

GO TO LIST OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN HARPERS FERRY

VARIOUS PERSONAGES INVOLVED



IN THE



FOMENTING OF RACE WAR (RATHER THAN CIVIL WAR)

IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

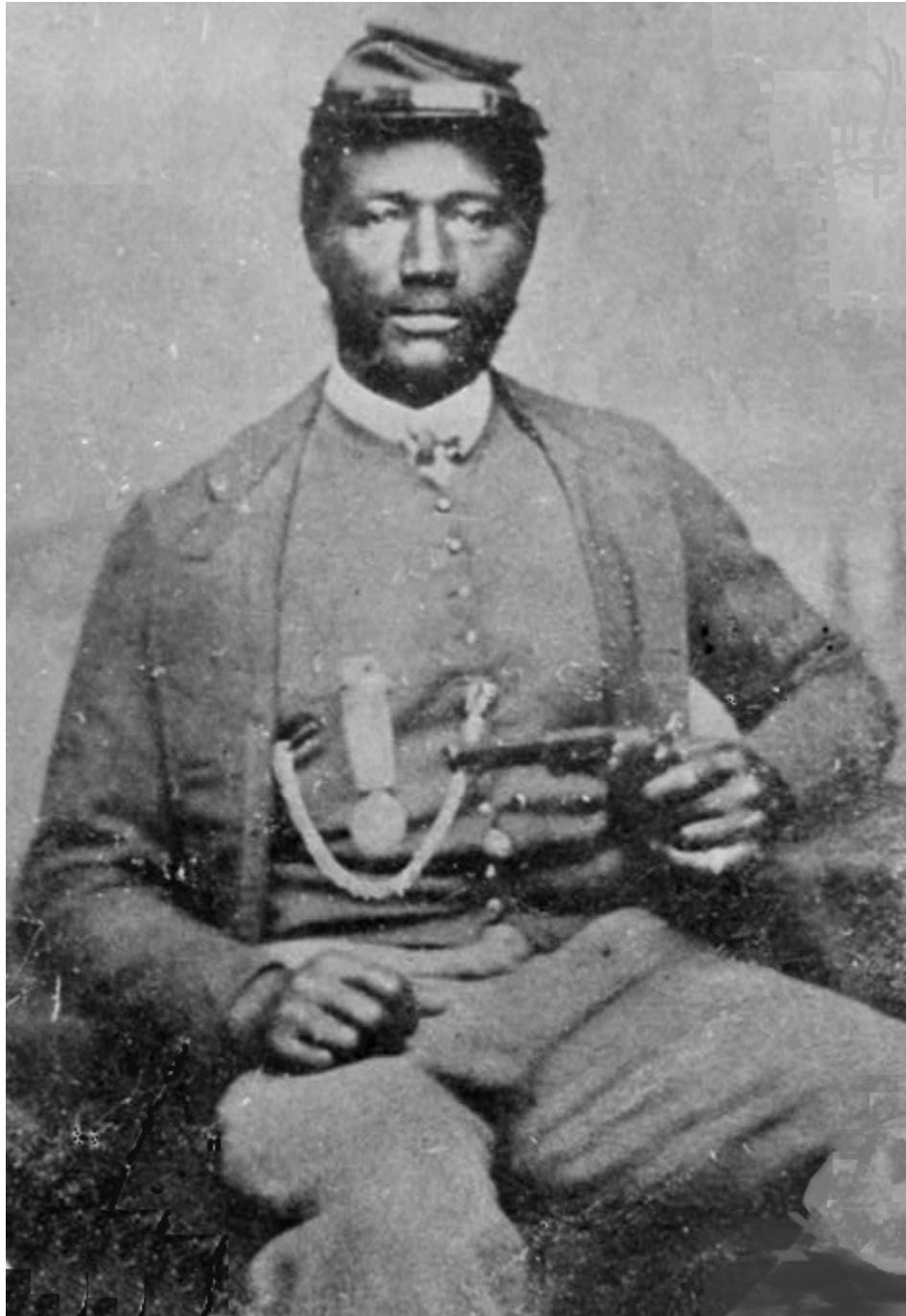
No one associated with Captain John Brown, and no one associated with politics in North Carolina, has ever been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

“J.H. Harris” signed, as a member of a Vigilance Committee, on May 8th, 1858, the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States” in [Chatham](#), Ontario West, Canada, a document which would be found on the person of [John Brown](#) when he was captured at [Harpers Ferry](#) on October 18th, 1859. Although another person of this name, [James Henry Harris](#), had been born a slave in Granville County, [North Carolina](#) and had gained his freedom at the age of 18 in about 1848, he was not this “J.H. Harris.” Educated at Oberlin College, he would hold a teaching certificate from the New England Freedman’s Aid Society. He was of Cleveland in 1859, and a member of the 102d US Colored Infantry formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste that included so many men from Chatham. He would attend the 1st Freedmen’s Convention in the South, held in what would become the St. Paul A.M.E. Church on Edenton Street in [Raleigh](#) during September 1865 as a representative of Wake County. He would become the 1st black alderman from Raleigh, and a delegate from Raleigh to the [North Carolina](#) Constitutional Convention of 1868; he got married with Bettie Miller, a daughter of Addison J. Smith and Mary Anderson, a cousin of [Osborn Perry Anderson](#); he died in 1891 in Washington DC and the remains are at Mount Hope Cemetery in Raleigh. There is yet a 3d James H. Harris, who was not this “J.H. Harris” signatory, who was belatedly awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and is interred in the remote section of Arlington National Cemetery that was reserved for colored soldiers, and for contrabands.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR





RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR



THOSE INVOLVED, ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY



SECRET "SIX"



Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Charles Francis Adams, Sr.	No	No	No	Finance		white
<p>Charles Francis Adams, Sr. subscribed to the racist agenda of Eli Thayer's and Amos Lawrence's New England Emigrant Aid Company, for the creation of an Aryan Nation in the territory then well known as "Bleeding Kansas," to the tune of \$25,000.</p>						
Jeremiah Goldsmith Anderson	Yes	Yes		Captain or Lt.	26	white
<p>Jeremiah Goldsmith Anderson, one of Captain Brown's lieutenants, was born April 17, 1833, in Indiana, the son of John Anderson. His maternal grandfather, Colonel Jacob Westfall of Tygert Valley, Virginia, had been a soldier in the revolution and a slaveholder. He went to school at Galesburg, Illinois and Kossuth, Iowa and worked as a peddler, farmer, and sawmill laborer before settling a mile from Fort Bain on the Little Osage in Bourbon County in "Bleeding Kansas" in August 1857. He was twice arrested by the proslavery activists, and for 10 weeks was held at Fort Scott. He then became a lieutenant of Captain Montgomery and was with him in the attack on Captain Anderson's troop of the 1st US Cavalry. He witnessed a murder on his own doorstep by border ruffians, of a Mr. Denton. He went with John Brown on the slave raid into Missouri and remained with him thereafter. On July 5, 1859 he wrote of his determination to continue to fight for freedom: "Millions of fellow-beings require it of us; their cries for help go out to the universe daily and hourly. Whose duty is it to help them? Is it yours? Is it mine? It is every man's, but how few there are to help. But there are a few who dare to answer this call and dare to answer it in a manner that will make this land of liberty and equality shake to the centre." He was "J. Anderson" among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He was thrust through with a bayonet by one of the Marines, and pinned against the wall. A white man, he was taken by the attackers to be a light mulatto and tortured: "One of the prisoners described Anderson as turning completely over against the wall [to which he was pinned by the bayonet] in his dying agony. He lived a short time, stretched on the brick walk without, where he was subjected to savage brutalities, being kicked in body and face, while one brute of an armed farmer spat a huge quid of tobacco from his vile jaws into the mouth of the dying man, which he first forced open." The corpse would be sent for the instruction of students at the medical college in Winchester, Virginia along with that of Watson Brown (a corpse found on the banks of the Shenandoah River was more likely that of a local slave).</p>						
John Anderson	?	?		Private	< 30	of color



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR



Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>John Anderson, a free black youth from Boston allegedly killed at Harpers Ferry. Nothing is known as to who he was, other than that he was young, or where he came from, other than from Boston — and it is even possible that actually there had been no such person as this in John Brown's company. (The John Anderson we do know about had an entirely different life trajectory, in Canada.)</p>						
Osborn Perry Anderson	Yes	No	No	Private	29	of color
<p>Osborn Perry Anderson, “O.P. Anderson, or as we used to call him Chatham Anderson,” the only participant of color to survive Harpers Ferry and elude capture, had been born free on July 27, 1830 in West Fallowfield, Pennsylvania. He had learned the printing trade in Canada, where he had met John Brown in 1858. He was a member of Congress of John Brown's Provisional Government in Chatham, Ontario in May 1858 and was “Osborn Anderson” on the list of signatories of the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States”; a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858. He would write later of the fight at Harpers Ferry and his escape in A VOICE FROM HARPER'S FERRY: “We were together eight days before [John Edwin Cook and Albert Hazlett were] captured, which was near Chambersburg, and the next night Meriam [Francis Jackson Meriam] left us and went to Shippensburg, and there took cars for Philadelphia. After that there were but three of us left [Brown's son Owen Brown, Barclay Coppoc, and Charles Plummer Tidd], and we kept together, until we got to Centre County, Pennsylvania, where we bought a box and packed up all heavy luggage, such as rifles, blankets, etc., and after being together three or four weeks we separated....” Anderson, Coppoc, and Meriam had journeyed separately to safe exile in the area of St. Catharines, Canada. Anderson enlisted in the US Army in 1864, becoming a recruiter and/or noncommissioned officer for a unit as yet undetermined, and mustered out in Washington DC at the close of the war (he would be identified by his father Vincent Anderson in 1872 as having been a recruiter for the “western regiments”). He was a member of the Equal Rights League in 1865, and represented Michigan at the National Convention of Colored Men in 1869. He died a pauper of TB and lack of care in Washington on December 13, 1872.</p>						
John Albion Andrew	No					white
<p>Despite the fact that John Albion Andrew was a prominent Massachusetts politician, Franklin Benjamin Sanborn of the Secret “Six” would indicate long after the raid on Harpers Ferry, John Brown's “general purpose of attacking slavery by force, in Missouri or elsewhere, was known in 1857-8-9” to Governor Andrew.</p>						
Henry Ward Beecher	No	No	No	Propaganda		white
<p>The Reverend Henry Ward Beecher induced the congregation of his Plymouth Church to procure a crate of 25 rifles to ship illegally to “Bleeding Kansas” and to stamp upon that crate the term of art BIBLES. The Reverend's personal attitude toward American blacks was that although those like Frederick Douglass whose blood had become partly mingled with the blood of whites were worthy of consideration as human beings, those who yet remained of pure African stock were still in such a “low animal condition” (his category, his words) of pure blackness that such consideration as human beings would be inappropriate.</p>						
Charles Blair	No	No	No	Armament		white



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Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Charles Blair supplied the pikes.						
Ann Brown	No	No	No	Supporter		white
Ann Brown , a daughter of Captain John Brown , was with the conspirators at the Kennedy farm until shortly before the attack upon Harpers Ferry . In the aftermath she would move to the West Coast.						
Frederick Brown	No	No	No	Supporter		white
Frederick Brown was fanatically religious to the extent that he attempted to sever his sexual organs when he was attracted to a young lady. He would have been 28 at the time of the Harpers Ferry raid, but in 1856 had been killed in the fighting in " Bleeding Kansas ."						
Jason Brown	No	No	No	Supporter	38	white
Jason Brown , one of the elder sons of Captain John Brown , was a gentle sort of person who actually was trying to become an inventor. He took part in the battle at Black Jack in " Bleeding Kansas ," and in the killings on the Osawatomie Creek, but was not at Harpers Ferry . He and his brother Owen Brown would become grape growers in the mountains above Pasadena, California .						
John Brown	Yes	Multiple wounds	Yes	Commander		white
John Brown , "Captain" John "Shubel Morgan" "Isaac Smith" Brown.						
John Brown, Jr.	No	No	No	Supporter	38	white
John Brown, Jr. , 38 at the time of the Harpers Ferry raid and Captain John Brown 's eldest son, had trained as a phrenologist . After the raid he would go into hiding in Ohio and, when summoned to appear before the investigatory committee of the US Senate, would refuse to appear. During the Civil War he served as Captain of Company K of the 7th Kansas Cavalry. He and his family would then find permanent safe haven on South Bass Island in Lake Erie.						
Martha Brewster Brown	No	No	No	Supporter		white
Martha Brewster Brown , wife of Oliver Brown and daughter-in-law of Captain John Brown , was with the conspirators at the Kennedy farm until shortly before the attack upon Harpers Ferry .						
Oliver Brown	Yes	Yes		Captain	20	white



