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"Fare Fac - Say Do"

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1861-1865



2011-2015

Mosby's command grew in size and strategic importance as local Union forces were diminished, and as General Lee became more directly involved with Mosby's activities with the recent loss of Cavalry Commander General Stuart. While Union protection of the Orange and Alexandria Railway line had recently diminished when Grant began to receive his supplies by ship, it increased

The Fare Facs Gazette

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Summer 2014

Mosby's Horse Artillery and the Annandale Stockade Raid

By Edward Coleman Trexler, Jr.



By August 1864, the 60,000 or more men of the 11th, 12th, and 6th Corps that had been camped in and around Fairfax Court House were then gone with Grant's army south of Richmond. Likewise, the troops of the Washington Defense Department headquartered at Fairfax Court House were much diminished in numbers as the Confederate Army was no longer seen as a threat to Washington, and Grant was then receiving his supplies from the James River rather than from the Orange and Alexandria Railway. General Lee, locked in trench warfare with Grant near Petersburg, had sent General Early's force up the valley to create a diversion by threatening Washington from the northwest and diverting troops away from Grant's siege of Petersburg. Lee's strategy worked to some degree as Grant then sent General Sheridan's force into the valley to counter Early.



The Annandale Stockade may have been similar to this stockade built in Alexandria, Virginia during the Civil War.

Photo Source: Library of Congress

Fairfax, Virginia - May 2014

Greetings from the President -

HFCI is certainly having a lively, productive, and interesting run!

Please save the date for HFCI's annual Taste of the Vine, Friday, September 26, 2014.

This is our big fund raiser to financially support historic preservation in our wonderful city. Come to this important event, taste the wine and enjoy the food, silent auction, and great company! Bring your friends. If you can't attend, we would welcome your financial contribution.

HFCI participated with other community organizations in the naming of our new downtown square, now under construction. The final name selected by City Council was "Old Town Square". HFCI will also participate in developing the content of signage within the square to highlight the Kitty Pozer Garden legacy, the McCandlish Memorial Garden, and other items of historical interest.

Two much needed lighting improvements supported by HFCI are now underway at Blenheim. The entrance sign and driveway entrance are being lighted as requested by HFCI and funded by City Council. An anonymous donor has funded better lighting of the Blenheim attic replica in the Interpretive Center. Come see these improvements when you attend Taste of the Vine!

Have a lovely and safe Summer!

Sandra Wilbur

Welcome New Members!

The President & Board of Directors of HFCI extends a hearty welcome to all new HFCI members.

Barry and Kathy O'Hare
Raymond and Regina Girouard
Joseph Diloreti

At the Fairfax Museum and Historic Blenheim...

Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center "Second Sunday" Programs

Programs are held at **2 p.m.** on the second Sunday of each month. Unless otherwise noted, programs are held at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street. Free (unless noted). Check back to find out about additional programs planned throughout the year. Information: **703-385-8414**.

Sunday, August 10, 2 p.m.

"The Battle of the White House on Belvoir Neck in 1814"

Join historian and archaeologist Patrick O'Neill for an illustrated talk on a battle in August 1814 between American and British naval forces on the Potomac River near George Washington's Mount Vernon.

Sunday, September 14, 2 p.m.

(Special Location... Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax 2203)

"Woodward and Lothrop: A Store Worthy of the Nation's Capital"

Talk and book signing by Michael J. Lisicky, who has chronicled the story of “Woodies,” the department store that opened in Washington, D.C. in 1887 and operated until 1995.

Sunday, October 12, 2 p.m.

“Taking Tea: Teatime Across the Centuries”

Learn about the history of the tea drink and the tradition of taking tea as an afternoon snack or evening meal. Tastings of hot tea, scones, teacakes, and shortbread will follow the presentation. Fee: \$8/person. Program limited to 25 attendees. For reservations and to arrange payment, call: 703-385-8415.

Sunday, November 9, 2 p.m.

“Not Forgotten: The Story of the Offerings at the Wall”

Megan Leining, Collections Manager with Fairfax County Park Authority, will talk about her former work with the National Park Service of curating the objects left at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Sunday, December 14, 2 p.m.

