

# A NEW HOME FOR LIBERTY



OCTOBER 18, 2011

CHARLESTON CIVIC CENTER - CHARLESTON, WV

**HUMAN RIGHTS, SLAVERY,  
AND THE CREATION OF WEST VIRGINIA**



PRESENTS

“A NEW HOME FOR LIBERTY”  
A LIVING HISTORY PROGRAM

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Cover Picture: The Wheeling Statehood Convention, Harpers Weekly, 1861

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West Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission.*





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# INTRODUCTION

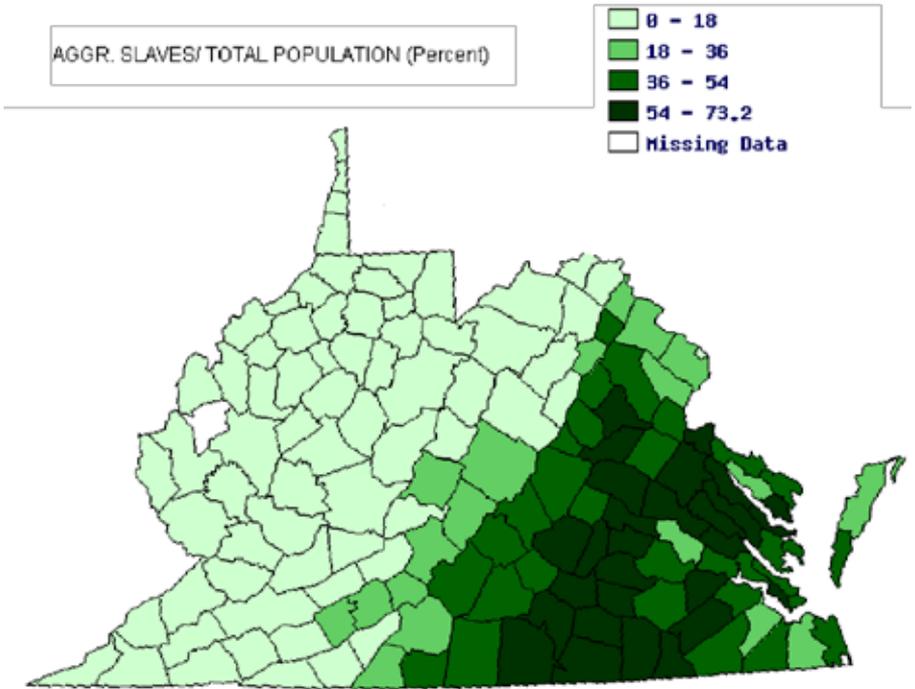
To help commemorate the Sesquicentennial of West Virginia's Statehood, the J.R. Clifford Project, building on eight years of community and academic programs that celebrate West Virginia's civil rights heritage and the rule of law, is partnering during 2011-2013 with educators and community groups to present a series of educational programs about the creation of West Virginia.

One hundred and fifty years ago, brave Mountaineers, black and white, slave and free, risked their lives and fortunes to create a new home for liberty in the United States - the State of West Virginia. Working without a script, West Virginia's founders carved out a new political space for their descendants. "A New Home for Liberty" tells the dramatic and exciting story of how famous state-makers and ordinary citizens grappled with the tough issues of human rights and slavery, as the Civil War raged around them - and how these heroes added the West Virginia star to "Old Glory!"

These programs range from academic presentations and discussions to entertaining living history programs. These programs are informed by scholarship, and accessible to a lay audience. They deal with tough issues and celebrate the human imagination, courage, idealism, diversity, and enterprise that lay at the center of the State-creation process. Participants and audiences acquire a fresh and inspiring understanding of West Virginia's unique history as they learn about the lives of the real, passionate people who created the "Mountain State."



# SLAVERY IN VIRGINIA BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR



In 1860, in what is now the State of West Virginia, there were about twelve thousand African American slaves, and about three thousand "free blacks." In what is now the State of Virginia, there were more than half a million slaves, and about fifty thousand free blacks.





# HEROES



## CARTER G. WOODSON

Dr. Carter G. Woodson's extraordinary life of intellectual achievement began with his early education and work in the new State of West Virginia. Woodson was born in New Canton, Virginia in 1875. Woodson's father assisted Union soldiers during the Civil War, and moved to Huntington when he learned that schools for African Americans were opening up in West Virginia.



