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Potomac River.^{2,3} The extensive plantation included a grist mill, *Ball's Mill*, which stood on Scott's Run. The location is today known as Swink's Mill.⁴ Modern day Ball's Hill Road traces the path of a farm road which ran through the center of *Woodberry* ending at the family home, *Elmwood*, on Ball's Hill, also known as Prospect Hill, just south of Georgetown Pike.⁵

Politically, Mott's father, Spencer Mottrom Ball, was an *Anti-Jacksonian*. As the name implies, this party was opposed to the authoritarian policies of President Andrew Jackson and his Democratic party. Several anti-Jacksonian factions came together to form the *Whig* party in 1834. Whigs supported the supremacy of Congress over the presidency

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Colonel Mottrom Dulany Ball

by William Page Johnson, II



Mottrom Dulany Ball, of Fairfax County, Fairfax Court House, and Alexandria, Virginia, was a musician, poet, teacher, lawyer, soldier, and a founding father of the State of Alaska.

Mottrom Dulany Ball, who was known variously as *Mott*, *M. Dulany*, or *M.D.*, was born at *Oak Mount*, the home of his grandfather, Daniel French Dulany, in Fairfax County, Virginia on June 23, 1835. Mott was the son of Spencer Mottrom Ball and Mary L. Dulany. Both parents were from prominent Virginia families. President George Washington is included among their many distinguished relatives.¹

Mott's early years were spent at his grandfather, Mottrom Ball's, plantation, *Woodberry*, near Lewinsville, Fairfax County, Virginia. The elder Mottrom Ball was a physician who was educated at the University of Glasgow, in Scotland. The Ball family estate, *Woodberry*, consisted of 1,200 acres of land, rectangular in shape, extending north from the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church all the way to the to the



COL. M. D. BALL

Colonel Mottrom Dulany Ball, 11th Virginia Cavalry

Photo credit: Unknown

At the Fairfax Museum and Historic Blenheim...

Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center

New Exhibit at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center:

"An Artist's Story: Civil War Drawings by Edwin Forbes," March 15 – October 14, 2015 - Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center

The Fairfax Story - Hamill Gallery. Permanent Fairfax history exhibition.

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**.

Saturday, July 4-

Independence Day Celebration – Special Hours: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. **See the Virginia Civil War History Mobile and a special display of Fairfax police and fire uniforms.** Free cake and lemonade!!!

Sunday, July 12— SPECIAL LOCATION Historic Blenheim

"Fortune's Fool "

Book talk and signing with Northern Virginia Community College Professor Terry Alford on his new book about John Wilkes Booth, who killed President Abraham Lincoln.

Sunday, August 9 – SPECIAL LOCATION Historic Blenheim

"World War II Veterans Tribute"- Hear the stories of Fairfax's World War II veterans profiled in the Fairfax

United Methodist Church's tribute book. Enjoy 1940s musical favorites.

Sunday, September 13

"We Cannot Be Tame Spectators: Four Centuries of Virginia Women's History"

Book talk and signing with author and George Mason University Professor Cynthia A. Kierner.

Sunday, October 11

"The Founding of Washington, D.C."

Book talk by Kenneth Bowling, Ph.D. from the Federal Congress Project at George Washington University.

Sunday, November 8 – SPECIAL LOCATION Historic Blenheim

"The End of World War II in the Pacific"

Local historian Jim Lewis will examine the final battles of World War II and the surrender of Japan.

Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim

Historic Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center Program Series Programs are free and held at 2 p.m. on Saturdays (unless otherwise noted) at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. Information: 703-591-0560.

Saturday June 27 2 p.m.

"Juneteenth, from the Perspective of Enslaved People"

Dr. Spencer Crew, will explore "Juneteenth"—the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. This celebration dates back to June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers landed in Texas and announced to slaves that they were free. Dr. Crew is Robinson Professor of American, African American and Public History George Mason University.

Saturday, July 25, 2 p.m.

“The Road to Ford’s Theatre, Abraham Lincoln’s Murder, and the Rage for Vengeance”

The assassination of the 16th president is one of the singular events in American history. Historian Anthony S. Pitch uses primary source material to document and reveal previously unknown facts about Lincoln’s death in his book *They Have Killed Papa Dead*. Pitch details the murder plots that were unsuccessful as well as the successful one by referencing hundreds of Book purchase and signing to follow.

Saturday, August 22, 2 p.m.

“Escaping Detection: Women in the Civil War”

Local historian Mary Lipsey will deliver a talk on women spies and soldiers who hailed from all walks of life. Many used their femininity and ingenuity to pass on vital information about the enemy. However, the lesser-known story is about women who donned uniforms and posed as men to fight the war.

Saturday, September 27, 2 p.m.

“Mathew Brady’s Portraits of a Nation”

Mathew Brady was directly responsible for scores of interesting images from the Civil War years. In his half-century as an icon of American photography, Brady had many crucial roles in the medium’s development. Using a number of Brady images Robert Wilson draws from his recent biography, *Mathew Brady: Portraits of a Nation*, to reintroduce the photographs of the single most important American in photography’s first decades.

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.

and favored a program of modernization and economic protectionism.

In 1831, Spencer Ball, was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates. The following year he sought re-election and lost to William S. Daniel⁶ by just seven votes.⁷ In 1833, he was again a candidate for the Virginia House of Delegates, defeating the incumbent, William S. Daniel, by only eight votes.⁸ That same year he married Mary L. Dulany, of *Oak Mount*. Spencer was re-elected to the House of Delegates annually until he was defeated in his bid for re-election in 1838.