“Four Centuries of Virginia Christmases”

Join author Mary Miley Theobald to explore Virginia Christmas customs and their evolution from pagan, British, German, and Dutch precedents.

Historic Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center Program Series

Programs are free and held at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway (unless otherwise noted). Check back to find out about additional programs planned throughout the year. Information: 703-591-0560. HOURS BEGINNING JAN. 2014: 10am to 3pm, Tuesday through Saturday. 1 p.m. guided tour of historic house and site. FREE.

Saturday, August 23, 2 p.m.

“Civil War Balloon Corps”

Balloons were used for surveillance and reconnaissance by the Union Army from 1861 through 1863 and by Confederate Army in 1862. Join Kevin Knapp as he shares oral and living history as the Union Army’s chief aeronaut, Thaddeus Lowe, and discusses the technological innovations that were at the birth of U.S. military aviation.

Saturday, September 20, Noon - 4:00 p.m.

“The War of 1812 in Fairfax”

In commemoration of the 200th anniversary of local Fairfax citizens’ military role with the Virginia Militias in 1814, Historic Blenheim will host a living history encampment of the 60th Virginia Militia, portrayals of local landowners, a blacksmith; talks by historian Stuart Butler, author and reporter Steve Vogel, and period music by musician/ musicologist David Hildebrand.

Saturday, October 25, 2 p.m.

“The Little Women of Virginia: The Adventures of a Navy Widow and her Daughters during the Civil War”

In the vein of Louisa May Alcott’s, *Little Women*, Jennie Forrest Richardson wrote a loving tribute about the ordeal of her penniless and widowed mother, Anna Henderson Forrest, and her five sisters during the Civil War. Adele Air will relate how the family survived while living in several states and Washington, D.C.

Saturday, November 22 , 2 p.m.

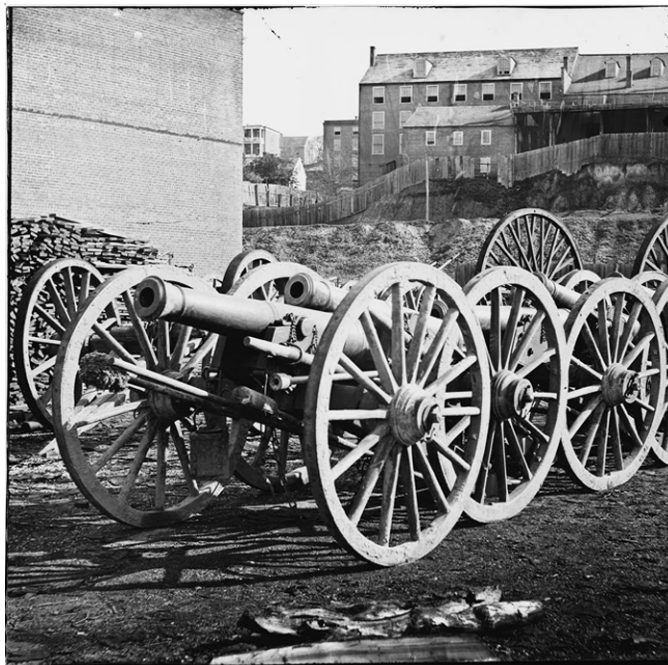
“Brother Against Sister: Rape in the Civil War”

While nearly 30 soldiers were executed for the crime of rape during the War, hundreds of women came forward with horror stories of rape and attempted rape. In many cases, the judicial system worked against them. Based on her book, *I Had*



again in order to supply Sheridan's forces in the valley. The Union also needed to improve and defend the Manassas Gap Railway line. Mosby, while employing limited artillery, continually frustrated Union attempts to strengthen and protect Sheridan's railroad supply lines. In addition, Mosby had in the past demonstrated his ability to create problems for the Union around Washington, thus diverting troops from Grant in Petersburg. More recently he was providing support to Early while denying Sheridan additional forces from Washington. Mosby's shelling of the Annandale Stockade was aimed at creating another diversion that would prevent the transfer of troops from Washington to support both Grant and Sheridan

Mosby, with approximately 300 Rangers and two light cannon, left Rectortown in Loudoun County around noon on August 23, 1864 on a



Mosby likely used a Model 1841 6-Pounder Field Gun, similar to these, on August 24, 1864. It could fire a 6-pound solid spherical projectile or "grape" shot.