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<p>Oliver Brown, the youngest of John Brown's sons to reach adulthood, was born in Franklin, Ohio on March 9, 1839. He was a bookish lad. He went to "Bleeding Kansas" in 1855, with his father, and returned to North Elba in October 1856, where he married Martha E. Brewster (Martha Brewster Brown) in 1858. She was sent back north just before the raid on Harpers Ferry and he was shot dead at the age of 20 while serving as a sentinel at the river bridge.</p>						
Owen Brown	Yes	No	No	Captain	35	white
<p>Owen Brown, 3d of John Brown's sons and his stalwart aid both in "Bleeding Kansas" and at Harper's Ferry, was born November 4, 1824 at Hudson, Ohio. With a withered arm, he had been attempting to make a career of writing humor articles for newspapers. His name was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He was 35 at the time of the Harpers Ferry raid. He escaped on foot toward the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. It was due largely to his psychological grit and his endurance that the little group of survivors of which he was the leader managed to make it out. He and Charles Plummer Tidd found work and safety under assumed names on an oil-well crew in Crawford County, Pennsylvania. He was the only one of the 5 escaped raiders not to participate in the civil war. He would never marry. He would grow grapes for some time in Ohio in association with 2 of his brothers, and then migrate west, and would be the final survivor of the raiders when he would die on January 9, 1891 at his mountain home "Brown's Peak" near Pasadena, California. A marble monument marked the mountain grave, until during July 2002 it mysteriously disappeared — since the grave was not a registered historical landmark, and not in a cemetery, there would be no investigation.</p>						
Salmon Brown	No				23	white
<p>Salmon Brown, 23 at the time of the Harpers Ferry raid, was said to have been exactly like his father, Captain John Brown, in every particular. He would once comment to a newspaper reporter that "The tannery business, farming, wool buying and the raising of blooded stock were my father's life occupations, though all of them were subordinated to his one consuming passion — freeing the slaves." Salmon would die in Portland, Oregon in 1919.</p>						
Watson Brown	Yes	Yes		Captain	24	white
<p>Watson Brown, born at Franklin, Ohio on October 7, 1835, got married with Isabella M. Thompson during September 1856. His son by this union would live only to his 5th year but would nevertheless survive him, because he was sent out by his father John Brown to negotiate at the federal arsenal and was shot down by the citizens of Harpers Ferry. He managed to crawl back to the shelter of the engine house and lived on, groaning, his head cradled in Edwin Coppoc's lap, for a considerable period, expiring on October 18th. The corpse would be sent for the instruction of students at the medical college in Winchester, Virginia. Recovering the skeleton from this college during the Civil War, his mother Mary Ann Day Brown eventually would be able to rebury it in the Adirondacks, before heading off to her retirement in California.</p>						
John E. Cook	Yes	No	Yes	Captain	29	white



RACE WAR,

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[illegible]



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Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Martin Robison Delany	No	No	No	Supporter		of color
<p>Dr. Martin Robison Delany, Pennsylvania, 1843; attended the Colored National Convention of 1848; attended the Emigration Convention of 1854; a member of the Niger Valley Exploring Party in 1858; a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858. At a meeting of the conspirators in Chatham in Canada West in May 1858, "M.R. Delany," the Reverend William Charles Munroe of Detroit, and several other leaders of the large black expatriate community approved something termed the "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the people of the United States," as the charter for the pike-wielding fugitive society of raiders which was to be created in the remote fastness of the Allegheny Mountains by Captain John Brown subsequent to his raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia. That document would be discovered on Brown's person when he was taken into custody. He would be a Major in the 104th Colored Infantry, and Sub-Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau in South Carolina, in 1865. He was a Freemason.</p>						
Frederick Douglass	No	No	No	Supporter	41	of color
<p>Waldo Emerson urged Frederick Douglass early on, to make himself into the General Toussaint Louverture of the North American continent. When Captain John Brown made a speech offering himself as the leader for the forces of freedom in "Bleeding Kansas", Douglass stood in the audience and endorsed Brown and his mission despite the unpleasant fact that the plan of the abolitionists was to permanently exclude all persons of color, whether free or enslaved, from that new state. When the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry was raided, his role was intended to be the raising aloft of the sword of General George Washington and the generaling of the black forces. His involvement in this raid was acceptable to such personages as the Reverend Henry Ward Beecher only because his blood had been mixed with white it was removed to a degree from its original "low animal condition" (the Reverend's category, the Reverend's words) of blackness. At the very last moment Douglass perceived that the prospects of the raid were for either failure or betrayal, and fled by way of Canada to England.</p>						
Ralph Waldo Emerson	No	No	No	Supporter		white
<p>Waldo Emerson, acting as an <i>agent provocateur</i> of race war, recommended to Frederick Douglass in 1844 that he become the liberator of his people on the North American continent, modeling himself upon the leader of the successful Haitian revolution of the turn of the century, Toussaint Louverture. "Let me hold your coat while some white man kills you," or something to that effect. We only know about this because Henry Thoreau rushed down to Boston right after the lecture, and had the lecture printed up as a pamphlet — after which there was no lying about the provocation that had been made and so all Emerson could do was pretend that Douglass hadn't been present.</p>						
John Buchanan Floyd	No	No	No	Supporter		white



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<p>Secretary of War John Buchanan Floyd was one of those who had been warned, months in advance, that Captain John Brown was planning to attack a federal arsenal to seize weapons with which to arm black slaves, in the creation of a servile insurrection (he didn't know precisely when, and didn't know it would be at Harpers Ferry, Virginia). Such a prospect did not alarm him in the slightest. The official story, if the official story is what you want to believe, is that our Secretary of War would pass this warning along to no-one.</p> <p>I myself find it difficult to regard this as anything more than a cover. I think the truth was that these folks were aware that such a servile insurrection could lead to nothing but a race genocide, with white Americans exterminating the black ones, and what I fear is that such a race genocide would have been considered to be just fine, an improvement in our national condition. Let's not have ourselves a civil war of brother against brother, that would be so nasty — let's prevent that by having ourselves a nice little race war!</p>						
Hugh Forbes	No	No	No	Lieutenant		white
<p>Captain John Brown's scheme, which he referred to as the "Subterranean Pass Way," was that the escaped, armed slaves were to "swarm" into and set up a center of resistance in the Alleghenies from which they could liberate Virginia and then invade Tennessee and northern Alabama. Such a scoping of the situation never met with much respect from other of the other schemers. In particular, the Scottish adventurer Hugh Forbes, Brown's onetime principal lieutenant, regarding blacks as inherently childlike, credulous, and cowardly, believed such a scheme to be doomed to failure from its inception. The scenario preferred by Forbes would have involved the herding of the slaves together by armed bands of white men and the driving of such herds of humans up the mountain chain toward Canada, neatly disposing of America's entire race problem — by simple relocation of it to another nation. Evidently the two planners parted company over issues such as this after Forbes had functioned in Tabor, Iowa as the leader of military training for the recruits (Forbes was a veteran of the Grenadier Guards, and had fought along with Garibaldi in defense of the Roman Republic of 1849), and then Forbes attempted blackmail. When not offered a payoff, he wrote long, detailed letters to congressmen and to others, and it is one of the unresolved issues, how anyone in high office in Washington DC could have avoided knowing in advance that Brown was plotting a strike of some sort against slavery (another of the unresolved issues is what happened to Forbes once his extortion had failed — he simply disappeared from the pages of history).</p>						
George B. Gill						



RACE WAR,

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[illegible]



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Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
James Henry Harris						
<p>No one associated with Captain John Brown, and no one associated with politics in North Carolina, has ever been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.</p> <p>"J.H. Harris" signed, as a member of a Vigilance Committee, on May 8th, 1858, the "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States" in Chatham, Ontario West, Canada, a document which would be found on the person of John Brown when he was captured at Harpers Ferry on October 18th, 1859. Although another person of this name, James Henry Harris, had been born a slave in Granville County, North Carolina and had gained his freedom at the age of 18 in about 1848, he was not this "J.H. Harris." Educated at Oberlin College, he would hold a teaching certificate from the New England Freedman's Aid Society. He was of Cleveland in 1859, and a member of the 102d US Colored Infantry formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste that included so many men from Chatham. He would attend the 1st Freedmen's Convention in the South, held in what would become the St. Paul A.M.E. Church on Edenton Street in Raleigh during September 1865 as a representative of Wake County. He would become the 1st black alderman from Raleigh, and a delegate from Raleigh to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1868; he got married with Bettie Miller, a daughter of Addison J. Smith and Mary Anderson, a cousin of Osborn Perry Anderson; he died in 1891 in Washington DC and the remains are at Mount Hope Cemetery in Raleigh. There is yet a 3d James H. Harris, who was not this "J.H. Harris" signatory, who was belatedly awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and is interred in the remote section of Arlington National Cemetery that was reserved for colored soldiers, and for contrabands.</p>						
Lewis Hayden						
<p>Lewis Hayden, a black leader in downtown Boston whose escape from Kentucky had been aided by Delia Webster in 1844. Eight years after escaping from slavery, he raised, as an act of gratitude and duty, a sum of \$650, in order to ransom the Reverend Calvin Fairbanks out of the Kentucky State Prison at Frankfort, where the Reverend had been languishing under the accusation that he had assisted 47 slaves in their escape, and had served 14 years, and had been whipped and beaten. Just before the raid on Harpers Ferry, Hayden helped recruit Francis Jackson Meriam to carry a message and cash money to the hideout of John Brown, and take part in that struggle.</p>						
Albert Hazlett	Yes	No	Yes	Capt. or Lt.	< 30	white



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Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Albert Hazlett, born in Pennsylvania on September 21, 1837, did not take part in the fight at Harpers Ferry but, with John Edwin Cook who had escaped from that fight by climbing a tree and who later identified him to the prosecutors, would be belatedly hanged. Before the raid he had worked on his brother's farm in western Pennsylvania, and he had joined the others at Kennedy Farm in the early part of September 1859. He was arrested on October 22d in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, near Chambersburg, where he was using the name "William Harrison," was extradited to Virginia, was tried and sentenced at the spring term of the Court, and was hanged on March 16th, 1860. George B. Gill said that "I was acquainted with Hazlett well enough in Kansas, yet after all knew but little of him. He was with Montgomery considerably, and was with [Aaron D. Stevens] on the raid in which Cruise was killed. He was a good-sized, fine-looking fellow, overflowing with good nature and social feelings.... Brown got acquainted with him just before leaving "Bleeding Kansas." To Mrs. Rebecca B. Spring he wrote on March 15th, 1860, the eve of his execution, "Your letter gave me great comfort to know that my body would be taken from this land of chains.... I am willing to die in the cause of liberty, if I had ten thousand lives I would willingly lay them all down for the same cause."</p>						
Reverend T. W. Higginson	No					White
<p>The Reverend Thomas Wentworth "Charles P. Carter" Higginson of the Secret "Six" believed that "Never in history was there an oppressed people who were set free by others" (it was therefore up to American black people to demonstrate their courage, and their worthiness to be free — basically by getting themselves exterminated). After Harpers Ferry he would attempt to organize an expedition to raid the Charles Town lockup and rescue the accused — this was an expedition Henry Thoreau would oppose, asserting that to the contrary Captain Brown's highest and best purpose was to be hung.</p>						
Richard J. Hinton						
<p>Richard J. Hinton, abolitionist journalist whose opposition to slavery led him to transform himself into a gunslinger. Refer to: Richard J. Hinton, JOHN BROWN AND HIS MEN (NY: Funk & Wagnalls, 1894; Reprint NY: The Arno Press, 1968).</p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>WHAT TO TAKE: Let your trunk, if you have to buy one, be of moderate size and of the strongest make. Test it by throwing it from the top of a three-storied house; if you pick it up uninjured, it will do to go to Kansas. Not otherwise.</p> <p>— James Redpath and Richard J. Hinton, HAND-BOOK TO KANSAS TERRITORY, 1859, as quoted on page 3</p> </div>						
Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe						



RACE WAR,

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<p>Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe and others of the Massachusetts State Kansas Committee raised \$5,000 in one day, to buy enough Sharp's rifles to arm 200 men to the teeth in "Bleeding Kansas." He, as well as the Reverend Theodore Parker, Franklin Benjamin Sanborn, Gerrit Smith, and George Luther Stearns, fully grasped from the earliest moment the fact that the probable result of their attempt to incite a race war (black Americans against white), would be, at least initially, a defeat of the black forces of servile insurrection. These 5 of the white conspirators of the Secret "Six" finance committee clearly had been willing to sacrifice the lives of their black allies in order to foment sectional civil war between Northern and Southern white Americans.</p>						
Julia Ward Howe	No					White
<p>Julia Ward Howe was a racist and, because she carried out errands for her husband Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe who was on the Secret "Six" finance committee (such as having a surreptitious meeting in their home with Captain John Brown), must surely have been aware of and must surely have approved of that committee's agendas.</p>						
Thaddeus Hyatt	No					white
<p>Thaddeus Hyatt was a businessman and financier involved in the preparation of "Bleeding Kansas" as a "free soil" or "Aryan Nation" enclave. Summoned to give testimony before the congressional committee investigating the raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, he would refuse to appear — and would be imprisoned for a period but ultimately would get away with this refusal.</p>						
John Jones	No			Support		white
<p>John Jones was a Chicago businessman of color (John Brown stayed at his home). He and his wife Mary Richardson Jones were active abolitionists, agitating for the repeal of the Illinois Black Laws. (Not only did these laws obligate black Americans to prove that they were free in order to enter the state, but once they were in state these laws barred them not only from visiting white homes, but from owning any property or merchandise, or entering into any contracts.)</p>						
John Henry Kagi	Yes	Yes		Secretary of War, adjutant	24	white



