

## Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans Major John C. Hutto Camp #443 Jasper, Alabama

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Colonel Al Lassiter was Guest Speaker for October's Hutto Camp meeting.

### Major John C. Hutto Camp

**November Meeting Notice** 

Sunday, 15 November 2015 - 2:30 PM

First Methodist Church 1800 Third Avenue Jasper, Alabama

Speaker is Compatriot Dan Williams of the St. Clair Camp 308, Ashville, Alabama, and Chairman of the Alabama Division Guardian Program





Holt Collier - 1907

Holt Collier (c. 1846 – August 1, 1936) 9th Texas Cavalry, Co. I

Collier was born circa 1846 as a slave in Mississippi, and was the third generation to serve the Hinds family on Plum Ridge

Plantation, built by General Thomas Hinds, who was a veteran of the Battle of New Orleans. General Hinds, at the request of General Andrew Jackson, had surveyed central Mississippi and chose the site for the state capital, Jackson, before settling nearby in the area which is now Hinds County.

Collier killed his first bear at age ten;

thereafter, his job was to supply meat for the table of the Hinds family and field hands. With the outbreak of the Civil War, Collier's master Howell Hinds and his seventeen-year-old son Tom, who was Collier's childhood companion, left for the war. Although told by his master that he was too young to fight, Collier stowed away on a river boat and joined Howell and his son in Memphis.

At the Battle of Shiloh he witnessed the death of Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston. Collier's biographer says that although there was a prohibition against blacks serving in uniform, Confederates made an exception for Collier because of his demonstrable skills. Collier stayed with the Hinds men until later being given the opportunity to ride with the 9th Texas Cavalry. He did so, serving in Company I through the rest of the war, fighting in Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee.

After the war Collier returned home to the Hinds family. During Reconstruction, Collier was tried by a military tribunal in Vicksburg for the murder of a white man, Captain James King. The accusation may have stemmed from King's advocacy for the use of "Freedman's Bureau" labor on the Hinds plantation. After his acquittal, Collier left the state upon the advice of William Alexander Percy of Greenville, who was later the last United States Senator elected by a state legislature, and went to Texas where he worked as a cowboy on the ranch owned by his former commander, General Lawrence Sullivan Ross.

Upon the murder of Collier's former master Howell Hinds, Collier returned to Greenville for the funeral, and resided there the remainder of his life.

He was a noted bear hunter, and killed over 3,000 bears during his lifetime, more than those taken by Davy Crockett & Daniel Boone combined. Such was Collier's fame among big-game hunters that Major George M. Helm asked him to serve as President Theodore Roosevelt's tracker during his famous Mississippi bear hunt of 1902. The hunt was very high profile, attended by noted big-game hunters, among whom was John Avery McIlhenny of Avery Island, Louisiana who had served with Roosevelt in the Rough Riders during the Spanish American War. Numerous reporters were among the entourage.

On that hunt, Collier and his tracking dogs cornered a large male bear. Collier bugled Roosevelt and the rest of his party to join in; however, before Roosevelt arrived the bear killed one of Collier's tracking dogs. Collier ordinarily would have shot the bear immediately, but wanting to keep the bear alive until the President arrived, he instead whacked the bear over the head with his rifle, bending its barrel. He finally lassoed the bear and tied it to a tree. When the President finally arrived, he famously refused to shoot the helpless bear, though another member of his party eventually killed it with a knife. The Washington Post and other newspapers publicized Roosevelt's compassion for the animal, and an editorial cartoon of the event by Clifford Berryman

titled "Drawing the line in Mississippi" which erroneously depicted the bear as a cub, eventually gave rise to the "Teddy Bear" phenomenon, and his nickname.

Teddy Roosevelt was greatly impressed with Collier's abilities and presented him with a Winchester Rifle. He served again as Roosevelt's tracker during a Louisiana bear hunt of 1907. Holt Collier National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi is named in his honor. He died in 1936 and is buried in Greenville, Mississippi.

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**How the War for Southern Independence Became the Indian Wars** - continued from October

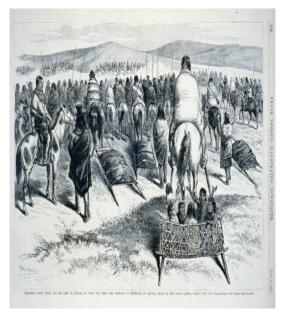
In 1872, Captain Jack, a Modoc headman, led approximately 150 of his people into the lava beds south of Tule Lake, near the Oregon-California border. The Modocs were irate because federal officials refused to protect them from local settlers and neighboring tribes. Panic gripped the region. General Sherman, by then elevated to command of the entire Army, responded by sending Maj. Gen. Edward Canby to pacify the Modocs. A decade earlier, Canby had devised the original plan for the Navajos' Long Walk, and then later had helped to quell the New York City Draft Riots. Sherman was confident that his subordinate could handle the task at hand: negotiating a settlement with a ragtag band of frontier savages.