Photo credit: Library of Congress.



Col. John S. Mosby, 43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry, c. 1865.

Photo credit: Library of Congress



6-pound spherical shell mounted on wooden sabot and time fused. Mosby might have used ordinance similar to this on August 24, 1864.

Photo credit: Melton, Jack and Pawl, Lawrence, *Guide to Civil War Artillery Projectiles*, © 1994, Kensaw Mountain.



Type of "grape projectile" that Mosby might have fired on August 24, 1864 (Union reported finding "grape" at the Annandale Stockade but believed unlikely).

Photo credit: Melton, Jack and Pawl, Lawrence, *Guide to Civil War Artillery Projectiles*, © 1994, Kensaw Mountain



Mosby used a 3-inch ordinance rifle like this one on August 24, 1864. It was very accurate within a range of 2,000 yards and fired an elongated solid shell.

Original photo credit: Capt. John C. Tidball, Battery A, 2nd U.S. Artillery, Fair Oaks, VA, June 1862, Library of Congress.

Colorized photo source: Civil War in Color, John C. Guntzelman

mission to attack the Annandale Stockade. Avoiding Union Cavalry in Loudoun by traveling to the south, they crossed the Bull Run mountain range about sunset and continued through Fairfax Court House under cover of darkness, arriving within artillery range of the stockade on the western edge of Annandale early on the morning of August 24. This was the last appearance of a large force of Mosby's partisan rangers passing into or through the Fairfax Court House area during the War.

The stockade that Mosby hoped to destroy was manned by approximately 170 men of the Union's 16th New York Cavalry and commanded by a Captain Joseph Schneider, possibly a German mercenary. Mosby's initial stop was approximately at the hill on Little River Pike overlooking Accotink Creek, and what is now the Beltway (I-495) at the entrance to present day Mill Creek Park. Near here his men captured four Union soldiers serving picket duty, but only after the pickets had fired several shots warning the stockade of an impending attack. Mosby initially placed his two guns, a distance of some one-half mile, or 880 yards, from the stockade located along the Pike near present day Hummer Road.

According to the diary of Pvt. James J. Williamson of Mosby's command, the two guns were a six-pound howitzer and a three-inch ordnance rifle. While small by artillery standards, they should have been capable of destroying and capturing the stockade had they been accompanied by suitable projectiles and fuses. Shortly after the pickets fired their warning shots, the Confederate artillery, under Capt. Peter Franklin, opened fire upon the fort and then, under the cover of the rifled cannon, the cavalry moved forward with the six-pound howitzer to approximately the Accotink Creek; the rifled cannon was then also moved forward. The initial firing placed three artillery shells within the stockade, however, they seemingly did little damage. Shell projectiles properly



Type of 2.93 inch diameter unfused solid shot projectile with lead band sabot that might have been fired by Mosby artillerymen on August 24, 1864.

Photo credit: Melton, Jack and Pawl, Lawrence, *Guide to Civil War Artillery Projectiles*, © 1994, Kensaw Mountain

outfitted with working time fuses to burst within or over the stockade should have been able to do great damage but this, apparently was not the case. More ineffective rounds were fired from the new forward position, approximately the location of present day I-495, about 400 yards from the stockade. The brash Mosby was not discouraged by his fire and sent Captain Montjoy under a flag of truce to the stockade to demand they surrender. Capt. Schneider, however, commanding the stockade brashly replied,

"A German commands this fort and he will never surrender."

Mosby then ordered his artillerist to resume firing from their advanced location. While now closer, the fire was less accurate, probably because they were firing from a much lower elevation than the fort and they had a much less favorable trajectory. Mosby's rifled cannon projectiles, possibly lacking the proper percussion fuses, were unable to penetrate the heavy timber of the stockade, and his howitzer was again inaccurate and ineffective. Mosby, however, again demanded a surrender, this time sending Lt. Harry Hatcher to a salient in the stockade commanded by a Capt. Mickels. Mickels responded,

"Tell Colonel Mosby I will not surrender and if he sends that rag up here again I'll shoot it to hell."