In 1839, when Mott was four years old, his father, Spencer Ball, was appointed Clerk of the Court for Fairfax County to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Thomas Moss. Spencer moved his family to Fairfax Court House to attend to his new duties. Spencer and Mary purchased a home and ten acres of land adjoining Fairfax Court House from Thomas R. Love, which they called "*Linwood*."⁹ The home would later become famous during the Civil War as the location where Confederate Col. John S. Mosby captured Union General Edwin Stoughton. This



"*Linwood*," the home of Spencer Mottrom Ball at Fairfax Court House, VA. Built by Thomas R. Love c. 1835. It served as the Headquarters of Union Gen. Fitz-John Porter in March 1862 and Union Gen. Edwin Stoughton, who was captured here by Col. John S. Mosby, March 9, 1863. Also known as the Dr. William P. Gunnell House, it is now the location of the Truro Episcopal Rectory.

Photo credit: Unknown, Date Unknown.

Photo courtesy: Lee Hubbard, Fairfax, VA.

home still stands and is today known as the Gunnell House or Truro Rectory.

Mott entered Episcopal High School, a boarding school in Alexandria, in the fall of 1846.¹⁰ He quickly excelled in his studies. During commencement exercises at the school the following spring, he received a Certificate of Scholarship, *Third Rank*. Also present at the commencement was the celebrated poet Edgar Allen Poe. Poe, a celebrity following the publication of his poem *The Raven* the year before in January 1845, was persuaded by the crowd to recite his famous work.¹¹ Mott was present, and it was during this time that he began to develop a love of poetry, literature, and music. He learned to play music on the family's rosewood piano.¹²

While at Episcopal High School, Mott was a member of the *Pithonian Literary Society*. He continued to excel academically. In 1851, he received the *Biblical Studies Medal*. He graduated in July 1852 and was elected valedictorian. That fall, he entered William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia. While at William and Mary, Mott became a founding member of Theta Delta Chi fraternity in 1853. He graduated in 1854, again as valedictorian, with an *Artium Baccalaureus*, or Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree. His valedictory speech titled *The Old Dominion*, was lauded in local newspapers.

After serving two terms as Clerk of the Court for Fairfax County, Spencer Ball sold *Linwood* to Dr. William Presley Gunnell in 1853.¹³ That same year, *Woodberry* was divided amongst the heirs of Dr. Mottrom Ball, who had died in 1849. Eldest son, Spencer Ball, received 300 acres, of his father's estate. This parcel was located in the center of the Ball estate. Its location is approximately at the intersection of present day Balls Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive.¹⁴¹⁵

After college, Mott received an appointment to teach at the University of Maryland. This appointment likely came from his former high school principal, Rev. Edwin Augustine Dalrymple, affectionately known to his students as *Old Dal*. Dalrymple was then dean of the school of letters and a professor of ancient languages at the University of Maryland. Mott was engaged as an "*assistant professor of ancient languages and mathematics*."¹⁶

On June 2, 1856, Mott returned to his alma mater to attend the annual convention of his fraternity, Theta Delta Chi, held in the old Masonic lodge at Williamsburg. He spoke before the gathering. In a long and eloquent recitation, modestly titled *A Poem*, he touched on the growing divisions in the country over the issue of slavery:

A Poem

This theme is sad; on it I had not dwelt,
But that my heart it great import felt.

Oh I would glory if aught I had sung
Could soothe or shame to silence the rude tongue!

Fain would I link in one unsevered tie,
The North with South, till both together die,

Which in Heaven's mercy I will hope may last,
Till time itself shall be a thing of the past.

Alike the children of such noble sires,
While we keep warm their valor's glowing fires,
Oh may we show that in our hearts we have
The worth and honor which they died to save,

And may we, fondly, ne'er permit to fall
That UNION whose o'erthrow would crush us all.

In in our safety and our honor lie,
With it, our pride, hope, power, and honor die!

Feeling this truth, we hail each scene like this,
A welcome harbinger of constant bliss.

Powerful among our Union's strengthening bands,
Is that dear brothers, woven by your hands;

For what to its continuance more tends,
Than these blest unions of far distant friends,
Which to one firm and faithful feeling bind
Northern with Southern heart, and hand, and mind?

However little then words be felt,
However few the hearts our joys can melt,

However little of us others see,
However small our strength in numbers be,

Our course is still a proper, prosperous course,
Our force is yet a mighty, vigorous force.¹⁷

He returned to Fairfax Court House where he became the local schoolmaster. Shortly afterward he began to study law with his uncle, William Heath Dulany. He was admitted to the Fairfax County Bar about 1860 and formed a partnership with his uncle.

WM. H. DULANY.

M. D. BALL.

DULANY & BALL,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Fairfax C. H., Va.
PRACTICE together in Fairfax and the adjoining counties.

During my absence in Richmond, Mr. Ball will attend to any business for me.

WM. H. DULANY.

Fairfax County, Va., Feb 14--1861

Alexandria Gazette, February 14, 1861, p. 3, c. 2.

At about this time Mott's political ambition began to materialize. In the fall of 1856, at the age of 21, he accompanied Virginia State Senator Henry W. Thomas to Liberty Hall in Alexandria where he gave a political speech. The *Alexandria Gazette* described his speech as "*eloquent, able and effective*" which was "*applauded throughout...The hall was filled, and great enthusiasm manifested.*"¹⁸

Mottrom Ball was a political conservative. He was a member of the *Constitutional Union Party* which was formed in 1859 over the looming secession crisis. The Constitutional Union Party, also known as the *Bell-Everett Party*, was a third political party made up of conservative former Whigs who wanted to avoid secession over the issue of slavery. Their name comes from their extremely simple platform for the presidential election of 1860, which was, "*to recognize no political principle other than the Constitution of the country, the Union of the states, and the Enforcement of the Laws.*"¹⁹ The aim of the Constitutional Union Party was to avoid secession by focusing on existing law in the hope that the issue could be pushed aside.

