowell permits on-scene reporting
- Opposing Gen. Beauregard shuts down the telegraph and railroads for southern military use only
- Prohibits civilians from the battle zone, some ill-prepared southern reporters ignore the order and cover the battle
- By 5:30 PM on 21 July AP telegraphing a Union victory that headlines early northern news releases the next day
- By 6 PM the US War Dept. blocks telegraphic news release of embarrassing Union defeat until the following morning



# Press Fallout from First Manassas

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- Northern press outraged by U.S. Army chief General Scott's telegraph blackout: he reneged on pledge for press coverage of battle action and results
- DC telegraph opens at 7 AM, AP story of defeat crosses the wires nationally, provided to *Nat'l Republican* for printing
- Monday morning northern papers proclaim a Union victory, retractions forthcoming, press resents govt. interference
- *NY Times*: we are not responsible...govt. agents...suppressed the facts
- Northern editorials assert various reasons for Union rout
- Southern press not censored but greatly exaggerate numbers, distort facts, many bureaus opine that the war is over—Richmond *Dispatch* story the most complete

# Press-Army Relations: 1861

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- Relationship begins cordially, quickly deteriorates
- Cooperative commanders, subordinates seeking fame
- Union Brig. Gen. William T. Sherman despises specials as “cowardly”, “paid spies”, most ardent anti-press general
- Tells Cincinnati *Commercial* reporter:...take the train...don’t let me see you around here...we don’t want the enemy any better informed than he is
- NY *Tribune* in October asserts Sherman mentally deranged, cements his hatred for the press
- New US Army chief George McClellan, labeled “the young Napoleon” by the *Tribune*, starts well with the press
- Then accuses *Times*’ Raymond of treason for disclosures
- War Dept. Order 67 bans disclosures, after action reports only



# 1862 Begins with Congressional Investigation

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- Editors convince US House Judiciary Committee to investigate telegraphic censorship, testify that protocols are ill-defined, censors unqualified
- Confusion prevailed in 1861: US Treasury, then War Dept., then State Dept., then War Dept. administered censorship
- Committee report condemns government censorship
- Report overridden by US Congress which in Feb 1862 authorizes Lincoln to control railroads and telegraph networks in the US for military purposes
- War Dept.'s Secretary Edwin Stanton appointed chief censor, promptly prohibits newspapers from publishing intelligence about US military operations
- In March, editors denied mail access by Postmaster Montgomery if found printing censored material

# 1862 Peninsula Campaign

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- Before the mid-March Union departure from DC, reporting the move was prohibited by Gen. McClellan
- Telegraph lines under military censorship, War Dept. 25 Feb order declares unauthorized disclosures would remove future press access to the telegraph and railroad networks
- War Dept. arrests Washington *Chronicle* Editor John Young in mid-March for revealing Union unit movements in DC, other bureaus warned, Boston *Journal* editor threaten with courts martial after he printed unit moves to the peninsula
- Fort Monroe, VA, tightens censorship, Stanton suspends telegraph access for the Philadelphia *Inquirer* after it published McClellan's advances, access restored after Dept. of VA Gen. Wool's disclosure of approving of the dispatch

# Press Parole System Fails

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- U.S. Virginia Military Dept. commander General Wool, with Stanton's approval, establishes a parole system to stem confusion over censorship
- Lengthy document attached to passes that are required for reporters, demands their loyalty, refraining from providing intelligence
- Parole terms specifically forbid reports on plans, locations and names of units, their numbers, weapons and ammo, troop movements, pictorial representations of defenses except under post-engagement conditions in some cases
- System broadly ineffective, no correspondents held accountable while it was in effect, enforcers found the document too lengthy to process in each and every case

# *Herald* Bypasses Telegraph Restraints

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- New York *Herald* peninsula reporting relied on a network to New York
  - A *Herald* reporter posted at Fort Monroe was responsible for collecting stories from several *Herald* reporters
  - Then he employed stewards of the Old Colony Steamship Line to ship stories to the *Herald* staff assigned to Baltimore
  - The staff would typically use the New York bound train to forward the stories to New York, would use the telegraph if the boat was late and missed the train connection
- A New York *Tribune* editor, dismayed by his paper's tardiness with the news, scolds a peninsula special... "the *Herald* is constantly ahead of us with Yorktown news...the battle on 16 April, we were compelled to copy from it...your sketch (of the battle) was useless..."