But on April 11, 1873, Good Friday, after months of bloody skirmishes and failed negotiations, the Modoc War, which to that point had been a local problem, became a national tragedy. When Captain Jack and his men killed Canby – the only general to die during the Indian wars – and another peace commissioner, the violence shocked observers around the United States and the world. Sherman and Grant called for the Modoc's "utter extermination." The fighting ended only when soldiers captured, tried, and executed Captain Jack and several of his followers later that year. Soon after, the Army loaded the surviving Modocs onto cattle cars and shipped them off to a reservation in Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma).

President Grant's Peace Policy perished in the Modoc War. The horror of that conflict, and the Indian wars more broadly, coupled with an endless array of political scandals and violence in the states of the former Confederacy – including the brutal murder, on Easter Sunday 1873 in Colfax, La., of at least 60 African-Americans – diminished support for the Grant administration's initiatives in the South and the West.

The following year, Lt. Col. George
Armstrong Custer claimed that an
expedition he led had discovered gold in the
Black Hills – territory supposedly
safeguarded for the Lakotas by the Fort
Laramie Treaty. News of potential riches
spread around the country. Another torrent
of settlers rushed westward. Hoping to
preserve land sacred to their people, tribal

leaders, including Red Cloud, met with Grant. He offered them a new reservation. "If it is such a good country," one of the chiefs replied, "you ought to send the white men now in our country there and leave us alone." Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull and other warriors began attacking settlers. Troops marched toward what would be called the Great Sioux War.



Crazy Horse and his band of Indians on their way from Camp Sheridan to surrender at Red Cloud Agency, 1877.

Early in 1876, Lt. Gen. Philip Sheridan, the Army's commander on the Plains, insisted that all Indians in the region must return to their reservations. The Lakotas and Northern Cheyennes refused. That summer, as the nation celebrated its centennial, the allied tribes won two victories in Montana:

first at the Rosebud and then at the Little Bighorn. The Army sent reinforcements. Congress abrogated the Lakotas' claims to land outside their reservation. The bloodshed continued until the spring of 1877, when the tribal coalition crumbled. Sitting Bull fled to Canada. Crazy Horse surrendered and died in federal custody.

The final act of this drama opened in 1876. When federal officials tried to remove the Nez Perce from the Pacific Northwest to Idaho, hundreds of Indians began following a leader named Chief Joseph, who vowed to fight efforts to dispossess his people. Sherman sent Maj. Gen. Oliver Otis Howard, formerly head of the Freedmen's Bureau, to quiet the brewing insurgency. As Howard traveled west, the 1876 election remained undecided. The Democrat Samuel Tilden had outpolled the Republican Rutherford B. Hayes by nearly 300,000 votes. But both men had fallen short in the Electoral College. Congress appointed a commission to adjudicate the result. In the end, that body awarded the Oval Office to Hayes. Apparently making good on a deal struck with leading Democrats, Hayes then withdrew federal troops from the South, scuttling Reconstruction.

Less than two months after Hayes's inauguration, Howard warned the Nez Perce that they had 30 days to return to their reservation. Instead of complying, the Indians fled, eventually covering more than 1,100 miles of the Northwest's forbidding terrain. Later that summer, Col. Nelson Miles, a decorated veteran of Antietam, the

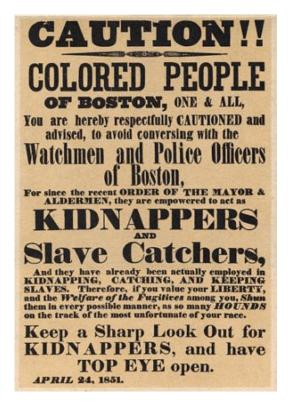
Peninsula Campaign and the Appomattox Campaign, arrived to reinforce Howard. Trapped, Chief Joseph surrendered on Oct. 5, 1877. He reportedly said: "I am tired. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

One hundred and fifty years after the Civil War, collective memory casts that conflict as a war of liberation, entirely distinct from the Indian wars. President Lincoln died. schoolchildren throughout the United States learn, so that the nation might live again, resurrected and redeemed for having freed the South's slaves. And though Reconstruction is typically recalled in the popular imagination as both more convoluted and contested - whether thwarted by intransigent Southerners, doomed to fail by incompetent and overweening federal officials, or perhaps some combination of the two – it was well intended nevertheless, an effort to make good on the nation's commitment to freedom and equality.