In October 1859, the fanatical abolitionist, John Brown, led his famous raid on Harper's Ferry, in nearby Jefferson County, Virginia. The incident so alarmed area residents that slave patrols were ordered in Fairfax County and local militia companies were organized. In December 1859, Mott Ball joined one of these volunteer companies being formed at Langley, Fairfax County. The company officers included

CXLVI 280

Fairfax Co. H. Va
Feb. 6th 1861

Mr Wm Dulany is not at home. He, as well as myself & many Virginians are anxious to save the Union, but if you (or Mr Adams of Maine, or whoever sends him the "National Republican") wish to keep us so, you must stop making or distributing your damned, interfering, abolition, anti-conservative & anti-conciliatory remarks. We don't want any more of them here.

M. Dulany Ball
Mr Dulany's Law Partner.

C. F. Adams Mass
or G. Adams Me
Washington D.C.

Mottrom Ball's politics are apparent in this letter written to Congressman Charles Francis Adams, of Massachusetts in February 1861. Adams was the son and grandson of U.S. Presidents John Quincy Adams and John Adams.

Source: Adams Family Papers, Massachusetts Historical Soc., Boston, MA

Henry Jenkins, Captain; William H. Sewell, 1st Lt.; James W. Nelson, 2nd Lt.; M. Dulany Ball was elected 3rd Lt.²⁰ Ultimately, this company either never completed its formation or never mustered for service during the Civil War.

On Tuesday the 27th November, a number of young men of the neighborhood met at Lewinsville, Fairfax county, and organized a fine Cavalry Company, to be attached to the 60th Regiment, Virginia Militia. M. Dulany Ball was elected Captain, Jas. H. Crocker 1st and C. Walter Kirby 2d Lieutenants.

Alexandria Gazette, December 15, 1860, p. 2, c. 3.

In the fall of 1860, Mott was living near Fairfax Court House and practicing law with his uncle, William Heath Dulany. In October, he returned to Williamsburg briefly to marry Sallie Lewis Wright of Norfolk, Virginia. The couple was married in the Wren Chapel at the College of William & Mary on October 16, 1860.²¹ They returned to Fairfax to the Ball estate. In November 1860, Mott Ball organized Ball's

Fairfax Cavalry at Lewinsville, Virginia. Using his own funds he equipped them with pistols, uniforms, and saddle blankets.²²

When President Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to suppress the rebellion on April 15, 1861, Mott and his company left Fairfax Court House, and marched to Alexandria, Virginia on April 25, 1861.

"Captain Wm. H. Dulany's Company of Fairfax Riflemen, under command of Lieut. Wm. A. Barnes, the Border Guard (Cavalry) Capt. M. Dulany Ball, and a detachment of Capt. James W. Jackson's Artillery Company, all left this place yesterday (Thursday) for Alexandria where they will go into quarters for the present. Our gallant friend Col. James Thrift entered the ranks of the Riflemen as a private, and accompanied them to the seat of war.

A large crowd were[sic] present to see the companies depart. Partings between relatives and friends were hurriedly taken, eyes were suffused with tears, and altogether the scene was one of a deeply affecting character. The gallant soldiers, however, were stout of heart and firm in step.

On Wednesday night the Riflemen and Artillery marched to the Episcopal Church [Truro] in this place where they were addressed by the Rev. R.T. Brown in a most eloquent, affecting, and patriotic manner.

Since writing the above the Riflemen have returned to this place."²³

In May 1861, Captain Mottrom Dulany Ball and his company were engaged in picket duty along the Potomac River. Around midnight on May 24, 1861, Union cavalry crossed the Potomac at the Chain Bridge. Two members of Ball's Fairfax Cavalry, Sergeant John Thomas Ball, who was a cousin of Mott Ball, and Private George F. Kirby, a Ball neighbor, were posted at the Chain Bridge as picket guards. Both men were captured, becoming the first of thousands of Confederate prisoners of war to come.

At approximately 1:30 a.m., Captain Ball reported this information to Col. George H. Terrett, who was in command of the Provisional Army of the Confederate States at Alexandria. Col. Terrett immediately placed the men under his command, approximately 500 in number, under arms. At 4:30 a.m., Commodore Stephen C. Rowan, commander of the *U.S.S. Pawnee*, lying at anchor in the Potomac River opposite Alexandria, acting without authorization, ordered Lt. Reigart B. Lowry²⁴ ashore under a flag of truce. Lowry, a career naval officer and veteran of the Mexican War, was escorted to Col. Terrett. The two men met in the street, surrounded by armed and excited Confederate soldiers. Lowry explained that Federal troops were about to land and would take possession of Alexandria by force, if necessary. He then demanded that Terrett surrender the town. Terrett refused, but recognized that he was heavily outnumbered and in an untenable position. He agreed to evacuate his forces from the town by 8 a.m. On his way back to the *Pawnee*, Lowry encountered Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth, of New York, who commanded the 11th New York Infantry. Ellsworth men, nicknamed the *Fire Zouaves* as the majority of them were Firemen from New York City, were just disembarking from their transports. Lowry informed Ellsworth, *"I have been on shore with a flag of truce. The commanding officer is already evacuating. He promises to make no resistance. The town is full of women and children."* Ellsworth replied, *"All right, Sir, I will harm no one."*²⁵ A short time later, Ellsworth was killed by James W. Jackson, a former resident of Fairfax Court House and the current proprietor of the Marshall House hotel in Alexandria. Jackson was, in turn, also killed by one of Ellsworth's men.

Terrett ordered Captain Ball and Captain Edward Burr Powell, of the Fairfax Cavalry (aka the Washington Home Guard) to act as a rearguard and cover the retreat of the Confederates.

