

May 2018

Clark, Emma R.

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dh.howard.edu/og\\_news](http://dh.howard.edu/og_news)

---

#### Recommended Citation

"Clark, Emma R." (2018). *Newspaper Clipping, Logbooks, Journals & Scrapbooks*. 4.  
[http://dh.howard.edu/og\\_news/4](http://dh.howard.edu/og_news/4)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the OG Series at Digital Howard @ Howard University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newspaper Clipping, Logbooks, Journals & Scrapbooks by an authorized administrator of Digital Howard @ Howard University. For more information, please contact [lopez.matthews@howard.edu](mailto:lopez.matthews@howard.edu).

WHY VISIT FORT STEVENS, D. C?



President Lincoln inspecting Fort Stevens during battle on July 12, 1864  
—From an old print.

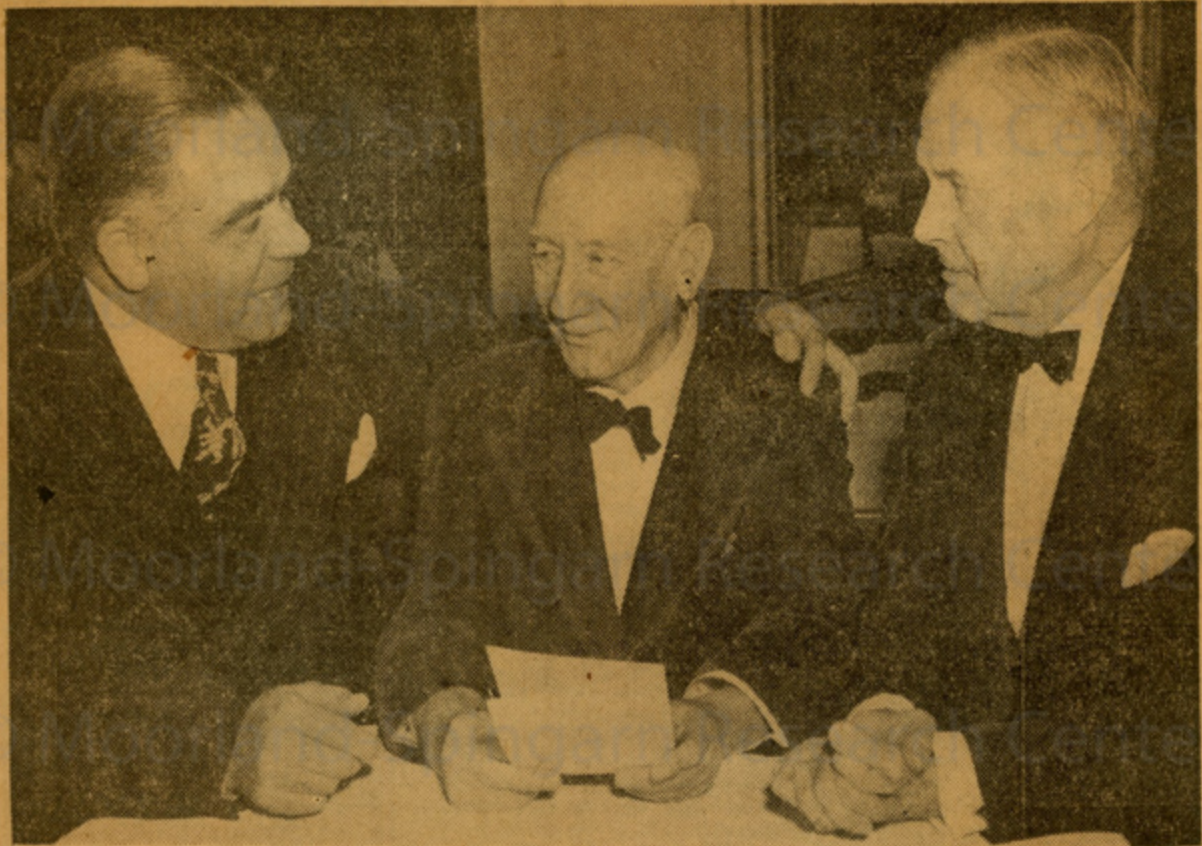
A Narrative About President Abraham Lincoln  
That Everyone Should Read

by

Emma R. Clarke, Retired Teacher Emeritus  
Randall Jr. High School, Washington, D. C.

306 New York Ave.

DECEMBER 8, 1946



**OLDEST INHABITANTS HOLD ANNUAL DINNER**—Brooke Johns, president of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, who entertained at the annual dinner of the Oldest Inhabitants last night; John Clagett Proctor, who presided, and Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant III, who spoke. The dinner was held at Hotel 2400. —Star Staff Photo.

Charles W. Ray, retiring as president of the Brightwood Citizens' Association after 30 years in that post, is presented a cake by fellow members of the organization Maurice N. Thompson (left), new president, and John Clagett Proctor, vice president, made the presentation at a testimonial meeting last night in Paul Junior High School. —Star Staff Photo.

Charles W. Ray, president of the Brightwood Citizens' Association for the past 30 years, was honored on his retirement from office at a meeting last night of the association at Paul Junior High School.

Another veteran association member, Vice President John Clagett Proctor, presented Mr. Ray a pen and pencil set in behalf of the members. Mr. Ray also was given a cake.

Mr. Proctor praised the retiring officer's long and faithful service to the association and traced the growth of Brightwood from 1916 to 1946. He outlined civic improvements he said had been brought about largely through influence of the Brightwood association under Mr. Ray's leadership.

The association unanimously adopted a resolution commending Mr. Ray's service. A copy of the

resolution is to be bound in leather and presented to Mr. Ray.

The association commended recent action of the Federation of Citizens' Associations in appointing a committee to investigate the report on racial segregation made by the Council of Social Agencies.

It was voted to extend annual membership to the captains of the police and fire departments in the Brightwood community, ministers of all churches and principals of all public and parochial schools in the area. Ninety-five new members were accepted last night. The meeting was conducted by the new president, Maurice N. Thompson.

## Kensington Benefit Tonight

A motion picture show for the benefit of the Kensington Fire Department will be held at the firehouse at 7:30 o'clock tonight.

1. Description of Fort ..... 4-2  
 2. How to reach ..... 4-3

Pictures.

1. Map of Washington, The Nation's Capital ..... 4-4  
 2. Picture of Grave ..... 4-5  
 3. Old View of Fort Massachusetts built by Bay  
 4. An early landscape on George's Avenue, near  
 Fort Stevens. Home of Governor Alexander  
 Shepherd ..... 4-6  
 5. Army ..... 4-7

To

Phoebe A. Clarke  
 My Devoted Mother  
 Widow of

Sgt. Richard Clarke, Civil War Veteran

1. Political Characteristics of Defenders ..... 5-1  
 2. Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas' Role ..... 5-2  
 3. Critical Period ..... 5-3  
 4. President Abraham Lincoln's Role ..... 5-4

*the book was first published April 15, 1865*

*575 ... Street, N.E.*

*... of the ...*

*... who succeeded Lincoln as President of ...*

	Section	Page
The House Where Pres. Lincoln died April 15, 1865 - 516 South Street, N.W.	B-4	15
Another picture of House 516 South Street N.W.	B-4	16
Death of Pres. Lincoln	B-5	17
Lincoln's Death	B-6	18
Andrew Johnson who succeeded Lincoln as President	B-7	19

CONTENTS

	<i>Section</i>	<i>Page</i>
A. Chapter I. Introduction		
1. Recent Visits to Fort Stevens .....	A-1	1
2. My First Visit .....	A-1	1
B. Chapter II. Location and Naming Fort.		
1. Erection of Fort .....	A-2	2
2. General Stevens Role .....	A-2	2
3. Extension of Fort .....	A-2	2
4. How to Reach Fort .....	A-3	3
C. Pictures.		
1. Map of Washington, The Nation's Capital ...	A-4	4
2. Picture of Grove .....	A-5	5
3. Old View of Fort Massachusetts Built by Bay State Soldiers - 1861 .....	A-6	6
4. Picture of General Isaac Ingalls Stevens ..	A-7	7
5. An Early Landmark on Georgia Avenue, near Fort Stevens - Home of Governor Alexander Shepherd .....	A-8	8
6. Emery Place, the Country Estate of the Late Mayor Matthew G. Emery .....	A-9	9
7. Mayor Emery's City Home 205-207 Eye St., N.W.	A-10	10
8. Origin of Brightwood .....	A-11	11
A. Chapter III. Union Defenders		
1. Patriotic Characteristics of Defenders ....	B-1	12
2. Organization of Defenders .....	B-1	12
3. Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas' Role .....	B-4	12
4. Critical Period .....	B-2	13
5. President Abraham Lincoln's Role .....	B-2	13
B. Pictures		
1. Abraham Lincoln in 1865 (from a rare negative privately owned - From "Lincoln's Addresses and Letters") .....	B-3	14
2. Picture of General Horatio G. Wright .....	B-4-5-6	15-16-17-18-19
3. Our First Defenders Against the Enemy Allies .....	B-8	20
4. General E. C. Carrington, U.S. Attorney - 1863-1870 who suggested the City Home Guard and General Charles L. Stone who Organized the District Militia for the City's Protection .....	B-9	21
	B-70	22

*Insert \**

*This column may be included*

	Section	Page
11. Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas with G. A. R. Members and Citizens at the Dedication of the Boulder at Fort Stevens November 7, 1911 .....	B-11	23
12. Officers Quarters at Fort Stevens during Civil War Afterwards Used As Home of Mrs. Jennie Bowie, a Daughter of Mrs. Thomas .....	B-11	23
13. Spring House .....	B-12	24
14. Fort Stevens in 1864 .....	B-13	25
15. President Lincoln Inspecting Fort Stevens .... During Battle, July 12, 1864	B-13	25
16. A Civil War Scene At Fort Stevens .....	B-14	26
17. Type of Big Gun Used to Defend Washington City during the Civil War .....	B-14	26
18. Boys in Blue at Fort Stevens .....	B-15	27
19. Historical Marker at Fort Stevens .....	B-15	27
20. The Rock on Parapet and Battle Field, etc. ....	B-15	27
21. Early Battery Guarding Chain Bridge from Washington side of Potomac .....	B-16	28
22. View of Fort Gains .....	B-16	28
23. Picture of Brightwood Driving Track .....	B-17	29
24. The Fortifications Guarding Chain Bridge, 1862 .	B-17	29

Chapter IV. Trick That Saved Washington City From Capture

A. General Wright's Performance .....	C-1	31
B. The "Bluff, Strategy, or Trick" .....	C-1	31
1. Preparation .....	C-1	31
2. Fortifications .....	C-1	31
C. Arrival of General Grant's 400 Invincible Sixth ..	C-2	32
D. Capt, Chamberlain's Twenty-Fifth NYC Dismounted Cavalry .....	C-2	32
E. General Early's Chagrin and Determination .....	C-2	32
F. Abraham Lincoln's Arrival .....	C-2	32
G. Excerpt from Gettysburg Address .....	C-3	33

Pictures

1. Fort Stevens, Where President Lincoln Stood under Fire .....	C-4	34
2. Lincoln under Fire at Fort Stevens, July 12, 1864 .....	C-5	35

Chapter V. Restorations.

1. Building of Mrs. Thomas New Home .....	D-1	36
2. Restoration of Fort Stevens .....	D-1	36
3. Historical Washington - Places of Interest ..	D-2	37

This column may be omitted

Pictures.

*Section Page*

- 1. Restored Civil War Fort ..... D-3 38
- 2. Architects Drawing of the Proposed Restoration of the Fort Area ..... D-4 39

Chapter VI.

Life of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas by Atty. H.A. Clarke - Used at Funeral Ceremonies and Published in Newspapers at Time of Her Passing (Age 96 - October 13, 1917) .....

