



Figure 16.

Secret Southern
Societies of the
South Spawned
Many Ill-fated
Conspiracies...
until the one that
did not fail...

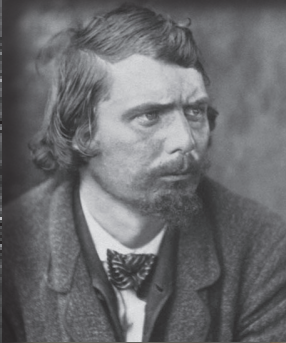
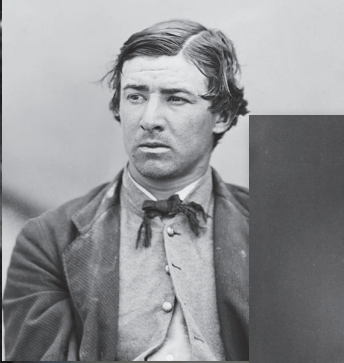
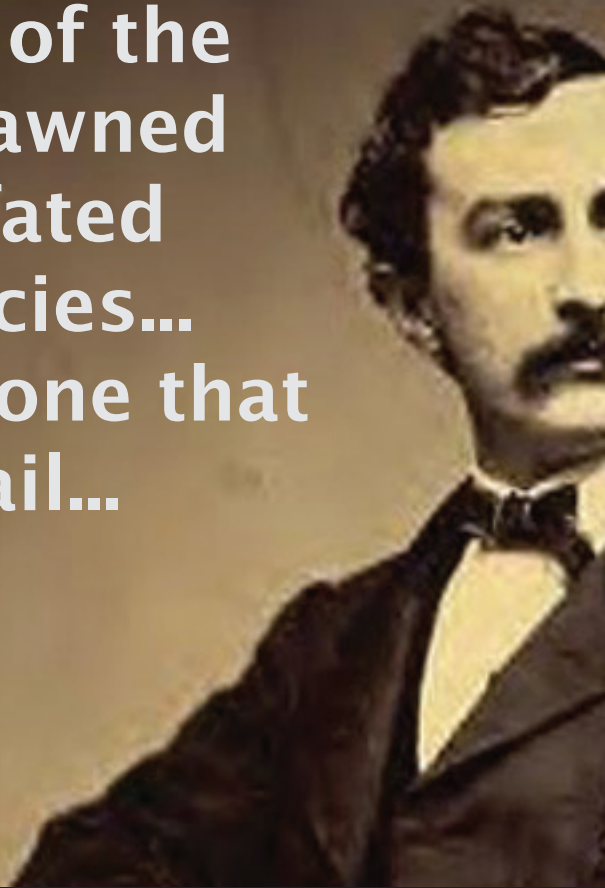


Figure 1.

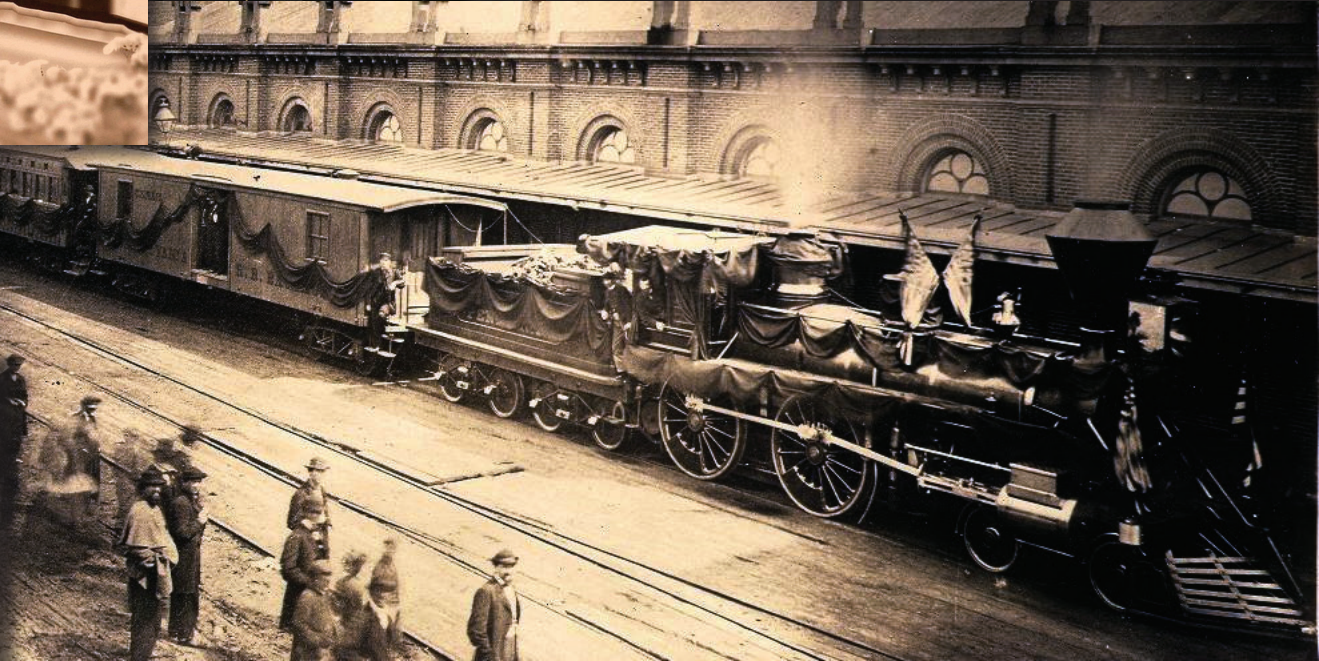




By Patricia A.
Kaufmann

Major (Dr.) Cornelius Boyle: Robert E. Lee's Secret Agent & Co-conspirator in the Lincoln Assassination

Figure 13.



Boyle
ms vllle 7/2



(Confederate.) Ga. No. 4
 Warren Mosley
 Pvt., Co. H., 4 Reg't Georgia Infantry.
 Appears on Company Muster Roll
 of the organization named above,
 for April 1, 1864
 Enlisted: Aug 5, 1861.
 When Milledgeville
 Where Capt. Lee
 By whom Lt.
 Period 1 yr
 Last paid:
 By whom
 To what time
 Present or absent absent
 Remarks: detailed in Gordonsville
 Va. by order Gen. Lee. Nov. 3, 1863.
 *Similar rolls of other companies in same regiment show muster made in compliance with G. O. No. 27, A. & I. G. O., series 1864.
 Book mark: D. J. Dussan Copyist.
 (642)

Figure 2. Military record of Warren Mosley (sic) showing he was detailed to Gordonsville, Va. By order of Gen. Lee Nov. 3, 1863.

THE CONFEDERATE STATES, Dr.
 To Warren Mosely
 Company A 4th Ga. C. S. Army.
 For Monthly Pay, from March 1 1862 to October 31 1863
 being 8 months, days, at \$11 per month,
 Commutation Clothing Oct 8 1862 to Oct 8 1863
 (Provost Guard at Gordonsville & came down with Prisoners)
 Deduct, due
 I certify, that I have endorsed this Payment on
 Amount paid, 170 53
 Descriptive Roll.
 RECEIVED, Richmond this 12 day of Nov 1863
 from Maj. Geo. Cantler Quartermaster C. S. Army, the sum of One hundred thirty Dollars.
 being the amount, and in full of the above account.
 WITNESS J. L. Man
 [Signed Duplicates.] Warren Mosely. His X mark
 Personally appeared before me, a Richmond, 186
 Co. (), Reg't Yols., and made oath that he is without a descriptive roll or final statement, which it is impossible to obtain from his commanding officer, for the reason that his company is now that the above account, amounting to is correct; that he is not in debt to the Confederate States, and that he will present a statement of this payment to his commanding officer.
 177 Dollars.