Captain Ball, then went to inform his men who were quartered on King Street adjacent to the old slave pen. According to an eyewitness, at approximately 7 a.m., *"Captain Ball and thirty-five of his men, who had been suddenly awakened, and were in the act of mounting their horses"* were confronted by Col. Orlando B. Willcox commander of the 1st Michigan Regiment. Willcox, a career

army officer and veteran of the Mexican War, was supported by two cannon of the 3rd United States Artillery.²⁶ Willcox coolly demanded that Ball, *"Surrender or I'll blow you to Hell!"*²⁷ Captain Ball initially refused, protesting that Willcox's demand was in violation of a flag of truce. Willcox indicated he knew of no such agreement, but stated, *"whatever was honorable, would be done."*^{28, 29} Ball then surrendered his sword to Willcox. Unfortunately for Mottrom Ball and his men, the *fog of war* had just manifested itself.

Interestingly, the *eyewitness* referred to was 16 year old George A. Armes, a native of Fairfax County and a former member of Ball's Fairfax Cavalry before Virginia seceded. Armes, who was just a few days shy of his 17th birthday, was then employed as a messenger in the U.S. Department of State, but having knowledge of the roads in northern Virginia, was on leave as a scout for the U.S. cavalry.³⁰

After his capture, Mottrom Ball continued to insist that an agreement had existed between the opposing forces giving him until 8 a.m. to evacuate. Ball's pleas however, went unheeded. He and his men were placed on the side-wheel steamer *U.S.S. Baltimore* and taken across the Potomac River to the Navy-Yard in Washington, D.C. From here they were transferred and confined onboard side-wheel steamer *U.S.S. Powhatan*.

The invasion of Alexandria, accompanied by news of the deaths of Ellsworth and Jackson, and the capture of Ball and his men caused an immediate sensation in the newspapers of the day.

"THE SECESSION CAVALRY CAPTURED"

By Capt. Owens squad, assisted by a section of the West Point battery, numbers thirty-six men and horses. The following is a list of the men who were brought to the Navy Yard prisoners, on board the steamer Baltimore yesterday afternoon: Captain M.D. Ball, Lieutenant [Tasco M.] Grigsby, Privates Ball, Monroe, Harrison, Smith, Utterback, Spriggs, Burke, Gean [Gheen], Nelson, Burke, Ball, Heath, [George F.] Kirby, Nelson, Kensalar, Warfield, Bell, Thompson, Clomp, Walcott, [Joshua] Stalcup, Moore,

Smith, Ball, Butler, Ford, Alexander Grigsby, Cooksey, Reed, Falkland, Bell, Radcliff, and Williams."³¹

*"They were placed in charge of Commander Dahlgreen, at the Washington Navy Yard, who will hold them until the Government shall make some provision for their retention or release... A picket guard of the Anderson Rifles on Thursday night arrested two members of the Fairfax Cavalry, named respectively Ball and Kirby. A man named Smidt, belong to the same corps was also arrested by Lieut. Lipscomb, of the Rifles, a little later."*³²

Several southern newspapers were quick to blame Mott Ball for his capture.

*"Forty mounted men of the Virginia service belonging to Captain Ball's company were taken prisoner at Alexandria yesterday morning. They had timely warning of the approach of the enemy, and it is supposed Ball surrendered intentionally."*³³

Ball was deeply affected by this. However, he was likely still confident that the circumstances surrounding his capture would be quickly resolved. He would be vindicated, and he and his men would be released. On board the *Powhatan*, Ball and his men were treated cordially and were permitted to move freely about the ship. Visitors were even authorized. George Armes, who had witnessed their capture, even visited his old comrades onboard.

As a prisoner, Ball continued to press for the release of he and his men, arguing that their capture was a violation of a flag of truce. Three times he requested a hearing with Brigadier General Joseph K. Mansfield, the Union officer in command of the Department of Washington. Mansfield did not reply. At that early date in the war, there were no arrangements for prisoners of war. Nor were there any agreements between the United States and the fledgling Confederacy for the exchange of prisoners. In addition, Ball and his men were caught up in a squabble between the U.S. Navy, in whose custody they were being held, and the U.S. Army. The U.S. Army felt that Capt. Rowan, and the

U.S. Navy, had interfered with their invasion plans. Rowan's actions were later deemed in error and he was officially reprimanded by Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles.

Ultimately, Ball and his men were given only two options: sign an oath of allegiance to the United States, and be released, or remain prisoners of the Federal government. In the meantime, the Federal Army was probing deeper into Virginia. Mottrom Ball's wife, Sallie, was then 7 months pregnant. Not only was Mott responsible for her welfare, but also that of his younger siblings back in Fairfax Court House, as well. Consequently, he was under enormous pressure to get back to them.

On June 1st Federal cavalry raided Fairfax Court House. When this news reached Mott Ball, it was likely his breaking point. On June 6th Captain Ball wrote two letters. The first was addressed to Captain John A. Dahlgren, Commandant of the Navy-Yard and was accompanied by Mottrom Ball's signed oath of allegiance.

"U.S.S. Powhatan, June 6, 1861,

Dear Sir:

We have determined, as you will see by the inclosed [sic] paper (a copy of the oath of allegiance), to give up our profession and retire to private life. Some of us, myself among the number, would like to be taken to Alexandria. I truly hope you will find it convenient to attend to us this morning early, as my anxiety about my family increases daily. I can hear nothing from them and the Federal troops are now around them and perhaps causes them much, though unnecessary, fear.