Hatcher replied,

"Don't do that, it's the only handkerchief I've got."

After firing a few more shells Mosby pulled back his force and returned westward along the Pike through Fairfax Court House and back to Loudoun, leaving the stockade damaged but still in the hands of Union Captain Schneider. During an approximate one hour attack he is reported to have fired somewhere between 15 and 30 rounds but with limited effect; a tactical failure, but perhaps a strategic success? The answer to this question lies in understanding the military situation in Virginia at the time and knowing more about the nature, history and characteristics of Mosby's limited Horse artillery.

The Military Situation

Grant's campaign which began in May in the wilderness near the convergence of the Rappahannock and the Rapidan Rivers cost the Union thousands of men killed and injured but he kept moving south. After the Battles of the

Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, and Cold Harbor, Grant crossed the James River east of Richmond and was temporarily stopped at Petersburg by General Beauregard. Beauregard commanded the Dimmock defensive line previously prepared to defend Richmond from the south. When Lee arrived he resumed command and his men replaced those of Beauregard. By the end of June the main battleground was around the City of Petersburg, south of Richmond. There Lee and an estimated 41,000 of his men initially faced Grant with an estimated force larger than 100,000 in "trench warfare."

Lee's advantage in maneuverability was lost as he kept his troops in trenches at Petersburg. He decided to create a diversion to draw Grant away from the siege. Lee detached General Jackson's Corp of 18,000 men, then under the command of Gen. Early, and sent them up the valley to launch an attack against Washington, leaving Lee, then with an estimated 23,000 men, to face Grant. Early was initially successful as he stormed up the valley and in July was able to bombard Washington's western defenses and to even fire on Lincoln who was watching from Fort Stevens.

Grant countered Lee by sending General Sheridan's army of 31,000 up the valley to destroy food supplies, canals, and bridges and to search for Early. Early was weakened as he faced overwhelming odds but he remained around Winchester and the valley where he was supported by Mosby. Early provided captured artillery to Mosby who was effective in blocking Union forces from the Washington area from moving into the Winchester area to pursue Early.

By August 1864, Lee's situation in Petersburg was desperate, his entrenched 23,000 man force faced Grant's more than 100,000 man force that grew more each day. Lee's hope then was that in the coming November Presidential election

Lincoln would be replaced by former General McClellan; McClellan's election offered the hope of a quick and equitable peace. Lincoln, however, was reelected by a vote of 2,203,831 to 1,797,019 for McClellan.

By mid to late August the Union was planning to relocate troops from the Fairfax area to join in the pursuit of Early near the valley and to continually increase Grant's advantage at Petersburg. Strategically, it was then important for Mosby to create enough activity and noise in the Fairfax area to cause the Union to hold Fairfax forces in place. This was the strategy of Mosby's Annandale raid and in this regard his bombardment, while failing to capture the stockade, was a strategic success.

Mosby's Horse Artillery

Mosby's horse artillery was "make do." He never enjoyed having cannon of his choice supported by an array of different projectiles including "solid," "shell," "grape," and "canister," all with appropriate "sabot" and each supported by appropriate and reliable "time" and "percussion" fuses. He did, however, have several trained artillerists who were resourceful enough to be effective while severely "equipment limited." After receiving his first artillery on May 29, 1863, a small 2 ½ inch rifled mountain howitzer and 15 rounds of ammunition, Mosby promptly lost the cannon after destroying a Union train near Catlett Station. Pursued by angry Union forces after the Catlett raid, his artillerist lost the howitzer when running out of ammunition, but only after administering more damage to the enemy in the form of deadly "grape" and "canister."

While he lost the cannon his mission was successful. From that time on he was seldom without one or more "cannon of opportunity." Most often his cannon had been captured from the Union but often without the appropriate ammunition. In

June 1864, he was in possession of a 12 pound Napoleon at Mount Zion Church. In July of that year he was given a rifled cannon by General Early. He used his Napoleon, which he called "Potomac," in and around Point of Rocks and Harpers Ferry in support of General Early.