Figure 3. Clothing commutation of Warren Mosely (sic) identifying him as "Provost Guard at Gordonsville & came down with Prisoners")

Shown in Figure 1 is a small lady's cover with embossed edges and which portrays a bird perched in a peach tree. The cover is franked with a Confederate 10-cent blue type I engraved stamp tied with a dateless Madison C.H. (Court House), Virginia, circular date-stamp. It is addressed to "Warren Mosely (sic) Care of Major (Cornelius) Boyle, Gordonsville, Va." Not only is this an appealing cover, but it also has a backstory of intrigue which extends to the assassination conspiracy of President Abraham Lincoln.

Both the addressee, Moseley, and the officer in care of whom the letter was sent, Boyle, were interesting characters.

Warren Alonza Moseley

Warren A. Moseley (1828-1912) was born in Atlanta in 1828. At the opening of the Civil War, he was living in an area of Milledgeville, Georgia, near the asylum where he worked. He enlisted as a private in the Baldwin Blues, which became Company H of the 4th Georgia Infantry, in which he was mustered in August 5, 1861.¹

His name also appears in military records as Mosely, Mosley, Mosly, and even Moseby. He was wounded and taken prisoner at Strasburg, Va., June 1, 1862; he was exchanged Sept. 15, 1862, at Point Lookout, and returned to service.²

After that, he was elected captain in Company A, Georgia 4th Reserve Cavalry on January 15, 1863. This command also identified as State Troops and Cavalry.

Moseley was slightly injured in the arm and leg at Chancellorsville May 3, 1863. One document dated November 12, 1863, is signed "Warren Mosely - His X mark." The "X" might have been necessitated by his wounded arm or was not present when the document needed to be signed. While this may seem to indicate he was illiterate, that does not appear to be the case since there is a clothing commutation in his military records dated³ December 16, 1863, which bears the signature as Warren Moseley, as well as on other documents.

Medical Director's Office records from Richmond, Virginia, show Moseley served at the Receiving and Wayside Hospital, General Hospital No. 9, Winder Hospital, Division 5, Richmond. By order of General Robert E. Lee on November 3, 1863, he was detailed to Gordonsville in 1863 and 1864, as shown on a company muster roll in Figure 2. Military records indicate he served as "Provost Guard at Gordonsville & came down with Prisoners," as shown on the army document in Figure 3. Gordonsville is about seventy miles north of Richmond, Virginia.

According to a biography in *Civil War Milledgeville: Tales from the Confederate Capital of Georgia*, after Chancellorsville,

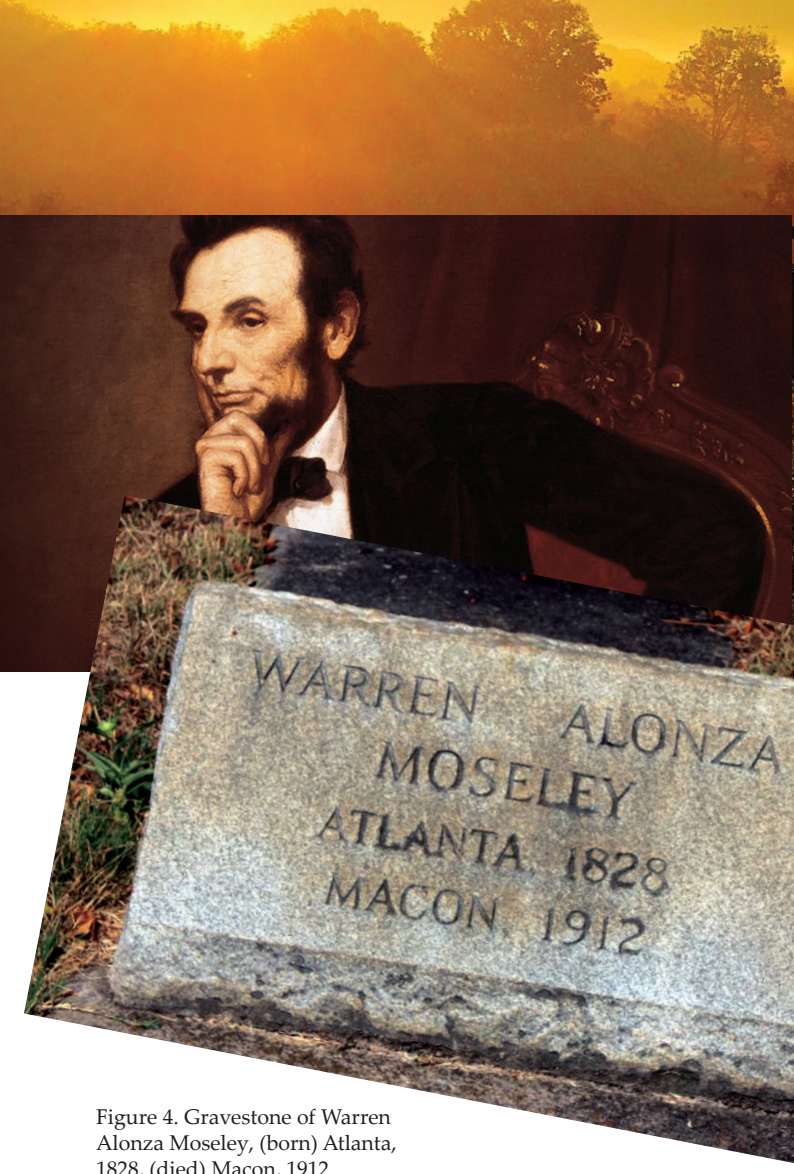


Figure 4. Gravestone of Warren Alonza Moseley, (born) Atlanta, 1828, (died) Macon, 1912.

Moseley returned to Georgia where his primary duties were in north Georgia, and where his cavalry unit fought against roaming bands of deserters, outlaws and bushwhackers from both armies. That information seems contrary to the military records I found showing he was a provost guard at Gordonsville, Virginia, which is confirmed by the subject cover which had to be used between 1863 and 1865, since that stamp was not issued until April 1863. He appeared on various military registers as on duty at Gordonsville and Richmond in 1863 and 1864. Moseley surrendered at Milledgeville in 1865.