I am truly, etc.,

*M.D. Ball"*³⁴

The second letter expressed their thanks to David C. Woods,³⁵ the acting Captain of the *Powhatan*, and praised the treatment they had received as prisoners on board:

*"Steamer Powhatan, Navy-Yard,
June 6, 1861.*

We, the undersigned, now held by the United States as prisoners, desire to express to D.C. Woods, U. S. A, (acting captain of our boat,) our grateful appreciation of the kindness he has shown us. We hope that in his future career in life, those with whom he may come in contact may render his "times" as agreeable as he has made our sojourn with him. 'May his shadow never grow less.'

Signed by M. Dulany Ball, Capt. C. S. A.; I. M. Grisby, Lieut. C. S. A.; James W. Nelson, W. E. Ford, R. D. Warfield, R. Williams, J. B. Monroe, W. H. Kirby, J. C. Kincherton, J. W. Cooksey, W. B. Butler, Edwin Reid, J. L. Speaks, E. F. Thomson, J. E. Burke, J. F. Nelson, A. Tennent, F. M. Smith, John Clump, Summerfield Ball, John H. Ball, Basil Alexander, Alexander M. Smith."^{36, 37}

After his humiliating capture, Mott Ball was released on his oath on June 6, 1861. From his home at Fairfax Court House, he immediately began an intensive letter writing campaign to rescind this oath and restore his honor and integrity as an officer and gentleman. He corresponded with President Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee.

Mott Ball wrote the following lengthy letter to the *Richmond Enquirer* explaining his versions of the events which led to his capture.

"Letter from Captain Ball of the Fairfax Cavalry

[From the Richmond Enquirer.]

I desire, in justice to myself, that my State should know the following circumstances:

On Friday morning, May 24th, about 2 o'clock, while asleep in my quarters at Alexandria, I was roused by my guards from the Long Bridge, and informed that a large body of cavalry and foot had just crossed the bridge from Washington, and marched up the road towards Drummond's gate, (leading to Arlington) and that a body of troops was following them from the bridge.

Dispatching my Orderly Sergeant and two men, with orders to proceed in the direction of the Long Bridge until they discovered troops advancing, or failing to do so, to remain at the forks of the road, half a mile from the bridge, till notified to leave; and also dispatching a Sergeant and one man up the Leesburg Turnpike, with orders to advance two mile and reconnoiter. I proceeded myself to Col. Terrett's quarters and waking him, informed him of what had occurred.

He arose and dressed, giving me orders to proceed at once to Captain Powell's quarters, and in conjunction with him, throw out scouts sufficient to keep him (Col. Terrett) informed of any further movement in the direction of Alexandria. I went to Capt. Powell, he volunteered to keep up the guard till 8 o'clock at which time it was agreed I should relieve him. He immediately started with a squad of his men in the direction of the bridge, and soon after my guard returned and reported troops near the Aqueduct and advancing towards Alexandria. I had my men roused and the horses saddled and prepared for marching. I went into my room and waited quietly for further information.

A short time after day-break, Q.M. Ford, of my company, came to me, and informed me that a Sergeant of Captain Powel's company had just gone by, who said he had orders to us from Colonel Terrett to get ready to leave the town by eight o'clock. Not seeing the Sergeant myself, nor understanding what to do, I started on foot to Col. Terrett's quarters. On my way I met the infantry companies, marching out of town. Advancing further I met Col. Terrett, and he informed me, in answer to my question what to do, that a flag of truce had been sent from the Pawnee, with orders

Monuments Dedicated to Those Killed at Manassas

In the spring of 1865, near the end of the Civil War, the First Separate Cavalry Brigade, 22nd Army Corps, was stationed at Fairfax Court House. The men of *Gamble's Brigade* would often escort dignitaries from Washington on tours of the battlefields of Manassas. At that time relics of the battle, including human bones, were still strewn about the fields. The men of the brigade thought this was a disgrace

and that the dead should be properly buried and an appropriate monument be erected to their sacrifice.

As a result, Brigadier General William Gamble, commanding the brigade, issued the following order:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST SEPARATE BRIGADE

Fairfax Court House, Va., May 28, 1865.

Special Orders, N. 98

*Second Lieut. James M. McCallum,
Sixteenth Massachusetts Light Battery, is*



Dedication of the Bull Run Monument on Henry Hill, June 11, 1865, honoring those killed July 21, 1861 at the First Battle of Manassas. Lt. James L. McCallum, 16th Mass. Arty. (standing on the base of monument); (l to r) Individual partially in the frame at extreme far left is unknown. 1. 1st Lt. Henry A. Pearson, 8th Ill. Cav.; 2. Unknown; 3. Lt. Albert N. Seip, Signal Corps; 4. Brig. Gen. William Wells; 1st Vt. Cav.; 5. Maj. Gen. Henry W. Benham; 6. Qtr. Mstr. Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs; 7. Rev. Robert McMurdy, Chaplain U.S.A.; 8. Unknown; 9. Brig. Gen. John F. Farnsworth, U.S. Rep. R-Illinois; 10. Unknown; 11. Maj. Gen. Samuel P. Heintzelman; 12. Maj. Gen. Orlando B. Willcox; 13. Brig. Gen. William Gamble; 14. Bvt. Maj. Charles I. Wickersham, C. of S. to Gen. Gamble; 15. 1st Lt. Charles F. Moore, A.D.C. to Gen. Gamble; 16. 1st Lt. George R. Maguire, Brig. P.M. at Fairfax C.H.; 17. Dr. Abner Hard, Surg., 8th Ill. Cav.

Photo credit: William M. Smith. Photo source: Library of Congress.

herewith detached from his command and will take command of and superintend the working party to erect the monument on the Bull Run battle field and will report to his command upon the completion of the work.

By order of Brig. Gen. Gamble.

Chas. J. Wickersham

Assistant Adjutant General.