E-2 40

- 1. Birth, Ancestry, Childhood .....
- 2. Sacrifice and the Wrong Impression .....
- 3. Death and Fame .....
- 4. Funeral Leaving House .....
- 5. Funeral Obsequies at Church .....
- 6. Floral Tributes .....
- 7. Letter from C. J. Henderson (Mrs. Thomas' Pastor) .....

E-2 42  
 E-2 42  
 E-2 42  
 E-3 43  
 E-3 43  
 E-4 44  
 E-5 45  
 E-6 46

Picture. Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas at 96 .....

E-1 41

*This column may be omitted*



## Foreword

The writer believes she is doing a great service to the public in offering this narrative, because of its historical setting in Washington, D. C., the Nation's Capitol, and because of its portrayal of the deeds according to the late Wendell Wilkie of "Men and women who worked, fought and died that America might live and who made America great by contributing their own greatness to a country which was founded and has endured on the principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as the right of every man. There were giants in those days. They proved that Americanism is a matter of Spirit, not of Birth."

This article is devoted to a true narrative of the Capture of Fort Stevens by the Union Defenders from General Jubal Early's troops, July 12, 1864 during the Civil War.

No one can afford to reside in or visit Washington City without seeing this historic spot on which is located the boulder bearing the bronze marker, commemorating the presence of President Abraham Lincoln under fire there on the date of the battle, when two hundred and fifty Union Defenders were killed.

For the valuable and authentic historical information contained herein we are indebted to articles by David Rankin Barbee, "The Washington Post," November 8, 1931; John Clagett Proctor, "The Sunday Star," February 2, 1936; January 26, 1939; August 2, 1942; January 16, 1944; July 8, 1945; Parke A. Arnold, "The Sunday Star," July 19, 1939; George Kennedy, "The Sunday Star," August 13, 1944; Bernard Kohn, "The Sunday Star," July 4, 1937; and for first hand information from Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas and her daughters when we stayed with her in her new house at Fort Stevens on her ancestor's estate which once comprised eighty eight acres, but at the time of our visit contained eight acres only, we were told.

*Wendell Wilkie L.: Americanism is a matter of Spirit, not of Birth.  
There were Giants in those Days. Washington, D.C., The Sunday Star,  
August 2, 1942.*

## Chapter I

### Introduction

On July 4, 1946, I visited a lady who lives in Mount Pleasant, D. C., After a pleasant chat, we decided to take a car ride as it was such a beautiful afternoon. I suggested that we go to Fort Stevens, D. C., to which she heartily agreed, since she had never been there.

She was delighted on arriving and equally surprised to know that she had lived near this historic spot and yet had never visited it before, nor even heard of it, though a resident of Washington City since leaving her home in Pennsylvania a number of years ago. For a long time she too has lived about one square from the Georgia Avenue car line that extends north directly to the entrance of Fort Stevens.

Labor Day another lady and I decided to take an auto ride and she too was eager to visit Fort Stevens after hearing about the pleasant Fourth of July visit. She likewise was highly elated and astounded when seeing this intensely beautiful historic spot so near the heart of the city and about which so little seems to be said and known.

My first visit was with my mother, Mrs. Phoebe A. Clarke, many years ago, when the original owner, Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas lived there. Mother's grandmother, Mrs. Phoebe Payne, was an intimate and life long friend of Mrs. Thomas' mother and grandmother. So during vacations several summers mother, my brother, Attorney Harry A. Clarke, and I enjoyed very hot months in the cool bracing breezes of Fort Stevens, in Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas' new home near which were the homes of her three daughters, Mrs. Martha Grant, Mrs. Eliza Johnson and Mrs. Jennie Bowie and their families. During these visits we all learned from Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas and family many things concerning the interesting and historic happenings at Fort Stevens during the Civil War.

Parts of this defense extended from about 50 feet north of the old brick school on Georgia Avenue and Quackenbos Street in a westerly direction for about 150 feet, then in a general northwest direction for 140 feet, afterwards northwest at a more acute angle for 100 feet, next nearly west for 250 feet and finally northwest for 100 feet. The main battery, the where Battery Cannon on the east is located and the other to the west where the depression is still to be seen. It was armed during the wartime period with 12 guns and two mortars and was one of sixteen forts thrown around Washington City in 1851.

Washington, D. C., The Sunday Star, December 23, 1935.

Further David Rankin - Fort Stevens One of a Chain of 16 Secession  
Washington, D. C., The Washington Post, November 8, 1911

Chapter II

Location and Naming Fort

The two incidents *just* related concerning D. C. folks not being much acquainted with the vicinity of Fort Stevens and its history, suggested to me that perhaps there may be others in the same category, who would like also to visit the site and know something of the valuable historical setting. Hence this feeble effort to produce an account.

This narrative is an attempt to answer the question embodied in *its* title ~~which~~ and which I hope will afford interesting reading for many persons as well as provide much valuable knowledge about a site tucked away in a grove well back from the roadside and also about the persons who played such important parts in saving not only the City of Washington, the Nation's Capital, but also the Nation itself by performing July 12, 1864, "The Trick that Saved Washington City and the Union" during the Civil War.

Fort Stevens was erected in October 1861 by Massachusetts soldiers.<sup>1</sup> It was first called Fort Massachusetts, but a year later the name was changed to Fort Stevens, in honor of General Isaac Ingalls Stevens, who was killed at Chantilly, Virginia. It was renamed in his honor, because he was a soldier who had a real baptism of fire.

When his troops wavered under the terrific fire, he rushed forward to the leading regiment, seized the colors from the wounded bearer and calling on the Highlanders to follow him, led them in the onslaught which hurled back the enemy.<sup>2</sup> In the moment of victory he fell, his brain pierced by a bullet in the temple and the flag of his country in his dying hand. One cannot help thrill to such an heroic incident. Such men put patriotic service above honor for themselves and their personal monetary and egotistic interests.

The ramparts of this defense extended from about 50 feet north of the old Brightwood School on Georgia Avenue and Quackenbos Street in a northerly direction for about 160 feet, then in a general northwest direction for 140 feet, afterwards northwest at a more acute angle for 90 feet, next nearly west for 220 feet and finally southwest for about 50 feet with a boundary line of approximately 1125 feet. The Fort has two magazines, one where Emory Church on the east is located and the other to the west where the depression is still to be seen. It was armed during the wartime period with 19 guns and two mortars and was one of eighteen forts thrown around Washington City in 1861.

- 
1. Brightwood Citizens Association: Fort Stevens Work Expediting Asked, Washington, D. C., The Sunday Star, December 22, 1935.
  2. Barbee David Rankin - Fort Stevens One of a Chain of 18 Secession Defenses, Washington, D. C., The Washington Post, November 8, 1931.

It is a beautiful and pleasant ride of ten minutes from Pennsylvania Avenue and Seventh Street, N. W., directly north to the charming Fort Stevens Site. One may travel in a taxi, in a street car, or even in an auto. Ride north on Georgia Avenue to Quackenbos Street. On northwest corner of Quackenbos Street is Emory Church and on the southwest corner is the old Brightwood Public School. Turning west between these two buildings will be found this truly historic spot at Rittenhouse and Thirteenth Street, N. W., on Fort Drive.

Everyone finds something of special interest at Fort Stevens says Bernard Kohn. He adds that historians and military engineers gain a wealth of technical information, teachers and students discover that historical facts and dates assume a new meaning, and even the neighborhood children at play find the place thrilling. Innocently enough with childish glee they brandish toy guns and climb over the parapets to engage in mock warfare.

A BOOKLET FOR VISITING  
The  
Nation's Capital  
Published by  
The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co.  
(Bell System)

- 
1. Kohn Bernard; Fort Stevens Played Vital Role in Defending Washington from Confederate Invaders July of 1864 - Lincoln only President Ever Under Fire, was Present Washington, D. C. The Sunday Star July 4, 1937.

# WASHINGTON

The  
Nation's Capital



*from a*  
A BOOKLET FOR VISITING  
SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Published by  
The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co.  
(Bell System)

*Map Shows Location of Fort Stevens  
where the Trick That Saved Washington  
The Nation's Capital, was Performed.*



Tucked away in a grove well back from the roadside, nowadays a granite boulder upon which the Lincoln marker at Fort Stevens.

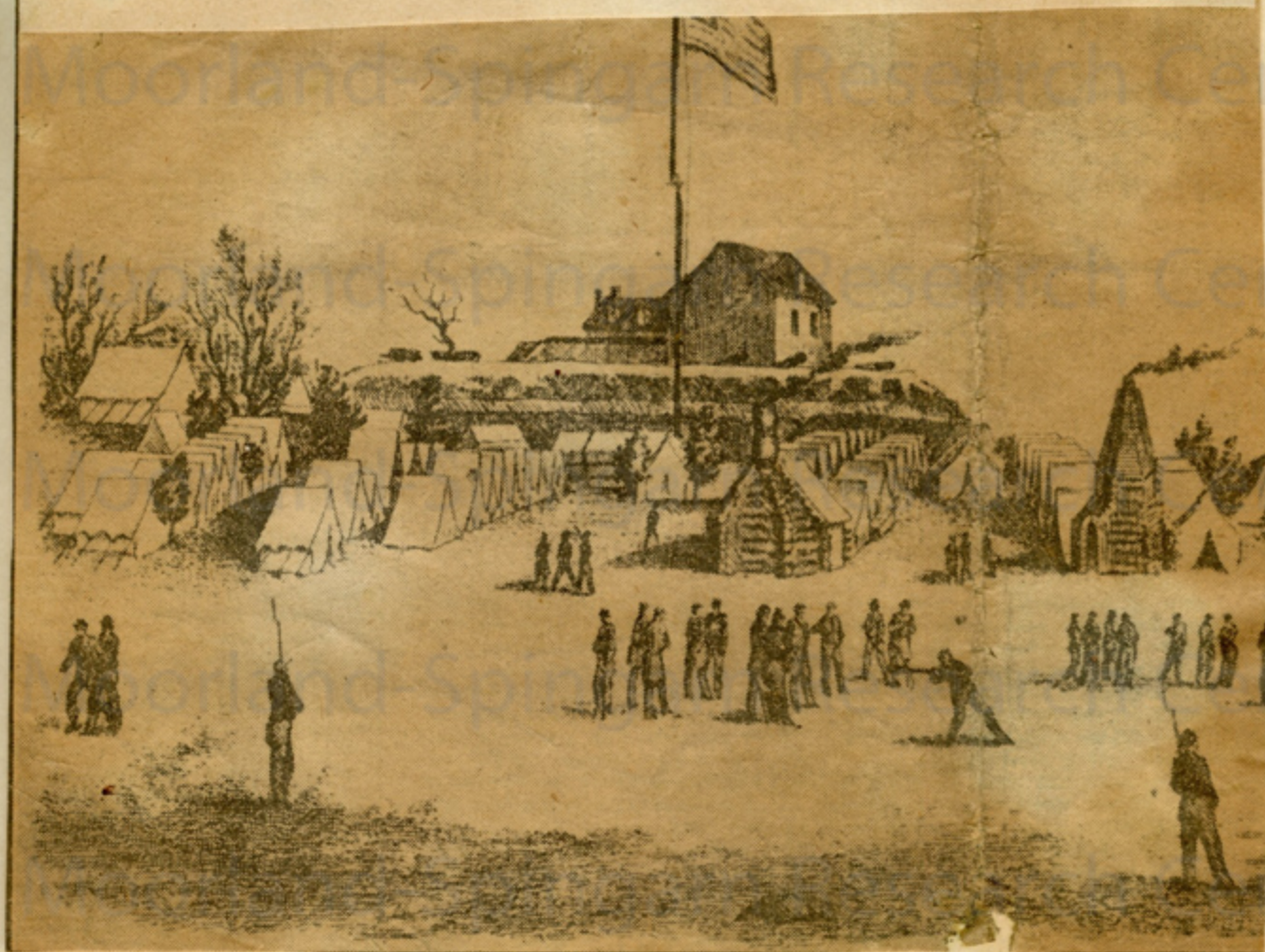
Tucked away in a grove and well back from the roadside may be seen nowadays a granite boulder with a bronze marker on it telling you the story of July 12, 1864 when Abraham Lincoln stood under fire on this spot at Fort Stevens. The Sunday Star February 24, 1936 - Barbee David Reukim

# The Washington

 Port  
 8, 1931

WASHINGTON: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1931

## Ten Minutes From T



An old view of Fort Massachusetts built by Bay State soldiers 1861 - Later named Fort Stevens. Here Jubal Early's raid took place July 12, 1864.

