

REBEL UNDERGROUND



Major John C. Hutto Camp 443
Sons of Confederate Veterans
P.O. Box 947
Jasper, Alabama 35502

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Division Commander Gary Carlyle spoke at the October meeting. He is pictured here with Camp Commander Blackston. His talk was filled with interesting facts of history and at the same time was entertaining.

VETERANS DAY PARADE

Saturday - November 3rd - 10:00 a. m.
Downtown Jasper

Those participating should be at the Walker High School parking lot at 8:00 a. m.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Sunday - November 18
2:30 P. M.
First Methodist Church
Jasper

*PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF
THE LINCOLN ARTICLE*

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

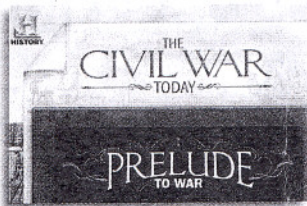
COMMANDER	James Blackston
1ST LT. COMM	John Tubbs
2ND LT. COMM	Brandon Prescott
ADJUTANT	Trent Harris
CHAPLAIN	Wayne Thomas
EDITOR	Leonard Wilson

MILITARY HISTORY SEPTEMBER 2012

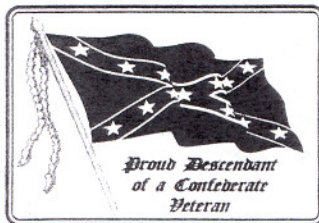
iPad App Relates 'Real Time' Civil War

The History Channel presents the Civil War as it unfolded with the iPad app *The Civil War Today* [www.history.com/interactives/civil-war-today], an interactive broadsheet that transports readers to the home front each morning. Content includes "This Day in Civil War History," the journals section "A Day in the Life," a daily "In the Headlines" collection of scanned period newspapers, plus daily updated photos, quotes, quizzes and casualty figures. Fea-

ture stories, battle maps, biographies, an image gallery, a "Civil War by the Numbers" section and even a Morse-to-Twitter translator round out



the features. The app (\$5.99) is available from the iTunes store and includes four years of content and archival access.



FEW STATES PLAYED AS CRITICAL a role in the early part of the Civil War as West Virginia. In fact, its very existence was a result of the political battle in the Virginia Legislature over secession, and the most incendiary event connected with the slavery issue took place on what is now West Virginia soil—the seizure of the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry in 1859 by the fiery abolitionist, John Brown.

John Brown's Raid

On October 16, 1859, Brown's 21-man "Provisional Army of the United States" seized the United States Armory and Arsenal with the aim of arming a slave uprising. Instead, the raid drew militia companies and federal troops from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

On the morning of Oct. 18, a storming party of 12 Marines, under the command of Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee of the Second United States Cavalry (with his aide, Lt. J.E.B. Stuart, of the First United States Cavalry), broke down the door of the Armory's engine house, and 36 hours after the raid began, with most of his men killed or wounded, Brown was captured. Brown's death sentence served to focus all the North's political and social forces on the moral issue of slavery, and his name became the slogan under which, as a battle hymn, the Northern troops invaded and overran the South.

Battleground!