On June 10, 1865, just two months after the end of the war, Union soldiers of *Gamble's Brigade* completed two red sandstone and granite monuments in memory of those who were killed on the battlefields of 1st and 2nd Manassas.

Under Lt. McCallum's direction, it took the soldiers just four days to complete the two monuments. The stones were quarried and dressed using simple axes and picks. Cement and lime were provided by the U.S. government. A tin box full of relics from the battlefield was placed inside the monument.

The first monument stands on Henry Hill immediately behind the reconstructed home of Judith Henry, a civilian who was killed during the battle of 1st Manassas, July 21, 1861. The second monument stands at Groveton, near the railroad cut, the scene of some of the heaviest fighting during the battle of 2nd Manassas.

In an elaborate ceremony, both monuments were dedicated on June 11, 1865 before an immense crowd of approximately 5,000. The crowd was comprised of mostly Union soldiers, however 200 senior Union army officers, dignitaries, civilians, and members of the press, attended from Washington, D.C. and Alexandria.

The dignitaries arrived by a special excursion train to Fairfax Station. From there they boarded 50 Union ambulances and four army wagons, *"the latter embowered with upright cedar boughs and cushioned, omnibus-fashion, with liberal sack cloth cushions of hay."* The party made their way to the Manassas battlefields by way of Fairfax Court House to Centreville.

At Fairfax Court House they were formed into a parade procession with the mounted band of the 8th Illinois Cavalry at the head. The 3rd U.S. Infantry band, from General Meade's H.Q. were seated in the army wagons. An *Evening Star* reporter described the Fairfax Court House:

"A few decrepit houses and leaning chimneys are all that remain of the once pleasant village of Fairfax Court House. The old-fashioned Court House itself is half ruined, its roof going to decay and its walls pierced for riflemen.... The hotels are but hovels, the groves of shade trees and the gravel walks are forgotten, and broken brick and mortar, half hidden by the weeds, alone mark the site of the churches. A dozen perhaps, of its former male population remain. Their homes ruined, their families beggared, and themselves thoroughly humbled...."

Many of these inhabitants came out of their homes to watch, in mute surprise, the large procession pass by.

Arriving on the battlefield of 1st Manassas, General Gamble's brigade consisting of infantry, artillery, and cavalry was already drawn up around the monument.

The dedication services were opened at 1 p.m. by



Bull Run Monument on Henry Hill, June 2015.

to him to surrender, which he had declined; but that a large column was advancing from Washington, and that he had agreed to evacuate the town, and that it was agreed to do so by 8 o'clock. I asked him what I should do. He said 'you must remain behind, and cover the retreat of the infantry, and give notice of any pursuit;' I understood him distinctly to say that by the agreement made, under a flag of truce, it was not necessary to leave before 8 o'clock. I returned to my quarters and commenced getting ready to march. While getting ready, about 15 minutes later, some of the men being mounted, and others away, a citizen ran up to the stable, and with tears streaming down his face, begged the men to fly, as the troops were almost on us. Without orders my men began to fly, and it was only by running through the house and meeting the company that I succeeded in stopping and forming them. I ordered the company to form, and while they were doing so, several of the men (myself among them) not having mounted, the head of the enemy's column appeared about four squares off. I went into the stable yard to see if all the men were out, and, on returning, saw a company of Zouaves marching fast up the cross street, and just at that moment the artillery company which had led their column wheeled their guns upon us about one hundred yards distant. Stopping a moment to put back in the ranks two men who had left it when their guns were wheeled on us, and feeling perfectly confident that, under the agreement, we were to be permitted to depart, I was just proceeding to mount my horse, when Col. Wilcox rode up and inquired for the commander of the company. I advanced (on foot) to meet him. He called on me to surrender, or he would fire. I told him we would leave in a few minutes, by agreement. He replied that he knew of no agreement, and that unless I surrendered,

he should fire. There were then two guns bearing on us, a company of cavalry just behind the battery, and a company of Zouaves almost exactly in the rear of my line, all distant about seventy-five yards, with other troops and one more gun just behind. Knowing it would be folly to resist, I surrendered under protest of the agreement made under the white flag, and with the assurance of Col. Wilcox that 'whatever was honorable' (I quote his very words) would be done.

We were immediately deprived of our arms and horses and placed under guard, I spoke several times to Col. Wilcox about our release, but no information did I get. Lieutenant Grigsby and myself were allowed to go beyond the guard lines on parole, and about two o'clock we were removed to the Baltimore, brought to the Navy-Yard at Washington, and have been kept here since. I have made three applications to Gen. Mansfield for a hearing, but he has not noticed them.

Since our captivity we have been very kindly treated by the officers who have had us in charge. I mention, particularly, Commandant Dahlgren and Lieut. Parker, of the Navy-Yard; Lieut. West and Master Woods, of the Navy; and the officers of the 71st Regiment.

M. Dulany Ball

Captain of the Fairfax Cavalry."³⁸

He even wrote a lengthy open letter addressed "To My Fellow Soldiers," in an attempt to explain his actions.³⁹

In response to his letter, General Lee sent the following reply:

"Headquarters of the Virginia Forces
Richmond 29 June 1861
Capt. M. Dulany Ball
Fairfax Court House

Captain

Your letter of the 23rd has been received and submitted to the Secretary of War for his action.

No cartel has yet been established between the governments of the Confederates and the U. States for exchange of prisoners. Whether you will be considered by the latter Govt. as a prisoner of war on parole liable to be exchanged on such terms as may be approved, I cannot say. It will, however, give me pleasure to aid in your exchange when it can be done with propriety.