According to FindAGrave.com, probably derived from *Civil War Milledgeville: Tales from the Confederate Capital of Georgia*:

Moseley was also a pitchman for various products. In newspapers across the country in 1904 and 1905, an advertisement appeared featuring two "famous Confederate Veterans" along with their photographs, who "use and recommend" Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey. Moseley was one of those famous veterans, and he was quoted as saying, "I never felt better in my life, and I owe it all to Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey. I was wounded eight times during the war and after General Lee's surrender returned home completely broken down. My wounds gave me a good deal of trouble, and I had attacks of extreme weakness, with great loss of blood. Doctors said nothing would enrich my blood and build me up so quickly and thoroughly as Duffy's Malt Whiskey. I took nothing else. Although past 65, I

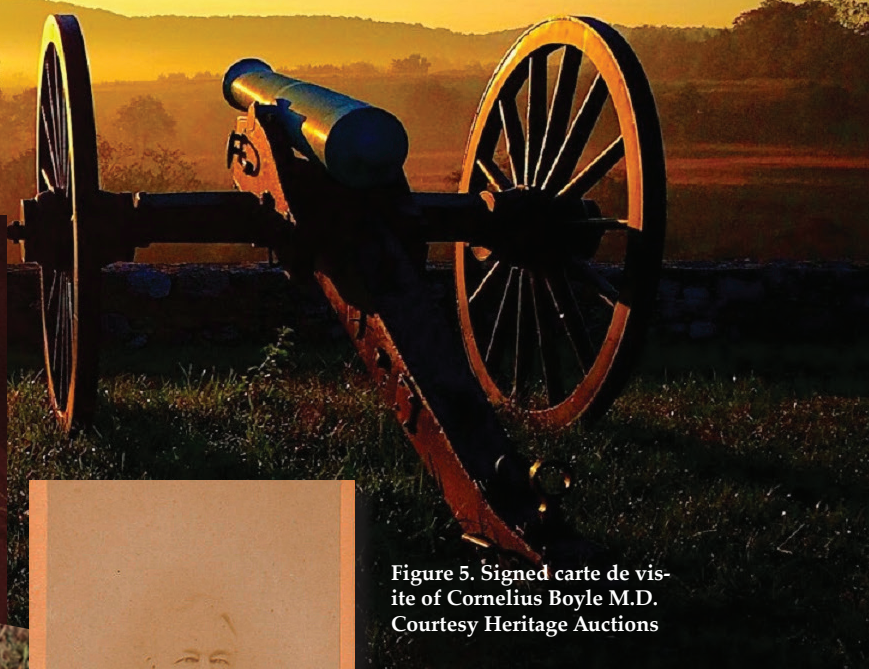
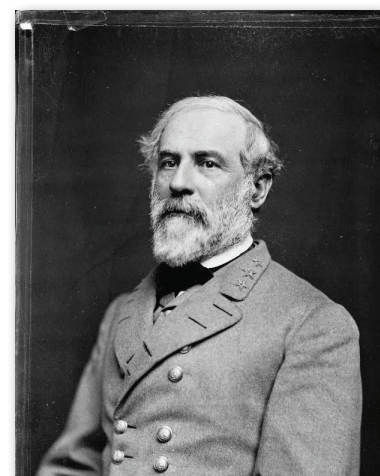


Figure 5. Signed carte de visite of Cornelius Boyle M.D. Courtesy Heritage Auctions



Figure 6. General Robert E. Lee



am in perfect physical and mental condition and devote 12 hours a day to my business."

In addition to that rather amusing marketing pitch, a June 1892 edition of the *Atlanta Constitution* reported he would be attending the annual barbecue and picnic of the 4th Georgia in Jeffersonville, and he would "wear the coat which shows by its numerous bullet hole the number of wounds he received during the war in service of the south."⁴

The Duffy's ad referred to Moseley as the "hero of Blood Angle and Cedar Creek." He clearly enjoyed the notoriety that came with his war service. I'm not sure how he did all this while guarding prisoners. There seems to be a piece of the story missing.

After the war, he served on Macon's police force for about thirty years. Moseley's gravestone, shown in Figure 4, confirms he was born in Atlanta in 1828 while, on the same webpage, his biography at FindAGrave.com shows him as born November 1, 1839. I believe that is likely incorrect.

Shown on the Georgia Archives website is a fabulous photo of Moseley (copyrighted and available for a fee) in his Civil War uniform for a reunion of Confederate veterans in Macon, Georgia.

Dr. (Major) Cornelius Boyle - Provost Marshal General of the Army of Northern Virginia and Robert E. Lee's Spy

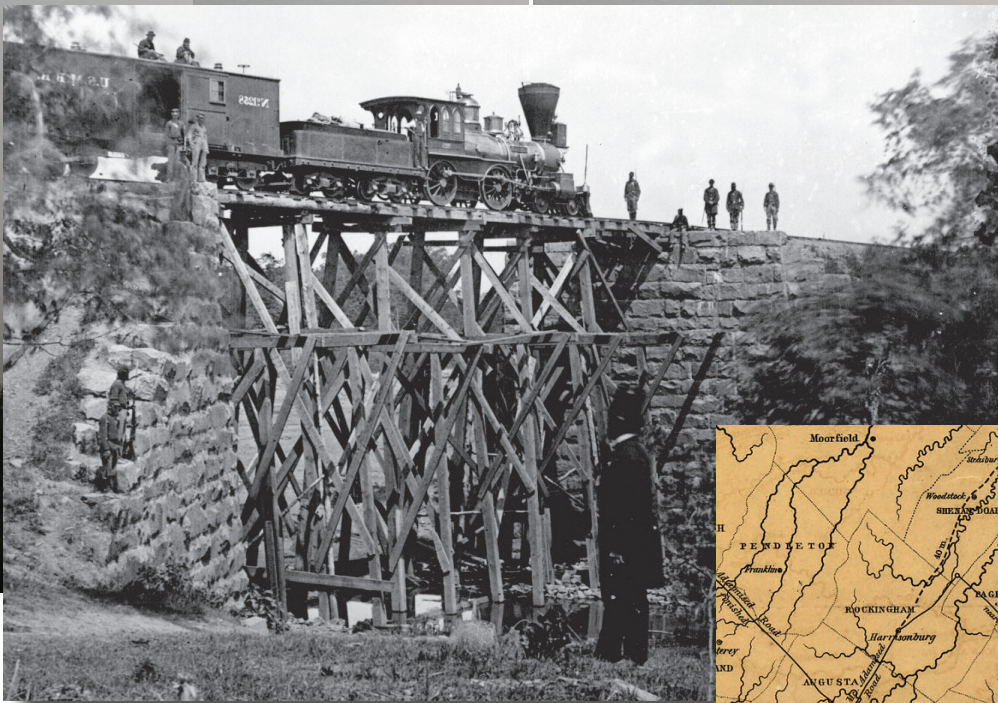


Figure 7. The train *Firefly* on a trestle of the Orange and Virginia Railroad, showing armed sentries on the boxcar.

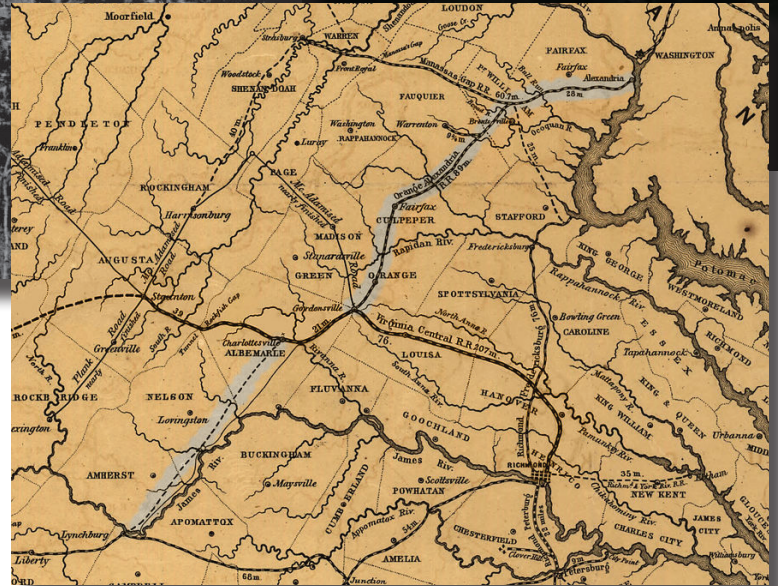


Figure 8. Orange and Alexandria Railroad and its extension from Charlottesville to Lynchburg. Cropped image from the original 1852 map created by the Virginia Central Railroad. Courtesy Library of Congress.