See picture of granite marker on other side. It has a bronze tablet commemorating the presence of Abraham Lincoln at Fort Stevens under fire July 12, 1864.



Isaac Ingalls Stevens.  
For whom Fort  
Stevens is named.

Proctor, John Clagett: from The Sunday Star  
July 8, 1945



(1) Bleak House, former country home of Gov. Alexander R. Shepherd, west of Georgia avenue near the District line. (2) Row of old cedars, which lined an early

A-8



## Landmarks

Georgia Avenue  
near Fort Stevens  
Site

The Sunday Star  
for John Clagett Aug. 2, 1942

A-90

# Emery Place

## and Early Brightwood Residences



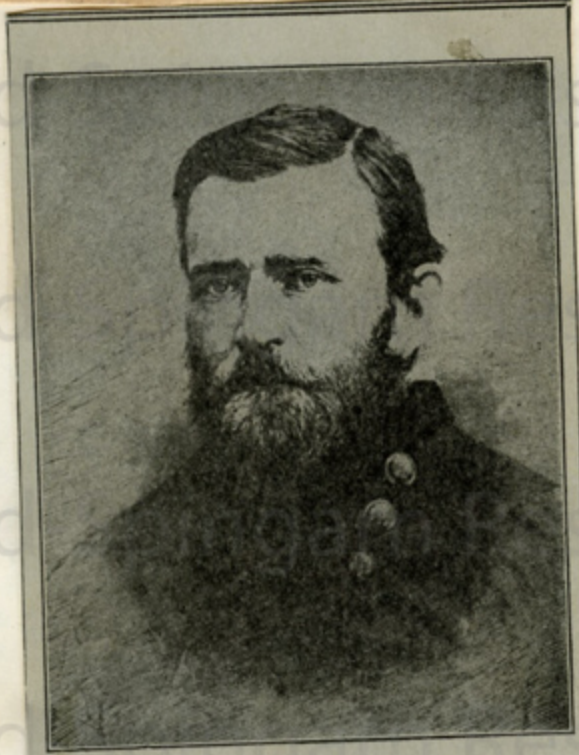
*Emery Place, the country estate of the late Mayor Matthew G. Emery. Recently used as a hideout by the escaped prisoner Eklund.*

doctor, John Clagett; The Sunday Star, Aug. 2, 1942

These houses were built by Mr. Alfred Lee and Mr. Alfred Jones - Colored Feed Dealers  
have been informed by General Douglas  
A-10



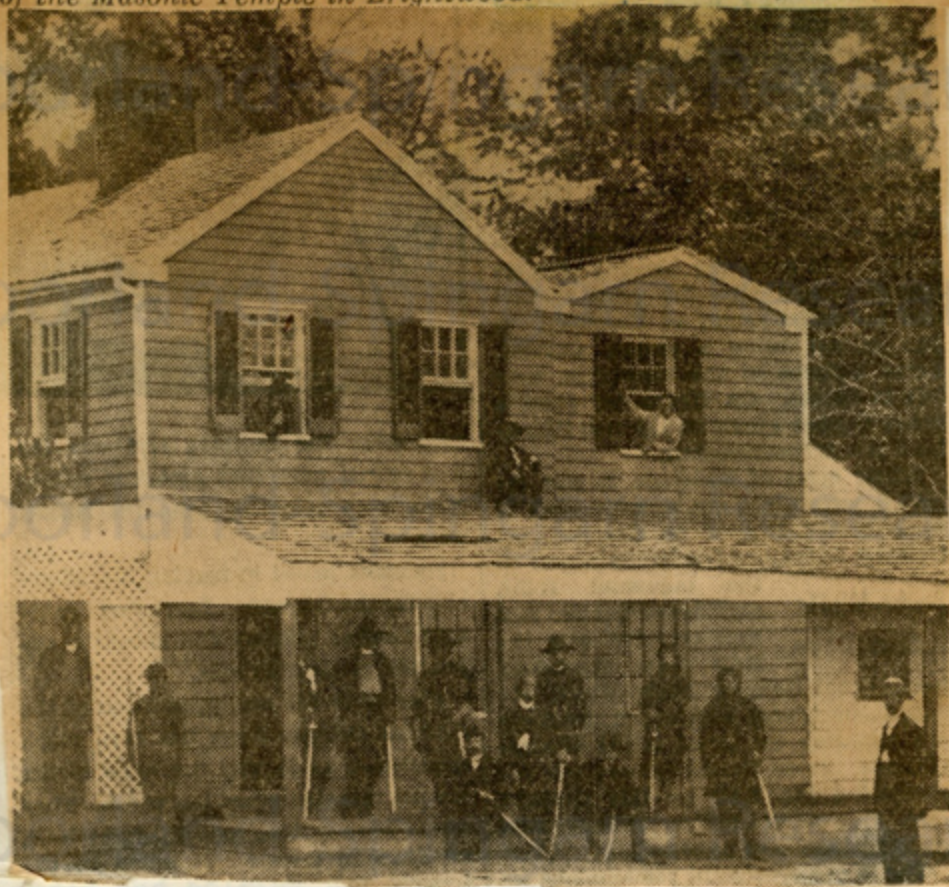
General Emerig's City Home 201.  
Douglas, or Minnesota Row, originally 201 to 205 I street N.W. Genls. Grant and Sherman re-  
sided in the house at the extreme left, which has been added to since the three original buildings  
were erected. They served as Douglas Hospital during the Civil War.



Copyright 1896 by Harper & Brothers, New York  
**GENERAL U. S. GRANT**  
1822-1885

Doctor, John Clagett in The Sunday Star, Aug 2, 1942

A11



Photographer  
1862

...that recovered possession of the railway from Washington to  
 Junction and made practicable the reopening of communications.  
 ...the advanced guard of the forces which first crossed the  
 ...the city of Alexandria.  
 ...employed, included the clerks of the various  
 ...the troops that insured the popular indignation  
 on the steps of the Capitol of the constitutionally elected President  
 according to John Claggett Brester by whom the Washington Post  
 ...wonderful articles, Stone is also  
 ...never have been inaugurated.

...Fort Stevens during these strenuous Civil War days, Abraham  
 ...talked seriously with Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, an outstanding and  
 ...important part in Washington City's  
 ...the government for her  
 ...President Lincoln was much concerned about this matter as  
 ...under a sycamore tree, July  
 ...leaving was hard for her until  
 ...President

John Claggett, Washington Home Guard, The First Defenders  
 ...The Sunday Star, January

John Claggett:

11 The Sunday Star Aug. 2, 1942

## Chapter III

## Union Defenders

In 1883 Colonel Stone who was once Brigadier General of the volunteers who saved the Union paid this just tribute to the District soldiers<sup>1</sup> of the Civil War, who crowned themselves with glory fighting at Fort Stevens, quote; "I think that the country has never properly appreciated the service of those District of Columbia volunteers who were citizens of the Federal District. They did their duty quietly and did it well and faithfully. Although not mustered into service and placed on pay until after the fatal day when the flag was fired upon for the first time at Sumter, yet they rendered great service before that time in giving confidence to those citizens of the District who were faithful to the Government, to the members of the National Legislature and to President Lincoln in the knowledge that there was at least a small force ready to respond at any moment to the country's call.

"It should also be remembered of them that the first troops mustered into service were sixteen companies of these volunteers and that during the dark days when Washington City was cut off from communications with the North, when railway bridges were burned and tracks were torn up, when the Potomac was blockaded, these troops were the only reliance of the Government for guarding departments and public buildings, for preserving order and holding the bridges and other outposts. These were the troops that recovered possession of the railway from Washington to Annapolis Junction and made practicable the reopening of communications. They also formed the advanced guard of the force which first crossed the Potomac into Virginia and captured the city of Alexandria.

"These Federal Employees included the clerks of the various government departments. These were the troops that insured the regular inauguration on the steps of the Capitol of the constitutionally elected President." According to John Clagett Proctor<sup>1</sup> by whom the Washington Public has been so much enlightened <sup>through</sup> his wonderful articles, Stone is also reported as having said, "I firmly believe without them Mr. Lincoln would never have been inaugurated."

At Fort Stevens during these strenuous Civil War days, Abraham Lincoln talked seriously with Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, an outstanding and fine colored woman, who also played an important part in Washington City's defense.<sup>2</sup> Her home surrounded by many acres inherited from her ancestors and comprising Fort Stevens Tract was taken by the Government for war purposes. President Lincoln was much concerned about this matter as she sat homeless with her baby in her arms under a sycamore tree, July 12, 1864. She loved her old home and leaving was hard for her until she was convinced of the great necessity for so doing. President Lincoln told her, "It is very hard but your reward shall be great."

---

1. Proctor, John Clagett; "Washington Home Guard, The First Defenders Against Enemy Attack," Washington, D. C., The Sunday Star, January 16, 1944.

After President Lincoln was killed, Mrs. Thomas often said, "If Mr. Lincoln had not been killed, he would have had the government to settle for my home."

When she saw that conditions were extremely critical for the Union and the giving up of her home counted much in the success of the Defenders effort, however, she submitted.

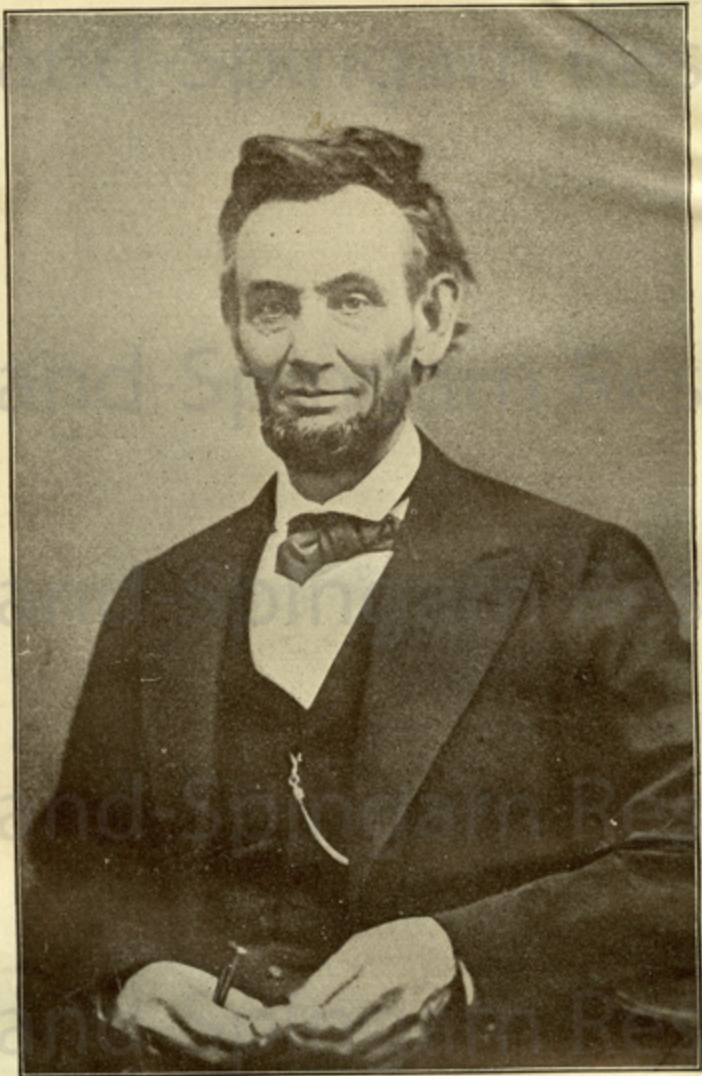
July 8, 1864 the confederate columns defeated General Wallace on the banks of the Monocacy<sup>3</sup> after which Wallace retired to Baltimore with his torn troops. Yet not discouraged because he had accomplished his purpose in delaying the attack on Washington City, thereby giving Abraham Lincoln and the Union Defenders precious hours to strengthen their line and to bring General Grant's Sixth Army Corps nearer the threatened city.

