

THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE *of* AMERICAN HISTORY

Inside the Vault : Highlights from the Gilder Lehrman Collection

June 26, 2020

- Your camera is automatically off.
- Your microphone is muted.
- Chat has been disabled.

Gilder Lehrman Staff

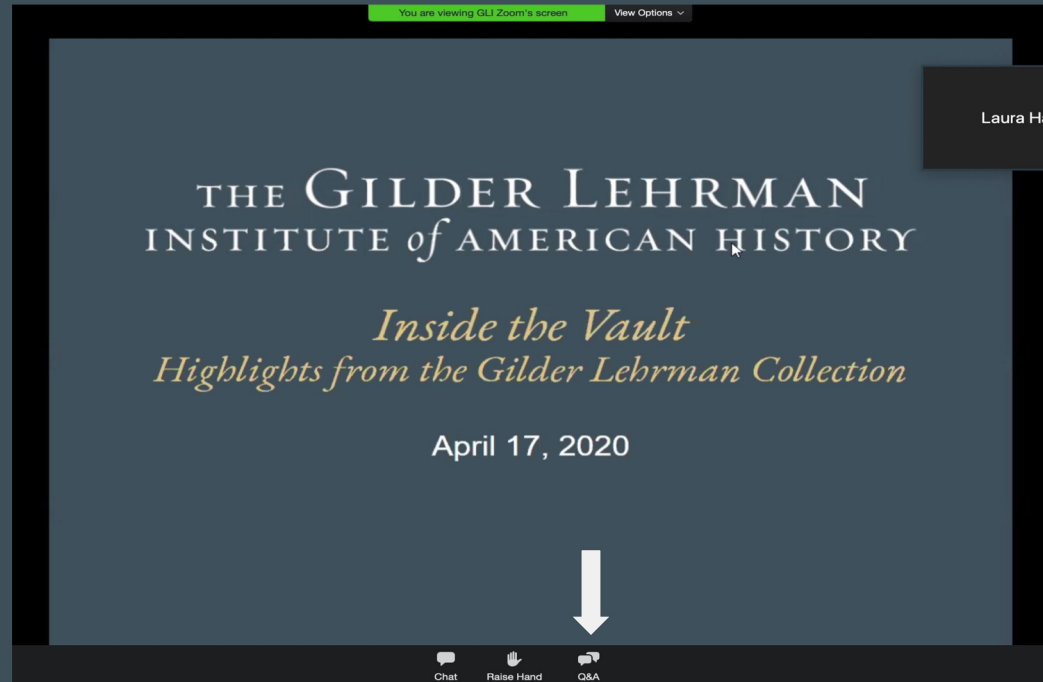
Panelists

- Sandy Trenholm - Collection Director
- Mandel Holland - Educator at Woodlands Middle High School in Hartsdale, NY
- Peter Vermilyea - Educator at Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, CT, and at Western Connecticut State University

Support

- Allison Kraft - Assistant Curator

During the Session



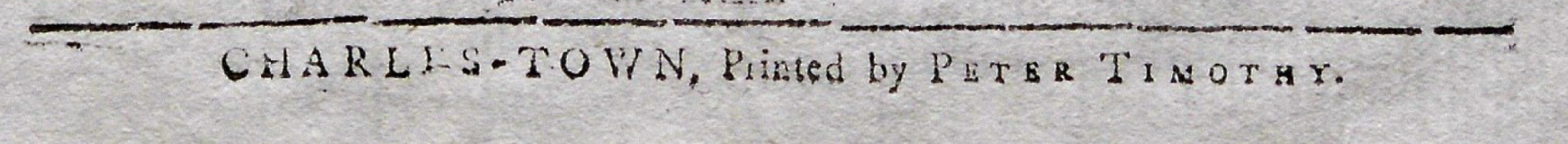
- For security purposes, microphones and cameras are off, and chat is disabled.
- If you would like to ask a question, **you can use the Q&A feature** which can be found along the bottom of your screen.

Today's Documents

- A rare South Carolina printing of the Declaration of Independence
- A soldier's experience at the Battle of Gettysburg

We will be focusing on the stories and experiences of the people who created these documents.

Peter Timothy “signs” the Declaration



CHARLES-TOWN, Printed by PETER TIMOTHY.

What's on the back?

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776. A DECLARATION, BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF The United STATES of America, In General Congress Assembled.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires, that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all experienced Men, that Mankind are more disposed to Suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great Britain, is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to the People and necessary to them.