Cornelius Boyle (1817-1878) was born in Washington, D.C., and graduated from Columbian College in Washington, now a part of George Washington University. Columbian was established in 1821, one of the oldest colleges in the United States. Figure 5 shows a signed *carte de visite* of Boyle, later in life.

Dr. Boyle was a popular and wealthy physician with a thriving medical practice in the District of Columbia. He sometimes identified as a "Marylander" since part of the State of Maryland was taken to form the District of Columbia. His United Irish⁶ immigrant father, John Boyle, was Chief Clerk in the U.S. Navy Department who accumulated wealth and influence with presidents and the elite society of Washington.

In the years leading up to the war, Dr. Boyle founded a pro-Southern militia unit known as the National Volunteers, in some places erroneously cited as the National Rifles, which was a different and larger militia group from the District, supplied by Secretary of War John Floyd of Virginia. When questioned about the National Volunteers by a U.S. Congressional Committee on February 1, 1861, Boyle asserted it was a social marching club.

After the war began at Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, Boyle and the National Volunteers marched as one body to Alexandria, Virginia, on April 22 to join the Confederate Army. Boyle became a major, leaving behind vast personal property and real estate.

General Robert E. Lee, Figure 6, ordered the well-connected Boyle to Gordonsville, Virginia, where he took command of the post with the title of Provost Marshal General of the Army of Northern Virginia until the end of the war.⁷

Gordonsville was the critical railroad junction where the north-south Orange and Alexandria Railroad joined the east-west Virginia Central Railroad. It was the only rail link between the capitals at Washington, D.C., and Richmond, Virginia.

Figure 7 shows period photo of the steam engine *Firefly* on a trestle of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. A pair of armed sentries ride the boxcar trailing the engine.

The map in Figure 8 shows the Orange and Alexandria Railroad and its extension from Charlottesville to Lynchburg. The Virginia Central Railroad created the original map in 1852. This cropped image from the original is in the Library of Congress.

Boyle could pass messages quickly to the Headquarters of the Army of Northern Virginia from Gordonsville due to its location along the railroad. He became an indispensable Confederate agent involved in undercover operations and communications.⁸ Among his connections was the intrepid Rose O'Neal Greenhow, a Washington socialite who moved in important political circles before the war and became a renowned Confederate spy who used her connections to relay important military information to the Confederacy at the be-



Figure 9. George W. L. Bickley, founder of the Knights of the Golden Circle. Courtesy of Special Collections, Fine Arts Library, Harvard University



Figure 10. Seal of the Knights of the Golden Circle, circa 1860, as found in records of the Office of the (Army) Judge Advocate General in the National Archives

ginning of the war.

In his 1988 book, *Come Retribution: The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Lincoln*,⁹ author William A. Tidwell explains the meaning of the title. "Come Retribution," which was code for the Confederate Secret Service scheme to seize President Lincoln, hold him hostage and optimistically force the North to its knees. Another unrealized plot was to bomb the White House.

Although the Confederacy destroyed most of its sensitive documents at the end of the war, the Virginia government records before June 1861 were still available, which has allowed diligent historians to ferret out relevant information. During early 1861, when espionage organizations were taking shape, Major Cornelius Boyle was in the thick of it.

Knights of the Golden Circle

The Knights of the Golden Circle (KGC) was a "Southern Rights" club founded in the late 1850s by George Washington Lafayette Bickley (1823-1867) who called men together to form the militant oath-bound secret society which embraced secret signs, cryptic codes, passwords, and dramatic ritual. In today's terms, it was a white supremacist expansion group championing the spread of slavery.¹⁰

From the Knights' own manual, published in 1861, the secret sign was made by making "the forefinger and thumb of the right hands joined while with the rest of the hand upon the right eye is touching with the middle finger. The answer is the same with the

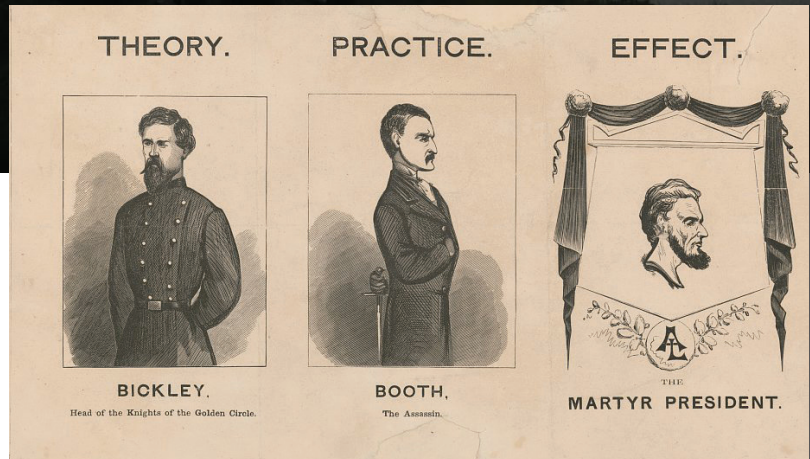
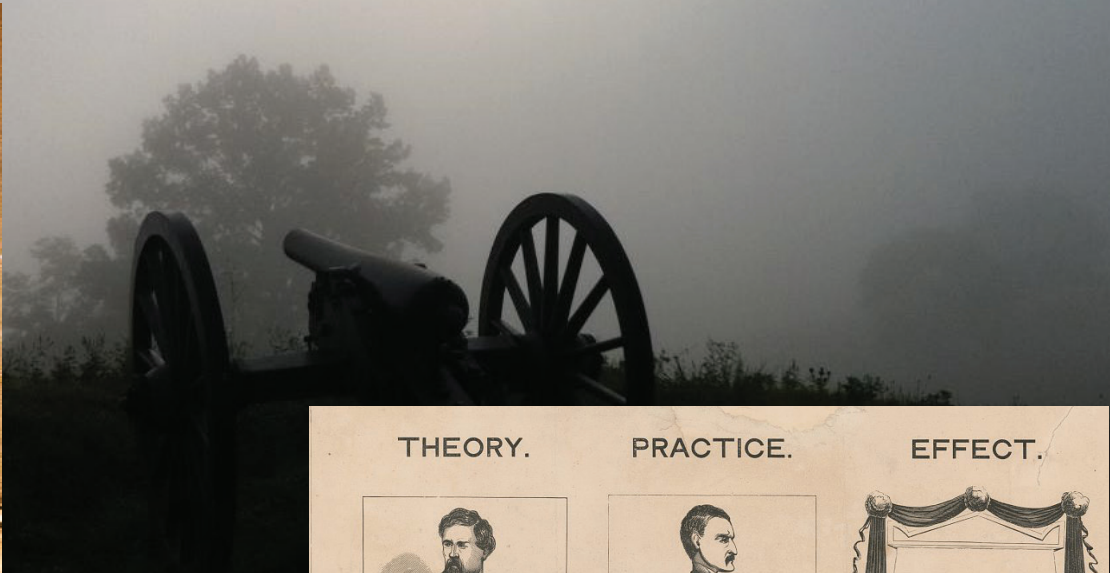


Figure 14. Political cartoon shows Bickley as "Theory," Booth as "Practice," and Lincoln as "Effect."

left hand and left eye." This was important to protect the anonymity of its members.