President Abraham Lincoln in person was at Fort Stevens with the Union Defenders and stood with the 2800 Defenders who defended Washington City against 30,000 picked veteran troops who were beating at the city's gate as they returned from their victorious march up the Shenandoah, July 12, 1864. This is certainly a fact worth mentioning as it is unique in being the only one of the kind recorded in history in connection with a President of the United States - an event without precedent.

---

1. Proctor John Clagett: "Washington Home Guard, The First Defenders Against Enemy Attack", Washington, D. C; The Sunday Star January 16, 1944
2. Proctor John Clagett; "Bleak House Once Country Residence of Alexander R. Shepherd Among Early Estates on Georgia Ave., Washington, D.C. The Sunday Star, February 2, 1936.
3. Kennedy George: "The General Ends His Fight," Washington, D.C., The Sunday Star, August 13, 1944.

President Abraham Lincoln



LINCOLN IN 1865.  
From a rare negative privately owned.  
—From *Lincoln's Addresses and Letters*.

Page Sixteen

The Nation's Preserver  
and  
Defender  
14



The house where President Lincoln died, April 15, 1865,  
516 Tenth street N.W.

Ford's Theater, in which occurred the assassination of President Lincoln, April 14, 1865, is on 10th street, between E and E. The building, now used for public business, contains nothing of interest.



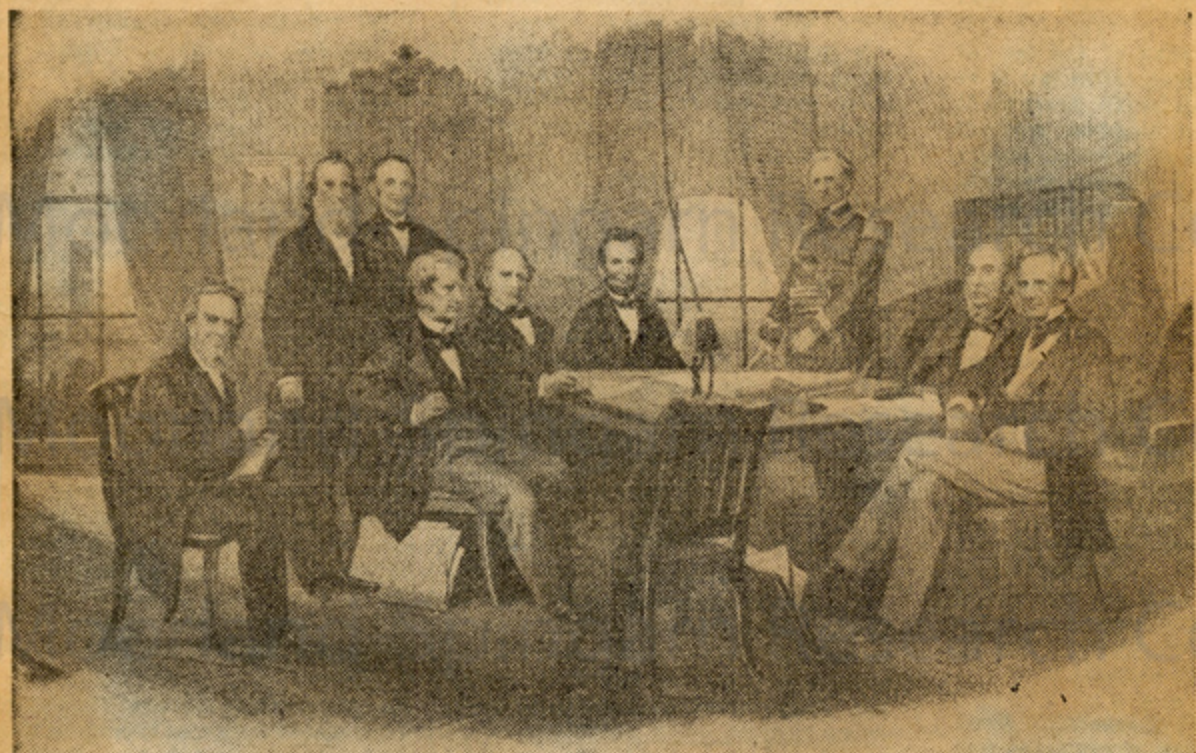
**The Oldroyd Lincoln Museum.**—The house in which Lincoln died (No. 516 10th street, between E and F) contains the Oldroyd Lincoln memorial collection, begun by O. H. Oldroyd in 1860, and now comprising thou-

sands of objects connected with or relating to the martyred President. Among them are the following: Family Bible in which Lincoln wrote his name in boyhood; log from the old Lincoln home; stand made from logs of house in which Lincoln lived, 1832-36; rail split by Lincoln and John Hanks in 1830 (with affidavit by Hanks); discharge given to one of his men by Captain A. Lincoln, Black Hawk War, 1832; picture of Springfield House; flag carried in Lincoln and Hamlin campaign; office chair in which Lincoln sat when he drafted his first Cabinet; farewell address to neighbors; articles of furniture from the Springfield home; autograph letters; life-mask and cast of hands by L. W. Volk; hat worn on night of April 14, 1865; chair occupied in theater; bill of the play (Our American Cousin); 250 funeral sermons; 63 marches and dirges; 263 portraits, including the earliest known; 209 medals; and more than a thousand volumes of Lincoln biographies and works relating to slavery and the war and related topics.



HOUSE IN WHICH LINCOLN DIED.

By Mary-Carter Roberts



**THE ORIGINAL LINCOLN CABINET**—At this time Simon Cameron was Secretary of War. The picture shows Gen. Scott of the Army, who occasionally attended cabinet meetings to advise on the military situation. Through the window on the left is seen the Washington Monument in its unfinished condition. Left to right—Bates, Welles, Blair, Seward, Chase, Lincoln, Scott, Smith, and Cameron.

—From a painting by Christian Schuessle, illustration in "Lincoln's War Cabinet."

*The Sunday Star, November 17, 1946*

C-4



Death of President Lincoln, April 15, 1865. John Hay sits in the foreground at the left.

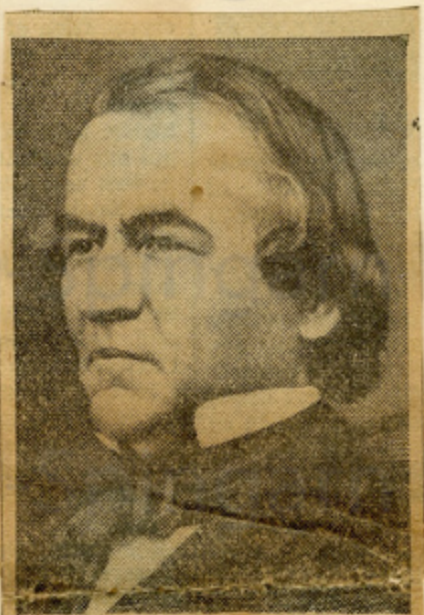
THE SUNDAY STAR

WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 9, 1938—PART TWO

**Lincoln's Death**  
 Civil War Executive Helped  
 Preserve Nation's Capital



THE SUNDAY STAR, WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 16, 1939—PART TWO.



ANDREW JOHNSON.  
Who succeeded Abraham Lincoln as President and was sworn in April 15, 1865.

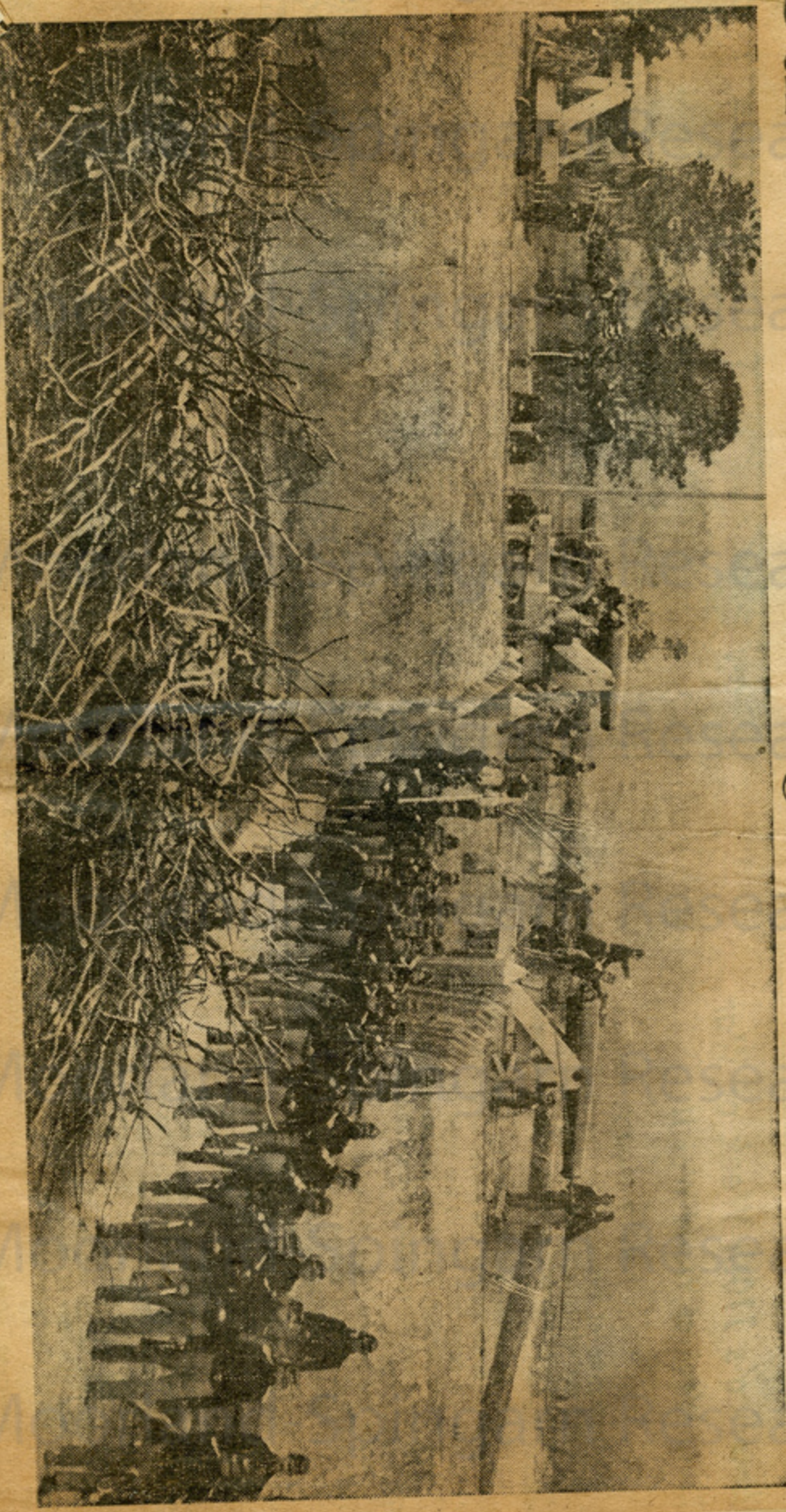


Horatio G. Wright, whose troops saved the city of Washington from capture.