Carter Woodson worked as a coal miner, and later as a teacher and principal, in Fayette County. In 1912 he completed his Ph.D. in History at Harvard, the second African American to earn that degree. His thesis was on the Creation of the State of West Virginia, titled "The Disruption of Virginia." For his lifetime of achievement in the promotion of African-American History, Dr. Woodson is known as the "Father of Black History." His notable statements include:

**"As another has well said, to handicap a student by teaching him that his black face is a curse and that his struggle to change his condition is hopeless is the worst sort of lynching."**

**"If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated."**





## HEROES



### JOHN ROBERT “J.R.” CLIFFORD

John Robert Clifford was born in 1848, near Moorefield, WV. At age 17, he enlisted in the United States Colored Troops and fought for the Union Army in the Civil War. He attended Storer College in Harper’s Ferry, and became a schoolteacher and principal in Martinsburg. In 1882, Clifford started West Virginia’s first minority-owned newspaper, *The Pioneer Press*. He was admitted to the West Virginia Bar in 1887. Clifford won a landmark civil rights case before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, *Williams v. Board of Education*. Among Clifford’s notable statements:



**“We won our laurels on the bloody battlefields and saved the union along with hammering the shackles off our heels to the number of four million, and with folded arms and calm silence, they have allowed us to be disfranchised, lynched and burnt at the stake.”**

**“The Pioneer Press is independent in politics and cares nothing for parties that care nothing for the race. (...) It believes that an independent union of colored men will be the downfall of any political party that refuses them justice and protection; and to accomplish this, we shall labor as long as we control it.”**





# HEROES

## GRANVILLE HALL



Granville Hall was born in Harrison County in 1837. Hall became a court reporter and worked for the *Wheeling Intelligencer*, before recording the proceedings of the Wheeling Conventions. After the formation of West Virginia, Hall served as a clerk to the House of Delegates, as Secretary of State, and as a private secretary to Arthur I. Boreman, West Virginia's first governor. He later became President of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

Hall's story of West Virginia's Statehood is presented in his book "The Rending of Virginia." Hall died in Glencoe, Illinois in 1934. Hall's notable statements include:

**"Mountain barriers had been reared by nature between the two sections. On one side of them the waters flowed toward the old world of vested privilege; on the other toward the new, the free, the possibilities of the future and the unknown."**

**"It is apparent, in looking over the chronicles of this convention, that the question underlying all these surface differences was the issue of slavery in Virginia. All the able men in the convention, East and West, knew this. Like the watch which in spite of everybody persisted in keeping wrong time till the magnet secreted near the mainspring had been discovered, nothing could go right in Virginia till the concealed but evil influence of slavery had been removed."**





## HEROES



### GORDON BATTELLE

Gordon Battelle was born in Newport, Ohio in 1814, and became a prominent educator and religious leader in Clarksburg. When the Richmond delegates voted to join the Confederacy, Battelle became a prominent statehood advocate, and worked to abolish slavery in the new State of West Virginia. Battelle died while serving as chaplain of the First West Virginia Infantry of the Union Army. Among Battelle's notable statements are:



**“The injuries which slavery inflicts upon our own people are manifold and obvious. It practically aims to enslave not merely another race, but our own race. It inserts in its bill of rights some very high sounding phrases securing the freedom of speech; and then practically and in detail puts a lock on every man’s mouth and a seal on every man’s lips who will not shout for and swear by the divinity of the system.”**

**“The system of slavery, as exhibited in our laws, is wrong in itself. Any candid observer will not fail to discriminate between the system and the acts of the individual. The one is always bad; the other may not only be innocent, but oftentimes is so. I shall indulge in no harsh terms concerning the system as thus shown; but I state certainly no more than the plain truth when I say that it cannot be reconciled with the obvious requirements of either justice or morals.”**



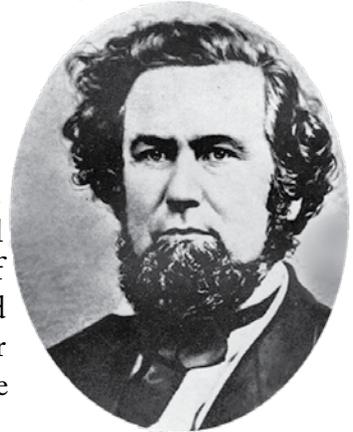


## HEROES



### FRANCIS PIERPONT

Francis Harrison Pierpont was born near Morgantown in 1814. He was a teacher, and later an attorney for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Pierpont was an aggressive supporter of Abraham Lincoln and West Virginia Statehood, and was the Provisional Governor of the Restored Government of Virginia. A staunch abolitionist, he stated that he cherished his copy of “The Ruffner Pamphlet.” Among Pierpont’s notable statements:



**“Gentlemen, if we could only get rid of the vast herd of the leaders in this rebellion in the State, and get their lands into the hands of honest, working men, I predict for the State a prosperity unexampled in its history. In ten years it would be more than a compensation for all that have gone, and all the slaves they have taken with them.”**