In any given area, Knights were organized into lodges called "castles" that often met at local meeting halls, barns, or other larger spaces.

Bickley, shown in Figure 9 courtesy of Special Collections, Fine Arts Library, Harvard University, formed several other failed secret societies before that. But he managed to meld KGC with a similar pre-existing society called the Order of the Lone Star (OLS), founded in the mid-1830s. OLS already had more than 15,000 members in at least fifty chapters across the southern states as well as chapters throughout the North including significant groups in Baltimore and New York.¹¹ This gave KGC instant credibility and clout.

It is not surprising that there is much rumor, innuendo and conflicting information surrounded the Knights since they were a secret society. Fortunately, there is sufficient primary source material during the pivotal 1859-60 period that some solid information has been unearthed.

My preferred account on the topic is by David C. Keehn, an attorney from Allentown, Pennsylvania, with a history degree from Gettysburg College. His 2013 book *Knights of the Golden Circle: Secret Empire, Southern Secession, Civil War*, published by Louisiana State University Press, provides a meticulous analysis based on primary sources.

Keehn reveals that files at the National Archives, captured



Figure 11. Knights envelope with 11-star flag of Confederate design promoting their mission to unite the South with Mexico (and beyond).

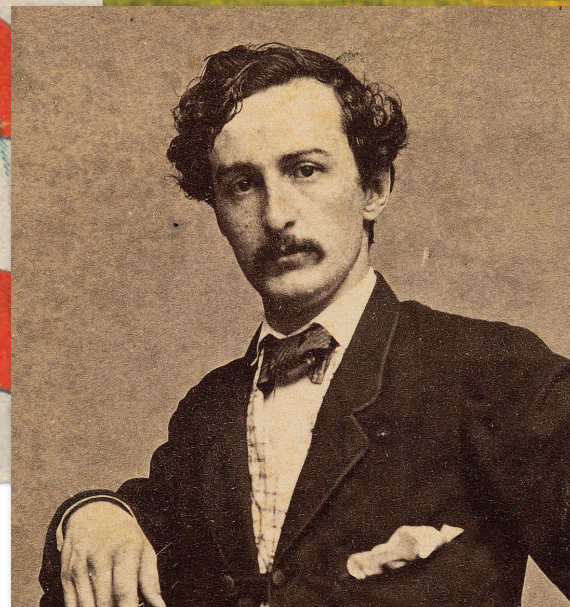


Figure 12. John Wilkes Booth, an ardent member of the Knights of the Golden Circle

from Bickley, disclose KGC origins and intentions during the years leading up to the war when the society was somewhat more transparent. He also consulted contemporaneous newspaper articles, diaries of some of the participants and other first-hand accounts from Civil War archives across the country. It is a fascinating account that reads like a fast-paced fiction novel; I commend it to you.

According to Keehn, it is likely the Knights carried out a variety of clandestine activities before the Civil War, including attempts to take over federal forts in Virginia and North Carolina and a planned assassination of Abraham Lincoln as he passed through Baltimore in early 1861 on the way to his inauguration.

Shown in Figure 10 is the seal of the Knights of the Golden Circle, circa 1860, as found in records of the Office of the (Army) Judge Advocate General in the National Archives.¹²

The clandestine organization promoted the interests of the Southern United States by promoting the idea of a “golden circle” annexing territories in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean which would then be included into the United States as slave states. Some advanced that projection to include as far south as Brazil. Havana, Cuba, was to be its capital.

Immediately before the war, the Knights focused on invading and annexing Mexico, but the attempt was interrupted

by the escalating tensions between North and South. In late 1860, the focus shifted to supporting the secession movement, intimidating Unionists, and supplying men to the Confederate army.

Figure 11 reveals an 11-star flag of Confederate design with “K.G.C.” running vertically down the bars, “Gen. Geo. Bickley” at the top, and “Mexico & A United South” at the bottom. At an August 1859 meeting of KGC at the elegant Greenbrier resort in western Virginia, Bickley was addressed as “General Bickley, President of the American Legion, a secret southern military organization.” There are other illustrated period KGC envelopes as well.

A reporter for the *Arkansas True Democrat* of September 7, 1859, related that in his speech to the gathering at the Greenbrier, Bickley declared the KGC army was “now strong enough to work out the destiny of the south against every opposition.”¹³

Like Dr. Cornelius Boyle, George Bickley was a practicing physician from Jeffersonville (now Tazewell), Virginia, although without an actual medical degree. He studied medicine under a local doctor in Russell County, Virginia. Before the war, he lied about his credentials to obtain a teaching position at Cincinnati’s Eclectic Medical Institute, which focused on unconventional methods.¹⁴ From all accounts, he was a charlatan of the first order.

Bickley’s story and that of the Knights have been the top-

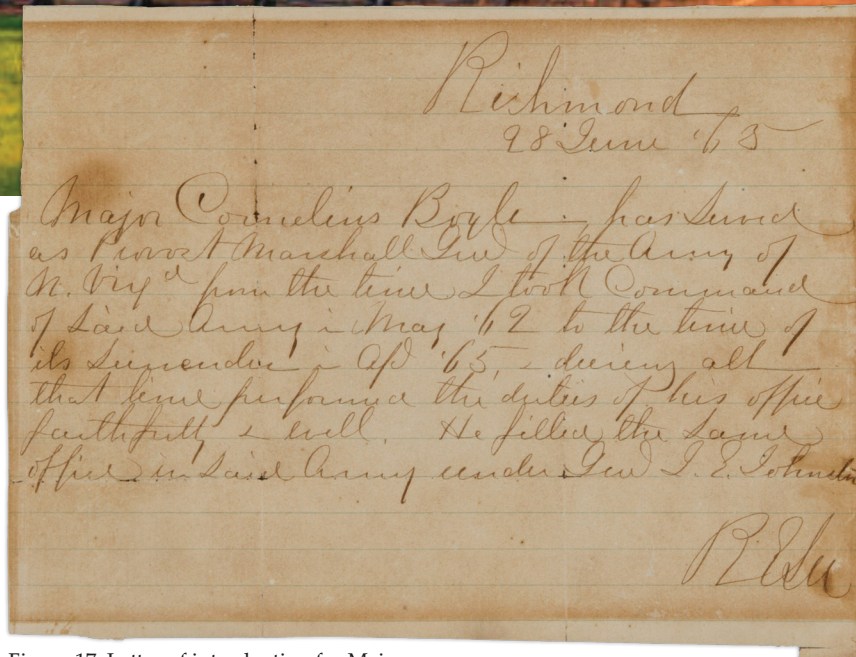
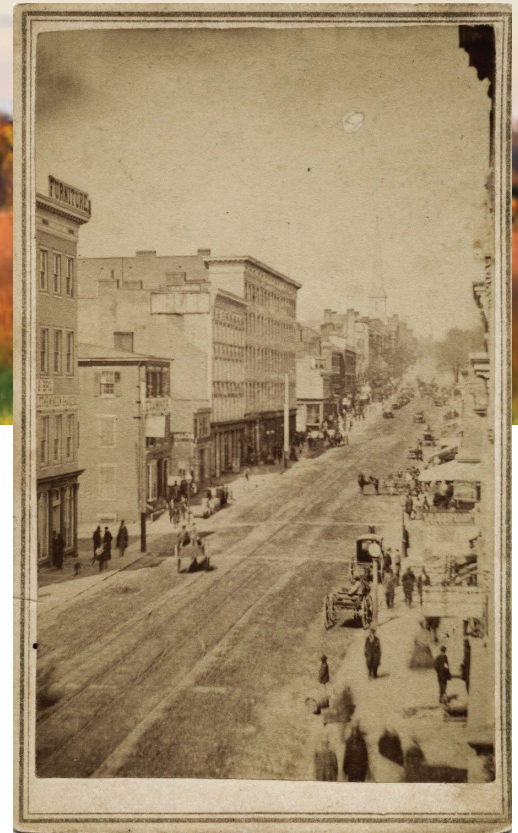