Proctor, John Clugett: The Sunday Star  
July 8, 1945

Washington's Home Guard and

Our First Defenders Against Enemy Attack

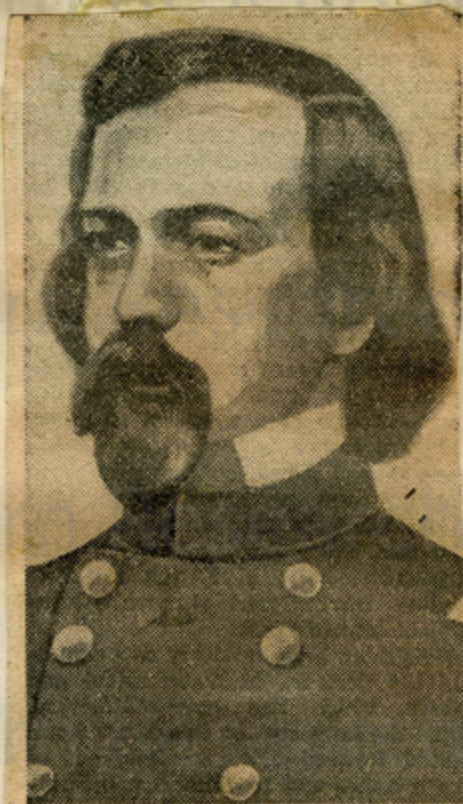


Fort Stevens, Brightwood, formerly Fort Massachusetts.

Moorland-Spingarn Research Center



Gen. E. C. Carrington, who suggested the city's home guard, raised a company and commanded it. He was United States District attorney, 1863-1870.



Gen. Charles P. Stone, who organized the District Militia for the city's protection.

*The Sunday Star, January 16, 1944*  
22



Group of G. A. R. members and citizens at the dedication of the boulder at Fort Stevens November 7, 1911. Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas (Aunt Betty), in right foreground. (4) Spring house in the grounds of the Marjorie Webster School, a relic of early days. (5) Officers' quarters, occupied by officers attached to Fort Stevens during the Civil War.



Highly Esteemed Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas



Officers Quarters Occupied by Officers attached to Fort Stevens during the Civil War afterwards the Home of Mrs. Jennie Bowie daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas.

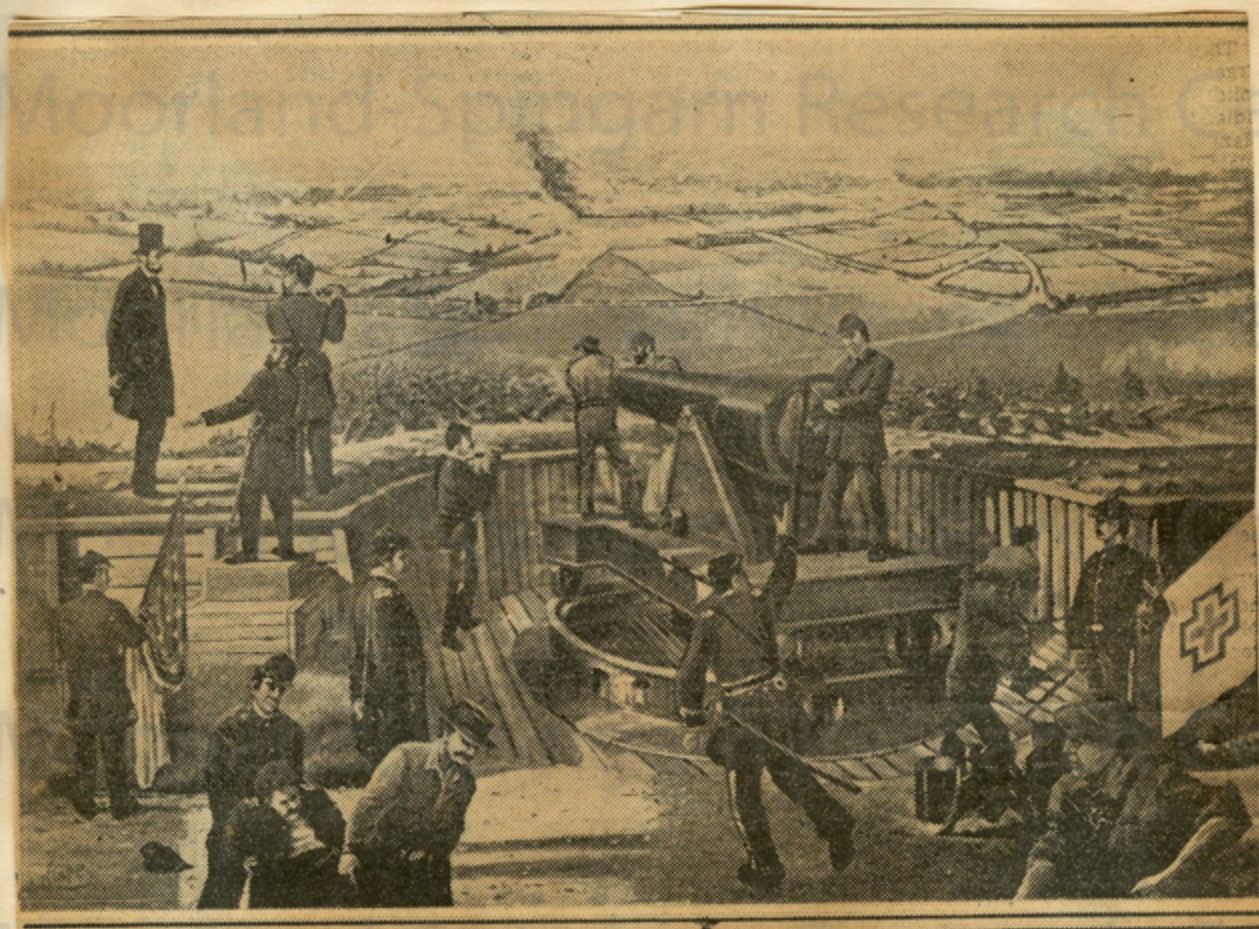


### Spring House

Along the north side of Kalmia Street between Fourteenth and Sixteenth Streets there is a row of cedar trees which evidently lined an old private road to the Clagett homestead or maybe it was the Fenwick home both of which were in that vicinity and an old Spring House for the Marjorie Webster school grounds quite likely once belonged to one of these estates. The stream that flows through the school grounds is piped from a large spring several blocks away to the southeast.



Fort Stevens in 1864.



President Lincoln inspecting Fort Stevens during battle on July 12, 1864.

John Clagett: 25 The Sunday Star July 8, 1945



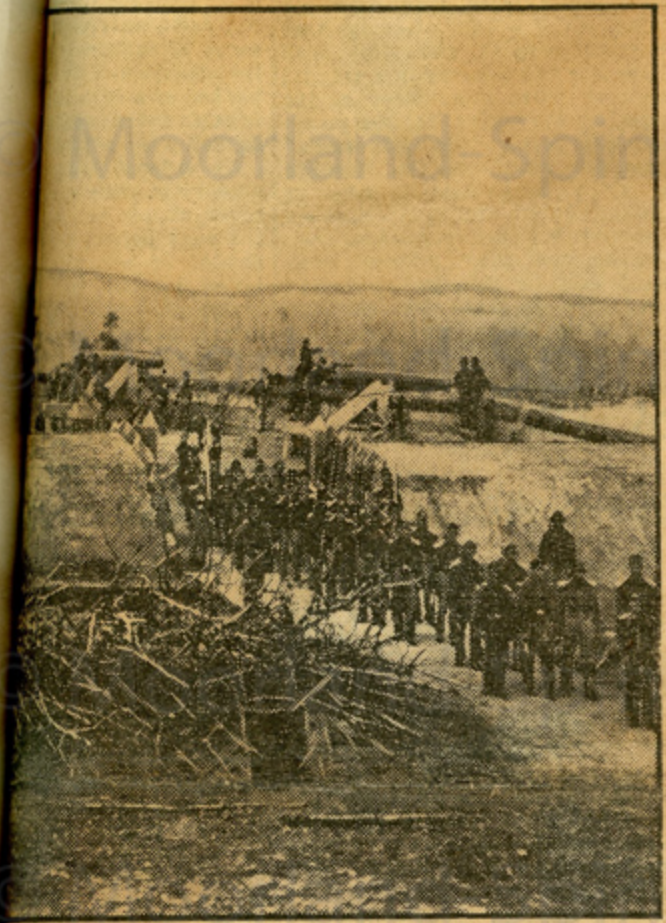
A Civil War scene at Fort Stevens.



Type of big gun used to defend Washington during the Civil War.

Heritage of Old Stronghold Inspired Reconstruction  
 Which Original Specifications Were Discovered—the  
 National Park Service and C. C. C. Are Doing Work.

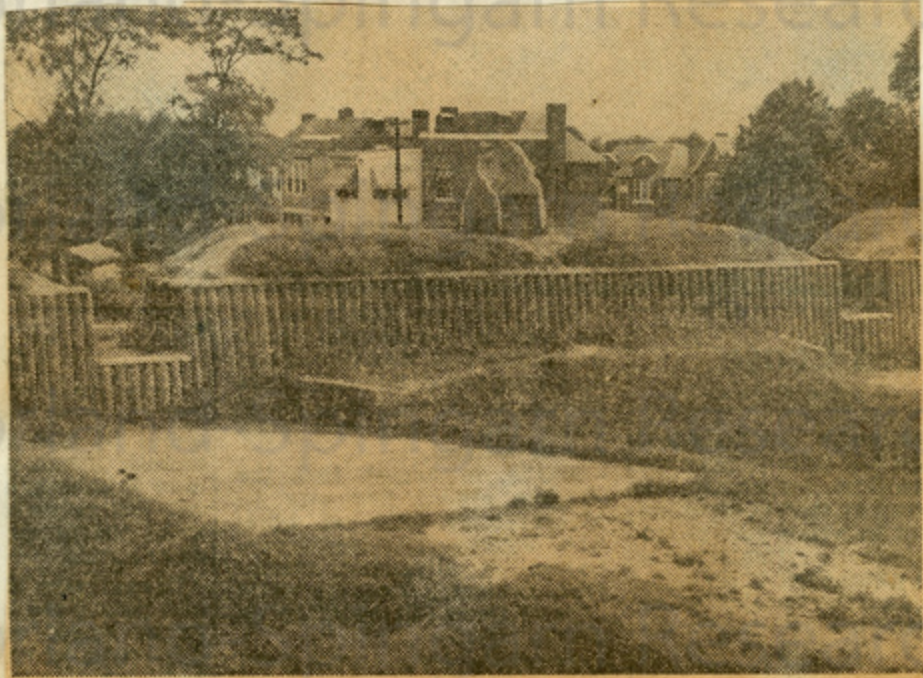
B-15



Soldiers in Blue at Fort Stevens during the Civil War.