RACE WAR,

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Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Although John Henry Kagi was largely self-taught, his letters to the New-York <u>Tribune</u>, the New-York <u>Evening Post</u>, and the <u>National Era</u> reveal him as the best educated of the raiders. A debater, public speaker, stenographer, wannabee writer, and total abstainer from alcohol, he was cold in manner and rough in appearance. A nonparticipant in organized religion, he was an able man of business. He had been born on March 15, 1835, a son of the blacksmith for Bristolville, Ohio in a family of Swiss descent (the name originally having been Kagy). During 1854/1855 he had taught school at Hawkinstown, Virginia but had indicated an objection to the system of slavery there and been compelled to return to Ohio with a pledge never to return. He had gone to Nebraska City in 1856 and been admitted to the bar. He then entered Kansas with one of General James H. Lane's parties and enlisted in Aaron D. Stevens's ("Colonel Whipple's") 2d Kansas Militia. In fighting in the town of Tecumseh in "Bleeding Kansas" he proved himself by killing at least one man, who had been coming after him with a club. After being captured by US troops he had been imprisoned at Leecompton and at Tecumseh, but was finally released. On January 31, 1857 he had been struck on the head with a gold-headed cane by a proslavery judge, drew his revolver and shot the judge in the groin, but Judge Elmore got off 3 shots and one struck Kagi over the heart, the bullet being stopped by a memorandum-book. He was long with his family in Ohio recovering from these wounds, but then returned to Kansas and joined John Brown. He bore the title of Secretary of War in the provisional government and was next in command to John Brown; he was also the adjutant. His name was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. When in Chambersburg as agent for the raiders, he boarded with Mrs. Mary Rittner. At Harpers Ferry he was trapped along with John Anderson Copeland, Jr. and Lewis Sheridan Leary in the armory called Hall's Rifle Works. When the 3 made a run for it, heading down to the Shenandoah River, they got ca in crossfire and Kagi was the first killed, his body being left to float in the river. [Eyal J. Naveh in CROWN OF THORNS: POLITICAL MARTYRDOM IN AMERICA FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (NY: New York UP, 1990) described Kagi as black (Page 31: "Even though black followers of Brown, such as John Henry Kagi, were also executed in Virginia, for blacks, John Brown became the most famous martyr for their freedom."), but this was just another of the long series of tendentious but uncontested errors which make such literature so unreliable.]</p>						
Amos Lawrence	No					White
<p>Amos Lawrence provided the large bulk of the investment capital needed by Eli Thayer's New England Emigrant Aid Company for the purchase land in the new territory then well known as "Bleeding Kansas", needed in order to encourage the right sort of black-despising poor white Americans to settle there as "decent antislavery" homesteaders. The idea was to send entire communities in one fell swoop, increasing the value of the properties owned by this company. If political control over this territory could be achieved, they would be able to set up a real Aryan Nation, from which slaves would of course be excluded because they were enslaved, and from which free blacks Americans would of course be excluded because as human material they were indelibly inferior.</p>						
Lewis Sheridan Leary	Yes	Yes		Private	25	of color



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Lewis Sheridan "Shad" Leary was a mulatto citizen of Oberlin, Ohio, a saddler and harness maker whose father had been a freeborn black harness maker as well. He was descended from an Irishman, Jeremiah O'Leary, who had fought in the Revolution under General Nathanael Greene of Rhode Island, who had married a woman of mixed blood, partly African, partly of that Croatan Indian stock of North Carolina, which is believed by some to be lineally descended from the "lost colonists" left by John White on Roanoke Island in 1587. Leary was born at Fayetteville, North Carolina on March 17, 1835, and was therefore in his 25th year when killed during the raid upon the federal arsenal. In 1857 he had gone to Oberlin to live, marrying there and making the acquaintance of John Brown in Cleveland. To go to Harpers Ferry, he left his wife with a 6-month-old child at Oberlin, his wife being in ignorance of the purpose of his trip. He was given funds to go from Oberlin to Chambersburg in the company of his nephew John Anderson Copeland, Jr. He was isolated along with his nephew and John Henry Kagi in the armory called Hall's Rifle Works. When the 3 made a run for it, heading down to the Shenandoah River, they got themselves caught in a crossfire, and after Kagi had been killed and Leary shot several times, he was taken, his wounds so severe that he would die the following morning. He was able to dictate messages to his family and is reported as saying "I am ready to die." A monument was erected by the citizens of Oberlin in honor of their three fallen free men of color, Leary, Copeland, and Shields Green (the 8-foot marble monument would be moved to Vine Street Park in 1971). The Leary child would subsequently be educated by James Redpath and Wendell Phillips.</p>						
William H. Leeman	Yes	Yes		Captain	< 21	white
<p>William H. Leeman was born on March 20, 1839 and was recruited in Maine as a 17-year-old very impressed with John Brown. Being of a rather wild disposition, he had early left his home in Maine. Educated in the public schools of Saco and Hallowell ME, he was working in a shoe factory in Haverhill MA at the age of 14. In 1856 he entered "Bleeding Kansas" with the second Massachusetts colony of that year, and became a member of Captain Brown's "Volunteer Regulars" on September 9, 1856. He fought well at Osawatomie when but 17 years old. Owen Brown found him hard to control at Springdale, Iowa. George B. Gill said of him that he had "a good intellect with great ingenuity." His name was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," as "W.H. Leeman," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. By the raid upon Harpers Ferry he had reached the age of 20. On October 17, 1859, the youngest of the raiders, he made a mad dash out of the relative safety of the armory to swim down the Potomac River but two militiamen caught up with him and shot him down on an islet in the river. His body would be used for target practice for hours by the drunken citizenry, until the hail of bullets pushed it into the current and it was carried downstream. Mrs. Annie Brown Adams would write of him: "He was only a boy. He smoked a good deal and drank sometimes; but perhaps people would not think that so very wicked now. He was very handsome and very attractive."</p>						
Francis Jackson Merriam	Yes	No	No	Private	< 30	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Francis Jackson Meriam, grandson and namesake of the Garrisonian abolitionist and Boston historian Francis Jackson, was a young manic-depressive with but one good eye. He helped James Redpath collect materials in Haiti and across the American South for use in a book dedicated to John Brown and Redpath arranged for Meriam to join Brown's guerrillas. He was not captured or killed at Harpers Ferry because he had been left in one of his fits of despair at the Kennedy farmhouse during the raid. After escaping through Shippensburg, Philadelphia, Boston, Concord, and the area of St. Catharines, Canada he served as a captain in the 3rd South Carolina Colored Infantry. Erratic and unbalanced, he urged wild schemes upon his superiors and sometimes attempt them. In an engagement under General Grant he received a serious leg wound. He died suddenly on November 28, 1865 in New-York.</p>						
Charles W. Moffett	Yes					white
<p>Charles W. Moffett, a white drifter from Iowa about whom little is known. His name was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," as "C.W. Moffit," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. Perhaps his middle name was "Wesley" (according to an 1882 article in the Topeka Capital, "John Brown: A Reunion of His Surviving Associates," a meeting of raid survivors at the Kansas Historical Society was called by C.W. Moffett of Montour, and a tombstone in the Maple Hill cemetery in Montour, Iowa is for a Charles Wesley Moffett, Jun. 20, 1827-Aug. 19, 1904) and perhaps he did not attend the raid on the federal arsenal because he had cold feet, or because he was one of a number of people suspected by the others of having written (2 anonymous postings, one dated August 18th, 1859 from near Philadelphia and the other dated 2 days later from Cincinnati) to alert the federal government to the plan for a raid on some federal arsenal (Secretary of War John Buchanan Floyd received this while at Red Sweet Springs in Virginia and did not alert anyone in the federal government; he would offer later that as War Secretary he had been getting a whole lot of spurious warnings, and anyway there wasn't a federal arsenal in Maryland).</p>						
Edwin Morton	No					White
<p>The very tall Franklin Benjamin Sanborn's intimate college friend Edwin Morton of Plymouth, a descendant of one of the prominent Founding Fathers, was about as deeply involved in the Harpers Ferry raid as any member of the Secret "Six". He was Gerrit Smith's private secretary and resided with his family, and after the raid, while the congressional investigation was going on, he fled overseas and chummed around at Shrewsbury and Hodnet with Henry Thoreau's very tall friend Thomas Cholmondeley.</p>						
Dangerfield Newby	Yes	Yes		bridge sentinel	39	light mulatto



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Dangerfield Newby, a free light mulatto, very tall and with a splendid physique, was serving as a sentinel at the Harpers Ferry bridge and was shot to death as he and the two white men with him retreated before the charge of the Jefferson Guards of Charles Town VA, coming across the Potomac from the Maryland side. He was not brought down by ball or bullet, but by a 6-inch spike being used as a musket projectile, which caught him in the throat and ripped him severely. Since neither of the two white men were shot, it appears that as a mulatto he was targeted. The body was beaten savagely, and its ears snipped off as trophies, and then a herd of hogs was driven up to root on it.</p>						
Reverend Theodore Parker	No					White
<p>The Reverend Theodore Parker, a stone racist, declared from his pulpit that while he ordinarily spent \$1,500 a year on books, the equivalent of 4 or 5 men's annual wages, for the time being he was going to restrict himself to spending less than one man's annual wage on books per year, and devote the remaining moneys to the purchase of guns and ammunition for the white people going to the Kansas Territory. Sharps rifles, the very latest in deadliness, cost \$25 apiece when had in sufficient quantity:</p> <p><i>"I make all my pecuniary arrangements with the expectation of civil war."</i></p> <p>He would take to marking the boxes of new Sharps rifles he shipped illegally to "Bleeding Kansas" with the word BOOKS, and he would take to referring to these firearms as so many copies of RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE as in "The right of the people to keep and to bear arms shall not be infringed." He, as well as Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe, Franklin Benjamin Sanborn, Gerrit Smith, and George Luther Stearns of the Secret "Six", fully grasped from the earliest moment the fact that the probable result of their attempt to incite a race war, of black Americans against white Americans, would be, at least initially, a defeat of the black forces of servile insurrection. These 5 of the white conspirators clearly had been willing to sacrifice the lives of their allies among the Northern and Southern black Americans slave and free, in order to foment a rectification of the Southern white Americans.</p>						
Luke F. Parsons						White
<p>Luke F. Parsons, 22-year-old white man, already a mercenary fighter seasoned in "Bleeding Kansas," a petty thief in need of a paycheck and a legitimating excuse. His name "L.F. Parsons" was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," per a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859.</p>						
Richard Realf						White



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Richard Realf was a 23-year-old Englishman, the son of a blacksmith who had become a rural constable. In 1852 he had put out a collection of poetry, GUESSES AT THE BEAUTIFUL, and in 1854, after giving up being the lover of Lady Noell Byron, widow of George Gordon, Lord Byron, he was led to the United States of America by “instincts” which he characterized as “democratic and republican, or, at least, anti-monarchical.” He had been introduced by John Edwin Cook, whom he had met in Lawrence in “Bleeding Kansas” while working as a correspondent for the Illinois State Gazette, to John Brown in Mount Tabor, Iowa at the end of November or beginning of December 1857. He traveled through Chicago and Detroit to Chatham, Ontario West, Canada, and his name was among the signatories to “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States,” per a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He returned to England to lecture, and visited France, before traveling from Havre on March 2, 1859 to New Orleans, arriving April 17, 1859 with the objective of becoming a Jesuit priest. He would testify before the US Senate Committee.</p>						
James Redpath						
<p>James Redpath, crusading journalist out to make a buck in the best way.</p>						
George J. Reynolds						of color
<p>George J. Reynolds, a light mulatto blacksmith or coppersmith of Sandusky, Ohio, from Virginia although saying he was from Vermont, with native American as well as black African heritage, age 35 at the time of the raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, and active in the Underground Railroad. He had attended the Convention of Colored Men in 1858, and signed the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States” in Chatham, Ontario West, Canada per a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. as “J.G. Reynolds.”</p>						
Richard Richardson	No					of color
<p>Richard Richardson, a fugitive slave from Lexington, Missouri who had joined John Brown in southern Iowa, was going through that unfortunate but now-well-understood initial period of reaction to freedom in which a former slave, accustomed to servitude and unaccustomed to self-origination, attaches himself to some authoritative white man who is able with courtesy to make use of him. He was a member of the African Mysteries, a secret defense group in Michigan in 1858, and signed the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States” in Chatham, per a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859, but evidently did not get from Ontario to Virginia due to lack of travel money. He became a private in Company E of the 113th US Colored Infantry that was formed from the 13th US Colored Infantry that was recruited in and spent its entire service in Arkansas.</p>						
Judge Thomas Russell	No					White