**“While the East is largely interested in slaves, the West has none, and all the labor is performed by freemen. The subject of the division of the State has been agitated at one time and another ever since I can remember. I have no doubt but the rebellion has somewhat precipitated action on the subject at the present time, but of the ultimate division of the State I have not doubted for years.”**





# HEROES



## JULIA PIERPONT



Julia Pierpont, born in 1828, was the wife of Francis H. Pierpont and lived in Fairmont, West Virginia. She is credited with inspiring Memorial Day, originally called “Decoration Day.” Pierpont envisioned the day as one where people repair and decorate the graves of Civil War soldiers to remember them and their sacrifice. She and her husband helped create and taught at a school for African Americans. Historian Charles H. Ambler stated that Julia

Pierpont “was a factor second only to her husband in establishing a commonwealth.”

## ISAAC CLIFFORD

Isaac Clifford, J.R. Clifford’s father, was born in 1824 near Moorefield, in what was then Hardy County, Virginia. Clifford married Mary Satilphia Kent and had three sons: Theodore, David, and John Robert. Isaac’s family had been free since at least 1794, when court records show that Isaac’s grandfather successfully sued a white man who tried to enslave the grandfather. Free black households, like the Cliffords, frequently helped escaping slaves. Many descendants of Isaac Clifford still attend large family reunions today – including in Canada, where some emigrated.





# HEROES



## ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Abraham Lincoln was born in Hardin County, Kentucky in 1809. He served four terms in the Illinois House of Representatives as a Whig, one term in the U.S. House of Representatives, and became the sixteenth president of the United States. He was pivotal in the West Virginia Statehood process, and his signature, on the West Virginia Statehood Proclamation, helped carry the new state to a more democratic future.



**“As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy.”**

**“Slavery is founded in the selfishness of man’s nature -- opposition to it is in his love of justice. These principles are an eternal antagonism; and when brought into collision so fiercely, as slavery extension brings them, shocks, and throes, and convulsions must ceaselessly follow. Repeal the Missouri Compromise -- repeal all compromises -- repeal the declaration of independence -- repeal all past history, you still can not repeal human nature. It still will be the abundance of man’s heart, that slavery extension is wrong; and out of the abundance of his heart, his mouth will continue to speak.”**





## HEROES



### WILLIAM STEVENSON

William E. Stevenson was born in Warren, Pennsylvania in 1820. He was West Virginia's third governor. Stevenson began as a labor advocate and worked with the National Reform Association in Pittsburgh, working to create the 10-hour workday. He was an elected representative in Pennsylvania before moving to Wood County in western Virginia. In 1859, a warrant was issued for his arrest for circulating copies of Hinton Helper's "The Impending Crisis of the South." He surrendered to the Sheriff but was not arrested.



### GEORGE WILLIAM SUMMERS



In 1814, ten-year-old George William Summers moved with his family to a Putnam County farm, and then to Charleston. He served three consecutive terms in the Virginia General Assembly and in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1841 to 1845.

In 1849, Summers recorded his will providing for the emancipation and/or lifetime support for his fifteen slaves. In 1851, Summers ran as a Whig for Governor, but he was defeated by the Democrat Joseph Johnson, most likely because Summers was seen as an abolitionist.

In 1861, Summers was elected a member of the Richmond Convention of 1861, where he passionately opposed the Ordinance of Secession. After the Ordinance passed, he was deeply saddened and resigned his seat in the convention, returning home to retire from public life. Summers County is named in his honor.





## THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY SINGERS



In about 1840, John Hutchinson, a Massachusetts resident, saw a Tyrolese Minstrels concert. He taught his family to sing in the same style, and the Hutchinson Family became the most popular singing group in the United States.

Asa Hutchinson wrote, "About this time an antislavery convention was held in Milford attended by Wm. Lloyd Garrison. . . . The cause at once enlisted the sympathies of the Hutchinson Family. Accustomed to roam at freedom among their own Hills, they abhorred slavery and pitied the slave. They resolved to exert their influence on behalf of the captives."

The Hutchinsons traveled with Frederick Douglass in England in 1845, singing original songs like "Get Off the Track!," "Right over Wrong," and "The Slave's Appeal." Abby Hutchinson wrote "Song of Our Mountain Home" in 1850. It includes the line, "Among our free hills are true hearts and brave, The air of our mountains ne'er breathed on a slave."



# Get Off The Track!

by Jesse Hutchinson, Jr.

Ho! the car, Emancipation,  
Rides majestic thro' our nation  
Bearing on its train, the story  
Liberty! a nation's glory.