On October 7, 1864, he returned to Rectortown with the 3-inch rifle, and a six pound howitzer. Mosby hid his small artillery collection near Cobbler Mountain in the foothills of the Blue Ridge range in Fauquier County, just south-southwest of Piedmont Station in Loudoun County. Unfortunately for Mosby, however, his artillery base was disclosed to the Union by a captured and threatened artilleryman and Mosby's entire artillery force was captured on October 10, 1864. Mosby's poor artillery performance on August 24, 1864 was probably because his artillerymen lacked the proper artillery, projectiles and fuses. Inaccuracy could have been the result of not having projectiles or "sabot" of the proper diameter. His artillery ventures were a valiant effort but often with limited success.

References:

1. Moxham, Robert, 1992; *Annandale, Virginia, A Brief History*; Fairfax County History Commission.
2. Keen, Hugh and Mewborn, Hugh, 1993; *43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry Mosby's Command*; H. E. Howard.
3. Jones, Virgil Carrington, 1994; *Ranger Mosby*; University of North Carolina.
4. Wert, Jeffry, 1990; *Mosby's Rangers*; Simon and Schuster.
5. Melton, Jack and Pawl, Lawrence, 1994; *Guide to Civil War Artillery Projectiles*; Kensaw Mountain.
6. ORs Chap. LV, p. 637-639.

Visit us on the web:
HFCI Website!

<http://www.historicfairfax.org>

A CONFEDERATE FLAG

Which Went Through the War and Has a History.

Dahlgonega, Ga., July 14.—(Special.)—The Signal announced recently that Colonel W. P. Price, during his recent visit to the battlefields of Fairfax county, Virginia, had found a flag which belonged to the regiment to which he was a member—the Second Carolina Volunteers. The flag was entrusted to Miss Nannie Thomas, of Fairfax courthouse, by the gallant Colonel J. B. Kershaw, now deceased, some time after the battle of the First Manassas. Miss Nannie was the niece of James W. Jackson, of Alexandria, who killed the colonel of the New York Zouave regiment and was himself immediately shot down. This young lady was often at the dress parades of the company, and became a general favorite with the command. Her father lived at Fairfax and was a prominent lawyer and citizen of Virginia. The flag has been preserved all these thirty years, and has been presented to Colonel Price by the two daughters of Mrs. Nannie Eglin, the Misses Julia and Ethel Eglin, in turn to be given over to Pulliam camp of veterans, at Greenville, S. C. This will be done as soon as it is convenient for Colonel Price to do so in person.

Atlanta Constitution, July 15, 1895, p. 7, c. 3.

Nannie Thomas was the daughter of Judge Henry W. Thomas. The Thomas family resided at Fairfax Court House on the S.E. corner of South St. and Mechanic St. (now called University Drive).

The flag was apparently given to the R. C. Pulliam Camp, No. 297, United Confederate Veterans, of Greenville, South Carolina, named for Robert C. Pulliam, Captain of Co. B ("Butler Guard"), 2nd South Carolina Infantry, who was killed in action at the Battle of Gettysburg.

Col. William Pierce Price, who received the flag from the Elgin's, was then an Orderly Sergeant with the Butler Guards, 2nd South Carolina Infantry. He was later elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Georgia.

This flag now appears to be in the collection of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. The Catalogue of the Museum, © 1898, records the following artifact: "South Carolina #320 Battle-Flag, left in Miss Nannie Thomas' care just before the surrender, and presented to Colonel W.P. Price after the war by his daughters."

LETTER FROM THE 42D MASS.