*I am very respectfully,
Your obedient servant
R.E. Lee*"⁴⁰

On June 25, 1861, the *Richmond Whig* reported the following:

*"It will be gratifying to every true Virginian to know the facts as they are represented to be to us. Captain M.D. Ball, of the Fairfax Cavalry, has returned to Washington and recanted his oath, voluntarily consigning himself to prison again. He took the oath as it was the only condition of release allowed him, and it was absolutely necessary for him to visit his home. His family, consisting of his wife and orphan brothers and sisters, is large and helpless, having with them no male relative capable of attending to their wants."*⁴¹

There is no official record of Mott Ball returning to prison, nor is there any evidence of an official rescission of his oath of allegiance that has been found. However, in spite of his signed oath, Mott clearly considered himself to be on parole after his capture. In support of this, he was later formally exchanged.

The Ball Home is Looted

When the Union Army entered Fairfax Court House on July 17, 1861, the eve of the First Battle of Manassas, they found the place nearly deserted. Most of the residents

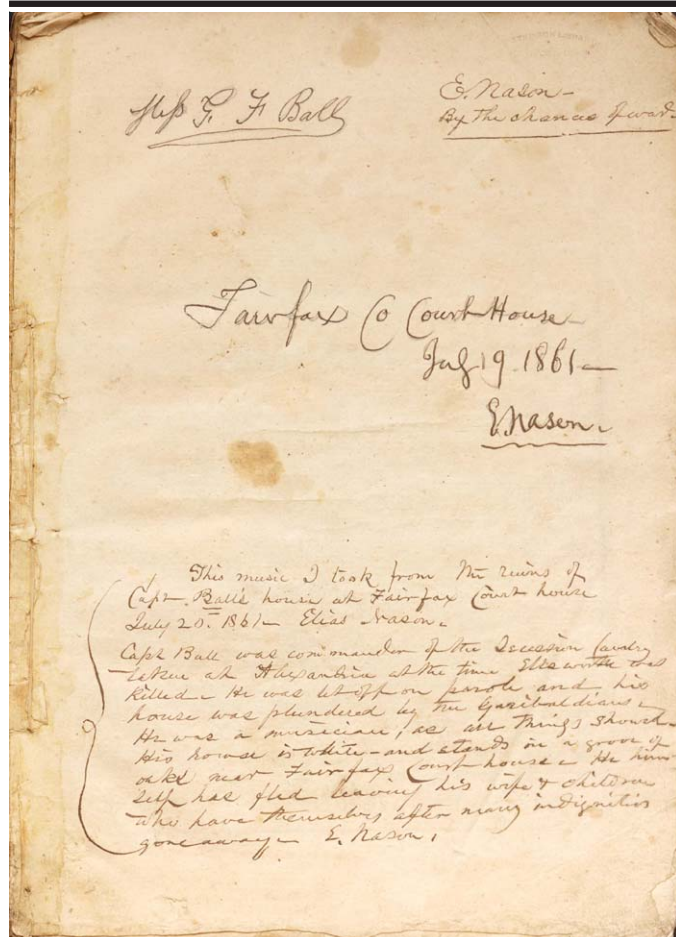
had left in advance of the enemy. Mott and his wife, Sallie, who was then eight months pregnant with their first child, fled to *Stoney Lonesome*, the home of Confederate General Richard Stoddert Ewell, in Prince William County, Virginia. While here, his daughter, Mary Louisa Stuart Ball, was born on August 9th.

The 71st New York Infantry was among the first to arrive at Fairfax Court House. On the evening of July 17th they camped just beyond the village. In a letter home, Private Henry F. Ritter, of Co. F, shared his experience of arriving in Fairfax Court House:

*"The next morning about 5 o'clock we got up and had coffee and hard biscuits then proceeded on our march. Just before we reached Fairfax we met one of the men that had been a prisoner at the Navy Yard, who told us the secessionists had left Fairfax Court House that morning- when they heard that we was coming. This man took several of our canteens and filled them with milk. We arrived at Fairfax at midday, had dinner and then started to look around & see what we could find. Every chicken & pig we came across the boys called secish [sic], and of course it would not do to let them live. In one camp of the southerners we found they had left nearly everything- their breakfast already set to eat, and quite a number of stores, which we appropriated to our own use. We were there one night."*⁴²

Private Ritter's account did not tell the whole story, however. Most of the deserted homes at Fairfax Court House were broken into and looted. Private Charles H. Clarke of the 1st Rhode Island Infantry recalled more vivid details:

"The men, not being restrained of their liberty, roamed wherever they saw fit, and everybody, officers as well as men, appeared anxious to gobble up everything within their reach, (the term 'stealing' in connection with it appeared to have become obsolete, there, articles looted being viewed in the light of spoils of war.) While some hunted for relics,



Notation of Rev. Elias Nason on reverse of sheet music taken from the home of Mottrom D. Ball at Fairfax Court House, VA. Source: Sheet Music Collection, Wabinson Library, Trinity College, Hartford, CT.

others were in pursuit of something to eat, and others, still, would appropriate to themselves anything they could lift, or that 'was not nailed down,' whether it would be of any use to them or not. I actually saw one man with more plunder than could be loaded into an ordinary express wagon."⁴³

Captain Mottrom Ball's home appears to have been a special target of the marauding Federal troops. The *Richmond Daily Dispatch* reported:

"I forgot to mention that the residence of Capt. M. D. Ball, at the Court-House, was made subject to their especial venom and vandalism. After destroying most of his goods, the residue were put up at auction and sold for mere nominal prices — the

piano for two dollars, and beds for fifty cents."⁴⁴

No one was immune from these shameful actions at Fairfax Court House. A respected Congregational minister from Massachusetts even took part. Reverend Elias Nason, of the United States Christian Commission was among those who trespassed in the Ball home. On July 20th, he pilfered a piece of sheet music. On the back of which he wrote:

"This music I took from the ruins of Capt. Ball's house at Fairfax Court House July 20, 1861 — Elias Nason.