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Mary Ellen Russell visited John Brown in jail a few weeks before his execution. She said that although she had never approved of his violent methods, she admired him as a man of vision and idealism. Brown had been friends with the Russells for years, and had stayed at their home on several occasions despite the fact that Thomas Russell was a prominent member of the Massachusetts judiciary. Franklin Benjamin Sanborn of the Secret "Six" would allege long after the raid on Harpers Ferry that "Brown's general purpose of attacking slavery by force, in Missouri or elsewhere, was known in 1857-8-9" to Judge Russell.</p>						
Franklin Benjamin Sanborn	No					White
<p>Franklin Benjamin Sanborn of Concord, as well as Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe, the Reverend Theodore Parker, Gerrit Smith, and George Luther Stearns, fully grasped from the earliest moment the fact that the probable result of their attempt to incite a race war, of black Americans against white Americans, would be, at least initially, a defeat of their black forces. These 5 of the white Secret "Six" conspirators clearly had been willing to sacrifice the lives of their black allies for servile insurrection in order to foment sectional civil war between Northern and Southern white Americans.</p> <p>(John Brown, who had himself buried a wife and promptly recruited another one, once commented to Sanborn, in regard to the young man's grief over the prompt death of his young bride Ariana Walker, that he was too young to be married to a gravestone.)</p>						
Gerrit Smith	No					White
<p>The immensely wealthy "H. Ross Perot" political figure of that era was a former Millerite millennialist: Gerrit Smith. In this American's mansion outside Syracuse, New York, standing in the center of his study, was an ornate mahogany desk. Rumor had it that this had once been the desk of the emperor Napoleon Bonaparte himself. The millennium of William Miller not having arrived on schedule, Smith had become determined to, as he put it, "make himself a colored man"—he desired to explore his inner blackness—and thus he befriended Frederick Douglass (Smith would be Douglass's friend, that is, up to the point at which he would discover that black Americans were inherently racially inferior to white Americans and thus unworthy of consideration). He, as well as Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe, the Reverend Theodore Parker, Franklin Benjamin Sanborn, and George Luther Stearns of the Secret "Six" fully grasped from the earliest moment that the probable result of their attempt to incite a servile insurrection of black Americans against white Americans, would be, at least initially, a defeat of the black forces. These 5 of the white conspirators clearly had been willing to sacrifice the lives of their black allies, in order to disrupt relations between Northern and Southern white Americans, toward the generation of a sectional civil war.</p>						
Stephen Smith						
<p>Stephen Smith, lumber dealer of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.</p>						
Lysander Spooner						



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>The anarchist Boston attorney Lysander Spooner, who was well aware of John Brown's plans for the raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, wrote to Gerrit Smith in January 1859 warning that Brown had neither the men nor the resources to succeed. After the raid he would plot the kidnapping of Governor Henry A. Wise of Virginia, the idea being to take him at pistol point aboard a tug and hold him off the Atlantic coast, at threat of execution should Brown be executed.</p>						
George Luther Stearns						
<p>George Luther Stearns, a Boston manufacturer of lead pipe and the secretary of the Boston Emancipation League, as well as Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe, the Reverend Theodore Parker, Franklin Benjamin Sanborn, and Gerrit Smith of the Secret "Six," fully grasped from the earliest moment the fact that the probable result of their attempt to incite a race war, of black Americans against white Americans, would be, at least initially, a defeat of their black forces. These 5 of the white conspirators clearly had been willing to sacrifice the lives of their black allies in servile insurrection in order to foment a sectional civil war between Northern and Southern white Americans.</p>						
Aaron Dwight Stevens	Yes	Badly wounded	Yes	Captain	28	white
<p>Aaron Dwight Stevens, John Brown's drillmaster, born in Lisbon, Connecticut on March 15, 1831, had run away from home in 1847 at the age of 16 to serve with a Massachusetts volunteer regiment in Mexico. He made himself proficient with the sword. At Taos in May 1855, he received a sentence of death for "mutiny, engaging in a drunken riot, and assaulting Major George A.H. Blake" of the 1st US Dragoons. This was commuted by President Franklin Pierce to 3 years hard labor but he escaped from Fort Leavenworth in 1856, 1st finding refuge with the Delaware tribe and then joining the Kansas Free State militia of James Lane under the name "Whipple." He became Colonel of the 2d Kansas Militia and met Brown on August 7, 1856 at the Nebraska line when Lane's Army of the North marched into "Bleeding Kansas". He became a devoted follower. He was a spiritualist. At Harpers Ferry, when Brown sent this middleaged man out along with his son Watson Brown to negotiate under a flag of truce, he received four bullets and was taken alive. The never-married Stevens was of old Puritan stock, and his great-grandfather had been a captain in the Revolutionary army. Because of a relationship with Rebecca B. Spring of the Eagleswood social experiment near Perth Amboy, New Jersey, after his execution on March 16th he would be buried there alongside Albert Hazlett. According to George B. Gill, writing after his death, "Stevens — how gloriously he sang! His was the noblest soul I ever knew. Though owing to his rash, hasty way, I often found occasion to quarrel with him more so than with any of the others, and though I liked [John Henry Kagi] better than any man I ever knew, our temperaments being adapted to each other, yet I can truly say that Stevens was the most noble man that I ever knew."</p>						
Stewart Taylor	Yes	Yes		Private	23	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

[illegible]



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Henry David Thoreau	No					white
<p>When, in 1844, Waldo Emerson, acting as an <i>agent provocateur</i>, recommended to Frederick Douglass's face that, modeling himself upon the leader of the successful Haitian revolution of the turn of the century, Toussaint Louverture, he fashion himself into the liberator of his people and initiate on the North American continent a servile insurrection or race war, it was Henry Thoreau who after the lecture rushed this information right down to Boston, and had a pamphlet printed up, after which there was no way to dissimulate about the provocation that had been made — and so all Emerson was able to do was pretend that Douglass hadn't been present. (We, of course, have credited Emerson's cover story, not because there is any corroboration for it but because ... well, he's Mr. Emerson and wouldn't lie to us.)</p>						
Charles Plummer Tidd	Yes	No	No	Captain	25	white
<p>Charles Plummer Tidd was born in Palermo, Maine in 1834 and had emigrated to "Bleeding Kansas" in 1856 with the party of Dr. Calvin Cutter of Worcester in search of excitement. After joining John Brown's party at Mount Tabor, Iowa in 1857 he became one of the followers of "Shubel Morgan" who returned in 1858 to raid into Missouri. During the Winter 1857/1858 encampment of the Brown forces in Springdale, Iowa, he "ruined" a Quaker girl and the other members of the team had to sneak him away during the night. Nevertheless, the group obtained some recruits not overly impressed with the Peace Testimony of George Fox from among the residents of this town, such as the brothers Barclay Coppoc and Edwin Coppoc. He and John E. Cook were particularly warm friends. He signed, as "Charles P. Tidd," the "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States" in Chatham, Canada per a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He opposed the attack on Harpers Ferry but nevertheless took part both in the raid on the planter Washington's home and on the federal arsenal itself, escaped, and made his way on foot toward the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. He and John Brown's son Owen Brown would find work and safety, under assumed names, on an oil well in the vicinity of Crawford County PA. He visited Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Canada and took part in the planning for the rescue of Aaron D. Stevens and Albert Hazlett while the Mason Commission of the Congress was presuming that he had been killed in the fighting at Harpers Ferry. On July 19, 1861 he was able to enlist under the name "Charles Plummer" and would become a 1st Sergeant of the 21st Massachusetts Volunteers. On February 8, 1862 he died of fever aboard the transport <i>Northerner</i> during the battle of Roanoke Island. (This was a battle he had particularly wished to take part in because ex-Governor Henry A. Wise of Virginia, the nemesis of the Harpers Ferry raiders, was in command of the Confederates.) Charles Plummer Tidd's grave is #40 in the National Cemetery in New Berne, North Carolina.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">THE QUAKER PEACE TESTIMONY</p>						
Harriet Tubman	No					of color
<p>Harriet Tubman was negotiated with by John Brown for participation in the raid on the federal arsenal. She mistrusted these men and had persistent dreams in which Brown and his sons appeared as serpents. The attack had been scheduled to occur on the 4th of July, symbolic of national birth. At the last moment she alleged she was ill, and for this reason as well as delays in the deliveries of supplies, the attack needed to be postponed for months. On the day of the actual attack at Harpers Ferry she had a premonition that it would fail.</p>						
Henry Watson	No					of color



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Henry Watson , barber of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania involved both with John Brown and with Frederick Douglass .						
etc.						



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1828



Philip Thomas of [Maryland](#) became the founding president of the B&O Railroad, the nation's first.

[James H. Harris](#) was born in Saint Mary's County, [Maryland](#). Nothing is said about his having been born to an enslaved mother, and nothing is said about his gaining manumission or running away, so evidently, although he was black and born in a border state, the inference would be that he was born free. For the initial 36-year period of his life, until his enlistment in the Army of the Union during the [Civil War](#), he would farm in that vicinity.



The [negro](#) *Blue-eyed Mary*, of [Baltimore](#), had been sold to Spaniards. It was captured with a cargo of 405 [slaves](#) by a British cruiser ([Niles's Register](#), XXXIV. 346).

INTERNATIONAL SLAVE TRADE

There was a great parade down Broadway Avenue in New-York, celebrating the [New York](#) Emancipation Act. As black women cheered from the sidewalks, the black men were led by the New York African Society for Mutual Relief, by the Clarkson Benevolent Society, and the Wilberforce Benevolent Society (named of course in honor of the famed English reformers [Thomas Clarkson](#) and [William Wilberforce](#)). The manumitees were marching along under banners on which was painted the word **AFRICAN**.

This was, in a sense, a veterans' march — for hundreds of people were in attendance who had personally experienced the [Middle Passage](#).

MANUMISSION

In this year the white city fathers, fearing "civil discord," would shut down the African Grove Theater which had been entertaining the black community since 1821, where they had been segregating white visitors into the rear since they had not seemed in general to understand "how to conduct themselves at entertainments of ladies and gentlemen of color." The [slaves](#) of New York State having been emancipated, it had apparently become illegal to accumulate people into coffles, or nightclubs. (Or, it being pointless in the State of New York to protest that one was being held in the condition known as slavery, the official reason why this was pointless was changed: whereas previously it had been pointless to point out that one was enslaved because the authorities would respond "Yes, and you're a slave," as of this year this had become pointless because the authorities had come to be able to respond "No, you are quite mistaken, in fact slavery is illegal here. Now get back to work.") At an unknown date within this time period, [Sojourner Truth](#)'s husband Thomas died free. Beginning roughly at this point and definitely continuing in the following year, Isabella Van Wagenen (Truth) was working as a free domestic servant in Kingston in Ulster County. Slightly to the south of this, however, living with the Auld family in a rented house on Philpot Street in Fells Point in [Maryland](#) near the facilities of the slave trader Austin Woolfolk, [Frederick Douglass](#) was lying at night, listening as slave coffles shuffled along from the pens to the port for transportation. He was learning about the enduring, obdurate nature of the world.¹



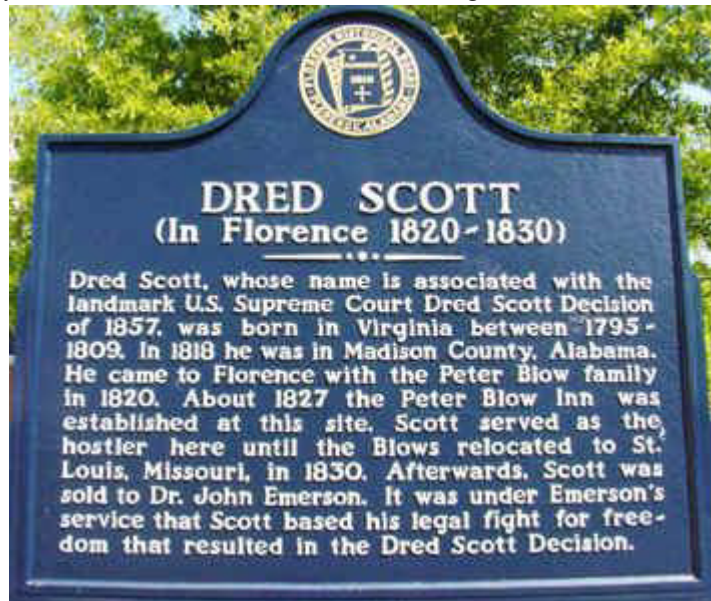
RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1830



The slavemaster Peter Blow, with his slave Dred Scott in tow, arrived in St. Louis, Missouri where Blow would for a few years, until his death in 1832, run a boardinghouse.



It would have been in about this year that [James Henry Harris](#) was born a black [slave](#) in Granville County, [North Carolina](#). Also in this year, the State of [North Carolina](#) was outlawing the teaching of reading or writing to any [slave](#) — but to appearances was being rather moderate in that it refrained from racially extending the

1. This was the year of the United States's first touring “minstrel show,” in which a white man with his face painted black,



Thomas D. Rice, presented himself as a character named “Jim Crow.” By the time of the Civil War this would amount to a national industry of sorts, with more than 30 full-time white touring companies going from city to city putting on professional imitations of black comedians. (During the [US Civil War](#) a shortage of white comics would cause some of these troupes to employ some black performers — who of course would perform, as did the whites, in blackface.)



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

prohibition as in the state of Georgia, beyond any slave to any person not white:

Whereas the teaching of slaves to read and write has a tendency to excite dissatisfaction in their minds, and to produce insurrection and rebellion, to the manifest injury of the citizens of this State: Therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that any free person, who shall hereafter teach or attempt to teach, any slave within this State to read or write, the use of figures, excepted, or shall give or sell to such slave or slaves any books or pamphlets, shall be liable to indictment in any court of record in this State having jurisdiction thereof; and upon conviction, shall, at the discretion of the court, if a white man or woman, be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than two hundred dollars, or imprisoned; and if a free person of color, shall be fined, imprisoned, or whipped, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding thirtynine lashes, nor less than twenty lashes.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1848

The last of Connecticut's [slaves](#), Onesimus Brown, who had refused [manumission](#), died. (Although this state had passed a law abolishing slavery in 1788, and although that law had specified that newborns would be free and all others were to be freed when they reached the age of 25 — in fact Connecticut's gradualism had been so utterly gradualistic that it had never emancipated any females who had been over 21 years of age at the time of its passage, or males who had been over 25.)

The city of Savannah, Georgia, to discourage freed rural black Americans from moving into the urban center, was attempting to impose a \$100-per-person-per-year tax upon any such relocations.