Figure 17. Letter of introduction for Major Cornelius Boyle from General Robert E. Lee. Courtesy Heritage Auctions.



Street scene from the Civil War period of Richmond, Va., capital of the Confederacy. Photo by Richmond photographers Selden & Ellis.

ic of countless books and articles, which provide fascinating reading. One chuckle to me was in the October 4, 1867, edition of the *Abington Virginian* in which it was noted on his death at age 44, that, "he married and ran through the fortunes of three wealthy women." Indeed, that is verifiable.

In 1863, Bickley joined the Confederate States Army to serve as a surgeon under General Braxton Bragg. He was arrested as a Confederate spy in New Albany, Indiana, in July 1863, incarcerated at Fort Warren in Boston Harbor. He was never tried but remained under arrest until October 1865, largely as a preventative measure. Many would say the con artist got what was coming to him.

In late 1863, KGC was reorganized (without Bickley) as the Order of American Knights and, again, in early 1864, as the Orders of the Sons of Liberty. Some say it was disbanded in late 1864 after successive Union victories on the battlefields. Other sources allege it went underground and continued until about 1916. Either way, post-war, the Knights became an inspiration for the establishment of the Ku Klux Klan.¹⁵

One of the provocative rumors about KGC is that it hid treasures still undiscovered to this day, meant to finance a future successful Civil War. One such cache was said to have been discovered by two boys in Baltimore in 1934, who found 5,000 gold coins worth \$10 million in today's currency. Some believe there are more hoards to be found in both the United

States and Canada.¹⁶ Whether these rumors are true is anyone's guess; no credible evidence of this has been found.

The Lincoln Assassination Conspiracy

One of the fanatical members and prominent war-time leaders of the Knights was John Wilkes Booth (who went by Wilkes), shown in Figure 12. It is said he relied on his KGC brothers for help in carrying out smuggling operations on behalf of the South during the war. At the end of the war, he sought their assistance in the dastardly plan to remove President Abraham Lincoln from office. (Figure 13)

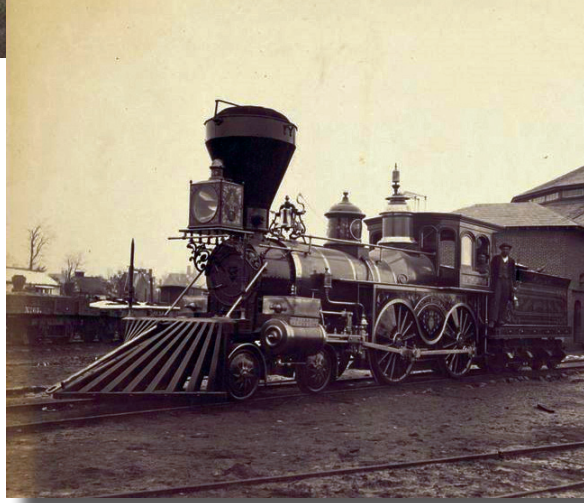
There is evidence that Dr. Cornelius Boyle was more than likely a KGC member, as well as countless of the most prominent men in Washington. Boyle's patients and friends were among Washington's Democratic elite.

In a committee meeting of the National Volunteers, Boyle's military group, he and KGC chief L. Q. Washington drafted up resolutions that declared, "we will stand by and defend the south" and that "in event of the withdrawal of Maryland and Virginia from the Union, [we will act] in such manner as shall best secure ourselves and those States from the evils of a foreign and hostile government (i.e., the United States) within and near their borders."¹⁷

Boyle is strongly implicated in the Lincoln assassination plot as indicated by letters sent from New York by a presiding officer of the Order of American Knights on April 10, 1865, to



Figure 15. Topographical sketch of Hacienda of San Lorenzo made by "Major C. Boyle and Party," while they were scouting land in Mexico. Courtesy Heritage Auctions



Locomotive of the Orange & Alexandria Railroad shown here in 1862 in its yard in Alexandria, Va.

"Geo. Surrat (care of Surratt Boarding House in Washington)," site of meetings of conspirators to kidnap and subsequently assassinate President Lincoln) as well as "Jno. Surratt, and Dr. Cornelius Boyle," stating, "Your [sic] are to attempt the murder of Secretary Seward while I am to attempt for the life of Mr. Chase and if we succeed in getting away we are all bound for Canada."¹⁸

It is unknown whether KGC had any organized involvement with the assassination attempt or whether Booth simply enlisted the assistance of some of his fellow Knights since he knew their allegiance was to the South.

A political cartoon in the Library of Congress, shown in Figure 14, pretty much sums up the situation. It shows Bickley as "Theory," Booth as "Practice," and the martyred U.S. president as "Effect."

Dr. Boyle, After the War

On October 19, 2017, Heritage Auctions sold an extensive archive of the Boyle family, which was compiled by the family through the 1910s. The nucleus of the group relates to Dr. Boyle's trip to Mexico after the war, where he hoped to establish a colony of expatriate Confederates, such as the "Confederados" who fled to Brazil and other Latin countries, numbering between ten and twenty thousand people. Brazil still had slavery then, which was not abolished until 1888. Figure 15 shows a topographical sketch of Hacienda of San Lorenzo made by "Major C. Boyle and Party," while they were scout-

ing land in Mexico. A likeness of Boyle was made into a cameo, as shown in Figure 16.

Presented in Figure 17 is one of the treasures of the archive, a letter of introduction for Major Cornelius Boyle from General Robert E. Lee.

It is dated *Richmond 28 June '65* and explains that Boyle served as Provost Marshal General of the Army of Northern Virginia during the time Lee was in command and that Boyle filled the same office in the Confederate Army under General J. E. Johnston.

In a similar letter dated March 28, 1866, Lee highly recommends him and states,

I regret the necessity he feels under of leaving the country, but his prospect in Washington having been taken, he thinks it necessary to seek a new home.

The U.S. government seized Dr. Boyle's property, and after the war he was denied entry back into the District of Columbia. He requested his amnesty oath August 14, 1865, as shown by his letter to President Andrew Johnson in Figure 18; said amnesty oath is shown signed by Boyle the same day in Figure 19. Both are in the National Archives.