He has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their Exercise; the State remaining in the mean Time exposed to all the Injuries of an unprincipled and unprincipled Anarchy.

He has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass Acts to encourage their Migration hither, and raising the Conditions of new Apprenticeship to such Degree as to make them impracticable.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Acts for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies, without the Consent of our Legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

- For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;
- For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they shall commit on the Inhabitants of these States;
- For cutting off our Trade with all Part of the World;
- For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent;
- For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury;
- For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences;
- For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies;
- For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments;
- For suspending our Legislatures, and declaring us out of Law, and abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments;
- He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us;
- He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People;
- He has, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with Cruelties of Cruelty and Perfidy, mercilessly paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Heart of a civilized Nation.
- He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands;
- He has excited domestic Interruptions amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the treacherous and merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is a merciless Destruction of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions;
- In every Stage of these Oppressions we have petitioned for Redress in the most humble Manner: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every Act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

Now have we no Remedy left, but to throw off such Government, and to appeal to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions. We have, therefore, the good People of these Colonies, to unite and sign, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of Right do. And for the Support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

Signed by ORDER and in BEHALF of the CONGRESS,

JOHN HANCOCK, PRESIDENT.

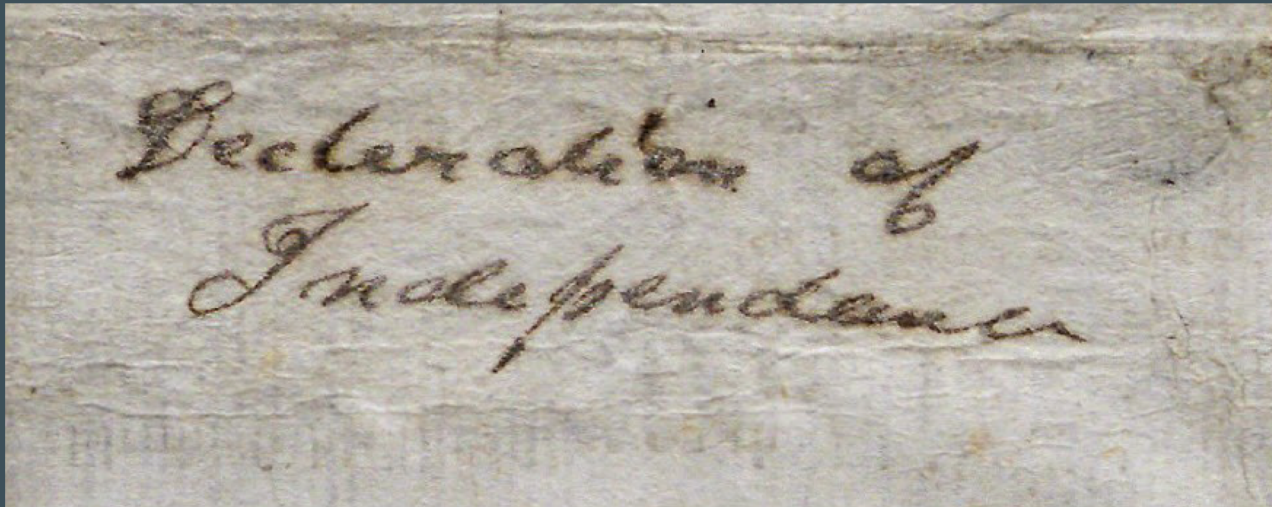
IN TESTES.
CHARLES THOMSON, SECRETARY.

CHARLES TOWN, Printed by PETER TIMOTHY.