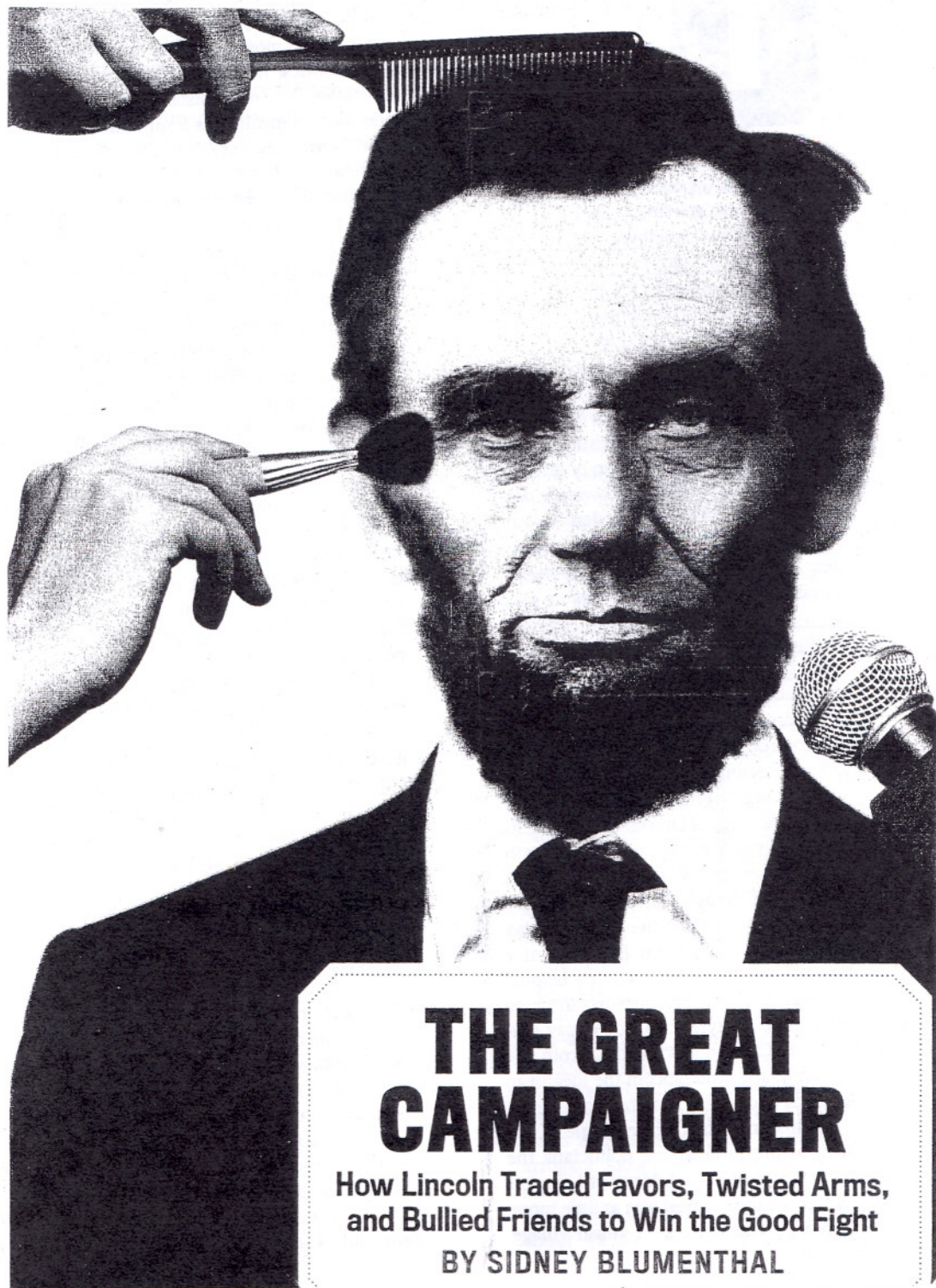
From the outset of the war, both the Union and Confederate governments endeavored to hold western Virginia not only for its valuable salt resources, productive farms and strategic section of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, but also for its psychological advantages. For the Union, it represented a serious inroad in the most prestigious state of the Confederacy, and for the Confederacy, its retention would demonstrate strength and help preserve the South's morale.

The First Campaign

West Virginia was the setting for the first campaign of America's Civil War. Although the region was still part of Virginia in 1861, many citizens of the west remained loyal to the Union and in late May, Union Gen. George B. McClellan (soon to become the North's first battlefield hero) ordered troops to cross the Ohio River and secure "western" Virginia for the Union.

Following the First Battle of Bull Run, federal troops occupied "western" Virginia as loyal delegates met in Wheeling to form the "Restored Government of Virginia"

NEWSWEEK - October 22, 2012



THE GREAT CAMPAIGNER

How Lincoln Traded Favors, Twisted Arms,
and Bullied Friends to Win the Good Fight

BY SIDNEY BLUMENTHAL



THE LATEST Lincoln boom—kicking off with the bicentennial of his birth in 2009 and the continuing sesquicentennial of the Civil War—shows no sign of abating. It may not even reach its apogee with the release immediately post-election of Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*, a biopic starring Daniel Day-Lewis in the title role. Spielberg, according to a source familiar with the production, has deliberately withheld the film until the current, divisive presidential campaign is over in order to prevent Lincoln from being seized upon to score political points.