The National Archives is a treasure trove of information and documents from, to, or about Boyle. Figure 20 shows that Secretary of War E. M. Stanton referred the case of Boyle's pardon to the Attorney General. Boyle was pardoned August



Gordonsville August 14th 1865

To His Excellency
Andrew Johnson
President U. States.

Sir

Being
a Citizen of Washington City, and a Practising
Physician at the commencement of the War
I came South, was appointed Major in the
Native Forces of Virginia and assigned to duty
as Provost Marshal of the Army of Northern
Virginia, which position I filled at the
time of the surrender of April 1865.

I have the honor respectfully to
request that I be restored to the rights
of Citizenship.

I am very respectfully
Yours Excellency
off. Servant
Cornelius Boyle

Figure 18. Dr. Boyle's request to President Andrew Johnson requesting his amnesty oath.

Office of Provost Marshal
Gordonsville Va Aug 14th 1865

I Cornelius Boyle of Washington City
D.C do solemnly swear, or affirm, in
presence of Almighty God, that I will
henceforth faithfully support and
defend the Constitution of the United
States, and the Union of the States
thereunder; and that I will, in like
manner, abide by and faithfully
support all laws and proclamations
which have been made during the
existing rebellions with reference to
the emancipation of slaves, so
Help Me God

Cornelius Boyle

Sworn and subscribed to before me
this 14th day of Aug 1865
at Gordonsville Va

Moses Hill Capt 96th Regt
Act Provost Marshal
Gordonsville
Va,

Figure 19. Amnesty oath signed by Boyle the same day as his request to President Johnson.



31, 1867, but he was not allowed to return to his Washington home until 1871.

In a January 17, 2018 auction, Sotheby's also offered a small archive of Boyle papers relating to his release, including a 3-page petition signed by fifty-two physicians and addressed to

His Excellency Andrew Johnson President of the United States.

We the undersigned members of the Medical Profession of the District of Columbia, respectfully and earnestly request of your Excellency that the disabilities existing in regard to the return of the Doctor Cornelius Boyle, one of our former associates, be removed, or so modified that he may return to the practice of his profession in this community.

Those physicians might not have been so anxious to sign such a petition had they known about Boyle's likely ties to the Knights of the Golden Circle. Then again, numerous of them were avowed Southern sympathizers.

Sotheby's auction description says at least four of the signers of the petition directed to President Johnson treated President Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre or the Petersen House after he was shot by Booth: Albert F. King, Charles H. L. Liebermann, Charles M. Ford, and James C. Hall.

Other prominent petitioners include Dr. Alexander Y. P. Garnett, the physician to President Jefferson Davis, and Gen-

eral Robert E. Lee. Biographical information on many of the signers is included in 1909 *History of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia*.

Boyle's confiscated land in the District of Columbia was eventually returned to him and he was able to re-establish his medical practice. He died March 11, 1878, at the age of sixty and is buried at Glenwood Cemetery in Washington, D.C., originally in an unmarked grave. He was buried with his first wife, Fanny Greene Boyle, who died in 1869; their children are buried in the same plot. He appears to have lived his life in a whirlwind.

Acknowledgments: My thanks to Heritage Auctions for use of several images from the Boyle family holding they sold in 2017. I am also grateful to Dr. F. Terry Hambrecht for his help while I was initially searching out information on Dr. Boyle; he confirmed that Boyle did not serve the Confederacy in any medical capacity. Boyle was too busy with covert operations and apparently more valuable to Lee in that role.

Editor's Note: *Trish Kaufmann has been an avid researcher and writer for fifty years and a professional postal historian since 1973. She specializes in the American Civil War. She is always happy to hear from readers at trishkauf@comcast.net*

Footnotes:

¹Lillian Henderson (compiler), *Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia*, v. 1, Georgia State Division of Confederate Pensions and Records, Hapeville, Georgia, Longina & Porter, 1959-1964.

²Harrington, Hugh T., *Civil War Milledgeville: Tales from the Confederate Capital of Georgia*, The History Press, Charleston, S.C., 2005.

³Commutation clothing was a system by which the private soldier or noncommissioned officer was allowed a stated sum for the purchase of clothing. Commutation was supposedly abolished by an Act of Congress, October 8, 1862, but this is dated a full year later.

⁴*Find A Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com>: accessed 27 August 2019), memorial page for CPT Warren Alonza Moseley (1 Nov 1839–17 Dec 1912), Find A Grave Memorial no. 70455666, citing Rose Hill Cemetery, Macon, Bibb County, Georgia, USA; Maintained by Virginia Scoville McClure (contributor 47629580)

⁵"Macon, 1912, Warren A. Moseley in his Civil War uniform for reunion of Confederate veterans in Macon." *Vanishing Georgia*, Georgia Archives, University System of Georgia. <https://vault.georgiaarchives.org/digital/collection/vg2/id/4164> Accessed August 26, 2019.

⁶The Society of United Irishmen, founded as a radical or liberal political organization in 18th-century Belfast, Ireland, initially sought Parliamentary reform. It evolved into a revolutionary republican organization, inspired by the American Revolution and allied with Revolutionary France.

⁷Robert E. L. Krick, *Staff Officers in Gray: A Biographical Register of the Staff Officers in the Army*

of Northern Virginia, University of North Carolina Press, 2003, p. 80.

⁸James H. Whyte, *Divided Loyalties in Washington during the Civil War*, Historical Society of Washington, D.C., 2009.

⁹William A. Tidwell with James O. Hall and David Winfred Gaddy, *Come Retribution: The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Lincoln*, University Press of Mississippi, 1988.

¹⁰David C. Keehn, *Knights of The Golden Circle: Secret Empire, Southern Secession, Civil War*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2013.

¹¹*Ibid*, p. 10.

¹²Seal of the Knights of the Golden Circle 1860 AD--ca. RG# 153 Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Army) National Archives Building - Archives I Rediscovery #: 07002 07002_2008_001 NWTS at NARA

¹³Keehn, *Ibid*, p. 23.

¹⁴*Ibid*, p. 7.

¹⁵George W. L. Bickley, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_W._L._Bickley Accessed September 14, 2019

¹⁶Andrew Milne, "The Knights of the Golden Circle: The Secret Civil

War Society That Wanted to Build An Empire of Slavery," <https://allthatsinteresting.com/knights-of-the-golden-circle>, published August 10, 2019, updated August 15, 2019. Accessed September 14, 2019.

¹⁷Keehn, *Ibid*, p. 105.

¹⁸*Ibid*, p. 183.