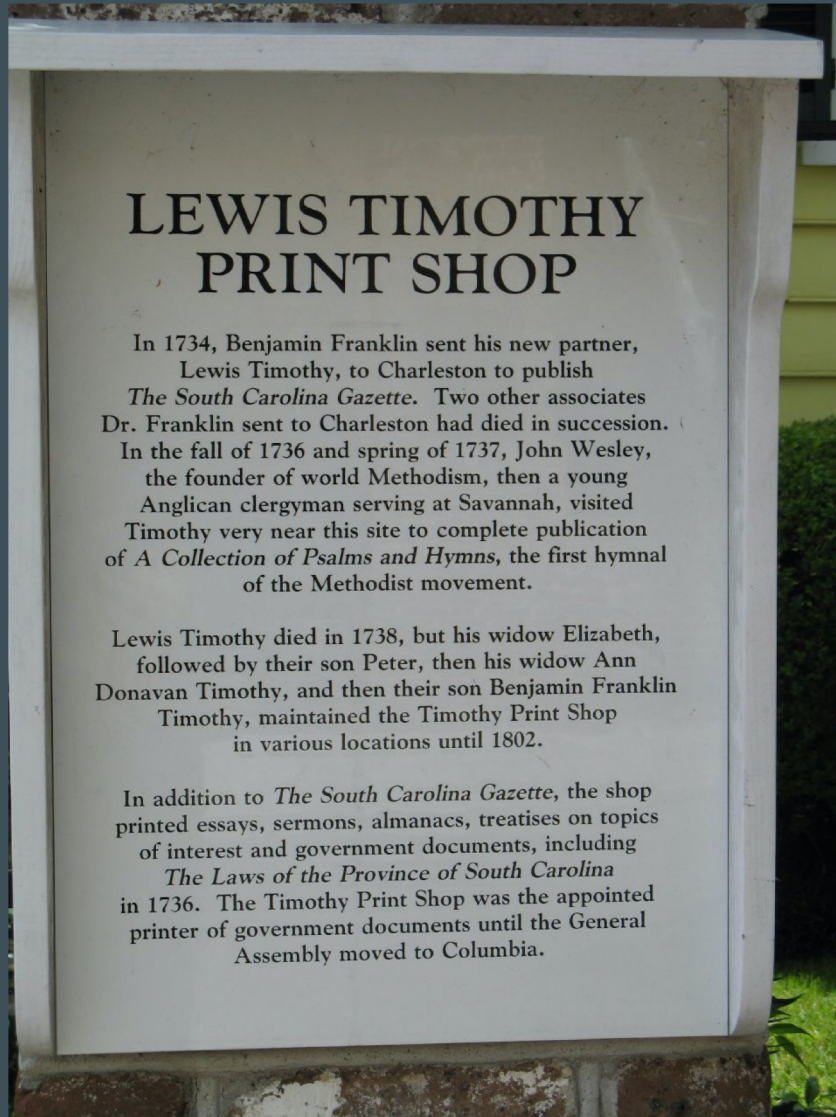
*Declaration of
Independence*

DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE
JULY 4, 1776

What's on the back?



Lewis Timothy (? - 1738)



Lewis Timothy Print Shop. gregobc, May 3, 2008. Flickr.

- Huguenots Lewis and Elizabeth Timothy came to the colonies in 1731.
- Timothy went into business with Benjamin Franklin.
- In 1733, Franklin asked Timothy to take over the publication of the South Carolina Gazette.
- In 1738, Timothy died.

Elizabeth Timothy (? - 1752)



Timothy Print Shop. Maggie McCain, November 10, 2013. Flickr.

- According to the contract with Franklin, Timothy's oldest son Peter would inherit the business.
- Peter was only thirteen when his father died.
- Elizabeth Timothy ran the paper for eight years.
- By the end of 1739, she was able to purchase Franklin's interest in the paper.
- She was the first woman in the colonies to publish a newspaper.
- In 1746, she established a bookstore & stationery shop.

Peter Timothy (1725-1782)

- Peter became an ardent supporter of the patriot cause.
- Fearing the British would confiscate his press, he ceased publication from 1775 to 1777.
- But when news of the Declaration of Independence reached Charleston August 2, 1776, he decided to print the Declaration.
- Supporting the Declaration was treason.
 - He was arrested in 1780 and spent time on a British prisoner-of-war ship before being sent to a prison in St. Augustine, Florida.
 - The rest of his family was exiled by the British to Philadelphia.

Declaration of Independence, August 2, 1776

In CONGRESS, July 4, 1776. A DECLARATION, BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF The United STATES of America, In General Congress Assembled.

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them; a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires, that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former System of Government. The History of the present King of Great Britain, is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good.

He has refused to assent to Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

He has called together legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

He has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their Exercise; the State remaining in the mean Time exposed to all the Inconveniences of Anarchy, without Order, and Convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Migration hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Land.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance.

He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, standing Armies, without the Consent of our Legislature.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us;

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they shall commit on the Inhabitants of these States;

For cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World;

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent;

For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury;

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Crimes;

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and a Pattern for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies;

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments;

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever;

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us;

He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People;

He, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with Circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic Interruptions among us, and has endeavored to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.