[James Henry Harris](#) gained his freedom at the age of 18 by virtue of a certificate from the Granville County, [North Carolina](#) Clerk's office. He would be apprenticed to a carpenter and later open his own business in Raleigh.

The Reverend Dr. [William Henry Brisbane](#) took his wife Glorianna Lawton Brisbane back to South Carolina for a visit and engaged not to conduct any abolitionist activities while there, or even speak of [slavery](#). He would, however, be coaxed into such discussions, and after she retired for the night, would sit up for hours arguing with friends about the ethics of slavery. In the middle of one night a relative would wake the family to warn that an angry mob was on its way to tar-and-feather this traitor — the Brisbanes would be forced into hastily flight.

The Reverend Dr. [Brisbane](#) was asked to fill a [Baptist](#) pulpit in Camden, New Jersey.

[James Henry Harris](#) is said to have attended school at [Oberlin College](#) for a couple of years (since the college does not have a record of this, perhaps he had been in their early school).

OBERLIN ARCHIVES



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1850

[William Cooper Nell](#) stood for the Legislature of Massachusetts on the Free Soil Party ticket, but was unsuccessful.



Born enslaved, [James Henry Harris](#) had gained his freedom at the age of 18 by virtue of a certificate from the Granville County, Clerk's office. In this year, evidently after completing an apprenticeship as a carpenter, that certificate was endorsed by [North Carolina](#) Governor [Charles Manly](#).




RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1858

May 8, Saturday-10, Monday: In [Chatham](#), in the district now known as Ontario but then known as [Canada](#) West, where there was a large population of former American slaves, [John Brown](#) announced to a secret “convention” of Negroes and whites he had organized, at the home of [Mary Ann Shadd Cary](#)’s brother Issac



Shadd, that he intended to establish a stronghold in the [Maryland](#) and Virginia mountains for the shelter of escaping slaves. This was referred to as the Subterranean Pass Way scheme. A provisional constitution was adopted for the new government of the United States of America. The Reverend William Charles Munroe of Detroit, [Dr. Martin Robison Delany](#), and several other influential black leaders were among those who voted their approval of this “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the people of the United States,” the charter formal of the fugitive society to be created in the remote fastnesses of the Alleghenies. (Delany would in 1868  allege that he had known nothing of the plan for the raid on the federal arsenal at [Harpers Ferry](#), but others who had also been present at these meetings would mock such claims of ignorance.) Then it was decided that the flag for this new society would be the original flag used during the American Revolution, Captain Brown was voted to be commander in chief of this scheme, [John Henry Kagi](#) became his secretary of war,



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

[George B. Gill](#) became his secretary of the treasury, and [Richard Realf](#) became his secretary of state. They had



trouble finding a black leader willing to assume the dicey role of President of this new society, so it was decided to replace the function of a president, temporarily, with a 15-person council headed by Commander-in-Chief Brown.

PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION

PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION

What follows is a list of the signatories to [Captain Brown](#)'s "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. We do not know what subsequently happened to the original document in Brown's handwriting, but the list was transcribed and published as Record Group 46 among the documents of the Senate investigating committee in 1860. Also, a list of signatories and the Minutes of the Convention would be published in 1861 in Osborne Anderson's A VOICE FROM HARPERS FERRY:



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
George Akin (Aikens)	No	No	No	recruit		of color
George Akin (Aikens), eventually of the 102d US Colored Infantry that formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste and included many men from Chatham , a musician						
Robinson Alexander (possibly)	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Robinson Alexander (possibly), eventually of the 102d US Colored Infantry that formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste and included many men from Chatham (name transposed)						
Jeremiah Goldsmith Anderson	Yes	Yes		Captain or Lt.	26	white
<p>Jeremiah Goldsmith Anderson, one of Captain Brown's lieutenants, was born April 17, 1833, in Indiana, the son of John Anderson. His maternal grandfather, Colonel Jacob Westfall of Tygert Valley, Virginia, had been a soldier in the revolution and a slaveholder. He went to school at Galesburg, Illinois and Kossuth, Iowa and worked as a peddler, farmer, and sawmill laborer before settling a mile from Fort Bain on the Little Osage in Bourbon County in "Bleeding Kansas" in August 1857. He was twice arrested by the proslavery activists, and for 10 weeks was held at Fort Scott. He then became a lieutenant of Captain Montgomery and was with him in the attack on Captain Anderson's troop of the 1st US Cavalry. He witnessed a murder on his own doorstep by border ruffians, of a Mr. Denton. He went with John Brown on the slave raid into Missouri and remained with him thereafter. On July 5, 1859 he wrote of his determination to continue to fight for freedom: "Millions of fellow-beings require it of us; their cries for help go out to the universe daily and hourly. Whose duty is it to help them? Is it yours? Is it mine? It is every man's, but how few there are to help. But there are a few who dare to answer this call and dare to answer it in a manner that will make this land of liberty and equality shake to the centre." He was "J. Anderson" among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He was thrust through with a bayonet by one of the Marines, and pinned against the wall. A white man, he was taken by the attackers to be a light mulatto and tortured: "One of the prisoners described Anderson as turning completely over against the wall [to which he was pinned by the bayonet] in his dying agony. He lived a short time, stretched on the brick walk without, where he was subjected to savage brutalities, being kicked in body and face, while one brute of an armed farmer spat a huge quid of tobacco from his vile jaws into the mouth of the dying man, which he first forced open." The corpse would be sent for the instruction of students at the medical college in Winchester, Virginia along with that of Watson Brown (a corpse found on the banks of the Shenandoah River was more likely that of a local slave).</p>						
Osborn Perry Anderson	Yes	No	No	Private	29	of color



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Osborn Perry Anderson, “O.P. Anderson, or as we used to call him Chatham Anderson,” the only participant of color to survive Harpers Ferry and elude capture, had been born free on July 27, 1830 in West Fallowfield, Pennsylvania. He had learned the printing trade in Canada, where he had met John Brown in 1858. He was a member of Congress of John Brown’s Provisional Government in Chatham, Ontario in May 1858 and was “Osborn Anderson” on the list of signatories of the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States”; a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858. He would write later of the fight at Harpers Ferry and his escape in A VOICE FROM HARPER’S FERRY: “We were together eight days before [John Edwin Cook and Albert Hazlett were] captured, which was near Chambersburg, and the next night Meriam [Francis Jackson Meriam] left us and went to Shippensburg, and there took cars for Philadelphia. After that there were but three of us left [Brown’s son Owen Brown, Barclay Coppoc, and Charles Plummer Tidd], and we kept together, until we got to Centre County, Pennsylvania, where we bought a box and packed up all heavy luggage, such as rifles, blankets, etc., and after being together three or four weeks we separated....” Anderson, Coppoc, and Meriam had journeyed separately to safe exile in the area of St. Catharines, Canada. Anderson enlisted in the US Army in 1864, becoming a recruiter and/or noncommissioned officer for a unit as yet undetermined, and mustered out in Washington DC at the close of the war (he would be identified by his father Vincent Anderson in 1872 as having been a recruiter for the “western regiments”). He was a member of the Equal Rights League in 1865, and represented Michigan at the National Convention of Colored Men in 1869. He died a pauper of TB and lack of care in Washington on December 13, 1872.</p>						
M(atisen, or Madison) F. Bailey	No	No	No	recruit		of color
M(atisen, or Madison) F. Bailey, a member of the African Commission of 1858 for emigration to the African continent, based on Martin M. Delany’s notion “the making of a colored nationality”						
James M(adison) Bell	No	No	No	recruit		of color
James M(adison) Bell, a member of the African Commission of 1858 for emigration to the African continent, based on Martin M. Delany’s notion “the making of a colored nationality”; a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858; California, 1865						
John Brown	Yes	Multiple wounds	Yes	Commander		white
John Brown , “Captain” John “Shubel Morgan” “Isaac Smith” Brown.						
Owen Brown	Yes	No	No	Captain	35	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Owen Brown, 3d of John Brown's sons and his stalwart aid both in "Bleeding Kansas" and at Harper's Ferry, was born November 4, 1824 at Hudson, Ohio. With a withered arm, he had been attempting to make a career of writing humor articles for newspapers. His name was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He was 35 at the time of the Harpers Ferry raid. He escaped on foot toward the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. It was due largely to his psychological grit and his endurance that the little group of survivors of which he was the leader managed to make it out. He and Charles Plummer Tidd found work and safety under assumed names on an oil-well crew in Crawford County, Pennsylvania. He was the only one of the 5 escaped raiders not to participate in the civil war. He would never marry. He would grow grapes for some time in Ohio in association with 2 of his brothers, and then migrate west, and would be the final survivor of the raiders when he would die on January 9, 1891 at his mountain home "Brown's Peak" near Pasadena, California. A marble monument marked the mountain grave, until during July 2002 it mysteriously disappeared — since the grave was not a registered historical landmark, and not in a cemetery, there would be no investigation.</p>						
Thomas F. Cary	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Thomas F. Cary, a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858, husband of Mary Ann Shadd, died in 1860						
John Connel (Caunel)	No	No	No	recruit		of color
John Connel (Caunel), private in Company A of the 113th US Colored Infantry that was formed from the 13th US Colored Infantry that was recruited in and spent its entire service in Arkansas						
John E. Cook	Yes	No	Yes	Captain	29	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>John Edwin Cook, a well-connected 5'7" gentleman with blue eyes and long, curly blond hair, born in Summer 1830 to a well-to-do family in Haddam, Connecticut, had been a law clerk in Brooklyn and Manhattan after being expelled from Yale College on account of some student indiscretion, and had in 1855 become a member of the guerrilla force operated out of Lawrence in "Bleeding Kansas" by Charles Lenhart and had made himself an excellent shot. The name "John E. Cook" was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. He had been dispatched by John Brown to Harpers Ferry more than a year before the raid to work out the details on the ground and had secured employment as a lock tender on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, as a schoolteacher, and as a bookseller. He had gotten married with a Chambersburg, Pennsylvania woman, Mary V. Kennedy, on April 18th, 1859. After being sent out by Captain Brown to collect weapons, and having escaped by climbing into a tree and watching the events transpire, and after having evaded capture for some months, against the advice of his comrades he became reckless in his search for food and was captured on October 25th, 8 miles from Chambersburg. As an incessant and compulsive communicator he had always been considered by the Brown operatives to be indiscreet. In a confession which would be published as a pamphlet at Charles Town in the middle of November 1859 for the benefit of Samuel C. Young, a man who had been crippled for life in the fighting, Cook would detail for his captors all his movements from the point of his 1st meeting with Brown after the battle of Black Jack in June 1856 until after his capture. At the last moment he would seek to save himself by representing that he had been deceived through false promises. For this revelation Cook would be severely censured at the time, being termed "Judas." Despite his confession, and despite his brother-in-law A.P. Willard being the governor of Indiana, he would in the end, one of the last, be also hanged for the treason and murder at Harpers Ferry, on December 16th.</p>						
Martin Robison Delany	No	No	No	Supporter		of color
<p>Dr. Martin Robison Delany, Pennsylvania, 1843; attended the Colored National Convention of 1848; attended the Emigration Convention of 1854; a member of the Niger Valley Exploring Party in 1858; a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858. At a meeting of the conspirators in Chatham in Canada West in May 1858, "M.R. Delany," the Reverend William Charles Munroe of Detroit, and several other leaders of the large black expatriate community approved something termed the "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the people of the United States," as the charter for the pike-wielding fugitive society of raiders which was to be created in the remote fastness of the Allegheny Mountains by Captain John Brown subsequent to his raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia. That document would be discovered on Brown's person when he was taken into custody. He would be a Major in the 104th Colored Infantry, and Sub-Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau in South Carolina, in 1865. He was a Freemason.</p>						
Stephen Ditten (Dutton), alias Chitman	No	No	No	recruit		of color
<p>Stephen Ditten (Dutton), alias Chitman, private in Company H of the 102d US Colored Infantry that was formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste and included many men from Chatham</p>						
Alfred M. Ellsworth	No	No	No	recruit		of color



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Alfred M. Ellsworth, Member of Congress from Illinois in 1853						
Simon Fisher (Fislin)	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Simon Fisher (Fislin), member of the 1st Regiment of US Colored Infantry						
George B. Gill						
<p><u>George B. Gill</u> had come to "<u>Bleeding Kansas</u>" in 1857 after whaling in the Pacific Ocean, and had there been recruited by <u>John Brown</u>. His name was among the signatories to "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States," from a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at <u>Harpers Ferry</u> on October 18, 1859. During the year before the raid, Captain Brown sent Gill to visit a black con artist named Mr. Reynolds who persuaded Gill that he had gone through the South organizing and had brought into existence in areas of the South a militant organization of black men and women. Pointing out to Gill that Southern newspapers carried numerous references to the death of a favorite slave, he alleged that these were leaders of <u>servile insurrection</u> plots who were being discovered and offed. According to this "<u>mumper</u>" Southern blacks were ready and needed only to be given a cue. There is evidence that several slaves from the vicinity of the arsenal did participate in the raid itself, but returned hastily to their plantations when it became obvious that the raid was a failure. Several fires were set in the vicinity of <u>Harpers Ferry</u> in the week after the raid, probably by slaves and free black Americans (Richard Hinton estimates that \$10,000,000 was lost in the sale of Virginia slaves in the year 1859; census figures show that between 1850 and 1860 there was almost a 10% decline in blacks in the three counties surrounding Harpers Ferry, a period during which the total number of blacks in <u>Maryland</u> and Virginia was increasing by about 4%).</p>						
Henry Harris	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Henry Harris, of Cleveland in 1859						
James Henry Harris						