Roll it along! Roll it along!  
Roll it along! thro' the nation  
Freedom's car, Emancipation

Roll it along! Roll it along!  
Roll it along! thro' the nation  
Freedom's car, Emancipation.  
Men of various predilections,  
Frightened, run in all directions;  
Merchants, editors, physicians,  
Lawyers, priests and politicians.

Get out of the way! Get out of the way!  
Get out of the way! every station,  
Clear the track of 'mancipation.

Get out of the way! Get out of the way!  
Get out of the way! every station,  
Clear the track of 'mancipation.

All true friends of emancipation,  
Haste to freedom's rail road station;  
Quick into the cars get seated,  
All is ready, and completed.

Put on the steam! Put on the steam!  
Put on the steam! All are crying,  
And the liberty flags are flying.  
Put on the steam! Put on the steam!  
Put on the steam! All are crying,  
And the liberty flags are flying.

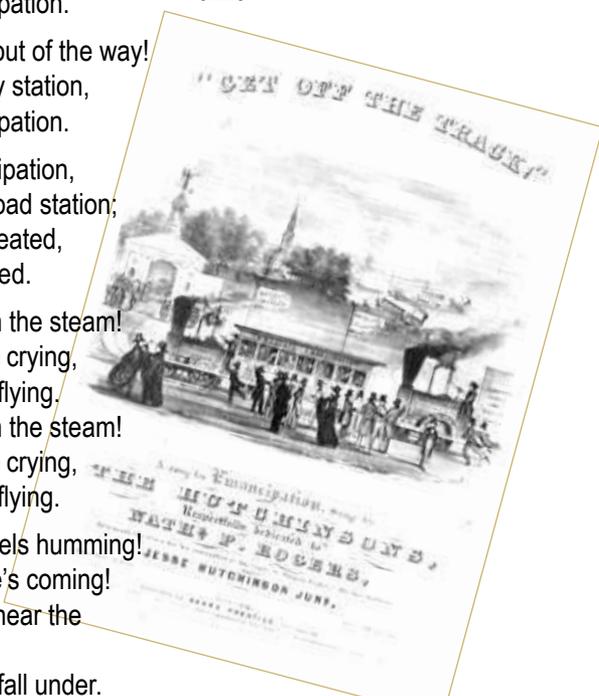
Hear the mighty car wheels humming!  
Now look out! the engine's coming!  
Church and statesmen! hear the  
thunder!

Clear the track! or you'll fall under.

Get off the track! Get off the track!  
Get off the track! all are singing,  
While the liberty bell is ringing.  
Get off the track! Get off the track!  
Get off the track! all are singing,  
While the liberty bell is ringing.  
See the people run to meet us;  
At the depots thousands greet us;  
All take seats with exultation,  
In the car, Emancipation.

Huzza! Huzza! Huzza! Huzza!  
Huzza! Huzza! Emancipation  
Soon will bless our happy nation.

Huzza! Huzza! Huzza! Huzza!  
Huzza! Huzza! Emancipation  
Soon will bless our happy nation.  
Huzza!



Sung to the tune of "Old Dan Tucker"

# VOICES AGAINST SLAVERY:

## The “Ruffner Pamphlet” and the “Impending Crisis”

In 1847, Henry Ruffner, son of a prominent Kanawha County family, wrote what is now called “The Ruffner Pamphlet.” Anti-slavery leaders in western Virginia, like future loyal Virginia Governor Pierpont, cherished their personal copies of the Ruffner Pamphlet. The anti-slavery ideas in the Ruffner Pamphlet were repeated in another book: “The Impending Crisis of the South,” by Hinton Helper, published in 1857.

Henry Ruffner argued that slavery was not profitable and often took jobs from white laborers. He wrote, “our own West Virginia furnishes conclusive evidence, that slavery has a pernicious influence on the public welfare. In the older free states are seen all tokens of prosperity. In the older parts of the slave states are seen signs of stagnation or of positive decay.”



Henry Ruffner

Helper spoke on behalf of the “Plain Folk of the Old South” who were oppressed by a small aristocracy of wealthy slave-owners. Helper wrote: “Freesoilers and abolitionists are the only true friends of the South; slaveholders and slave-breeders are downright enemies of their own section. Anti-slavery men are working for the Union and for the good of the whole world; proslavery men are working for the disunion of the States, and for the good of nothing except themselves.”



Hinton Helper



# SCRIBBLES



Beginning in the summer of 1861, the young man Granville Hall sat for days, scribbling marks in a notebook. Delegates to the Wheeling Statehood Conventions rose, spoke and were replaced by another speaker.