# Stanton Rebuffed by *Harper's Weekly*

## Political Factors Handcuff Censorship

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- *Harper's Weekly* violates the parole by publishing a sketch showing positions of Union troops by brigades and divisions, and unit headquarters during the Yorktown siege
- Stanton punishes Harper's by suspending publication of the *Weekly*, requests a direct explanation
- Founder Fletcher Harper directly persuades Stanton to immediately lift the suspension
- An implied threat to withdraw *Harper's Weekly* strong support for the administration, Lincoln called it a "great recruiter" for the US Army, likely prompted Stanton to revoke the suspension



# McClellan Censors the Press

## Burden of Censorship Fell to Commanders

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- After the 5 May Battle of Williamsburg, McClellan orders reporters not to accompany advanced units, locate at Hqs
- Several reporters already with the cavalry, one disguised as an officer, many arrested, scolded personally by McClellan
- McClellan complains to Stanton, suggests that newspaper editors should be accountable for infractions
- Tells Stanton “correspondents with this army, giving important information...in positive violation of your orders”; “the order of march from the Chickahominy...is published in full in the Baltimore *American*...if any statement could afford more important information to the enemy I am unable to perceive it.”
- Orders all Richmond papers in his lines forwarded to him to preempt reporters from gleaning information on his army

# Seven Days Campaign

## Censorship Reaches New Heights

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- On 25 June McClellan forbids any civilian beyond his camps
- Reporters trying to get to the front were halted, sent back
- In DC, War Dept. slowly releases news of Union retreat, leaving the public uninformed, and broad dissatisfaction with censorship; Confederate news of victory going abroad
- Gen. Johnston's Order No. 98 still bans all reporters, Confederate authorities effectively curtail reporting—critics sound off about unfair, inaccurate reporting
- Intelligence-focused Robert E. Lee wants press releases curbed, complains that the Richmond *Dispatch* precisely located three divisions, that the article is in Union hands
- Lee urges Sec. of War Randolph to end disclosures, Randolph pens a letter to news bureaus with great effect

# After Seven Days Leaks and Censorship

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- Reporters operating from Fort Monroe barred from advancing to McClellan's Headquarters
- Some reporters interdicted as far north as Baltimore
- One reporter stows away as a cook on a schooner serving forward Union forces, restricted to the boat, tries to row ashore but is shot at, returns to Monroe
- Another reporter disguised as a surgeon gains access, finds officer's confidence in McClellan waning
- Peninsula departure by McClellan's army disclosed by the NY *Tribune*, *Times*, and Philadelphia *Enquirer*, War Dept. fears Lee could strike before Union armies unite



# Maryland Campaign

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- McClellan absorbs Pope's troops into his Army of the Potomac, on 5 September 1862 marches against Lee, bars reporters from his army
- Many, however, accompany it in various roles, *NY Tribune* George Smalley an aide-de camp, others have passes
- Telegraphic censorship in DC tightly enforced
- Lee's Special Order 191 instructing his unit moves discovered by Union troops 13 Sept., war's greatest intelligence windfall revealed by the *NY Herald* on 15 Sept.—Lee unaware of the disclosure and chance to react
- War Dept. prohibits reporting of the Harper's Ferry surrender for a full day, permits only a partial release of the fall on day two, likely to spin the best picture of the defeat

# Antietam Reporter's Dramatic Coverage

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- Several reporters from the North and South directly cover the fighting, five thousand spectators watch from a hill
- NY *Tribune*'s George Smalley witnesses the combat ahead of Gen. Hooker during the Corn Field fight, leaving Hooker to proclaim..."I never saw...more tranquil fortitude and unshaken valor than was exhibited by that young man."
- Smalley couriers orders from Hooker after staff officers are unavailable, serves Hooker until Hooker is injured
- Smalley asked by Hooker staff officer to urge the injured Hooker to resume his command, McClellan won't fight, but Smalley declines



