



Fall 2019

NEWSLETTER OF THE NMCWM

Frederick, MD

UPDATED EDITION: *Prologue to Change* — NOW AVAILABLE

The NMCWM Press is pleased to announce the publication of an updated version of Robert G. Slawson's book, *Prologue to Change: African Americans in Medicine in the Civil War Era*. This book explores the story of African American surgeons from antebellum education through the unprecedented carnage of the Civil War, and into the founding of Howard Medical College.

This new edition highlights the thirteen African American surgeons who served with the Union Army, devoting themselves both to the care of their fellow man and to supporting the cause of liberty. Three of these men served as commissioned officers, one as a Surgeon and two as Assistant Surgeons with the United States Colored Troops. The remaining ten served as contract surgeons with the Medical Department.

Within these pages you'll find the story of the entry of African Americans into traditional medicine in the United States. *Prologue to Change: African Americans in Medicine in the Civil War Era* is an invaluable exploration of this little-known and vitally important story in the history of medicine, the Civil War, and America. This NMCWM publication is for sale exclusively in our Dispensary Stores, at all three Museum locations, for \$14.95. Stop by soon to purchase your copy!

Prologue to Change:

*African Americans in Medicine
in the Civil War Era*



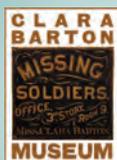
By

Robert G. Slawson, MD, FACR

The NMCWM Press



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THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CIVIL WAR MEDICINE
48 EAST PATRICK STREET
FREDERICK, MARYLAND 21701
301-695-1864 1-800-564-1864

WWW.CIVILWARMED.ORG

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CIVIL WAR MEDICINE

MISSION STATEMENT

The National Museum of Civil War Medicine is the premier center for the preservation and research of the legacy of Civil War medical innovation.

www.civilwarmed.org

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CIVIL WAR MEDICINE

Open Seven Days a Week

Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm

Sun. 11am-5pm

Closed: New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
48 E. Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-695-1864

PRY HOUSE FIELD HOSPITAL MUSEUM

Antietam Natl. Battlefield
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Keedysville, MD 21754
301-695-1864 Call for Hours

CLARA BARTON MISSING SOLDIERS OFFICE MUSEUM

437 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
202-824-0613 Call for Hours

GO GREEN! Send your e-mail address to Kyle.Dalton@civilwarmed.org. You will receive your next newsletter electronically.



The National Museum of Civil War Medicine is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation.
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FROM THE DIRECTOR

DAVID PRICE

The NMCWM would like to announce a few upcoming changes to our newsletter. This issue will be the last of the quarterly newsletters. Starting in 2020, we will be issuing two newsletters a year—one in March and one in September. We will continue to publish our journal, *Surgeon's Call*, in June and December.



We are making this change as we revamp our Museum memberships to include *Surgeon's Call* for ALL levels of membership. We will refocus the newsletter on achievements, promotions, and goals; rather than highlighting our upcoming events. We will maintain a full list of events on our website—and continue to promote events through social media—but will not include them in the newsletter. Instead, the newsletter will cover Museum news: successful programs; membership drives; fundraising; staff and department updates; and all other important announcements. We hope everyone will enjoy the improvements.

ACTIVE AND EFFICIENT: THE STRETCHER BEARERS AND AMBULANCE DRIVERS

“A stretcher-bearer was badly wounded; and some surgeons expressed great surprise, and seemed to speak in terms of censure, because, unlike the majority of his rank, he had performed his duty upon the field, and incurred the dangers which were incident to the same.” – Henry N. Blank, *Three Years in the Army of the Potomac*



The surgeons, physicians, and doctors of the Civil War have received deserved attention in the study of history. But what about the common stretcher bearer?

On Saturday, December 7 at 2:30 pm, step into the NMCWM in downtown Frederick to hear the fascinating tale of common men in an uncommon world. Who were the stretcher bearers and ambulance drivers of the Civil War? What was their daily life like? How were they trained? Learn the answers

to these questions and more with our Membership and Development Coordinator Kyle Dalton.

This event is included with admission and free for members. Members earn year-round free admission to all three of our locations; 10% off gift shop purchases; discounted admission to special events; and a free subscription to our journal, *Surgeon's Call*. To learn more, visit www.civilwarmed.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2019

October

Thursday, October 31 at 7:00 pm

Haunted History: The National Museum of Civil War Medicine NMCWM

Hear ghostly tales from the past while touring the darkened galleries of the “most haunted building in Frederick” on Halloween Night.

November

Saturday and Sunday, November 2 and 3 – All Day

Signal Corps Weekend

Pry House Field Hospital Museum

Living historians portraying members of the Union Army’s Signal Corps will be onsite at the Pry House throughout the weekend. Periodic demonstrations each day will showcase the equipment and operations of the Signal Corps during the Civil War.

Saturday, November 2 at 2:30 pm

Gettysburg: The Aftermath

NMCWM

Join us at the NMCWM as we welcome living historian Mark Quattroco for discussion about the medical response to the Battle of Gettysburg. Quattroco is the head of the Blue and Gray Hospital Association.

Saturday, November 16 at 2:30 pm

ID Tags and the Civil War

NMCWM

Museum volunteer Mavis Slawson explores the use of personal ID tags among Civil War soldiers, both North and South. The presentation also includes the use of wartime identification tags through history.

December

Saturday, December 7 at 11 am

The Battle of Dranesville:--

Clara Barton Missing Soldiers Office Museum

Author Ryan Quint will discuss this largely forgotten battle in December 1861 on the outskirts of Washington and its implications on the direction of the Civil War.

Saturday, December 7 at 2:30 pm

Active and Efficient: The Stretcher Bearers of the US Ambulance Corps

NMCWM

See page 2 for details.

Saturday, December 14, 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Museums by Candlelight

NMCWM

Celebrate the holiday season at the NMCWM during our 2019 Museums by Candlelight program. The Blue and Gray Hospital Association will be on-site providing Civil War living history. Raffle tickets are on sale for a wonderful basket of items from our Dispensary Museum Store that will be awarded during the event.

Continuing Clara Barton’s Work



The Defense Personnel Accounting Agency (DPAA)

At the
Clara Barton Missing
Soldiers Office

Thursday, November 7
at 6 pm

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph M. Ladymon will discuss the modern-day work of the DPAA, whose mission “is to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel, their families and our nation” from conflicts dating back to the Second World War. In fulfilling this mission, the DPAA carries on the legacy of Clara Barton’s Missing Soldiers Office—thus connecting the past with the present.

For more information, visit www.civilwarmed.org
Volunteer or become a member today!



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P.O. Box 470
Frederick, MD 21705-0470

A Very Successful Adventure

The NMCWM's first city-wide scavenger hunt was a great success! "One Vast Adventure—Frederick for Ransom," was staged in partnership with Surelocked In Escape Games, and with the support of 35 downtown business sponsors. Brewer's Alley catered the after-party for the sold-out crowd.



Participants played games, scoured the city for clues, and solved puzzles, all while interacting with costumed characters throughout the immersive world of 1864 Frederick. Luckily, the ransom money was raised in time to save the city from the flames!

Plan ahead for next year's adventure—sure to be even more popular!

Terry Reimer



JOIN TODAY! WWW.CIVILWARMED.ORG