But lifting Lincoln above the fray doesn't remove him from politics. While the political Lincoln may be difficult for us to acknowledge at a time when politics and partisan commitments are widely denigrated, Lincoln's presidency demonstrates that partisanship and political ruthlessness can be used to advance the highest ideals. And there were no clearer cases than during his 1864 battle for reelection (without which the slave-owning South would almost certainly have triumphed) and subsequent effort to pass the 13th Amendment, which at long last purged slavery from the Constitution. In the end, Lincoln became the master of events because he was the master of politics.

The mythology of Lincoln as too noble for politics began at the moment of his death, with his body sprawled across a small bed in a house across from Ford's Theatre, where he was shot. At the president's last breath, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton famously pronounced, "Now he belongs to the ages." Every age since has invented its Lincoln. Martyred on Good Friday, Lincoln the Christ has rivaled Lincoln the Common Man and Lincoln the Idealist in America's collective imagination.

The historical truth reveals one of the most astute professional politicians the country has produced. Many of Lincoln's contemporaries viewed him as little more than a provincial hack—"a vulgar village

politician," as James Gordon Bennett's *New York Herald* put it. But they learned not to underestimate his political abilities. "He was the deepest, the closest, the cutest, and the most ambitious man American politics has produced," observed Gustavus Fox, his assistant secretary of the Navy. "Lincoln was a supreme politician," wrote Charles A. Dana, his assistant secretary of War. "He understood politics because he understood human nature."

The self-made man transformed himself through relentless political aspiration. In the words of his law partner William H. Herndon, "Politics were his Heaven, and his Hades metaphysics." From his first day as a state legislator to his last as president, he was in the middle of the dealmaking, or what was then called "log-rolling." Running for the legislature at the age of 23, he was unrelenting in his aspiration to higher office. "His ambition was a little engine that knew no rest," said Herndon. Lincoln became the Whig floor leader in the Illinois Legislature at 27 and was the state's leading Whig politician until he emerged as the unifying figure at the founding convention of the Illinois Republican Party in 1856.

Once he reached the White House, his survival and that of the nation depended on his political skill. Lincoln never believed that politicians were unsavory creatures he was compelled to associate with out of unfortunate necessity. He was not a plebeian saint who withheld himself from the give-and-take of the political game; neither did he feel it was a sordid distraction from his higher calling. He loved the relationships of politics—the fraternity, friendship, and humor. He badgered journalists for gossip they didn't report. If politics was his Heaven, it was also his school. He entered every legislative chamber and saloon, every political gathering and social party, every backroom and courtroom as a potentially invaluable learning experience. He called them his "public opinion baths." There was little he liked more, especially in the White House, than a late-night conversation with a group of politicians—except

perhaps a night at the theater.

Lincoln knew from experience that great change required a thousand small political acts. Never did he apply his granular political skills more cleverly and effectively than during his reelection campaign and the fight to secure passage of the 13th Amendment. His feat was all the more remarkable for having been set in motion during what looked to be the nadir of his presidency, when his reelection seemed almost impossible.

"THIS MORNING, as for some days past, it seems exceedingly probable that this administration will not be reelected," Lincoln wrote to himself on Aug. 23, 1864. Then he devised a plan to win the war and save the Union during the imagined desperate months of transition to a new administration, since the new president "will have secured his election on such ground that he cannot possibly save it afterwards." Alone in his office in the White House, Lincoln folded and glued his note describing the plan and called a cabinet meeting. There he brought out the mysterious piece of paper and instructed each cabinet secretary carefully to sign his name to its back, committing them to a future course of action he would not let them read.