# Lincoln Releases Smalley's Account

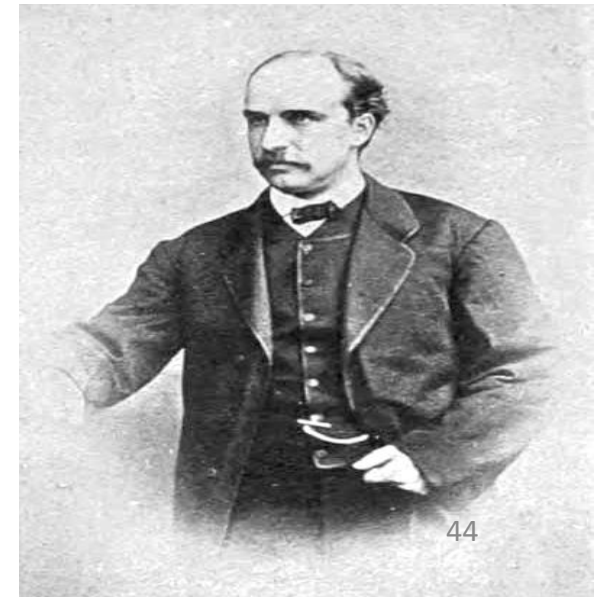
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- At nightfall *Tribune* reporters compare notes to develop the story, Smalley believes McClellan won't renew combat
- Smalley determined to get the story to New York for a Friday edition
- His horse has two bullet wounds, he uses another, rides asleep to the nearest telegraph office at Frederick, MD, 30 miles away
- He arrives there at 3 AM, the telegraph office is closed, and he is unable to find the operator until 7 AM
- Smalley short story is sent through censored channels to DC, not New York, the first detailed but still brief account that is reviewed by Lincoln and Stanton, who approved it for transmission to New York

# Defeating Censorship at Fredericksburg

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- Henry Villard replaces Smalley as the chief *Tribune* correspondent and witnesses Gen. Burnside's Union 13 Dec. defeat, fears for the army's safety
- Wants to transmit his story, but Burnside closes the telegraph, bars travel, particularly of specials, to prevent disclosure of his disaster
- At Aquia Creek Villard pays two negroes to row him to a DC bound steamer on the river
- Not authorized to allow passengers, the skipper grants access after Villard shows a pass, later rewards the Captain with \$50
- Arriving in DC late on 14 Dec., Villard meets Lincoln at the White House to tell his story



# Reporter-Military Tensions Escalate

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- To protect his January 1863 river operation to support Gen. Grant's attempt to take Vicksburg, Gen. William T. Sherman issues General Order 8:
  - Excludes all civilians from his command unless govt. employed
  - Those reporters writing accounts, thereby giving aid to the enemy, would be arrested, treated as a spy
  - Another order calls for a manifest identifying specials aboard each vessel, mandating their arrest and transfer to the front for combat support duty
- At least a score of specials defy the order
  - Chicago *Times* reporter Tom Cook defiantly claims he “was more honored in its breach than in its observance” (re the order)

# First Court Martial of a Reporter

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- Aiming to tarnish Sherman's reputation, many specials blame Sherman for Grant's failure to take Vicksburg
- Thomas Knox *Herald* 18 January story, delayed by mail censorship, blast Sherman for his Chickasaw Bayou blunder—Knox later admits to Sherman his story is substantially incorrect
- Justifies his invective spin to Sherman: “you are regarded the enemy of our set (reporters), and we must in self-defense write you down.”
- Knox is arrested aboard a steamship to be brought to court-martial for three violations



# Courts-Martial Decision Reaches Lincoln's Desk

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- Knox found guilty of violating Order No. 8 and War Dept. order, banished from the Army of the Tennessee
- Failure to comply would be imprisonment
- Sherman enraged by the light sentence, laments that citizens ignoring orders incur no criminality
- Washington press corps rallies to Knox's defense, submits a petition to Lincoln to annul the sentence, Lincoln conditionally concurs only if Gen. Grant agrees to do so
- Grant referred the decision to Sherman who carried out the sentence

# Political Connections Curtail Censorship

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- Sherman investigates how Knox gained access to his campaign, Gen. Francis Blair Jr. admits he allowed access
- Blair has deep political roots, a recent congressman, brother of Postmaster Montgomery Blair, son of kingmaker Francis Blair (Blair House)
- Blair is insulted by Sherman's accusatory tone, responds:..."I confess myself greatly mortified and annoyed...in being called on to answer such interrogations...I hope to receive no more letters of the same character from you and shall not answer them if I do."
- Sherman promised no more inquiries, thanks Blair for confirming Knox's disobedience, says Knox an infamous dog