In every Stage of these Oppressions we have petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every Act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.

We have, we have been warning in Arguments to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of their Attempts to extend an unrepresentable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appeal'd to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, and Friendship.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and Declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of Right do. And for the Support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

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CHARLES TOWN, Printed by PETER TIMOTHY.

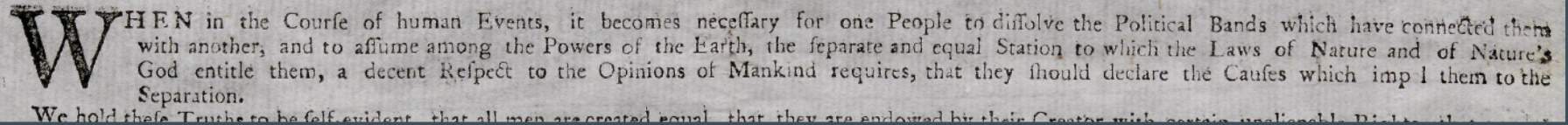
Declaration of Independence

- July 2 – Independence declared by the Continental Congress.
- July 4 – The day the Declaration of Independence was approved.
- July 5 – John Dunlap printed copies were sent to newspapers, local officials, and the commanders of the Continental troops in all 13 colonies.
- July 8 – The day of the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence
- July 9 – New York approves the Declaration of Independence.
- August 2 – News of the Declaration of Independence reaches South Carolina.

Why Is the Word “Unanimous” Missing?

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.
A DECLARATION,
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF
The United STATES of America,
In General Congress Assembled.

“When in the Course of human events”



WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires, that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation.

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“We hold these Truths”

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abo-

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“That to secure these Rights”

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“That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such a Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

How?

Why?

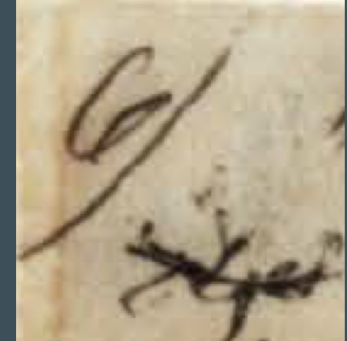
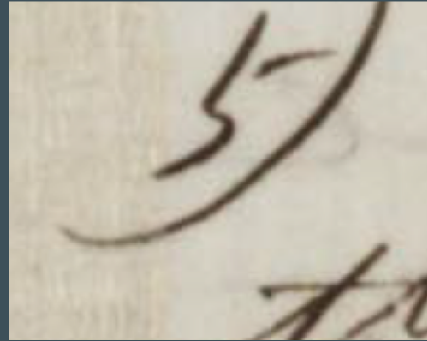
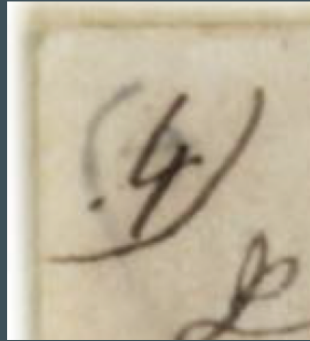
Q&A

**Did you
know?**

Who?



Who wrote this letter?



- This is a letter fragment. It isn't signed, dated, or addressed.
- We used clues in the letter to do research to determine:
 - Who wrote it & who it was written to
 - When it was written
 - What it was about

Elbert Corbin (1835-1915)



Elbert Corbin. New York State Military Museum.

- From Liverpool, NY
- Married to Emily Noyes (1836-1866)
 - Justus, born in 1858 (5 years old)
 - Royal, born in 1860 (3 years old)
- Enlisted September 1861 in Battery B, 1st New York Light Artillery
- Discharged in September 1864

Battery B, 1st New York Light Artillery

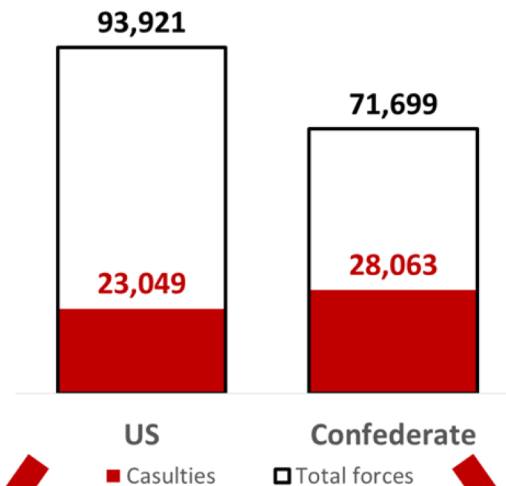


Battery B, 1st New York Light Artillery, in Fort Richardson. Fair Oaks, Virginia, June, 1862. Library of Congress.