Granville Hall, the reporter for the Wheeling Statehood Conventions, used “Pitman Shorthand” symbols to record the words being spoken by the delegates. When the Delegate from Marion County said: “Now, Sir, it has been said that the protection of Negro slavery was the great object of this revolution.” Granville Hall could capture the sentence in a few deft strokes.

Granville Hall preserved his shorthand notes after the Convention, but no one had time or need to have them typed up. They sat in a box under his bed for more than 40 years, and were not finally transcribed and published until the 1930s!

Thanks to Granville Hall’s “scribbles”, we can hear today the very words uttered by the people who created West Virginia.



The Pitman Shorthand System.

Thanks, Granville!

# BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, WILLIAM DAVIS, AND THE HEROIC AFRICAN

Between 1865, when Booker T. Washington was nine years old, and 1872, when he left to attend Hampton Institute at the age of sixteen, he grew up in the Kanawha Valley of West Virginia. Here he learned some of the most significant and compelling lessons of his life. He became one of the earliest of the freedmen to learn to read and write.

In September 1865, about a month after the arrival of Booker and his family, an eighteen-year-old Ohio youth also appeared in Malden. When it was discovered that he could read and write he was hired to conduct a school financed by what little money the poor black people of Malden could pay him. Thus began the educational career of William Davis, Booker's first teacher.



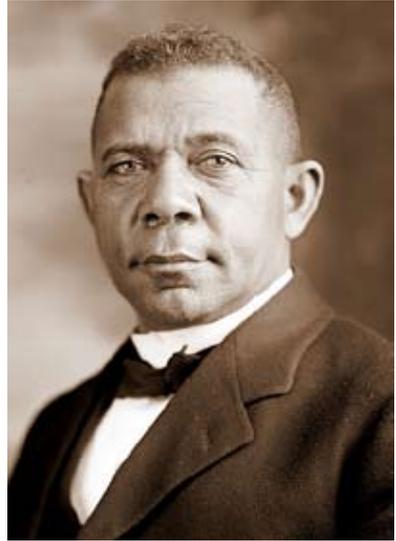
Volunteering in the Union army in 1863, Davis served as assistant cook with the rank of private and a pay of \$7 per month. He served in an Ohio cavalry regiment stationed at the national capital and popularly known as the President's Escort, or "Lincoln's Body Guard."

The opening of the Tinkersville school where Davis taught appears to have been entirely a self-help enterprise by the poor black people of the village, without assistance from the local whites, the county

# AMERICANS OF THE KANAWHA VALLEY IN THE NEW STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

or township board of education, or the newly established Freedmen's Bureau in Washington.

That the school began is explained partly by the eagerness of the freedmen for book learning and the teaching talent of William Davis, but certainly a crucial factor was the leadership of the Rev. Lewis Rice, the illiterate but wise counselor whose work for education and religion earned him the name of "Father Rice" throughout the Kanawha Valley.