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>No one associated with Captain John Brown, and no one associated with politics in North Carolina, has ever been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.</p> <p>“J.H. Harris” signed, as a member of a Vigilance Committee, on May 8th, 1858, the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States” in Chatham, Ontario West, Canada, a document which would be found on the person of John Brown when he was captured at Harpers Ferry on October 18th, 1859. Although another person of this name, James Henry Harris, had been born a slave in Granville County, North Carolina and had gained his freedom at the age of 18 in about 1848, he was not this “J.H. Harris.” Educated at Oberlin College, he would hold a teaching certificate from the New England Freedman’s Aid Society. He was of Cleveland in 1859, and a member of the 102d US Colored Infantry formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste that included so many men from Chatham. He would attend the 1st Freedmen’s Convention in the South, held in what would become the St. Paul A.M.E. Church on Edenton Street in Raleigh during September 1865 as a representative of Wake County. He would become the 1st black alderman from Raleigh, and a delegate from Raleigh to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1868; he got married with Bettie Miller, a daughter of Addison J. Smith and Mary Anderson, a cousin of Osborn Perry Anderson; he died in 1891 in Washington DC and the remains are at Mount Hope Cemetery in Raleigh. There is yet a 3d James H. Harris, who was not this “J.H. Harris” signatory, who was belatedly awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and is interred in the remote section of Arlington National Cemetery that was reserved for colored soldiers, and for contrabands.</p>						
Thomas Hickerson	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Thomas Hickerson, corporal in Company D of the 13th US Colored Infantry						
Isaac Hobbar (Holler; Isaac Holden)	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Isaac Hobbar (Holler; Isaac Holden), probably a member of the 102d US Colored Infantry under the name Isaac Horden, that formed in Michigan by George DeBaptiste and included many men from Chatham						
S(quire) Hunton AKA Esquire Hunter	No	No	No	recruit		of color
S(quire) Hunton AKA Esquire Hunter, commissary sergeant of Company H in the 109th US Colored Infantry						
Job (or John) T. Jackson	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Job (or John) T. Jackson, Corporal in Company F of the 13th US Colored Infantry						
James Monroe Jones	No	No	No	recruit		of color
James Monroe Jones, Chatham resident, owned a gun shop						
John Henry Kagi	Yes	Yes		Secretary of War, adjutant	24	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES

[illegible]



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
William H. Leeman	Yes	Yes		Captain	< 21	white

[William H. Leeman](#) was born on March 20, 1839 and was recruited in Maine as a 17-year-old very impressed with [John Brown](#). Being of a rather wild disposition, he had early left his home in Maine. Educated in the public schools of Saco and Hallowell ME, he was working in a shoe factory in Haverhill MA at the age of 14. In 1856 he entered [“Bleeding Kansas”](#) with the second Massachusetts colony of that year, and became a member of Captain Brown’s “Volunteer Regulars” on September 9, 1856. He fought well at [Osawatomie](#) when but 17 years old. [Owen Brown](#) found him hard to control at [Springdale, Iowa](#). [George B. Gill](#) said of him that he had “a good intellect with great ingenuity.” His name was among the signatories to “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States,” as “W.H. Leeman,” from a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at [Harpers Ferry](#) on October 18, 1859. By the raid upon Harpers Ferry he had reached the age of 20. On October 17, 1859, the youngest of the raiders, he made a mad dash out of the relative safety of the armory to swim down the Potomac River but two militiamen caught up with him and shot him down on an islet in the river. His body would be used for target practice for hours by the drunken citizenry, until the hail of bullets pushed it into the current and it was carried downstream. Mrs. Annie Brown Adams would write of him: “He was only a boy. He smoked a good deal and drank sometimes; but perhaps people would not think that so very wicked now. He was very handsome and very attractive.”

Charles W. Moffett	Yes					white
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[Charles W. Moffett](#), a white drifter from Iowa about whom little is known. His name was among the signatories to “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States,” as “C.W. Moffitt,” from a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at [Harpers Ferry](#) on October 18, 1859. Perhaps his middle name was “Wesley” (according to an 1882 article in the [Topeka Capital](#), “John Brown: A Reunion of His Surviving Associates,” a meeting of raid survivors at the Kansas Historical Society was called by C.W. Moffett of Montour, and a tombstone in the Maple Hill cemetery in Montour, Iowa is for a Charles Wesley Moffett, Jun. 20, 1827-Aug. 19, 1904) and perhaps he did not attend the raid on the federal arsenal because he had cold feet, or because he was one of a number of people suspected by the others of having written (2 anonymous postings, one dated August 18th, 1859 from near Philadelphia and the other dated 2 days later from Cincinnati) to alert the federal government to the plan for a raid on some federal arsenal ([Secretary of War John Buchanan Floyd](#) received this while at Red Sweet Springs in Virginia and did not alert anyone in the federal government; he would offer later that as War Secretary he had been getting a whole lot of spurious warnings, and anyway there wasn’t a federal arsenal in Maryland).

William Charles Munroe (Munro)	No	No	No	recruit		of color
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William Charles Munroe (Munro), Michigan, 1843, President of the [Chatham](#) Convention, active underground railroad leader in Detroit; minister; a Freemason

Robert Newman	No	No	No	recruit		of color
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Robert Newman



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES

Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Luke F. Parsons						White
<p><u>Luke F. Parsons</u>, 22-year-old white man, already a mercenary fighter seasoned in “<u>Bleeding Kansas</u>,” a petty thief in need of a paycheck and a legitimating excuse. His name “L.F. Parsons” was among the signatories to “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States,” per a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at <u>Harpers Ferry</u> on October 18, 1859.</p>						
James Purnell	No	No	No	recruit		of color
<p>James Purnell, Ohio, 1850, 1851; a member of the African Commission of 1858 for emigration to the African continent, based on Martin M. Delany’s notion “the making of a colored nationality”; Pennsylvania, 1865, nephew of William Whipper of the underground railroad</p>						
Richard Realf						White
<p><u>Richard Realf</u> was a 23-year-old Englishman, the son of a blacksmith who had become a rural constable. In 1852 he had put out a collection of poetry, GUESSES AT THE BEAUTIFUL, and in 1854, after giving up being the lover of Lady Noell Byron, widow of <u>George Gordon, Lord Byron</u>, he was led to the United States of America by “instincts” which he characterized as “democratic and republican, or, at least, anti-monarchical.” He had been introduced by <u>John Edwin Cook</u>, whom he had met in Lawrence in “<u>Bleeding Kansas</u>” while working as a correspondent for the <u>Illinois State Gazette</u>, to <u>John Brown</u> in Mount Tabor, Iowa at the end of November or beginning of December 1857. He traveled through Chicago and Detroit to <u>Chatham</u>, Ontario West, Canada, and his name was among the signatories to “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States,” per a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at <u>Harpers Ferry</u> on October 18, 1859. He returned to England to lecture, and visited France, before traveling from Havre on March 2, 1859 to New Orleans, arriving April 17, 1959 with the objective of becoming a Jesuit priest. He would testify before the <u>US Senate Committee</u>.</p>						
James Redpath						
<p><u>James Redpath</u>, crusading journalist out to make a buck in the best way.</p>						
George J. Reynolds						of color
<p><u>George J. Reynolds</u>, a light mulatto blacksmith or coppersmith of Sandusky, Ohio, from Virginia although saying he was from Vermont, with native American as well as black African heritage, age 35 at the time of the raid on the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, and active in the Underground Railroad. He had attended the Convention of Colored Men in 1858, and signed the “Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States” in <u>Chatham</u>, Ontario West, Canada per a document in Brown’s handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at <u>Harpers Ferry</u> on October 18, 1859. as “J.G. Reynolds.”</p>						



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
Richard Richardson	No					of color
<p>Richard Richardson, a fugitive slave from Lexington, Missouri who had joined John Brown in southern Iowa, was going through that unfortunate but now-well-understood initial period of reaction to freedom in which a former slave, accustomed to servitude and unaccustomed to self-origination, attaches himself to some authoritative white man who is able with courtesy to make use of him. He was a member of the African Mysteries, a secret defense group in Michigan in 1858, and signed the "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States" in Chatham, per a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859, but evidently did not get from Ontario to Virginia due to lack of travel money. He became a private in Company E of the 113th US Colored Infantry that was formed from the 13th US Colored Infantry that was recruited in and spent its entire service in Arkansas.</p>						
I(saac) D. Shadd	No	No	No	recruit		of color
<p>I(saac) D. Shadd, a member of the African Commission of 1858 for emigration to the African continent, based on Martin M. Delany's notion "the making of a colored nationality"; a member of the Vigilance Committee in Chatham and Windsor in September 1858; Speaker of the House of Representatives of Mississippi in 1870/1871</p>						
A(ddison) J. Smith	No	No	No	recruit		of color
<p>A(ddison) J. Smith, husband of Osborn P. Anderson's cousin Mary Anderson; a member of the 28th US Colored Infantry formed in Indiana that was recruited by Mary Ann Shadd, James Henry Harris, and Willis Revels (1st cousin of Lewis Leary), whose chaplain was Garland White of Chatham (the 28th is of special interest due to the fact that more than half the men were recruited in Ellicott Mills, Maryland, near the location of Captain John Brown's farmhouse headquarters), or the 113th US Colored Infantry that was formed from the 13th US Colored Infantry that was recruited in and spent its entire service in Arkansas</p>						
Charles Smith	No	No	No	recruit		of color
<p>Charles Smith, a member of the 28th US Colored Infantry formed in Indiana that was recruited by Mary Ann Shadd, James Henry Harris, and Willis Revels (1st cousin of Lewis Leary), whose chaplain was Garland White of Chatham, or 109th, or 127th US Colored Infantry (all these included friends of John Brown and Osborne P. Anderson)</p>						
James Smith	No	No	No	recruit		of color
<p>James Smith, a member of the 113th US Colored Infantry that was formed from the 13th US Colored Infantry that was recruited in and spent its entire service in Arkansas</p>						
Aaron Dwight Stevens	Yes	Badly wounded	Yes	Captain	28	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES						
Person's Name	On Raid?	Shot Dead?	Hanged?	His Function	Age	Race
<p>Aaron Dwight Stevens, John Brown's drillmaster, born in Lisbon, Connecticut on March 15, 1831, had run away from home in 1847 at the age of 16 to serve with a Massachusetts volunteer regiment in Mexico. He made himself proficient with the sword. At Taos in May 1855, he received a sentence of death for "mutiny, engaging in a drunken riot, and assaulting Major George A.H. Blake" of the 1st US Dragoons. This was commuted by President Franklin Pierce to 3 years hard labor but he escaped from Fort Leavenworth in 1856, 1st finding refuge with the Delaware tribe and then joining the Kansas Free State militia of James Lane under the name "Whipple." He became Colonel of the 2d Kansas Militia and met Brown on August 7, 1856 at the Nebraska line when Lane's Army of the North marched into "Bleeding Kansas". He became a devoted follower. He was a spiritualist. At Harpers Ferry, when Brown sent this middleaged man out along with his son Watson Brown to negotiate under a flag of truce, he received four bullets and was taken alive. The never-married Stevens was of old Puritan stock, and his great-grandfather had been a captain in the Revolutionary army. Because of a relationship with Rebecca B. Spring of the Eagleswood social experiment near Perth Amboy, New Jersey, after his execution on March 16th he would be buried there alongside Albert Hazlett. According to George B. Gill, writing after his death, "Stevens — how gloriously he sang! His was the noblest soul I ever knew. Though owing to his rash, hasty way, I often found occasion to quarrel with him more so than with any of the others, and though I liked [John Henry Kagi] better than any man I ever knew, our temperaments being adapted to each other, yet I can truly say that Stevens was the most noble man that I ever knew."</p>						
Thomas Stringer	No	No	No	recruit		of color
Thomas Stringer, represented Mississippi at the National Convention of Colored Men in 1869; a Freemason (he would organize "Negro Masonry" in Mississippi following the Civil War)						
Stewart Taylor	Yes	Yes		Private	23	white
<p>Stewart Taylor was born on October 29, 1836 at Uxbridge in Canada. He became a wagonmaker and in 1853 went to Iowa, where in 1858 he became acquainted with Captain Brown through George B. Gill. He was a spiritualist. He signed the "Provisional Constitution and Ordinances for the People of the United States" in Chatham, Ontario, Canada West per a document in Brown's handwriting that would be captured when he and his men were subdued at Harpers Ferry on October 18, 1859. A relative, Jacob L. Taylor of Pine Orchard, Canada West, wrote to Richard J. Hinton on April 23, 1860 that he had been "heart and soul in the anti-slavery cause. An excellent debater and very fond of studying history. He stayed at home, in Canada, for the winter of 1858-1859, and then went to Chicago, thence to Bloomington, Illinois, and thence to Harper's [sic] Ferry. He was a very good phonographer [stenographer], rapid and accurate. He was overcome with distress when, getting out of communication with the John Brown movement, he thought for a time that he was to be left out."</p>						
John A. Thomas	No	No	No	recruit		of color
John A. Thomas						
Charles Plummer Tidd	Yes	No	No	Captain	25	white



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

CHATHAM SIGNATORIES

[illegible]



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1859

When abolitionists went to the Ohio Republican convention, they managed to add repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 to the party platform.