- Mustered on August 31, 1861
- Mustered out on June 18, 1865
- Saw 78 days of battle
- Captain Rufus Pettit had been in charge of the unit since 1861.
 - Resigned May 30, 1863
- Captain James Rorty replaced Pettit.
- Casualties at Gettysburg: 10 killed, 16 wounded

Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863

At Gettysburg, approximately 25% of the US forces and 39% of Confederate forces suffered casualties.



US Casualties

Confederate Casualties

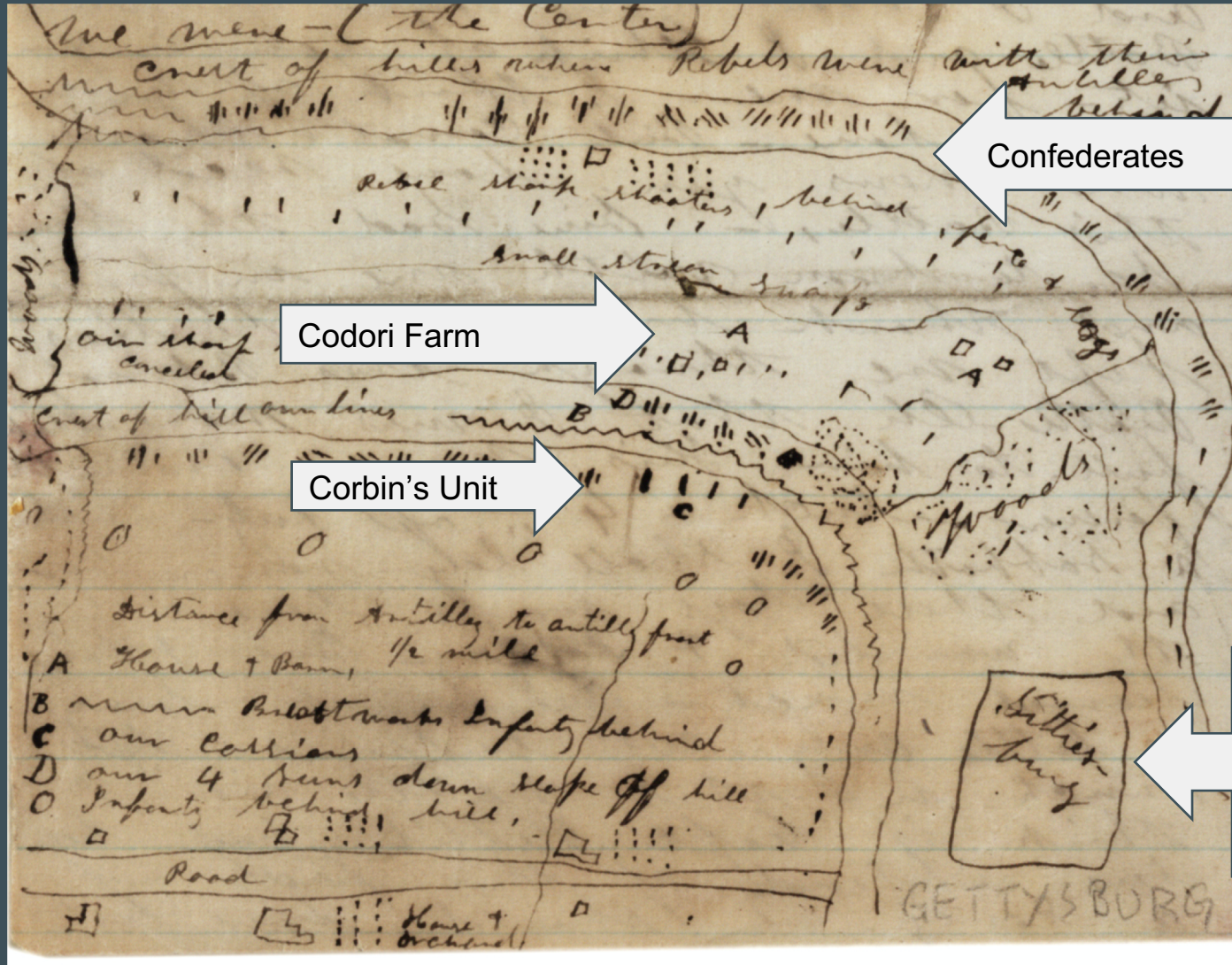


■ Killed ■ Wounded ■ Missing & Captured



■ Killed ■ Wounded ■ Missing & Captured

Battery B's Position at Gettysburg



Battery B, 1st New York Light Artillery



Google Street Views

Position near the center of the US line during Pickett's Charge

List of Wounded

3) (Coop W, J, Stern - wounded, both feet)
 " Hooper " Run over Rt " "
 John M. Scovil " Rt arm, & side, " "
 Sgt - A. S. Holder Rt & Lt groin " "
 Sherman Sun that Lt arm
 Mount Rogers, Rt leg. Ankle & hip leg
 Sun that in Rt arm