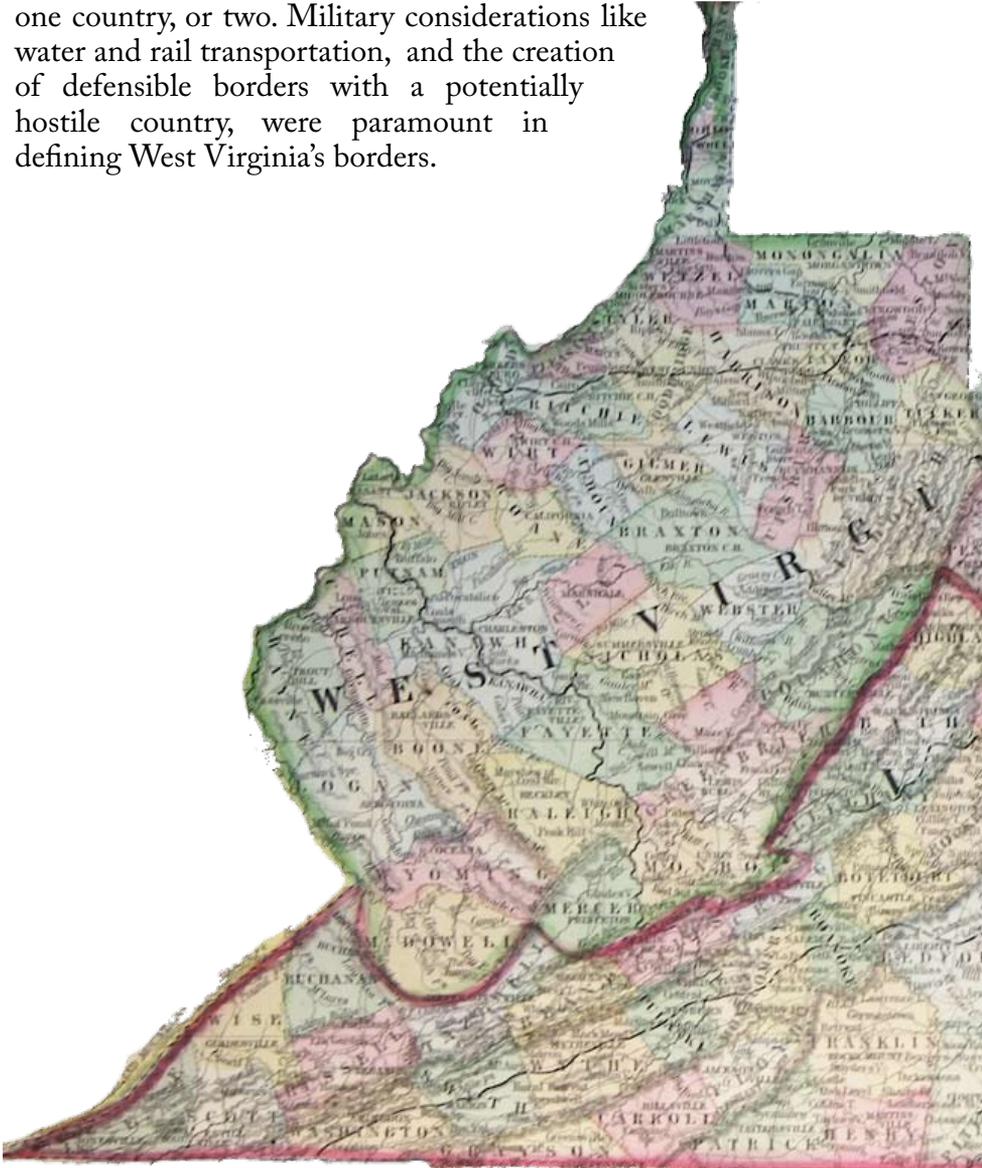


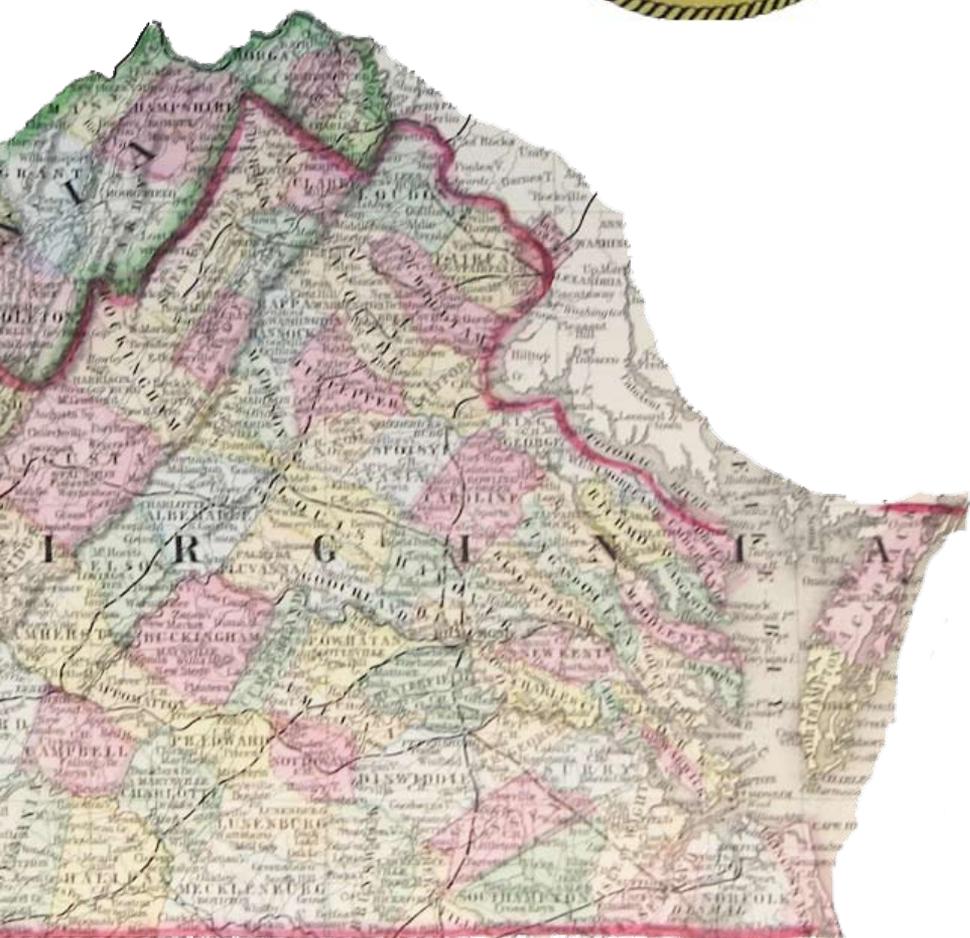
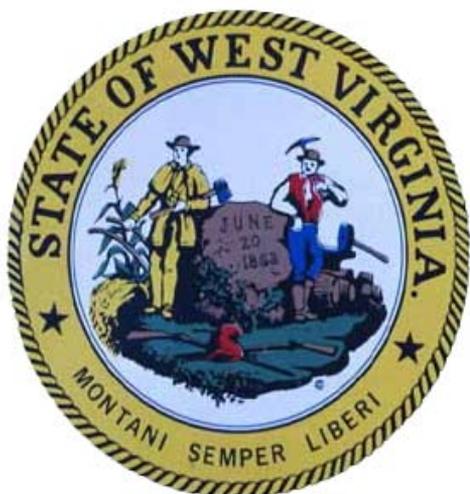
It was Rice's own home which became the first schoolhouse of Tinkersville, his very bedroom being the classroom. He was accustomed to the inconvenience, for he had been doing it for his church meetings on Wednesday nights and Sundays. The bed was dismantled and removed to make room for three or four slab benches, hewn by hand and accommodating an average of ten persons each.