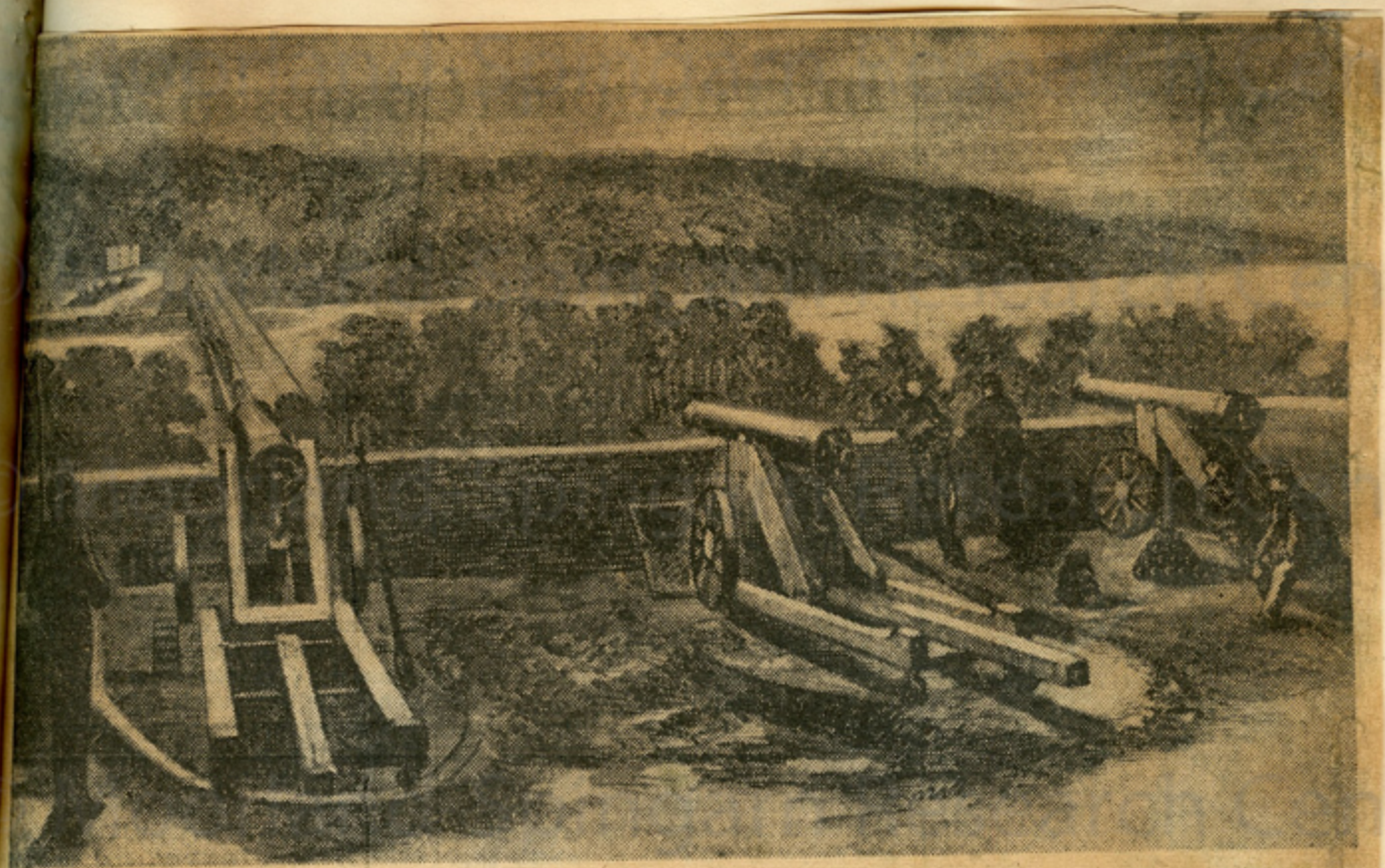
Historical marker at Fort Stevens.



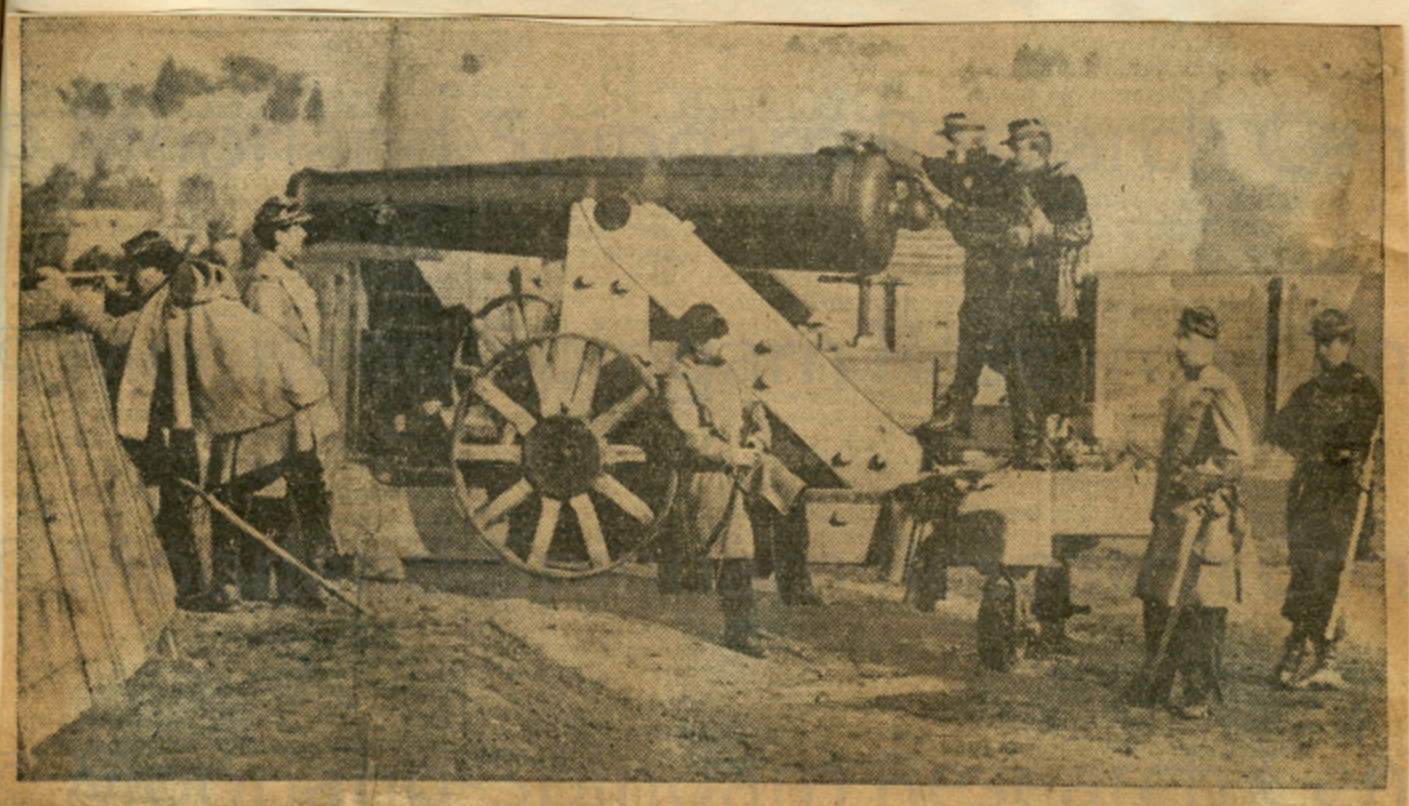
The rock on the parapet at Fort Stevens marks the spot where Lincoln stood under fire. The battlefield in front is covered with duplex brick houses like the ones visible over the earthworks. The patch of woods beyond, where 250 men were killed on July 12 skirmishing with Early's forces, is similarly built over.

—Star Staff Photo.

John, Bernard:  
 The Sunday Star  
 July 4, 1937



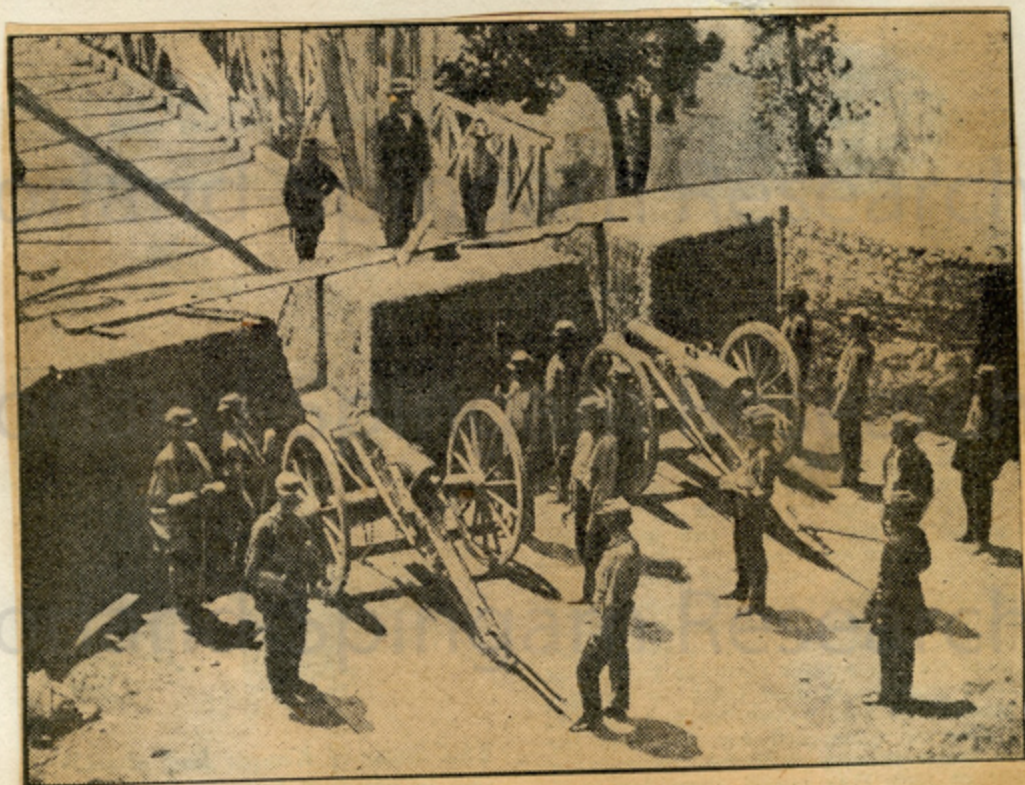
Early battery guarding Chain Bridge from the Washington side of the Potomac.



View of Fort Gains, near Tenleytown, during the Civil War.

Bernard: 28 The Sunday Star, July 4, 1937

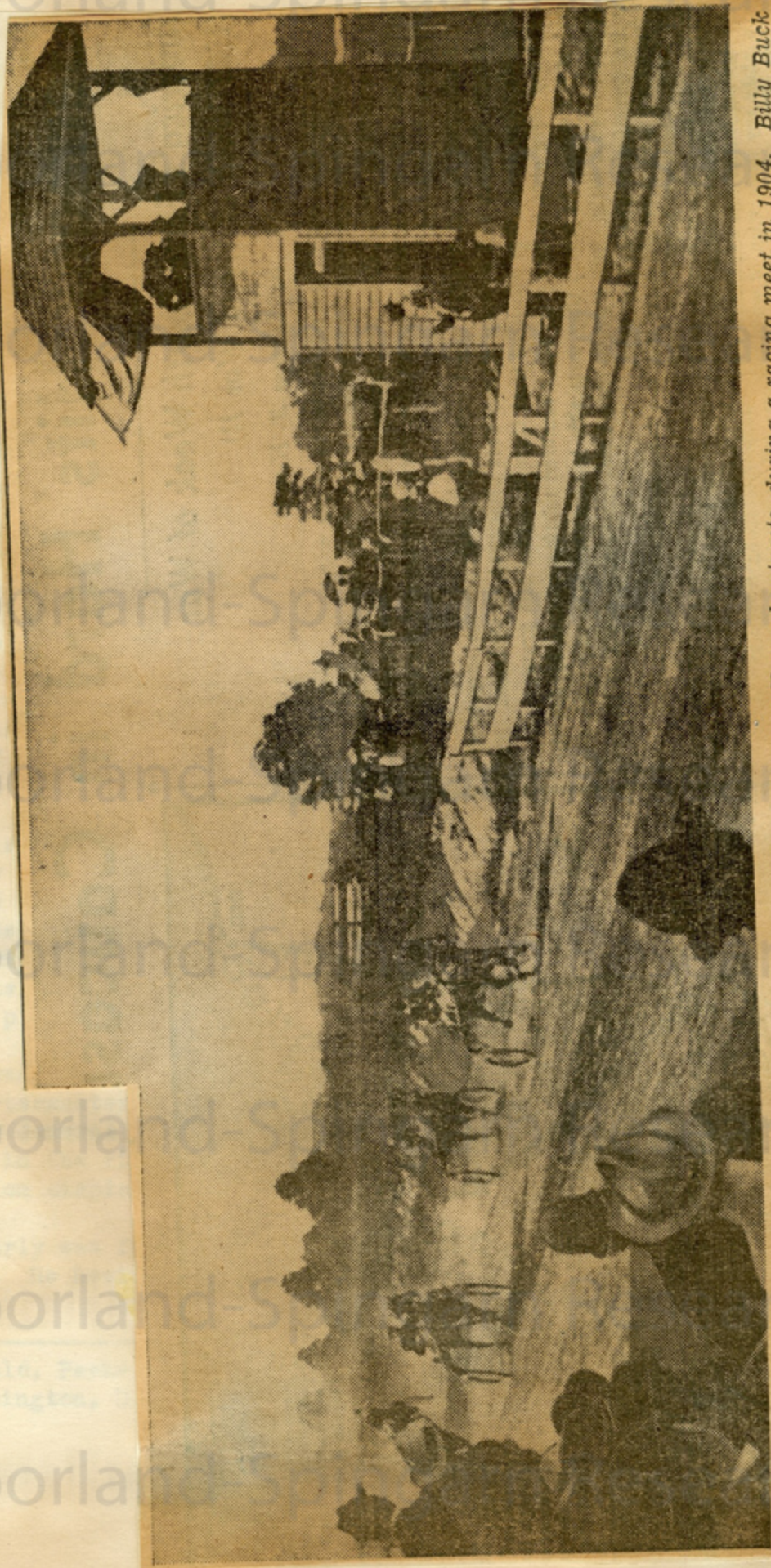
B-14



A photograph of fortifications guarding Chain Bridge at Washington in 1862.