 Coraden Wallace Lt that Sun that
 A. B. Mallery - Shell, Head
 Geo. Rabb " "
 John Cast Langer " "
 C. S. States Lt Arm Sun that
 Sang Childs Bruised leg
 John - Buckley Rt, leg. Slight
 Put Mc Bowen Lt Shoulder Sun that

List of Wounded

Corp W. F. Thorn – wounded both Feet

" Hooker " Run over Rt "

John M Scovil " Rt arm & sides Minnie B.

Lt. – A.S. Shelden Rt. & Lt Groin "

S. Sherman Gun Shot Lt Arm

August Rogers, Rt Leg amput'^d upper leg & gun shot in Rt arm

Coraden Wallace Lt Foot Gun Shot

A.B. Mallery Shell, Head

Geo Rabb " "

Theod Deneyer " "

O.S. states Lt. Arm gun shot

Sarg Childs Bruised leg

John Buckley Rt up^r leg slight

Pat Mc Gowan Lt Sholder Gun Shot

“89 horses Killed”

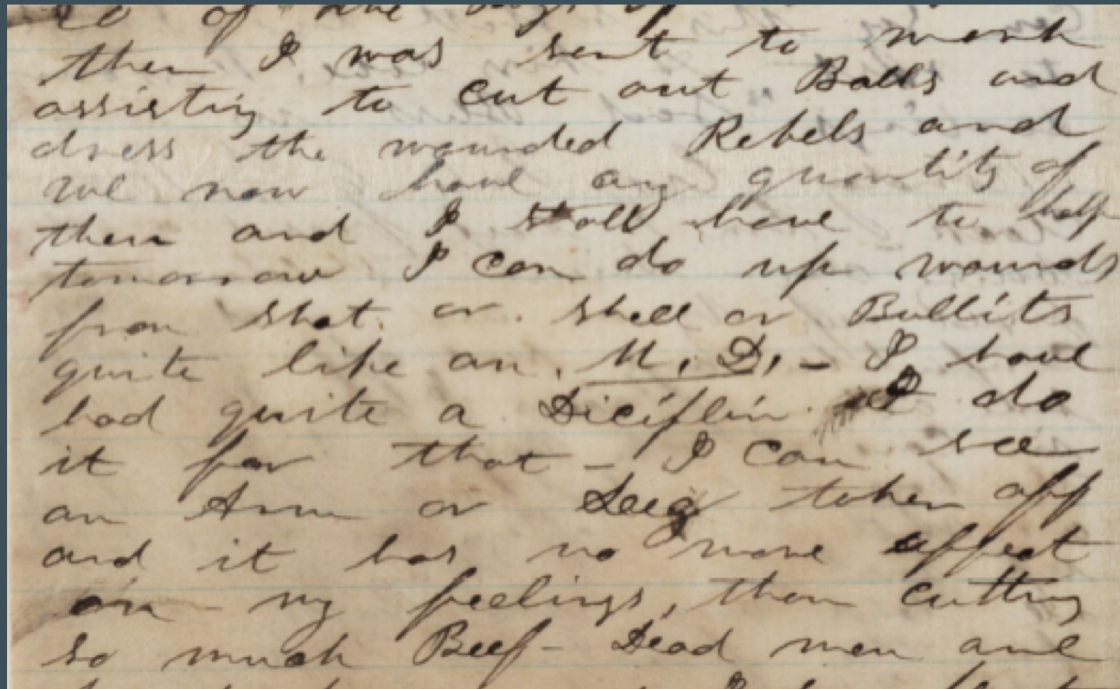
89 Horses Killed - 3 wheels smashed
3 Cessions smashed - nearly all
our clothing - this is all I
can say this sabbath Eve - I must
to rest A kiss love. Kiss our
darlings "God Bless us -
Monday Eve July 6th 10.0'
Clock - Em I have passed another
busy day - Friend Sheldon was