CAMP BURRILL, Alexandria, Va. }
August 24th, 1864. }

MR. EDITOR:—We are still at Camp Burrill, and everything is working nicely. Rumor has it that we are to move in a few days; *where*, no one knows, but a few who pretend to know say we are to be sent to New York. Last Monday I got permission to accompany the railroad aquad to Fairfax Station. We started from camp at six o'clock in the morning, and arrived at the Alexandria Station at seven; left there at eight o'clock for Fairfax Station. Nothing of interest occurred until just after we passed Bark Station (about 14 miles from Alexandria,) where an old lady came out and informed the engineer that a small bridge, a short distance ahead, had been burned the night before, by guerillas. There were about 250 of us and we were soon ready for the guerillas should we meet any, and skirmishers being thrown out, the train went slowly on. We soon arrived at the bridge, and men were immediately set to work, who soon made it strong enough for us to pass over. Leaving a guard at the bridge we pushed on, and arrived without further trouble at Fairfax Station, or rather where the station used to stand, for everything in the shape of a building is now burnt to the ground, except Fairfax church, a small one-story building, which has thus far withstood the ravages of war, although a large number from both the Union and Rebel armies have passed it and encamped around it.

The ride to Fairfax Station was very interesting. On both sides of the railroad could be seen burnt block houses, burnt winter quarters of both infantry and cavalry camps, burnt and broken railroad cars, which were run off of the track during the early part of the war. While loading the cars it commenced to rain, and of all the rains I ever saw that one beat the whole. Fairfax Station is situated in a hollow, and is surrounded by high hills, and ten minutes after it commenced to rain the track was under wa-

ter, and in half an hour the water was up to the top of the car wheels; the water got up to the fire box of the engine, and she had to run some ways up the track to get out of the water. We had no rubber blankets with us, and therefore had to stand and take it for an hour and a half, soaked through and through. After loading the cars we started for our muskets, but to get at them we had to cross the track with the water up to our waists. Some of the boys being rather careless in crossing, were taken off their feet by the current, and had no little trouble in getting on them again. We waited sometime, until the water went down a little, when the engine came back after us, and we were soon on our way home, where we arrived at half past six in the evening. While at Fairfax Station a guerilla was brought in of whom I will speak in my next, as my space being limited I shall have to close for the present.

Yours,

SAXIE.

Cape Ann Light, September 3, 1864, p. 1, c. 5

DUES ALERT

If you have not paid your annual Historic Fairfax City, Inc. dues they are now due. Please remit based on the schedule below. Annual dues payments should be made out and sent to: *Historic Fairfax City, Inc.*, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22030.

Your annual dues help HFCI to continue to meet its basic goal of preserving the unique history of the City of Fairfax. Tax deductible donations over and above dues payments are encouraged.

Membership Classifications:

• Class A Individual.....	\$25.00
• Class A-1 Additional Member.....	\$10.00
• Class B-1 Non-profit.....	\$35.00
• Class B-2 For profit.....	\$50.00

Fairfax Court House News of 150 Years Ago

FIGHT WITH GUERRILLAS.

Captain Fleming, with sixty men of the Sixteenth New-York Cavalry, who was sent on a scout, was attacked near Fairfax Station, Thursday, by a body of Mosby's guerrillas, and Captain Fleming and eight of his men were killed, and most of the others taken prisoners. Captain Fleming's body was found near the road, and taken to Falls Church and buried.

REBEL SCOUTS.

Sunday morning several rebel scouts were seen near Fort Schneider at Annandale. They fired upon our pickets in several directions. Sergeant Lemian, of the Sixteenth New-York Cavalry, who was on picket on the Braddock road, was killed. Our scouts are on the alert on the hills, valleys, and through the dense woods, but are unable to catch these picket-shooting assassins and marauding highwaymen.

New York Tribune, August 15, 1864, p. 4, c. 5.

MOSBY AGAIN.

He Makes a Raid on Annandale—He Demands a Surrender of the Garrison There—The Garrison Won't Surrender, and Makes the Guerrilla Skedaddle—Our Cavalry in Pursuit.

This morning, at about five o'clock, the garrison of the stockade at Annandale, consisting of two hundred and seventy-five men of the 16th New York cavalry, was attacked by the enemy under the leadership of Mosby, who had with him two pieces of artillery, and from two to three hundred men.

On taking his position, Mosby demanded the surrender of the garrison, which was refused; whereupon he opened fire with his guns, the cannonading lasting for say threefourths of an hour. The garrison still holding out, Moseby withdrew, and was followed by our cavalry, who, at latest advices, were still in pursuit.

Evening Star, August 24, 1864, p. 2, c. 4.

FIGHT AT ANANDALE.