During this year or the following one [George William Curtis](#) would become chairman of the Richmond County Republican Party Committee (a post he would retain until 1879).

[James Henry Harris](#) was in Cleveland, Ohio. He would travel to Canada.



Feelings had run high in Ohio in the aftermath of [John Price](#)'s rescue. When the federal jury issued its indictments, state authorities arrested the federal marshal, his deputies, and other men involved in Price's detention. After negotiations, state officials agreed to release the arresting officials, while federal officials agreed to release 35 of the men indicted. Simeon M. Bushnell, a white man, and Charles H. Langston, a mulatto, were the only two men to be put on trial, in the federal court. Four prominent local attorneys –Franklin Thomas Backus, Rufus P. Spalding, Albert G. Riddle, and Seneca O. Griswold– made up their defense team. The jurors were all known Democrats. After convicting the white defendant, the same jury heard the case against the free black defendant despite protests that using the same jurors was illicit. Langston gave a speech in court that was a rousing statement of the case for abolition and for justice for people of color (following this, the court needed to make sustained efforts to suppress applause from onlookers). After the jury also convicted the black defendant, [Judge Philemon Bliss](#) assigned light sentences, 60 days in jail for the white defendant and 20 days in jail for the free mulatto one. Bushnell and Langston would file a writ of habeas corpus with the Ohio Supreme Court, asserting that the federal court did not have the authority to arrest and try them because the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 was unconstitutional. The Ohio Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the law by a 3-over-2 ruling. Although Chief Justice Joseph Rockwell Swan was personally opposed to slavery, he wrote that his judicial duty left him no choice but to acknowledge that under the Supremacy Clause of the federal constitution an Act of the United States Congress was the supreme law of the land, and must be upheld. More than 10,000 citizens of Ohio then participated in a Cleveland rally to oppose the federal and state courts' decisions. Appearing with Republican leaders such as Governor Salmon Portland Chase and Joshua Giddings. [John Mercer Langston](#) was the sole black speaker. Chief Justice Joseph Rockwell Swan would fail to win reelection and would be driven from politics.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1862

July 12, Sunday: There was fighting at Kock's Plantation / Cox's Plantation, continuing into the following day.

US CIVIL WAR

Edvard Grieg petitioned the king for a stipend to travel and study (this would be denied).

10,000 British troops invaded the Maori region south of Auckland. This number constituted 1/4th of the entire British army world-wide.

On what would have been [Henry Thoreau](#)'s 45th birthday, the US federal Congress authorized the [Congressional Medal of Honor](#).



We notice of course that Henry had never done a single thing in his entire life to make America proud of him, let alone make himself worthy of being considered for this sort of honoring. Let us consider then a seldom-printed comment he made about the nature of prayer which you may review in the Haskell House Publishers version of A YANKEE IN CANADA: WITH ANTI-SLAVERY AND REFORM PAPERS:



“Let us not have the prayers of one sect, nor of the Christian Church, but of men in all ages and religions, who have prayed well.

The prayer of Jesus is, as it deserves, become a form for the human race.”²

And let us not overlook his infamous comment about the content of our prayers:



“Why do all your prayers begin ‘Now I lay me down to sleep’?”

And his enigmatic comment about the context of our prayers:



““Tell the tailors to remember to make a knot in their thread before they take the first stitch’
— although his companion’s prayer is forgotten.”

2. New York 1969, pages 117-22.

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RACE WAR,

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1864

[Chatham](#) in [Canada West](#) had 4,600 residents and was about a third black, some of these blacks being escaped American slaves.





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NOT CIVIL WAR

[Mary Ann Shadd Cary](#) returned to the US to recruit black soldiers for the Union armies.





RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

At this point it was made illegal for the first 1st, for American infantry units to make use of drummer-boys under the age of 16. —What, did someone get embarrassed? —Like, is war not for children?



Drummer Taylor
of 78th Regiment

In Detroit, Michigan [George DeBaptiste](#) worked to form the 102d US Colored Infantry and was appointed as the regiment's sutler. [James Henry Harris](#) was one of the many men from [Chatham](#) who enlisted. DeBaptiste went with the formation to South Carolina but returned to Detroit in about 6 months to become again a caterer at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and Beaubien Street.

February 14, Sunday: [Federal troops](#) captured Gainesville, Florida.

In Great Mills, [Maryland](#), 36-year-old [James H. Harris](#) enlisted in the Army of the Union as a private, with Company B of the 38th United States Colored Infantry regiment (the 28th is of special interest due to the fact that more than half the men were recruited in Ellicott Mills, Maryland, which happens to be some 60 miles from the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry and the Kennedy farm at which the raiders had hidden out before their attack).

[Federal forces](#) captured Meridian, Mississippi and would proceed to destroy the town, until the 20th.

US CIVIL WAR

July 25, Monday: In Company B of the 38th United States Colored Infantry, Private [James H. Harris](#) was promoted to corporal.

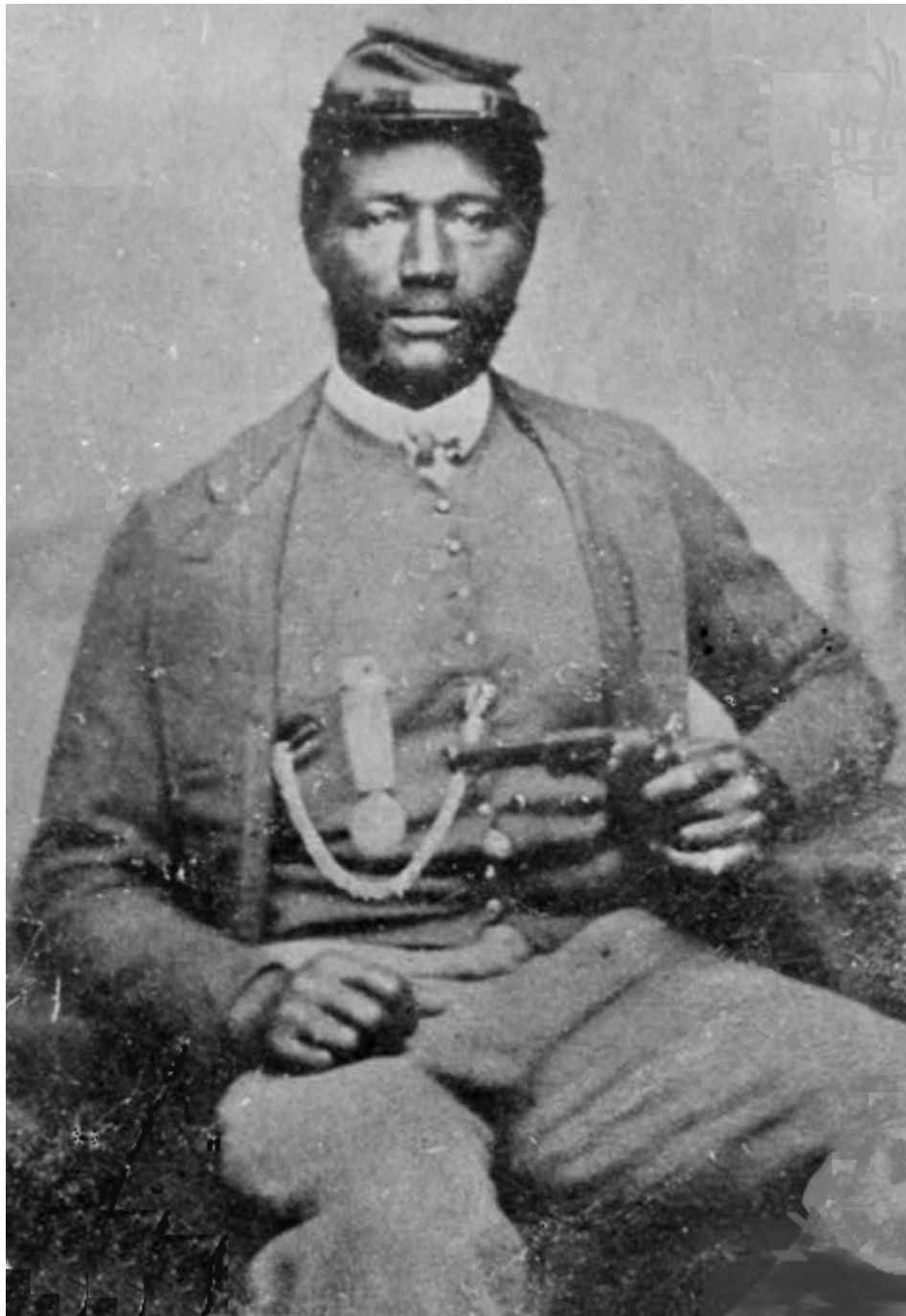
In hope of coaxing [General Robert E. Lee](#) to dispatch some troops out of Petersburg (which was under lengthy siege), General Ulysses S. Grant sent his Second Corps with two divisions of cavalry to wreak as much damage as they could along the northern bank of the James River, by tearing up railroads and whatnot.

US CIVIL WAR



RACE WAR,

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September 10, Saturday: In Company B of the 38th United States Colored Troops, Corporal [James H. Harris](#) was promoted to sergeant.

On this day and the following one there would be fighting at Davis' Cross Roads / Dug Gap.

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September 29, Thursday: On this day and the following day there would be fighting near New Market Heights, Virginia.



The 38th United States Colored Infantry was part of a division of black troops sent into the attack in what would come to be known as the Battle of Chaffin's Farm. The central Confederate defenses they were sent against consisted of 2 lines of abatis and a line of palisades defended by the Texas Brigade under Brigadier General John Gregg, and in the approach they were stalled at the abatis having taken more than 50% casualties. When a renewed attack was ordered Sergeant [James Henry Harris](#) and 2 others of the 38th, Private William H. Barnes and 1st Sergeant Edward Ratcliff, led the assault and made themselves the 1st to breach the defenses, engaging Confederates in hand-to-hand combat. When they were joined by the remainder of their division, the enemy was driven back.

[US CIVIL WAR](#)



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1865

September: [James Henry Harris](#) attended the 1st Freedmen's Convention in the South, held in what would become the St. Paul A.M.E. Church on Edenton Street in Raleigh, [North Carolina](#), as a representative of Wake County.



August 31, Thursday: The shop on Concord's Milldam that was considered to be the oldest structure pertaining to the Milldam Company, was purchased by Frank Pierce, who would come to be described locally as "Dean of the Milldam." From Frank Pierce we learn such details as that the shoes of the Alcott girls had toe inserts fashioned of copper.

[James Henry Harris](#) obtained a teaching certificate, from the Reverend John Parkman of the Committee on Teachers of the New England Freedmen's Aid Society in Boston:

[Left side of folded paper, printed]
New England Freedmen's Aid Society
8, Studio Building.
Organized in Boston, Dec. 7, 1862.
Officers.
President his Excellency John A. Andrew.
Vice presidents.
Rev. Jacob M Manning; Rev. Edward E Hale; Rev. J.W. Parker, DD;
Rev. J.S. Clark, DD; Hon. Jacob Sleeper; Dr. Robert W. Hopper;
Prof. William B. Rogers; Rev. William Hague, DD; Rev. Andrew L.
Stone, DD; Edward L. Pierce; Rev. R.C. Waterston; Edward
Atkinson; Dr. LeBaron Russell; William Lloyd Garrison; Rev. H.
M. Dexter; Rev. A. Eight. Miner; Rev. E.S. Gannett, DD; Hon.
Thomas Russell; Rev. Geo. H. Hepworth.
Treasurer, William Endicott, Jr., 33 Summer Street.; Rec. Sec'y
J.B. Thayer, 4 Court Street; Cor. Sec'y Marshall G. Kembell,
8 Studio Building.
Committee on Teachers, Rev. John Parkman, 8 Studio Building;
Loring Lothrop, 43 Pinckney Street; Miss H.E. Stevenson,
8 Studio Building; Mrs. Ednah D. Cheney, Jamaica Plain; Rev.
Chas. Lowe, Somerville; Mrs. J.A. Lane, 623 Tremont Street; Rev.
W. Hague, DD, 42 Charles St.; Miss M.J. Ellis, Roxbury.
Committee on Clothing and Supplies, Mr. Jona. A. Lane,
43 Franklin St.; Mrs. Samuel Cabot, 11 Park Square; Mrs. Wm. B.
Rogers, 1 Temple Place; Geo. Atkinson, 60 State Street; Mrs. A.
Merrill, 154 Newton Street; Frederick W.G. May, 2 Broad St.
Committee on Correspondence, Dr. H.I. Bowditch, 113 Boylston
St.; Francis J. Child, Cambridge; Dr. Samuel Cabot, 11 Park
Square; Chase. A. Cummings, 9 Studio Building.
Committee on Finance, Edward Atkinson, 40 State St.; Martin
Brimmer, 48 Beacon St.; Mrs. Geo. R. Russell, 1 Louisburg
Square; Chas. R. Codman, 7 Park Square; E.W. Kinsley,
37 Franklin St.; Cadwallader Curry, 50 Milk St.; Edward
Cunningham, Milton.
Executive Committee, Rev. John Parkman, 8 Studio Building; Prof.
F.J. Child, Cambridge; Wm. Endicott, Jr., 33 Summer St.; Mrs.
Ednah D. Cheney, 8 Studio Building



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Clothing and Supplies received at Wellington Bros. & Co.,
103 Devonshire Street.
Office No. 8 Studio Building, Tremont Street.
Boston, March 28, 1865.