But this is only part of the story. The Civil War emerged out of struggles between the North and South over how best to settle the West – struggles, in short, over who would shape an emerging American empire. Reconstruction in the West then devolved into a series of conflicts with Native Americans. And so, while the Civil War and its aftermath boasted moments of redemption and days of jubilee, the era also featured episodes of subjugation and dispossession, patterns that would repeat themselves in the coming years. When Chief

Joseph surrendered, the United States secured its empire in the West. The Indian wars were over, but an era of American imperialism was just beginning.

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Man who helped slaves escape pardoned 168 years after conviction Published November 04, 2015 AP

DOVER, Del. – Exactly 168 years after he was convicted by a Delaware court, a black

man who lost his own freedom to help others escape slavery was posthumously pardoned Monday by Delaware's governor.

Samuel D. Burris, a free black man, was found guilty in 1847 of helping slaves in central Delaware escape on the Underground Railroad. As his punishment, Burris was sentenced to 10 months in prison and to be sold into servitude himself for 14 years. He was saved from slavery by abolitionists who purchased him for \$500 in gold and rushed him to Philadelphia to be reunited with his wife and children.

"Now, 168 years after he sat in jail for fighting against slavery, we in Delaware are correcting that injustice," Gov. Jack Markell said to the applause of a standing-room only crowd at the Old State House in Dover, where Burris was tried. "I pardon Samuel Burris for the crimes that he was convicted."

Several of Burris's descendants were on hand for the ceremony, including Ocea Thomas, of Atlanta, and Pastor Ralph D. Smith, of Dover.

Thomas said she hoped that Monday's ceremony might lead to similar pardons for other 19th-century abolitionists.

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# Why some students say Harvard Law School's crest is 'a source of shame' By Sarah Larimer November 4 at 9:40 AM

The crest of Harvard Law School displays three sheaves of wheat, arranged on a shield. The design is also the coat-of-arms for Isaac Royall Jr., who through his estate helped found the school.

Another part of Royall's legacy, however, is that he was a slaveholder. You can still visit the Royall House and Slave Quarters in Massachusetts, which was "home to the largest slaveholding family in Massachusetts and the enslaved Africans who made their lavish way of life possible," according to its Web site.

Royall died in the 18th century, but has not been forgotten at Harvard Law, where some students are now calling attention to the crest, according to the Harvard Crimson. The student newspaper reports that a small group has set up a Facebook group and is looking to do more — including advocating for the crest's removal.

"These symbols set the tone for the rest of the school and the fact that we hold up the Harvard crest as something to be proud of when it represents something so ugly is a profound disappointment and should be a source of shame for the whole school," law student Alexander J. Clayborne told the newspaper.

In an interview with The Washington Post, Clayborne said the effort, called Royall Must Fall, came about because some people on campus were looking for ways to support those in South Africa who were calling for the removal of a statue commemorating Cecil Rhodes. The statue of the British colonialist, located on the University of Cape Town campus, was taken down in April.

As students thought about Rhodes and the issues in Cape Town, they also thought about what symbols on their own campus might need to change. At Harvard, the crest featuring Royall's coat-of-arms was seen as an analog to the statue of Rhodes, Clayborne said.

"At a place like Harvard Law School at least, I think it's nonsense that we can't find something better," said Clayborne, a third-year student at the school.

This issue isn't really unique to the Harvard campus, of course, and these types of conversations aren't new there, either.

When Janet Halley was named the school's Royall Professor of Law, she noted Royall's legacy in her speech. And Dan Coquillette, a visiting Harvard Law professor, has coauthored a book on the school, which explores its past.

Coquillette told The Post he felt it was important to understand the history of the institution, including Royall's background. He's a historian, he said, and believes in telling the truth about the past. Coquillette doesn't think changing the seal is the best

approach, he said, but he also doesn't think conversations about Royall should stop.

"I don't see any point in trying to rewrite history by pretending that somebody else founded the school and changing the coat of arms," Coquillette said. "I mean, that's what happened. That's the fact.

"The question is — can we use that as a way of educating people about the challenges we have today." A Harvard Law spokeswoman declined to comment on the effort.



Celebrities attending the October Hutto Camp meeting are Col. Al Lassiter, Camp Chaplain Barry Cook, Cmdr. James Blackston, Ala. Div. Chaplain Dr. Charles Baker & Pete

#### **HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS**

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17 U.S. Code § 107

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