Though a state law passed on February 25, 1865, required township boards of education to establish separate schools for colored children whenever their number exceeded thirty, the entire support of the Tinkersville school seems to have been borne by the parents. A similar school was established in 1865 at Chapel Hollow, a few miles away, by another Ohioan, the Rev. F. C. James.

# WHY DID THEY DRAW THAT LINE THERE?

When West Virginia's statemakers were creating a new state in 1861 and 1862, they did not know if they were carving out a new state in the Union- or drawing a new border with a foreign country. The state-makers did not know whether the Civil War would end with one country, or two. Military considerations like water and rail transportation, and the creation of defensible borders with a potentially hostile country, were paramount in defining West Virginia's borders.





# THE WHEELING STATEHOOD CONVENTIONS

On April 17, 1861, a majority of Virginia representatives, meeting in Richmond, voted to secede from the United States, despite objections from many delegates from the west.

On April 22, the Loyalists held a convention in Clarksburg, calling for the establishment of a new state that would remain loyal to the Union. On May 13, 1861, at the first Wheeling



Convention, held at the Federal Customs House (now known as “Independence Hall”), Loyalists debated the appropriate way to form a new state. On June 11, 1861, the Wheeling Convention selected new, “loyal” Congressional representatives, and Francis Pierpont became the Governor of the “Restored” Virginia government, which voted to create the new state of West Virginia.



# AFRICAN AMERICAN TROOPS IN THE CIVIL WAR

On July 17, 1862, the first African American soldiers enlisted in the United States Colored Troops. Leaders like Martin Delaney and Frederick Douglass urged blacks to fight in the Union Army, stating that an army that included freed blacks would have “more impact than the bullets” on the morale of the Confederacy.

More than two hundred thousand African Americans served in the Union Army by the end of the Civil War, and more than ten thousand died in that service.



# AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN THE CIVIL WAR



African American women played an integral role in the Civil War, by serving U.S. Colored Troop Regiments as laundresses, nurses and even teachers. Above is Suzy Baker, who was appointed to serve as the laundress to the 33rd Regiment USCT. Her nursing skills and ability to read and write led to an increase in her duties. After the Civil War, she helped to organize a branch of the Women's Relief Corps. "My hands have never left undone anything they could do," she later wrote, "toward [the] aid and comfort of the soldiers of the Union Army, black or white, in the twilight of their years."



# SONGS



## THE BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

by Julia Ward Howe, 1861

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:  
His truth is marching on.

(Chorus)

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:  
His day is marching on.

(Chorus)

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His day is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:  
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,  
While God is marching on.

(Chorus)

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
While God is marching on.





## OUR HISTORIANS



### DR. CICERO FAIN

Cicero Fain is a native of Huntington, West Virginia. He received his Ph.D and M.A. in History from Ohio State University. His writings include “To Start Anew: Post-Emancipation Black Community and Early Black Migration to Cabell County, West Virginia, 1865-1871;” “Black Response to the Construction of Colored Huntington, West Virginia, during the Jim Crow Era;” and “Race, River, and the Railroad: Black Huntington, WV, 1871-1929.” He currently is an Assistant Professor at the College of Southern Maryland. He has also taught at Marshall University, Ohio University, and Niagara University. He serves on the Board of the West Virginia Humanities Council.