If Lincoln lost the coming election, he expected the Confederacy would be recognized as a separate nation, the Emancipation Proclamation freeing its slaves rescinded, and the projected amendment to the Constitution to abolish slavery once and for all abandoned. Hundreds of thousands would have been killed and wounded as the price of defeat. Lincoln's own personal losses since coming to Washington had been devastating enough. The first Union officer killed in the war, his Springfield law clerk Elmer Ellsworth, was shot through the heart after taking down a Confederate flag waving above an Alexandria, Va., tavern. "My boy! My boy!" Lincoln cried upon hearing the news. "Was it necessary this sacrifice should be made?" He insisted that Ellsworth's body lay in state in the White

House. A few months later, Lincoln's best friend from Illinois, Sen. Edward Baker, was killed in the botched Battle of Ball's Bluff. Then, in February 1862, Lincoln's 11-year-old son, Willie, died of typhus. Mary Todd Lincoln sequestered herself in deepest mourning in the upper story of the White House for nearly a year.

Lincoln had begun his reelection year with high hopes of winning the war and enacting the 13th Amendment. In April the Senate voted in favor: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude ... shall exist within the United States ..." Though the House of Representatives fell short of the required two-thirds majority, Lincoln was not discouraged. His handling of the Emancipation Proclamation—waiting to announce it after a military victory, the Battle of Antietam—gave him a blueprint. He understood that he had to bring the public along through events to build momentum for change. He was playing a long game.

Lincoln believed that the abolition of slavery required a constitutional amendment and that the Proclamation was merely a temporary measure justified by military necessity. The Constitution enshrined slavery, and the Supreme Court had upheld it long before the infamous *Dred Scott* decision of 1857 that ruled that blacks were "so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect." At the convention that nominated him as a candidate for a second term, in June 1864, Lincoln operated behind the scenes, instructing that the 13th Amendment be the subject of the keynote address and be treated as the "keystone" of the Republican Party platform.

But Lincoln knew that such efforts would come to nothing if he lost the election—and that he would likely lose if the war continued to go badly for the North. In Ulysses S. Grant, Lincoln had at last found the general in chief who would go on to win the war after a succession of arrogant, incompetent, and dilatory commanders. Yet within six bloody weeks, from May 5 to June 12, the Army suffered about 65,000 casualties, the equiva-

lent today of about 880,000 killed and wounded. In a frontal assault on Confederate lines on June 2 at the Battle of Cold Harbor, more than 7,000 men, who had pinned their names on their backs expecting to be killed, fell in less than 10 minutes. Hospitals overflowed with the wounded. One nurse in the Washington hospitals, Walt Whitman, suffered a nervous breakdown. He described the triage in the wards: the "worst cases get little or no attention. We receive them here with their wounds full of worms ... Many of the amputations have to be done over again ... many of the poor afflicted young men are crazy ... it is perhaps a privilege that they are out of their senses." "O years and graves!" Whitman wrote.

With the entire Army of the Potomac stalled in miles of trenches south of Richmond, Lincoln's political advisers believed he was doomed. Running for reelection against former general George P. McClellan—the very man Lincoln had tapped to organize the Union Army in 1861 and whose indecisiveness had led to a string of bloody defeats for the North during the crucial opening months of the war—Lincoln was beset on all sides. Peace Democrats, who gained effective control of the party at the convention, assailed him as a military despot, enemy of liberty, and violator of the Constitution—and demanded an immediate end to the war and recognition of the Confederacy. From the opposite end of the spectrum, many abolitionists and Radical Republicans, scorning Lincoln as an equivocating politician, created a third party. "I would cut off both hands before doing anything to aid Abraham Lincoln's election," declared the prominent abolitionist Wendell Phillips.