[Right half of folded paper]
New England Freedmen's Aid Society,
8, Studio Building, Tremont Street,
[In script] Boston, Aug 31 1865
Mr. James Henry Harris
is hereby appointed by the
New England Freedman's Aid Society,
a Teacher of Freed People in
North Carolina
For the Committee on Teachers.
John Parkman chairman.
Hannah (?) E. Stevenson Sec'y.

October 19, Thursday: There was an annular [eclipse](#) of the [sun](#) (#7325) from Washington state to Florida.

[James Henry Harris](#) was appointed to serve as one of the 9 vice-presidents of the [National Equal Rights Convention](#), held over a 3-day period in [Cleveland, Ohio](#).

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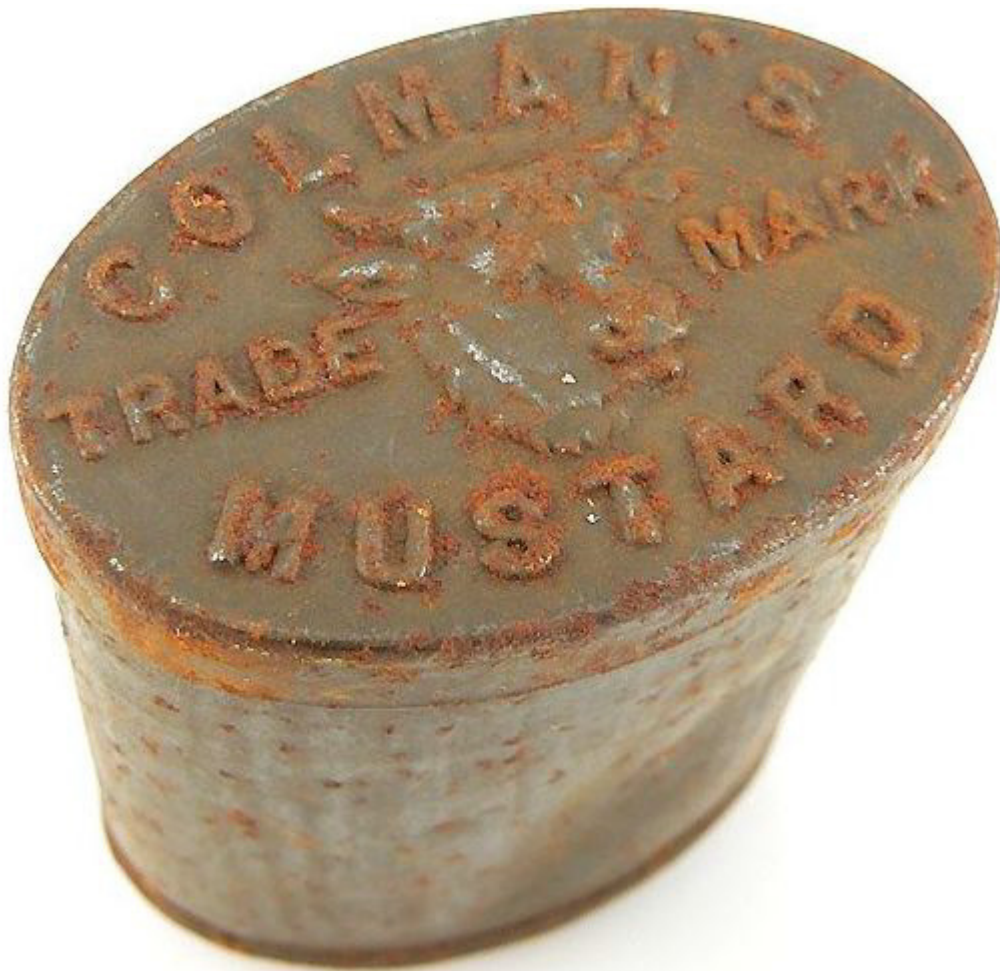
1866



In between petty crimes a Tuscarora tribesman, Henry Berry Lowrie, led a “Robin Hood” revolt in [Robeson County, North Carolina](#).

Near [Raleigh, North Carolina](#), Lewis Peck, a prosperous white grocer, divided his farm on a ridge a mile and a half northwest of downtown into lots and began to offer them to black Americans at about \$50 an acre (which was nearly 9 times more than such an acre house lot would have cost a white man in Wake County in that year). This began as “Peck’s Place” and eventually would be known as “Oberlin Village.”

By this point, through the efforts of [John R. Green](#), the bull had come to be the eponymous animal of [Durham, North Carolina](#).³



(Green had surmised, incorrectly, that the Colman’s brand of strong mustard was being manufactured in Durham, England.)

3. Aphorism: “You get the eponymous animals you deserve.”



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR



[James Henry Harris](#) got married with Bettie Miller, a daughter of Addison J. Smith and Mary Anderson, a cousin of [Osborn Perry Anderson](#).

RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1867

[James Henry Harris](#) became a council member of the Union League of America.

[Mary Ann Shadd Cary](#) relocated to Detroit, Michigan, where she obtained work as a teacher.



[Lucy Stone](#), Henry Blackwell, Clarina Nichols, and others traveled to [Kansas](#) to agitate for women's suffrage. After months of campaigning, the suffragists were defeated on the fall ballot.

FEMINISM



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

The “cattletown” era opened in [Kansas](#) with the arrival of the 1st Texas cattle at Abilene.

|

The Treaty of Medicine Lodge was signed between the US federal government and 5 Southern Plains Indian tribes.

At the American Equal Rights Association annual meeting, opinions divided sharply on supporting the enfranchisement of black men before women.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1868

[James Henry Harris](#) became an agent with Albion W. Tourgee to solicit northern contributions for the destitute in [North Carolina](#). He became a Raleigh city commissioner, and a Republican legislator serving in the state House of Representatives and in the state Senate.

He would make himself the director of the local branch of the [Freedman's Savings and Trust Company](#) (corner of Hargett and Fayetteville Streets) and the [Raleigh](#) Cooperative Land and Building Association (this cooperative offered mortgages that gave early Oberlin Village residents the opportunity to build pioneer-style homes, and eventually Colonial Revival-style and Queen Anne-style homes; the black village on the outskirts of town stretched for about 12 blocks from present-day Hillsborough Street to beyond what is now Wade Avenue).

The US Adjutant General reported the desertion rate among white troops serving in the American West to be almost 57% and their suicide rate nearly 8%, while the desertion and suicide rates among black troops ("Buffalo Soldiers") were merely 2-3%. The difference between the white and the black experience of this military experience on the Great Plains may have been due to the fact that many of the black soldiers were recently freed slaves, and thus accustomed to doing what they were told and being sober while they did it, whereas such was not the case for the German and Irish recent immigrants who made up the bulk of these white soldiers.

January 14, Tuesday: [James Henry Harris](#) became the 1st black alderman from Raleigh, and a delegate from Raleigh to the [North Carolina](#) Constitutional Convention.

May 20, Friday-21, Saturday: [James Henry Harris](#) attended the [Republican National Convention](#) at Crosby's Opera House in Chicago, Illinois.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1869

A note on Thoreau's "When you have got my ornaments ready I will wear them":

WALDEN: Much it concerns a man, forsooth, how a few sticks are slanted over him or under him, and what colors are daubed upon his box. It would signify somewhat, if, in any earnest sense, **he** slanted them and daubed it; but the spirit having departed out of the tenant, it is of a piece with constructing his own coffin, -the architecture of the grave, and "carpenter" is but another name for "coffin-maker." One man says, in his despair or indifference to life, take up a handful of the earth at your feet, and paint your house that color. Is he thinking of his last and narrow house? Toss up a copper for it as well. What an abundance of leisure he must have! Why do you take up a handful of dirt? Better paint your house your own complexion; let it turn pale or blush for you. An enterprise to improve the style of cottage architecture! When you have got my ornaments ready I will wear them.

In CASSELL'S HOUSEHOLD GUIDE: BEING A COMPLETE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF DOMESTIC AND SOCIAL ECONOMY, AND FORMING A GUIDE TO EVERY DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL LIFE (London and NY: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, 1869?) we find: "After death the eyes should be gently closed, the eyelids being, if necessary, kept in position by a coin." Since Thoreau is referring to corpses and coffins and has just used the phrase "toss up a copper," which of course refers to a small coin, the "ornaments" of which he speaks might well be these small coins which would be utilized by the preparer of a corpse, to hold shut the eyelids.

Which brings us to the topic of [Dr. Bartlett Leonidas Snipes Durham](#), who had been buried in an unmarked [North Carolina](#) grave with his "gold-rimmed" eyeglasses on. In this year the state's General Assembly voted to incorporate a city to be known as [Durham](#) on the site of the railroad station Dr. Durham had created at the edge of his plantation "Pandora's Box" between Prattsburg and Pinhook — the sole municipality ever, whose founding father had been a bachelor.

[James Henry Harris](#) led a delegation that urged President Ulysses S. Grant to use his influence with Congress to pass supplemental legislation securing equal rights for blacks.

January 13, Wednesday-16, Sunday: Although it has been recorded in various studies that [James Henry Harris](#) served as president of the [National Convention of Colored Men](#) held in Washington DC, I can discover no record that he was an officer at that convention or even that he had made an appearance there. All I have been able to recover is that he did visit Washington DC at some point during this year.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1872

[James Henry Harris](#) was re-elected as a Republican legislator. He served as a presidential elector.

Henry Berry Lowrie, Tuscarora tribesman of Robeson County, [North Carolina](#), obtaining more than \$28,000 from the local sheriff's safe, disappeared from the pages of history.

June 6, Thursday: [James Henry Harris](#) was attending the [Republican National Convention](#) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

To test the constitutionality of the ban on women's suffrage, [Susan B. Anthony](#) and other suffragists registered on this day in Rochester, [New York](#) to vote in the American presidential election of November 4th. When she would cast this ballot she would be placed under arrest.



FEMINISM

July: Louis Austin was helping to celebrate an election defeat of the Republicans, party of blacks and carpetbaggers, by Democratic candidate Carr, in [Durham, North Carolina](#), repeatedly discharging an antique bronze cannon located at the Old Bull Factory. After the cannon got too hot and blew up he was without both his arms, and greatly blackened. This mutilated corpse would be the initial one (Grave #1) placed in the new Maplewood Cemetery that has come to be bounded by Kent Street, Chapel Hill Road, and University Drive and has by now, radically expanded, come to include more than 22,000 burials.

TIMELINE OF ACCIDENTS



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1874

February 18, Wednesday: [James H. Harris](#) was belatedly issued the Congressional Medal of Honor on account of his “Gallantry in the assault” at Chaffin’s Farm (Private William H. Barnes and 1st Sergeant Edward Ratcliff also received this award).



US CIVIL WAR





RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1876

June 14, Wednesday: In San Francisco, the [California](#) Street Cable Car Railroad Co. received its franchise (service would begin on April 10, 1878).

[James Henry Harris](#) was attending the [Republican National Convention](#) at Exposition Hall in Cincinnati, Ohio.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1877

The last of the federal occupation troops departed from [North Carolina](#).

[James Henry Harris](#) of [Raleigh](#) served as one of the vice-presidents of the National Black Convention.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1880

William Still organized one of the first YMCAs for black youth.

By this point Oberlin Village on the outskirts of [Raleigh](#) had about 750 residents, some of whom had been the slaves of prominent antebellum landowners such as the Camerons and Mordecais, working as carpenters, brick masons, and seamstresses.

During this decade [James Henry Harris](#) would be editing the [North Carolina Republican](#).



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1883

“Colonel”⁴ W.T. “Buck” Blackwell’s horse track in [Durham, North Carolina](#) (this track still exists, as the oval in the quad of Duke University’s East Campus).

[James Henry Harris](#) was again re-elected as a Republican legislator.

4. The “Colonel” in the name of this “Father of Durham” was an honorary appellation — actually during the civil war he’d hired a surrogate to perform military service for him.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1891

May 31, Sunday: Work began on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

[James Henry Harris](#) died in [Washington DC](#). The remains would be placed in Mount Hope Cemetery in [Raleigh, North Carolina](#).



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

1898

January 28, Friday: [James H. Harris](#) died at the approximate age of 69. The body would be placed in Section 27, Site 985-H at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia (no white soldiers are buried in Section 27, which was a secluded section reserved for soldiers of color, plus contrabands who died while under the protection of the US military).



US CIVIL WAR

RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

2012

June 16, Saturday: Medal of Honor winner [James H. Harris](#) was specifically honored and memorialized in the dedication of a United States Colored Troops Memorial Statue in Lexington Park, Maryland.



US CIVIL WAR



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of the costs of preparation. My hypercontext button invention which, instead of creating a hypertext leap through hyperspace –resulting in navigation problems– allows for an utter alteration of the context within which one is experiencing a specific content already being viewed, is claimed as proprietary to Austin Meredith – and therefore freely available for use by all. Limited permission to copy such files, or any material from such files, must be obtained in advance in writing from the “Stack of the Artist of Kouroo” Project, 833 Berkeley St., Durham NC 27705. Please contact the project at <Kouroo@kouroo.info>.

“It’s all now you see. Yesterday won’t be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago.”

– Remark by character “Garin Stevens”
in William Faulkner’s *INTRUDER IN THE DUST*



Prepared: September 14, 2016



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

ARRGH AUTOMATED RESearch REPORT

GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.



RACE WAR,

NOT CIVIL WAR

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

First come first serve. There is no charge.
Place requests with <Kouroo@kouroo.info>. Arrgh.