Dead Horses at the Trostle Farm,
Gettysburg. The Gilder Lehrman
Collection

“89 Horses killed – 3 wheels smashed 3 Cessions smashed – nearly all
our clothing – this is all I can say this sabbath Eve – I want to rest A kiss
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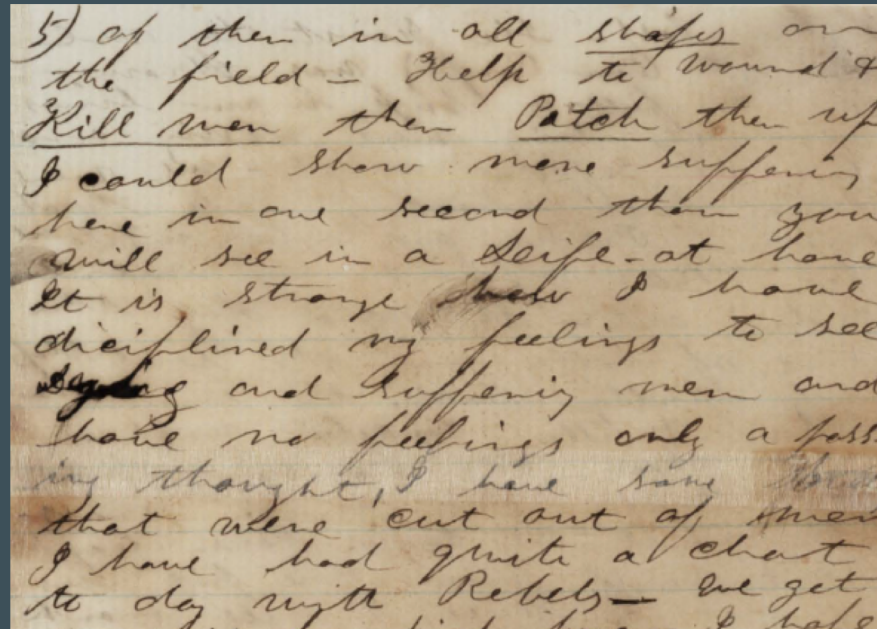
From Artillerist to Medic



then I was sent to work
assisting to cut out Balls and
dress the wounded Rebels and
we now have an quantity of
them and I shall have to help
tomorrow I can do up wounds
from shot or shell or Bullits
quite like an M.D. - I have
had quite a Dicipline I do
it for that - I can see
an Arm or Leg taken off
and it has no more affect
on my feelings, than cutting
so much Beef - Dead men and

“I was sent to work assisting to cut out Balls and dress the wounded Rebels and we now have an quantity of them and I shall have to help tomorrow I can do up wounds from shot or shell or Bullits quite like an M.D. - I have had quite a Dicipline I do it for that - I can see an Arm or Leg taken off and it has no more affect on my feelings, than cutting so much Beef ”