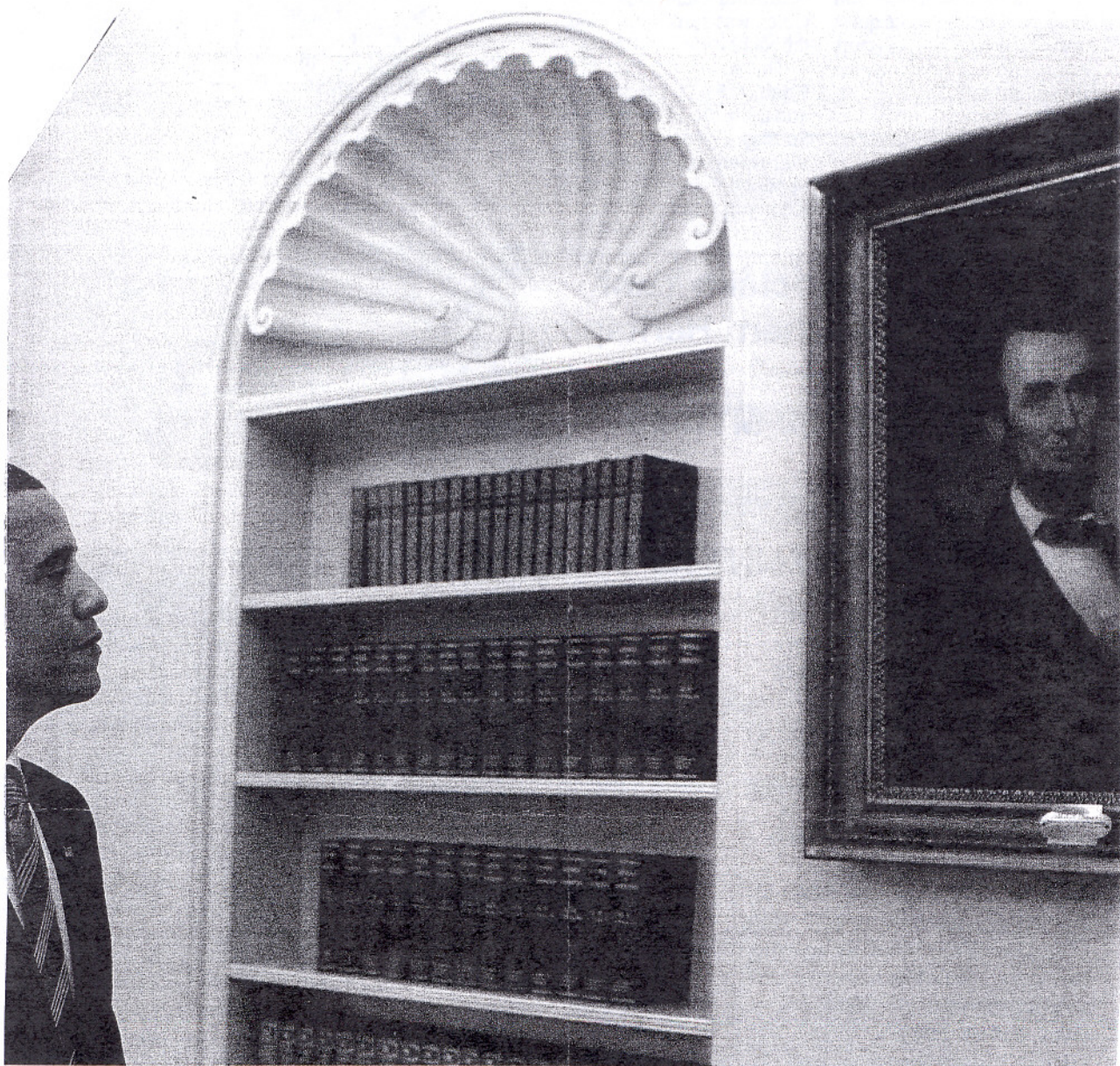
The Democrats ran on two issues: the war's failure—and racial-sexual panic. They coined a scary new pseudo-scientific word to describe Lincoln's supposed hidden agenda of race mixing: miscegenation. "Miscegenation Endorsed by the Republican Party," screamed a pamphlet published by the Democratic Central Campaign Committee. The *New York World*, the leading Democratic news-

paper in the country and one that was strongly behind McClellan's campaign, published a sensational story of a fabricated event, "The Miscegenation Ball," complete with an illustration of "colored belles" shimmying with Republicans and Union officers at the Lincoln Club. Perhaps the most popular piece of campaign literature was entitled "Abraham Africanus I; His Secret Life Revealed Under the Mesmeric Influence; Mysteries of the White House," featuring his dialogues with Satan.