# A New Censorship Wrinkle

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- New Army of the Potomac commander Gen. Joseph Hooker, fed-up with news leaks, urges Stanton to take action but is told to handle it
- 30 April 1863 Hooker responds with General Order 48 requiring the reporter's name on all correspondence—not a common practice, compliance is mixed
- Justification: “...the frequent transmission of false intelligence, and the betrayal of the movements of the army to the enemy...”
- Still saddled with leaks, on 18 June Hookers sends a confidential letter to all editors asking them to exercise discretion when printing army matters
- Ironically, the same day, the NY *Herald* printed the exact locations of Hooker's entire army in northern Virginia

# Censorship and Press Courtship Conflict

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- In May 1863 NY *Tribune* reporter Henry Villard presents credentials to Union commander Gen. Rosecrans, who warmly welcomes him at Murfreesboro, TN, as does James A. Garfield
- Villard informed by other reporters that Rosecrans was attempting to use the press to advance his career—*Tribune's* Horace Greeley seeking Rosecrans interest in being U.S. President
- Still subject to restrictions on publications, Villard gains Rosecrans confidence but finds him extremely boastful about himself and not worthy of coverage praising him
- Rosecrans, in part, later blames the press for being fired by Lincoln weeks after Rosecrans Sept. defeat at Chickamauga

# Villard Assesses Rosecrans is Aiming for Fame

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- ...Rosecrans freely offered his confidence to me, it gratified him to express ill-humor toward Washington authorities, freely criticizing Halleck and Stanton with total disregard for official propriety, it embarrassed me...he did not hesitate to express his future plans, with scarcely concealed self-appreciation...he evidently believed that he was destined to be the most important of all Union generals, reach the greatest distinction...he repeated these themes so regularly that I concluded he was anxious to impress me with his greatness and to have that impression reflected in the *Tribune*...
- Rosecran's repeated boasting leaves Villard unsold

# Press-Government Feud Heats Up

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- In March 1864 War Dept. bans all civilians from the battle front except for those in place
- All reporters were directed to suspend reporting until after a battle, violations would be punished
- NY *Tribune* reporter Henry Wing defies the ban, slips past camp guards and stows away
- Wing on 6 May wants to telegraph a 100 word story to the *Tribune* on the disparate Wilderness fighting, Lincoln and his civilian leaders knew little about the outcome
- Stanton censors Wing's story, demands Wing to give it to the War Dept. but Wing refuses unless he can transmit
- Enraged Stanton labels Wing a spy and orders him to be shot the next morning.



# Lincoln Intervenes: Needs for the Press

## Favorable Press Coverage

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- Lincoln stunned by execution order, asks to speak to Wing
- Wing agrees to talk but only if the President will grant immediate transmission of his story, Lincoln approves and shares the story with the AP
- Wing, 20 miles south of DC, travels by a special train to DC where surprisingly about 2 AM he is whisked into a Cabinet meeting chaired by Lincoln who is awaiting his reporting
- Privately, following the meeting, Wing imparts a message given to him secretively by Gen. Grant for Lincoln that said, “there would be no turning back”, music to Lincoln’s ears
- Wing talks with Lincoln at length the following day, Lincoln orders a special train with escort for Wing to get his horse in Warrenton, fights his way to where he left, retrieved it

# A Press Boycott Answers a Humiliating Censorship

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- At Cold Harbor on 27 May special Edward Crapsey disparages Gen. Meade's leadership in the Philadelphia *Enquirer*, enraging the hot-tempered Meade
- Meade berates Crapsey directly for his poorly researched story, orders provost marshal to expel him from the army
- Gen. Patrick places Crapsey backward sitting on a worn mule, places "Libeler of the Press" placards on him, then parades him out of camp to the tune "Rogue's March"
- DC reporters appalled by Crapsey's belittlement, vowed to exclude Meade from reporting, doing so for 6 months
- Famous reporter Whitelaw Reid writes, Meade "is a leprous with the moral cowardice as a brute that kicks a helpless cripple on the street, or beats his wife at home"

# Press Guilty of Endangering National Security

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- Unauthorized disclosures altered campaign developments, caused needless loss of lives—the most serious criticism of the press
- Novice censorship operations suffered gaping lapses—lack of uniform standards, application—that the press exploited to print military secrets
- Editors claimed censorship absolved them of responsibility
- Editors took advantage of Lincoln's need for a supportive press to keep citizens behind the war
- Editors shielded themselves behind the First Amendment and Lincoln's determination to defend it
- Press capitalized on officer quests for positive coverage believed to be critical for career advancement