Arnold, Parke a; from The Sunday Star, July 19, 1939

B-78



The Brightwood Driving Park located in the area of Sixteenth and Kennedy streets, during a racing meet in 1904. Billy Buck (1907 1/4) is shown in the lead.

Director, John Claggett

30

The Sunday Star Aug. 2, 1942



Chapter IV

The Trick That Saved Washington City From Capture

General Wright was in command of the Union line at Fort Stevens where 250 Union Defenders lost their lives skirmishing with General Jubal Early's confederate forces. Things became so critical that General Wright had to comb the hospitals and every man who could walk was uniformed and pressed into service.

An article by Parke A. Arnold<sup>1</sup> tells admirably of "The Trick that Saved Washington City from Capture."

He relates that sheer strategy turned the enemy under General Jubal Early from the gates of the Capital and that just as Early's advancing column spread out to strike on a two mile front the boldest move of all was executed by the Union Defenders' Army. He says, "Call it a bluff, or strategy, or what you will; but when the Defenders' Army was displayed to indicate a great force of troops in reserve, this trick saved the city and perhaps the Union."

The trick was accomplished very skillfully in the following manner so Parke Arnold continues, "General Wright in command of Fort Stevens and the Union line had coolly set his men to work at clearing out the trees and underbrush about the forts and trenches and building barricades across the heads of the streets leading into the city. Cannon were moved up from the forts at Chain Bridge and Anacostia and placed in commanding positions.

"His fortifications were deemed impregnable when properly manned and the city was justly proud of her chain of forts constructed at a cost of \$500,000 and requiring over a year to build. Twenty-nine forts and eleven batteries lay to the south of the city; 12 forts in Anacostia, two at Chain Bridge; and 19 forts and 23 heavy batteries along the northern edge. All forts and batteries were connected by deep rifle pits and the heavy guns so placed as to command every yard of the approaches to the city.

"Twenty eight thousand men, many of whom were teamsters and troops of the Quartermaster Corps, hastily gathered troops were marched back and forth by General Wright in view of the Confederate lookouts, men were changed in the rifle pits, companies moved from fort to fort, and every indication displayed of a great force of troops in reserve.

"Early was fooled into believing that General Grant's troops had arrived. He hesitated and that hesitation proved the salvation of Washington

---

1. Arnold, Parke A.: "The Trick That Saved Washington City from Capture," Washington, D. C., The Sunday Star, July 19, 1939.

City for not until 3 o'clock that afternoon did the first soldiers of Grant's relieving column disembark at the Seventh Street Wharves, five miles from Fort Stevens.

"The regiment or skeleton regiment for it was composed of only 400 men that advanced and deployed with precision was the Twenty Fifth New York dismounted Cavalry under command of Captain Chamberlain that had just arrived from Baltimore where they were recouping and being remounted after being cut to pieces during the fighting in Virginia.

"These tired and battle scarred troopers leaped from the pits as General Early looked on, charged with a yell through the picket line, drove back the Confederate skirmishers, recaptured the stone dwellings that housed the sharp-shooters and stopped the advance of the whole confederate column. This charge has been called one of the most valorous acts of the war and earned a colonelcy for Captain Chamberlain.

"Acting as though the whole of Grant's Invincible Sixth lay behind them instead of a few thousand wounded and ineffective troops, completely fooled the Confederates and the resulting hesitation swept away the opportunity of striking a great blow for the South. General Early withdrew under heavy fire from the fort and a few hours later the streets of Washington City rang to the rend of hob-nailed boots as the veterans of the Wilderness filed into the almost deserted trenches.

"All that night sharp skirmishing took place throughout what is now Rock Creek Park and Brightwood and the guns of Fort Stevens and Fort De-Russey roared their defiance.

"During the night spies had informed Early as to the true state of affairs in the city and morning found him enraged and chagrined, determined to force his way through despite the reinforcements.

"Hardly had the rifles begun to spit on the morning of July 12 than President Lincoln arrived at Fort Stevens and took up a position on the forward rampart swept by a withering fire from the advancing enemy. An officer beside him was struck down but still Lincoln peered intently into the woods ahead, asking questions about different things."

The tenseness of the situation was broken, however, by this stroke of Providential deliverance which permitted this trick. For the City of Washington was saved from capture by the Confederates. This was the only battle of the Civil War fought in the District of Columbia and the only battle in which a President of the United States ever was on the scene

when actual fighting was being done, Abraham Lincoln stood there under fire July 12, 1864 with the comparatively small group of 2800 made up of troops from every regiment in the Army of the Potomac and a few regulars and militia made up of citizens and government department workers. A surgeon named Crawford was hit in the leg by a sniper's bullet fired by someone in a tree on the site where Walter Reed Hospital now stands.

Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809, February 12, and died April 15, 1865. He made his famous Gettysburg address, November 19, 1863 lasting only two minutes.

I believe, could he have lived longer he would have made an address at Fort Stevens also and probably would have used the same fitting paragraph which follows:

"But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate - we cannot consecrate - we cannot hallow - this ground. The brave men living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it for above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far, so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

These same words might be applied truthfully to the two hundred and fifty fallen Union Defenders at Fort Stevens, July 12, 1864.

# The Trick

## That Saved Washington

### From Capture

THE SUNDAY, STAR, WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY 19, 1931.

How Surer Strategy Turned the Enemy

From the Gates of the Capital, in the Only

Battle of the Civil War Fought in the District of Columbia,

When President Lincoln Stood Under Fire at Fort Stevens.



Fort Stevens, where President Lincoln stood under fire. It was to this outpost, at the northern approach to Washington, that Early's troops advanced on July 12, 1864.

Arnold, Parke a: 34 The Sunday Star July 19, 1939

Chapter V

Restorations

Long after the Civil War had ended in order to build for herself a new home in her declining years on Fort Stevens, which she dearly loved, Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas,<sup>1</sup> (Aunt Betty) sold the grounds where the Restored Fort Stevens is now located for five cents a square foot to Mr. William Van Zandt Cox, a nephew of "Sunset Cox" and a son-in-law of General Emory. She also about this time received a bounty from the Government for her home which was taken during the Civil War.

Mr. Cox's purchase of the site was the first step in the preservation of the Civil War Forts around Washington, we are told by John Clagett Proctor.<sup>2</sup> We also learn from him that Mr. Cox purchased the property only through patriotic motives and held the site to sell to the Government for the amount he paid for it plus taxes. After a lapse of many years the Government did buy the fort tract now know as Fort Stevens Tract where once stood a six room frame cottage in which Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas lived until her death, October 13, 1917 when she passed away at the age of 96 years and was considered an "esteemed relic of Jubal Early's raid on Washington City."

In the living room of her home there was a large portrait of Abraham Lincoln which she valued most highly and prized as one of her most cherished possessions. She would carry visitors into her home to look at it and entertain them by telling of the fine things done at Fort Stevens by this fine man.

One day a very small girl named Belle M - who lived in the neighborhood was standing by when Mrs. Thomas was so intense in telling a group of visitors some splendid things about Abraham Lincoln as they looked at the picture. The small girl listened, looked at Mrs. Thomas, and then said, "Aunt Betty, ~~was~~ Mr. Lincoln related to you?" This amused Mrs. Thomas and the visitors also very much.

Fort Stevens is appropriately marked by a boulder bearing a bronze tablet placed by the survivors of the Sixth Army that was under the command of General Wright at Fort Stevens. The spot where the boulder stands is where President Abraham Lincoln himself stood on the occasion of the battle, July 12, 1864.

For these worthwhile and interesting reasons one should not miss a trip to Fort Stevens, D. C., whether a resident or a visitor in Washington,

- 
1. Proctor John Clagett: "Bleak House Once Country Residence of Alexander R. Shepherd and Early Estates on Georgia Ave.," Washington, D.C. The Sunday Star, Feb. 2, 1936.
  2. Proctor John Clagett: Preservation of Historic Fort Stevens, Wash.D.C. The Sunday Star, July 8, 1945.

City. While visiting the Capitol, White House, Congressional and Folger Libraries, Mellon and Corcoran Art Galleries, U. S. Supreme Court, Washington Monument, Jefferson Memorial, Lincoln Memorial and Memorial Bridge, other forts surrounding the city and the many other magnificent, famous and historic places to be seen in and around Washington be sure to add to your list the ever memorable Fort Stevens, the former home of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, the original land owner.

Accompanying this article is the "Life of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas" written by Attorney Harry A. Clarke and used on the occasion of her funeral after which it was published in newspapers of those days.

© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center

© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center

# RESTORED CIVIL WAR FORT



C. C. boys restoring Fort Stevens, famed for its vital role in the defense of Washington.

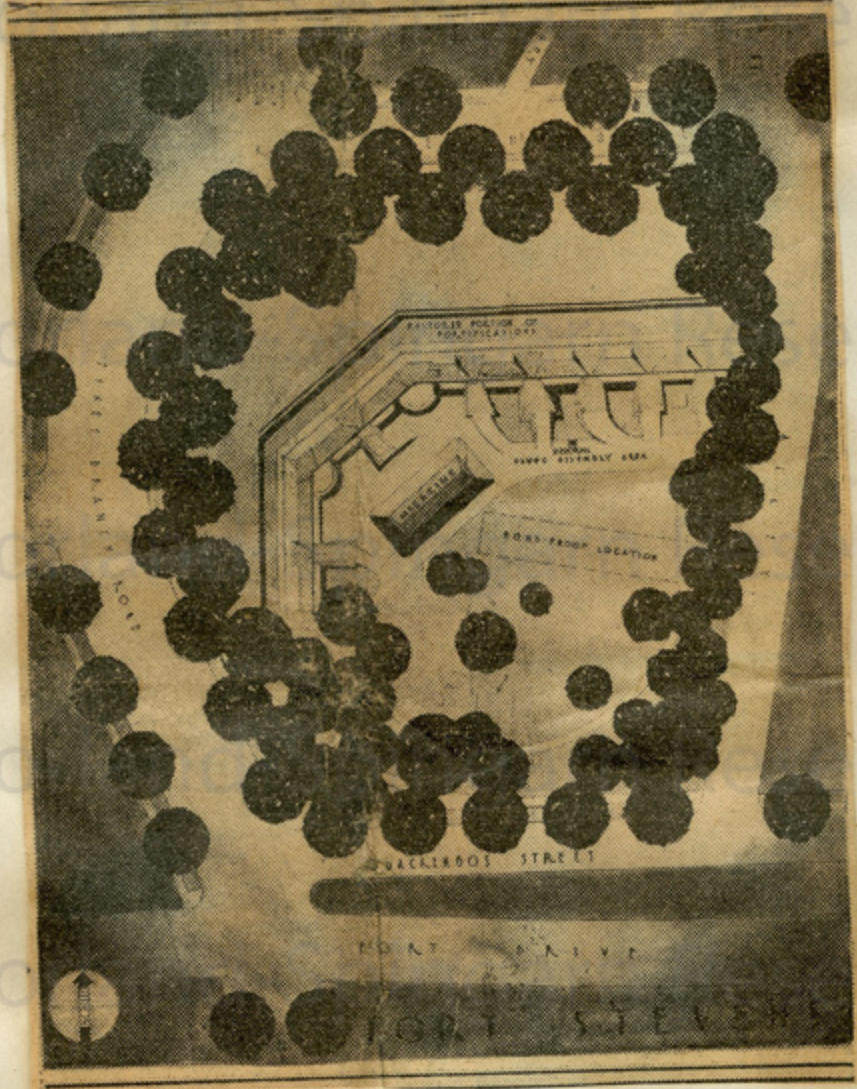
# NEW SIGHTSEEING SHRINE

© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center

Kohn, Bernard: The Sunday Star, July 4, 1937

© Moorland-Spingarn Research Center

Architects drawing of the proposed restoration of the fort area.