"Victory Certain" ran the banner headline across the *New York World* on the morning of Sept. 5. McClellan, with characteristic slowness, was in the fifth day of drafting his letter of acceptance to the Democratic convention that had nominated him on a platform declaring the war "a failure." The public was unaware of a dispatch that had been received by the War Department. Sent by William Tecumseh Sherman, the man Grant had named general of the Army of the West, the telegram declared, "So Atlanta is ours, and fairly won." It was the first news of the Battle of Atlanta—the fiery cataclysm later depicted in *Gone With the Wind*—and a decisive victory that marked the turning of the tide.

From the instant that Sherman's triumph became known, the chances of Lincoln's reelection dramatically improved. Lincoln himself did everything he could to ensure it. He purged his cabinet of disruptive figures, quelled third-party agitation, and worked to settle down his party. While his generals maneuvered armies, he mobilized his political troops. Under Lincoln's direction, *The New York Times* founding editor Henry Jarvis Raymond, who was also the Republican National Committee chairman, dunned campaign contributions from every federal employee, contractor, and newspaper editor who received advertising from the government. The country was soon flooded with millions of pieces of pro-Lincoln propaganda cranked out by the Union League and the Loyal League.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The foregoing article reprinted from NEWSWEEK magazine is of historic significance. It reveals the fact that had Lincoln not been re-elected in 1864 the Confederacy would have been victorious. Lincoln himself thought he was headed for defeat. Sherman's ransacking and burning of Atlanta two months before the election was the turning point not only of the election but the war itself.
LEST WE FORGET!



The White House has rarely been occupied by a more devoted admirer of Lincoln than Barack Obama.

Jefferson Davis descendant to be guest at gun show

The Birmingham News

BIRMINGHAM — Bert Hayes-Davis, great, great grandson of Confederate States of America President Jefferson Davis, will be a featured guest at the Alabama Gun Collectors Association Fall Show at the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex on Saturday and Sunday, organizers announced.

The Alabama Department of History and Archives will

display Civil War battle flags for Alabama infantry units and the National Civil War Naval Museum in Port Columbus, Ga., will display artifacts recovered from the CSS Jackson, which was sunk in the Chattahoochee River in 1865.

The show will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$8. Civil War re-enactors in uniform or period dress will be admitted free of charge.

Independence for Scotland?

Cameron, Salmond sign accord; vote next

Anthony Faiola

The Washington Post

LONDON — Britain and Scotland signed an accord Monday paving the way for a historic vote for independence that could see this island's northern lands stand alone for the first time in three centuries as Europe's newest sovereign state.

Monday's accord effectively launches a critical two-year independence campaign during which the Scottish National Party — whose surprise victory in regional elections last year laid the path for a referendum — will go toe-to-toe against those fiercely opposed to rupturing modern Britain.

The deal agreeing on the terms of a Scottish referendum, to be held by fall 2014, comes at a time when independence movements are also rapidly gaining strength in Spain and Belgium. But the vote for Scotland sets up the possibility that Washington's closest strategic ally could be torn asunder.

"This marks the beginning of an important chapter in Scotland's story and allows the real debate to begin," British Prime Minister David Cameron said after signing the deal with Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond, the National Party leader. "It paves the way so that the biggest question of all can be settled: a separate Scotland or a United Kingdom? I will be making a very positive argument for our United Kingdom."

Proclaim Your Southern Heritage

1-800-MYSOUTH

1800mysouth.com



Civil War Death Toll Rises Dramatically

FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS, the number of Civil War dead has been set at 618,222—a figure jury-rigged from late-19th-century records now considered suspect—but a new statistical analysis makes a convincing case that casualties were probably much greater: upwards of 850,000. J. David Hacker, who teaches history at Binghamton University, crunched census data to interpolate a mortality rate for white males during the 1860s. By applying this to the 1860 white male count, he came up with a number for how many of them should have been around 10 years later. That total

was significantly lower than the 1870 census count—a difference Hacker attributes to the bloody harvest of the Civil War. Taking the limits of the census data, and adding black casualties, he came up with a range of numbers for what he found, statistically, to be "excess death"—650,000 to 850,000, with a "preferred" estimate of 750,000. "I'm not saying I have a precise number," says Hacker. "I'm saying the traditional count is low, maybe way too low."

Rebel flags proliferate at Atlanta's Oakland Cemetery on Confederate Memorial Day.