## OUR HISTORIANS



### DR. JOHN STEALEY

John Edmund Stealey III, is a native of Clarksburg, West Virginia, and earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in History from West Virginia University. He has published extensively on West Virginia and Appalachia, including four books and more than 60 articles and reviews. He is an Emeritus Distinguished Professor of History at Shepherd University. He has received research awards from the West Virginia University Libraries, West Virginia Humanities Council, the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, and the Ford Foundation. He carried out pioneering research on the early salt industry of the Kanawha Valley. Dr. Stealey currently has a major book in press on the 1872 West Virginia Constitution, which includes much material relating to the State-creation process. He edited and wrote a lengthy introduction for, Granville D. Hall's book, "The Rending of Virginia."





## OUR HISTORIANS



### DR. JOHN ALEXANDER WILLIAMS

John Alexander Williams is a native of Greenbrier County, West Virginia. Dr. Williams received his bachelor's degree from Tulane University, and his master's and doctoral degrees from Yale University. His publications include "West Virginia: A History for Beginners," "West Virginia: A History," and "West Virginia and the Captains of Industry." Dr. Williams was a principal consultant on a video history of West Virginia. He recently retired from Appalachian State University, where he was Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies. Dr. Williams served as Director of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, and as the Assistant Director of the Division of Research Programs, National Endowment for the Humanities.



By the President of the United States of America.

A Proclamation.

Whereas, by the Act of Congress approved the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, last, the State of West Virginia was declared to be one of the United States of America, and was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, upon the condition that certain changes should be duly made in the proposed Constitution for that State;

And, whereas, proof of a compliance with that condition as required by the Second Section of the Act aforesaid, has been submitted to me;

Now, therefore, be it known, that I Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do, hereby, in pursuance of the Act of Congress aforesaid, declare and proclaim that the said act shall take effect and be in force, from and after sixty days from the date hereof.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand

and caused the Seal of the United States to be  
affixed.



Done at the city of Washington, this  
twentieth day of April, in  
the year of our Lord one  
thousand eight hundred  
and sixty-three, and of the  
Independence of the United  
States the eighty seventh.

Abraham Lincoln

By the President:

William H. Seward,  
Secretary of State.

Lincoln's Statehood Declaration  
April 20, 1863

 REPRODUCTION of President Lincoln's Proclamation  
admitting West Virginia one of the States of the United  
States, made available as a contribution to

WEST VIRGINIA'S CENTENNIAL 1961  
by MONONGAHELA POWER COMPANY  
A part of the Allegheny Power System



# HISTORICAL ACCURACY IN “A NEW HOME FOR LIBERTY”



Our program is about real people and the real events of their lives. When imagination must take over the storytelling job, we keep the action rooted in the historical record, using direct quotes where possible. History books tell us names and dates -- but we know that life is much more than that. We can use our imaginations to show the real-time details of what scholars tell us.

We know, for example, that young Granville Hall's father was indeed indicted for subscribing to abolitionist newspapers, and had to leave the state for some period. Imagine what it was like for Granville in his schoolyard! Free blacks often assisted escaping slaves, and slaves acted as informants for the Union. Imagine how young J.R. experienced this danger.!

Granville Hall did return to West Virginia for the publication of his book “The Rending of Virginia.” J.R. Clifford did attend a Republican committee meeting in Parkersburg at the same time. If these two great West Virginians did not actually meet, we think they would welcome the opportunity created by our script! We hope the you enjoy meeting these two great West Virginians!



“A NEW HOME FOR LIBERTY”  
ADVISORY BOARD

KITTY DOOLEY, ESQ - Since 2003, Kitty Dooley has been a prime mover in telling the J.R. Clifford story. She is a native of Marion County and a Charleston Attorney.



Dooley

TOM RODD, ESQ - Tom Rodd began writing about J.R. Clifford in 2003. He is an Assistant West Virginia Attorney General.



Rodd

DWANE TINSLEY, ESQ- Dwane Tinsley, a Charleston lawyer, was serving as State Bar President when J.R. Clifford was honored on a

United States Postage Stamp.

Mr. Tinsley helped to celebrate the event and serves on the Advisory Board to The J.R. Clifford Project.



Tinsley

LARRY STARCHER - Larry Starcher served twelve years on the West Virginia Supreme Court. He helped to tell the story of J.R.

Clifford in many communities by portraying Judge Marmaduke Dent in the famous 1898 “Carrie Williams Case.”



Starcher

WILBERT PAYNE, ESQ- Wilbert Payne is President of the Mountain State Bar, West Virginia’s historic African American lawyer’s

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