Kohn, Bernard; The Sunday Star, July 4, 1937  
39



CHAPTER VI

Life of Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas

Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas Dies at Fort Stevens, Her Home,  
Where Lincoln Saved the Capital  
and  
Secured Freedom

by  
Attorney H. A. Clarke

(Special)

Copyright, 1917

(All Rights Reserved)

# THE BEE

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1917



By H. A. Clarke **MRS. ELIZABETH THOMAS**  
Fort Stevens, Washington, D. C.

Abraham Lincoln visited her home during the Civil War and ordered it to be removed to establish Fort Stevens, Washington's only defense, where he directed the Union Army, the first and only time, as Commander-in-Chief, the President of the United States personally taking charge of the army. This Fort saved the City of Washington when General Early made his attack in July, 1864. Her present home is within one hundred feet of the place where the Fort was erected. (This photograph of Elizabeth Thomas was made with General Alexander McCook and General Thomas M. Vincent of Ohio in the background, at the dedication of the Fort.)

This noble woman is dead and was buried Wednesday afternoon from her late home at Fort Stevens in Harmony Cemetery.

See  
other  
side  
of  
picture

### Her Birth, Ancestry and Childhood

Mrs. Thomas was born in Charles County, Maryland, in 1821, being at the time of her death about 96 years old. She was the granddaughter of Nora Butler, a famous belle of Colonial days, who created a sensation by eloping with Morning Glory Proctor, an Indian Councilman, and she was the niece of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Walter Proctor. In her early childhood she was brought to the District of Columbia by her parents. Here she began her memorable career on the site of Fort Stevens, which at the time consisted of a farm of eighty-eight acres more or less.

### The Nation Saved, Freedom Secured

After the death of her parents, Mrs. Thomas became the sole owner of the site on which was subsequently situated Fort Stevens, where she stood with President Lincoln, the first President of the United States under fire in war times and Commander-in-Chief of the Army. He actually commanded the Union forces, the fighting Sixth Army Corps, in July, 1864, against the Confederate forces commanded by General Jubal Early, who attempted to capture the Capital City of the Nation. It was Mrs. Thomas' house that was torn down and her land on which the magazines, fortifications and breastworks were constructed and thrown up, all of which, no doubt, ~~were~~ the chief contributing factors in saving the Capital City and one of the principal factors in saving the Union and securing freedom for the colored race.

### The Wrong Impression

Some writers and historians have attempted to convey the impression, unintentionally and without purpose that Mrs. Thomas and her family were ejected or driven out of their home and that all of her property was absolutely confiscated by President Lincoln and the Federal troops; but this is not true, as she was only temporarily deprived of the use and enjoyment of some of her property. After the war she resumed possession of her estate, and she and her family uninterruptedly lived there until her demise. A few years ago, after waiting for years, she was partially reimbursed by the United States for the hardships and inconveniences suffered by herself and her family, during the war times. Her estate is further made historic by the fact that a war building, now standing <sup>6470</sup> formed a part of the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jennie Bowie.

BIOGRAPHY OF MRS. ELIZABETH THOMAS

Her Death and Fame

Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, of Fort Stevens, Brightwood, D. C., whose distinction, renown and fame became national and unique as a result of herself, family and home figuring so conspicuously in the War of the '60's, together with the fact that she was a venerable and highly esteemed citizen, patriot and Christian, departed this life surrounded by her family and a few of her intimate friends, Saturday, October 13, 1917, at her residence, Fort Stevens, Brightwood, D. C., at 5:50 P. M. Her death was due to old age more than anything else. Among her many friends in the District of Columbia, were Matthew Gault Emery, last of the Mayors of the City of Washington, Governor Alexander R. Shepherd, the last Governor of the District of Columbia, whose estate, Bleak House, adjoined her home and that of the famous Clagett family on the North. The Rays, the Whites, Mr. Joseph R. Keene, the veteran and beloved educator, and Mr. A. G. Osborne, the pioneer and leading merchant of Brightwood, D. C., during his life, and their families were also her staunch friends. Among the colored people she had a host of friends, some of whom were the Shammells, Grinages, Simms, Reynolds, Matthews, Rigneys and many others. A short while before her death, Mrs. Thomas was able to look after her cows, hogs, chickens and garden. Mrs. Thomas was very much interested in civic and uplift work, and at the time of her death was President of the Elizabeth Thomas Citizens' Association, which was named in her honor.

Funeral Leaving The House

Before departing from the house for the Church, Rev. C. James Henderson, Pastor of Trinity A. M. E. Zion Church, prayed a brief and effective prayer. After this the pallbearers bore the remains which reposed in a handsome and neatly black covered broadcloth casket with solid silver bar extension handles and a solid silver plate on which was inscribed her name, year of birth and the date of death to a magnificent auto-hearse. At the foot of the steps on the lawn of her cozy residence, the funeral procession halted for a brief interval until the well-known photographer, Mr. Daniel Freeman took a picture which embraced a view of her residence. The casket banked with handsome flowers, the pallbearers and the officers and members of Patriarch's Temple, G. U. O. of Good Shepherds, No. 1, who were standing in full regalia in parallel lines on either side of the path. The lines extended from the foot of the steps to the entrance of the lawn between which the funeral procession passed. The funeral cortege consisted of autos containing the G. U. O. of G. S. No. 1, the pallbearers, the auto-hearse and autos containing the immediate family, relatives and friends. *There were* altogether 20 autos and the auto-hearse *that* proceeded to Trinity A. M. E. Zion Church on Morton Street between Georgia and Sherman Avenues, N. W., where the obsequies were held.

## The Funeral Obsequies

The funeral obsequies were held Wednesday, October 17, 1917, at 1 o'clock, P. M., at Trinity A. M. E. Zion Church, with Rev. G. James Henderson officiating, assisted by Revs. Logan Johnson, D. D., Shelton Miller, D. D., of St. Luke's Baptist Church, Brightwood, D. C., W. A. Jones, D. D. of Rock Creek Baptist Church, Tennytown, D. C., and Rev. Emmet Burrill. The program was as follows: Prelude, Hymn, "Fade, Fade, Each Earthly Joy," Choir; Scripture Reading, Rev. Shelton Miller, D. D.; Prayer, Rev. W. A. Jones, D. D.; Hymn, Selected, Choir; Solo, "Does Jesus Care?" Madame Lillian Evanti. Rev. C. James Henderson, the Pastor, introduced Rev. Logan Johnson, D. D., who gave a comprehensive graphic and detailed statement of the career of the deceased for many years. In his summary, Rev. Johnson paid the dead a glowing tribute for her fidelity to the cause of Christianity, in general, especially mentioning the fact that she had contributed as much as \$200.00 at one time to the Church, in addition to paying her church dues and other assessments. Then Rev. C. James Henderson, the Pastor, preached the funeral sermon, selecting very appropriately for his text: "She Hath Done What She Could," Mark, 14:18. He beautifully portrayed the life of the beloved deceased. His funeral oration was an unsurpassed, unexcelled and an exceptionally able and elequent master-piece. The remarks of the other noted Divines were concise, exhaustive and replete with numerous and various incidents in the life of the departed. All in perfect harmony with the scriptures. After the sermon, Rev. James Riley assisted by the Choir and the congregation lead the singing of the familiar and touching Hymn, "Over Yonder Stands A Mansion."

Then followed remarks by Miss Rachael E. Bell, who spoke of the works of Miss E. A. Chase, Principal of the Hones Public School and herself in conjunction with Mrs. Thomas for the advancement and progress of the race in general and her community especially. Dr. Albert Cherry rendered a solo "In the Sweet, Bye and Bye." At the conclusion, Patriarch's Temple, G. U. of O. of G. S., No. 1 of which Mrs. Thomas had been the treasurer for twenty six years, <sup>and</sup> ~~retired~~ <sup>from which she has</sup> retired only a few years ago as honorary treasurer and exempted from all dues, fines and assessments, under the leadership of Good Shepherd Davis and Mrs. Rosa Rigney, executed their solemn sublime and beautifully ritualistic work with precision and perfection. Then the remains were reviewed while Madame Lillian Evanti played an organ postlude. The final, "Nearer My God To Thee," was sung and all that was mortal of the distinguished citizen was borne to its final resting place. Interment was in Harmony Cemetary, where the customary, usual and proper burial service was performed. The deceased was the mother of eight children, namely, Louis, Jennie, Martha, John, Eliza, Theresa, Mary Francis and Fannie, two of whom she left to mourn her loss, namely, Mrs. Martha Grant and Mrs. Eliza Johnson, together with seventeen grand children, nineteen great-grand children and host of relatives and white and colored friends.

### Floral Tributes Many

The floral tributes consisted of a mounted dove on a cross about four feet in height, pink roses and simlax with base of Easter Lilies, containing the inscription, "In My Father's House Are Many Mansion." St. John, 14:2. Family, a mounted dove on a harp about four feet in height, of simlax and pink roses on a base of pink roses and laurel leaves; Family, two wreaths of pink and white roses and asters. Family, a pillow of chrysanthemums; Family: A sheaf of wheat, G. U. O. of G. S. No. 1; A wreath of asters, white roses, sage palms and french magnolia leaves, Bureau of Engraving and Printing; A large bunch of chrysanthemums, hardy ferns and galax leaves, Mrs. A. G. Osborne; a large cluster of Easter lilies, with sun-burst roses, Killarney roses and cincards tied with purple chiffon ribbon, Mrs. Phoebe A. Clarke and family; A cluster of white chrysanthemums and green galax leaves, Mrs. William Van Cox; a wreath of Easter lilies, roses and sweet peas, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Green and family; A wreath of golden gate roses, white killarney roses, hardy ferns and galax leaves, Misses E. A. Chase and R. E. Bell; A large bunch of white chrysanthemums and galax leaves, Mrs. Jennie Cleary; A wreath of lavender asters and lavender dahlias with dark magnolia leaves, Mr. Charles Simms; a wreath of red roses, peonies and dahlies, Trinity A. M. E. Zion Church. The floral tributes were arranged and cared for by Mr. Howard Jefferson of 8th and Florida Avenue, N. W., a celebrated, artistic and decorative florist.

The funeral was in charge of Mr. William Grayson, the popular funeral director and embalmer of N. 649 Florida Ave., N. W., who gave his customary personal attention to every detail of the arrangements both at the home, the Church and the cemetary.

718 Harvard St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dec. 21/17.

Hon. H. A. Clarke  
#306 N. Y. Ave.,  
City

My Dear Sir:

I have just read with pleasure your enclosure to me of the 18th inst. I consider it very good and useful.

Allow me to suggest that you may have opportunity to secure other matter from a memorial service which my church is desirous of convening in honor of our worthy sister the late Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas. The date of the service I cannot name until I shall have arranged with the family for their convenience.

I wish to ask your assistance in the arrangement for the service, and shall stop in to see you when I am passing that way.

With hearty good wishes of the Season.

Yours very truly,

C. J. Henderson

(Enclosure)