Front Matter, The Annals of Iowa, v. 66 no. 3/4 Summer/Fall 2007

ISSN 0003-4827
Copyright © 2007 State Historical Society of Iowa. This article is posted here for personal use, not for redistribution.

Recommended Citation

Hosted by Iowa Research Online
In This Issue

J. L. ANDERSON analyzes the letters written between Civil War soldiers and their farm wives on the home front. In those letters, absent husbands provided advice, but the wives became managers and diplomats who negotiated relationships with kin and neighbors to provision and shelter their families and to preserve their farms.

J. L. Anderson is assistant professor of history and assistant director of the Center for Public History at the University of West Georgia.

DAVID BRODNAX SR. provides the first detailed description of the role of Iowa’s African American regiment, the 60th United States Colored Infantry, in the American Civil War and in the struggle for black suffrage after the war.

David Brodnax Sr. is associate professor of history at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois.

TIMOTHY B. SMITH describes David B. Henderson’s role in securing legislation to preserve Civil War battlefields during the golden age of battlefield preservation in the 1890s.

Timothy B. Smith, a veteran of the National Park Service, now teaches at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Front Cover

Milton Howard (seated, left) was born in Muscatine County in 1845, kidnapped along with his family in 1852, and sold into slavery in the South. After escaping from his Alabama master during the Civil War, he made his way north and later fought for three years in the 60th U.S. Colored Infantry. For more on Iowa’s African American regiment in the Civil War, see David Brodnax Sr.’s article in this issue. Photo from Putnam Museum of History and Natural Sciences (with thanks to Craig R. Klein).

Editorial Consultants

Rebecca Conard, Middle Tennessee State University
Kathleen Neils Conzen, University of Chicago
William Cronon, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Robert R. Dykstra, State University of New York at Albany

R. David Edmunds, University of Texas at Dallas
H. Roger Grant, Clemson University
William C. Pratt, University of Nebraska at Omaha
Glenda Riley, Ball State University
Malcolm J. Rohrbough, University of Iowa
Dorothy Schwieder, Iowa State University
Contents

241  The Vacant Chair on the Farm: Soldier Husbands, Farm Wives, and the Iowa Home Front, 1861–1865  
     J. L. Anderson

266  “Will they Fight? Ask the Enemy”: Iowa’s African American Regiment in the Civil War  
     David Brodnax Sr.

293  The Politics of Battlefield Preservation: David B. Henderson and the National Military Parks  
     Timothy B. Smith

321  Book Reviews and Notices

357  New on the Shelves

363  Index to Volume 66
Book Reviews and Notices

321 CAROLYN PODRUCHNY, Making the Voyageur World: Travelers and Traders in the North American Fur Trade, by Patrick J. Jung

322 SABINE FREITAG, Friedrich Hecker: Two Lives for Liberty, by Alison Clark Efford

324 BRIAN R. DIRCK, ED., Lincoln Emancipated: The President and the Politics of Race, by Stacy Pratt McDermott

325 JENNIFER L. WEBER, Copperheads: The Rise and Fall of Lincoln’s Opponents in the North, by Terry A. Barnhart

327 ROBERT K. DEARMENT, Ballots and Bullets: The Bloody County Seat Wars of Kansas, by John von Tersch

329 STEVEN R. KINSELLA, 900 Miles from Nowhere: Voices from the Homestead Frontier, by Lori Ann Lahlum

331 DONNA R. GABACCIA AND VICKI L. RUIZ, EDS., American Dreaming, Global Realities: Rethinking U.S. Immigration History, by Terrence J. Lindell


335 CARLA YANNI, The Architecture of Madness: Insane Asylums in the United States, by Jane Simonsen

336 RICHARD L. LAEL ET AL., Evolution of a Missouri Asylum: Fulton State Hospital, 1851–2006, by Matthew Gambino

338 T. LINDSAY BAKER, American Windmills: An Album of Historic Photographs, by James R. Shortridge

340 JOHN J. FRY, The Farm Press, Reform, and Rural Change, 1895–1920, by Kurt E. Leichtle

341 LUCIAN NIEMEYER, ED., Images of a Vanished Era, 1898–1924: The Photographs of Walter C. Schneider, by Shirley Teresa Wajda

343 ROSEMARY FEURER, Radical Unionism in the Midwest, 1900–1950, by David M. Anderson

345 JONATHAN KASPAREK, Fighting Son: A Biography of Philip F. La Follette, by John D. Buenker

347 PENEOLE A. LEFEW-BLAKE, Fort Des Moines, by Michael W. Vogt

348 CATHERINE E. RYMPH, Republican Women: Feminism and Conservatism from Suffrage through the Rise of the New Right, by Linda Van Ingen

350 GREGORY A. BARNES, A Biography of Lillian and George Willoughby, Twentieth Century Quaker Peace Activists, by Bill Douglas

351 SANFORD D. HORWITT, Feingold: A New Democratic Party, by Glen Jeansonne and David Luhrssen

353 DAVID MENDELL, Obama: From Promise to Power, by Glen Jeansonne and David Luhrssen

354 KATHERINE FISCHER, Dreaming the Mississippi, by Patrick Nunnally

355 KEN ZONTNEK, Buffalo Nation: American Indian Efforts to Restore the Bison, by Gregory J. Dehler

356 JOHN BELDON SCOTT AND RODNEY P. LEHNERTZ, The University of Iowa Guide to Campus Architecture, by Loren N. Horton
THE THREE FEATURE ARTICLES in this issue anticipate an important anniversary that is fast approaching: The year 2011 will mark the beginning of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. At a time when understanding how Americans remember their past in public commemorations and at public sites is a rich topic in historical scholarship, we can anticipate some lively discussion of how we will commemorate this significant historical milestone.

Already, in 2007, the 82nd Iowa General Assembly appropriated funds to enable the State Historical Society of Iowa to begin planning for the Civil War sesquicentennial. And a preliminary planning committee, representing a variety of interest groups and academic institutions from across the state, has met to discuss possible activities. In broad terms, the committee proposed to make education a primary focus of sesquicentennial activities; to care for existing Civil War monuments, including the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Des Moines, and to establish additional Civil War Heritage Sites; to preserve endangered Civil War records, such as muster rolls, manuscripts, out-of-print books, and photographs; and to publish some lasting products that will increase the public’s knowledge of Iowa’s history and participation in the Civil War.

It is my hope that the three articles in this issue will mark a headstart on that last goal. Additional articles in upcoming issues promise further analysis of Iowa’s earlier efforts to commemorate the Civil War. During the centennial of the Civil War, a half-century ago, scholarly work focused on providing detailed accounts of various Civil War battles in which Iowans were involved. It appears likely that today’s scholars will give greater attention to the effect of the war on groups largely overlooked the last time the war was commemorated, such as women, African Americans, and dissenters (Copperheads). They will also take note of how earlier generations commemo-
rated the war. Is it too much to hope that some of the analysis of the issues those earlier generations addressed (or neglected) might inform the deliberations of those who are assigned the task of devising appropriate ways to encourage the present generation to remember the Civil War?

Curator William Johnson of the State Historical Society of Iowa is spearheading the society’s efforts to commemorate the war. To seek information about those plans or to provide input, contact him via e-mail at Bill.Johnson@iowa.gov.

—Marvin Bergman, editor