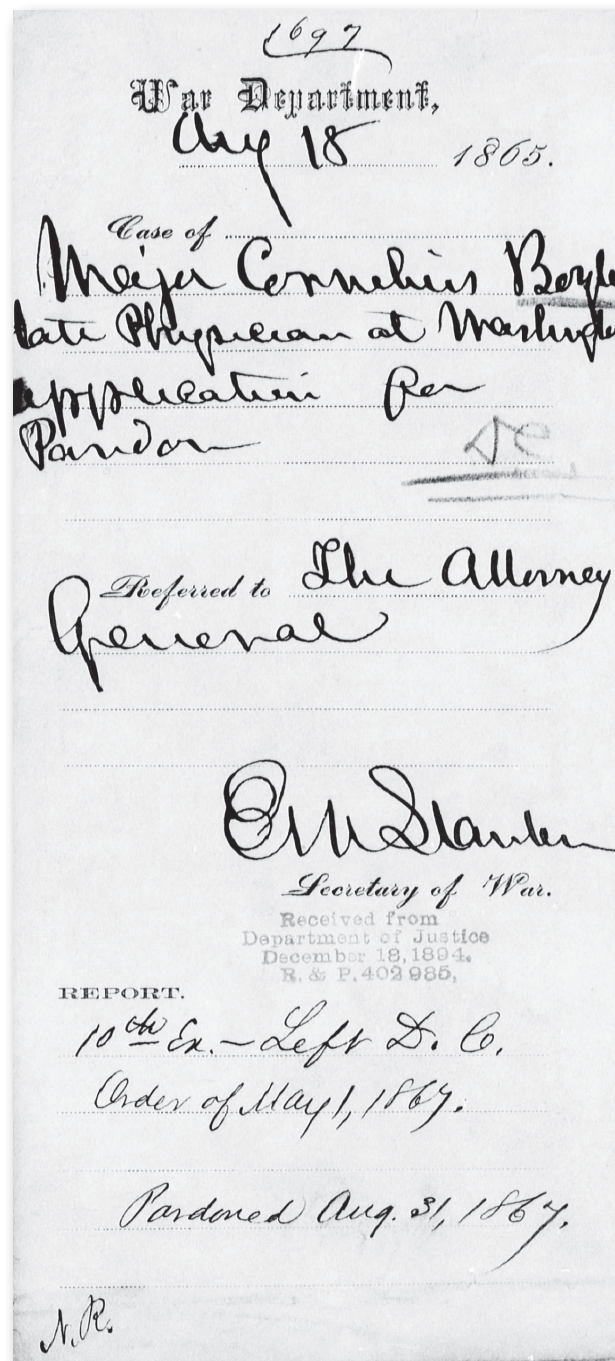


Figure 20 (above). Secretary of War E. M. Stanton referred the case of Boyle's pardon to the Attorney General per this letter.

Auction Action

Continued...

David Coogle's Column from p. 3

the new twenty-first century digital philatelic era—and this was a celebration more than a marketplace. Organized philately is alive and well, aging rapidly, but still vibrant, and the exhibit aisles were full. The guests included many of philately's luminaries, but the numbers were indeed short of expectations, and I see this trend continuing—not least because of the fact that philatelists around the globe can view so many stamps and exhibits in ultra-HD on their iPads or tablets.

My Nordic adventure ended with a brief stay in Iceland. As I watched the geothermal play of geysers and volcanos, I mused about the great stamp shows of the past and compared the stamp worlds of then and now. Comparing today's shows to those of the legendary days gone by—the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s—I wondered if philately had taken a “wrong turn.”

Yes, it's a very different world all-around. And, we know that the only unchanging thing in life is change. But, what about philately? Some stamp dealers and collectors talk about the days of yesteryear—the 1970s and 1980s—as a kind of Golden Age of Stamp Shows.

True, for many, back then stamp shows were the bread-and-butter of the hobby. Stamp shows were choked with customers, and some stamp shows even had long waiting lists for dealer spots. In Pittsburgh, it was easier to get Steeler tickets than a booth at the Wilkesburg Stamp Club's Annual Exhibition! So, did something go wrong? Where did all the stamp collectors go?

As usual, all that glitters is not gold! Were there ever really droves of stamp collectors who left the hobby? True, in the 1970s and 1980s, snake-oil “stamp investment” gurus promised big profits to those who purchased quantities of US plate blocks, early mint UN, Israel tabs, British gutter pairs—and various other magical formulas.

The know-nothing but get-rich-quick investor-fueled prices wreaked havoc on the real philatelic marketplace. Huge quantities of material rapidly changed hands. Some dealers installed expensive dedicated direct phone lines (no fax machines or email or internet yet) to get hour-by-hour “ticker-quotes” of buying and selling prices of certain “hot” items or areas. Full-page ads offered to sell “rare” items—not just individually, but per 10 or per 100 (per 1,000 was POR).

As always happens in markets, money moves prices. Money moving fast will eventually outrace and distort prices. The actual value of stamps got very distorted—to say the least. Things got so out of whack that the Scott Catalogue in 1988 totally revised their pricing-mechanism, and some areas took hits of as much as 50-60%.

You can imagine the panic when this bubble burst, and the uninformed “stamp investors” rushed to cash-in their “rare” investments. The sky was falling! It was the end of philately, etc. Yes, those were the “good old days.”

What were the good old days really like for stamp collectors?

As always, Knowledge was king, but real philatelic knowledge was scarce and at a premium. Many thousands of publications on philately existed, but access to them was difficult. Expertizing was limited and labyrinthine: re-gumming, re-perfing and other manipulations were rampant. Searching for better or specific items was frustrating and truly hit-or-miss. Building a specialized collection or exhibition was glacial by today's standards. To many, “cover collecting” (“postal history” was the new-fangled term) meant unaddressed FDCs. Condition, grading and stamp descriptions were often more in the realm of fiction-writing than in objective standards.

In 1988, DVDs did not exist. The biggest retailers were Sears and K-Mart, Michael Jackson was the King of Pop and the biggest star on TV was Bill Cosby. When we prepared auction sales, we used typewriters, massive glass photoplates, and type-setters who moved tiny metal alphabet pieces to lay out pages and justify their copy.

There spell-check did not exist—it was called “proof-reading” and added an extra 2-3 day delay to printing. Communication was often hit-or-miss. By 1988 ownership of cellular phones in the US had finally surpassed 50,000, and the new Motorola models finally weighed under two pounds (and could be used for almost an hour between 12-hour charges). The new Commodore personal computers boasted a dazzling 512 KB of memory.

Ah, yes—the good old days! It is foolish to cling to fantasies of the past rather than enjoying the moment. It's better to look at things as they are, not as they were. Life cannot be lived backwards. Philately has a great past, and even greater days ahead!

We returned home just in time to make the drive to NAPEX in McLean, VA, one of the bell-weather philatelic events that continued to remind us of days gone by. Very well attended and again, the aisles were full of exhibits. Philately in the present-day is alive, well and bustling, not an adjective one often uses today to describe a stamp show. There was talk of a New York show held concurrently with Stockholmia that was also well attended and pleased traders' expectations. There are even reports of smaller, local shows doing well. (My brother—AKA “The Stamp Professor”—attended the New Haven Philatelic Society's monthly show during Stockholmia and tells me it was lively and well attended.)

There is a lot of buzz about Omaha in anticipation of STAMP-SHOW. Omaha! My thoughts fly to “Western Cattle in the Storm.” Another great national APS show. Who's going? What are you showing? What's on your want list? On and on. With all this nostalgia, my mind drifts back to Madison Square Garden, LaGuardia Airport, Rosemont and Chicago, Washington and the other great shows of yesteryear. But wait, there we go again! Stamp Collecting! Ah, hopes, dreams, expectations, awards, treasure-hunts, searching, camaraderie—all is still there, alive and well!

Harness this enthusiasm! Take it with you and pass it along! Share and feed off the passion, joy and excitement! It's far from over, just different. Always alive, always changing, always evolving—but with more and greater and deeper satisfaction and fulfillment to be had. Don't live life backwards. Keep it alive, pass-it-on, tell a friend! Find your philatelic Kismet!