Cannonading was heard in the direction of Anandale, in Fairfax county, this morning, and it is reported that the Federal camp near that place was attacked, but the result, we could not learn.

Alexandria Gazette, August 24, 1864, p. 2, c. 3.

THE ATTACK OF MOSBY ON THE STOCKADE AT ANNANDALE.

No further particulars of the raid of Mosby on Annandale yesterday had been received up to noon to-day, save that we had one sergeant of the 16th New York cavalry and two men captured. The demand for surrender was made three times by Mosby, each demand being preceded by shots from his artillery. The demand was obstinately refused, and finally the rebs were forced to retire.

Evening Star, August 25, 1864, p. 2, c. 4.

MOSBY IN FAIRFAX.—A lady who resides in the vicinity of Fairfax Court-House came into the city to-day, and reports that Moseby, with a force of about 400 men camped near her father's farm two nights since, and eat up what little stock of provision they had. Moseby boasted that he had quite recently visited this city, and that he had remained in town for several hours. We have repeatedly heard of Moseby's boasts in this respect, and we have, somehow, been led to doubt the highwayman's veracity. His statements may, however, be quite correct, as the feat is by no means impossible, and he has sufficiently strong attachments in this community to induce him to run the hazard of a visit occasionally. The lady understood him to intimate that he would make Fairfax the scene of his exploits for the present.—*Alex Journal*, 25th.

Evening Star, August 27, 1864, p. 2, c. 2.

Dr. James Hunter, of Fairfax, has been arrested by the Federals, and brought to this place, and is confined in the County jail.

Alexandria Gazette, September 9, 1864, p. 1, c. 3.

Rather Die: Rape in the Civil War, award winning author Kim Murphy, will contradict many historians claims that The American Civil War was a “low-rape” war to show the atrocities against women, both white and black. Book purchase and signing to follow.

Saturday, December 7, Noon to 4 p.m.

“Christmas in Camp”

Civil War Living History. Discuss Civil War-era Sunday, holiday customs, make Victorian ornaments, and participate in camp drills with Company D, 17th VA Infantry, “Fairfax Rifles” C.S.A. Guided tours of Historic Blenheim House.

Other Information of Interest:

Walking Tour

11 am Guided walking tour (approx. 90 min.) of Old Town Fairfax with stops at the Fairfax County Courthouse, several antebellum homes with a Civil War history, and the City of Fairfax Cemetery (formerly Fairfax Confederate Cemetery).

Location: Meet at Fairfax Museum and Visitors center, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax 703-385-8414. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water.

Volunteers and docents are sought for the city’s historic buildings: Ratcliffe-Allison House, Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center and Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center. Additionally, volunteers may be interested in assisting with walking tours and special events. For information email or call **703-385-8415**.

The city has published a free self-guided walking tour brochure that provides a brief history of the city and noteworthy buildings in the Old Town Fairfax Historic District. This brochure is available from the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street, or call **703-385-8414**.

Select historic buildings are open during city special events, including the Chocolate Lovers Festival, Civil War Weekend, Independence Day Celebration, Fall Festival and Festival of Lights and Carols. To arrange group tours of city-owned historic buildings email or call **703-385-8414**.

The Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. It includes a variety of building and monument types and styles, including:

Fairfax Courthouse (1800)
Ratcliffe-Allison House (1812)
Joshua Gunnell House (c.1830)
William Gunnell House (c.1835)
Ford House (c.1835)
Fairfax Elementary School (1873)*
Old Fairfax Jail (1885)
Old Town Hall (1900)
Marr Monument (1904)

*Fairfax Elementary School was converted into the Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center in 1992.

In the Next Issue...

It was not Mr. S. A. Marsteller, who was killed during a skirmish near Catlett’s Station, a few days ago—but his son.

Alexandria Gazette, May 23, 1863, p. 2, c. 3.

The above notice from the *Alexandria Gazette* refers to a deadly incident which occurred in both Prince William County and Fairfax Court House.

Find out more about the Skirmish at the Marsteller Farm and the aftermath at the Brigade Hospital at Fairfax Court House in the next issue of the *Fare Facs Gazette*.