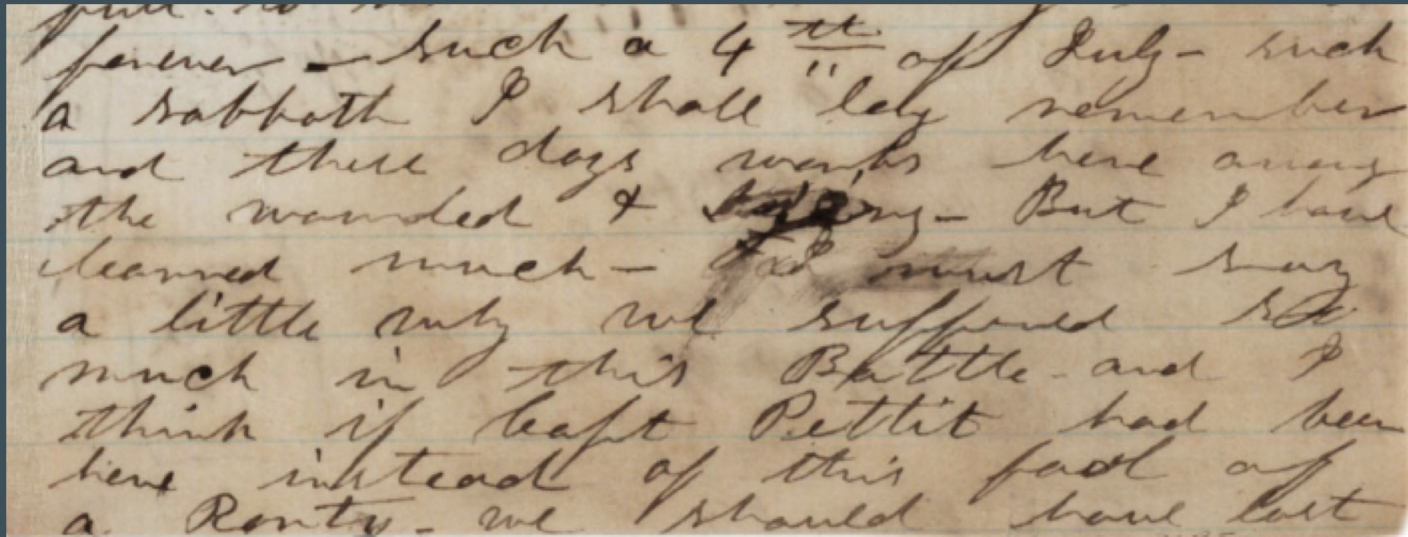
“Help to wound & Kill men then Patch them up”

A photograph of a handwritten manuscript snippet on aged, yellowed paper. The handwriting is in cursive, with some words underlined. The text is a portion of a larger letter or journal entry, starting with '5) of them in all shapes on the field - Help to wound & Kill men then Patch them up'. The ink is dark, and the paper shows signs of wear and discoloration.

5) of them in all shapes on
the field - Help to wound &
Kill men then Patch them up
I could show more suffering
here in one second than you
will see in a life - at home
It is strange how I have
disciplined my feelings to see
~~dying~~ and suffering men and
have no feelings only a pass-
ing thought, I have some [illegible]
that were cut out of men
I have had quite a chat
to day with Rebels - we get

“Dead men and plenty here – and I saw plenty of them in all shapes on the field. Help to wound & Kill men then Patch them up I could show more suffering here in one second than you will see in a Life– at home It is strange how I have disciplined my feelings to see Dying and suffering men and have no feelings only a passing thought, I have some [illegible] that were cut out of men I have had quite a chat to day with Rebels”

“Such a 4th of July. Such a Sabbath”

A photograph of a handwritten manuscript snippet on aged, yellowed paper. The handwriting is in cursive, written in dark ink. The text is a portion of a larger letter or journal entry, with some words crossed out or corrected. The visible text reads: "former - such a 4th of July - such a Sabbath I shall long remember and three days work here among the wounded & dying - But I have learned much - I must say a little why we suffered so much in this Battle - and I think if Capt. Pettit had been here instead of this fool of a Rorty, we should have lost

“Such a 4th of July. Such a Sabbath I shall long remember and three day’s work here among the wounded & dying. But I have learned much. I must say a little why we suffered so much in this battle and I think if Capt. Pettit had been here instead of this fool of a Rorty, we should have lost far less.”

How?

Why?

Q&A

**Did you
know?**

Who?

Join us for History Camp!

Students can participate in:

- “History Camp: History Outdoors” for grades 3-5
- “History Camp: History’s Treasures” for grades 3-5

THEME FOR WEEK 1: **Significant Street Signs Scavenger Hunt**

- Why are street signs important?
- How are they used?
- Review difficult words: theme, significant, scavenger hunt, symbols



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What's next?

- We will send you a packet with the documents we talked about today.
- Please complete a 2-minute feedback survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Vault_June26
- Our next *Inside the Vault* will be Friday, July 10 at 2pm ET and will feature documents related to the election of 1800.
- Book Breaks with Leslie Harris and Daina Ramey Berry and their book *Sexuality and Slavery*, this Sunday, July 28 at 2pm ET
- Visit gilderlehrman.org for free resources for students, teachers, families, and history enthusiasts of all ages.