Three Sonata's, sheet music for a piano trio, (piano, violin, and cello). Written by French composer Ignaz Joseph Pleyel, c. 1790, "and humbly dedicated to Miss Elizabeth Wynne." Taken from the home of Mottrom D. Ball at Fairfax Court House, VA. Source: Sheet Music Collection, Wabinson Library, Trinity College, Hartford, CT.

Capt. Ball was commander of the secession cavalry taken at Alexandria at the time Ellsworth was killed. He was let off on parole and his house was plundered by the Garibaldians. He was a musician, as all things showed. His house is white and stands in a grove of oaks near Fairfax Court House. He, himself, has fled leaving his wife & children who have themselves, after many indignities, gone away. E. Nason.”⁴⁵

As Private Clarke observed, nothing was sacred. To illustrate this point, Private John H. Douglass, of the 71st New York Infantry, entered the home of Captain Ball and stole the Ball family Bible, presumably as a relic, or souvenir, of the event. He immediately had this sacred item shipped to his home in Brooklyn, New York. However, his thoughtless act apparently later weighed heavily on his conscious as he was compelled to return the precious item. In 1883, twenty-two years after the event, he contacted Mottrom Ball to arrange to return the Bible. Mott was magnanimous in his response:

“This information was a source of very great pleasure to me, as the Bible was one cherished by my mother and is very dear to all of her children...But I desire to say this much – that every word I uttered in New York of my feelings toward former military foes was true and that I can say fully and freely there is no resentment harbored by me for anything whatever connected with our civil war. Should you ever desire to revisit the scenes of it in which you shared I should be most pleased to see you at my house, which is easily accessible from Washington by way of Georgetown and the Chain Bridge.”⁴⁶

In late July, after the Battle of First Manassas, the Confederate army once again occupied Fairfax Court House. An aide to General Longstreet wrote home to his sister:

“Many of the citizens here too have suffered very severely from the depredations of the

Yankees when they were through. The house in which we have our headquarters belongs to Capt. Ball who, you recollect, was taken prisoner when Alexandria was evacuated. This house the Yanks seemed to have a peculiar spite at. They broke down the doors and windows, broke open and robbed the trunks and wardrobes, smashed the looking glasses, and I do not think they left a whole piece of furniture in the house.”

Miss Ball (a sister of the Capt.) had a very nice piano, which they were ready to cut up with an axe, when someone bought it from them for two dollars, and thus saved it. Many other houses were served in a similar manner.”⁴⁷

Getting Back in the Fight

Although on parole, Mottrom Ball continued to serve in the Confederate army. Because he had given an oath not to take up arms against the United States, he served as a guide and scout during the 1st Battle of Manassas. In a letter to the Secretary of War, he alluded to his actions since his capture and subsequent release as well as the depredations he had personally suffered. He vowed never to be captured again:

“I myself have lost my all [in my] devotion to the cause. My property is destroyed; my family were driven out of home by armed ruffians and they were seeking to murder me (having found out my position here) and would have succeeded, but I had acted on my resolution of never being caught again and left with the army. In the retreat from Fairfax Court House I was among the last and am happy to be able to prove that I was of service in it. I was useful in both battles near Manassas, though I did not use any weapon, not having received your letter then and still being hopeful of exchange.”⁴⁸

These actions are corroborated by Confederate General Magruder who mentioned Lieutenant Colonel Ball in his report of the Siege of Yorktown: “My thanks are due

to Lt. Co. Ball, of the Va. Cav., who for several weeks during the siege acted as volunteer aide. His conduct on the 5th, in my immediate presence and under a severe fire of the enemy, was very gallant and worthy of the high reputation which he won at Manassas”

General Rosser, in whose Brigade Mott Ball served, said of him: *“Col. Ball was one of the most gifted and gallant officers who served under me during the war, and his memory is dear to me. My heart sinks to contemplate the life, vigor and hope upon which the unwitting frosts have laid their spell of everlasting stillness in the bosom of my friend.”*

Unable to serve as a combatant and unable to return to his home in Fairfax, Mott subsequently moved his family to Richmond. As a refugee he applied for employment with the Confederate government:

“Richmond, June 26, 1862

Maj. W.D. Nutt, C.S. Treasury Dept.

Dear Sir,

I desire to apply to you for your influence & advice to assist me in procuring some employment in some of the Departments of the Government.

I am unable to gratify my desire to engage in the active service of my Country in which I could, otherwise, at once find a profitable position, am cut off entirely from my former means of support (both in Fairfax and Norfolk). I have a large family dependent in a great measure upon me. I can furnish satisfactory testimonials of business qualifications.

I am respectfully & truly

Yours,

M. Dulany Ball.”⁴⁹

Although he was not a prisoner, Ball and his men were finally granted paroles on September 22, 1862. By that date, more than a year after their capture, the men of his former command were scattered. Some never returned to Confederate service, while others had likely re-entered the service under assumed names. Officially, the following special orders were issued:

“Special Orders No. 222 Adjutant and Inspector General’s Office, Richmond, Va., September 23, 1862.

Capt. M. Dulany Ball’s company Virginia cavalry will be reorganized, and the captain is hereby authorized to call for all members of said company not transferred to other companies. When the reorganization is complete, he will report to Maj. Gen. G.W. Smith, commanding &c., Richmond.

By command of the Secretary of War:

Jno. Withers

Assistant Adjutant General.”⁵⁰

The reorganized company was designated 2nd Co. F, 5th Virginia Cavalry. On February 5, 1863, still under the command of Captain Ball, it was incorporated into the newly designated 11th Virginia Cavalry as Company I. Several days later, on February 15, 1863, Mott was promoted to major of the regiment.

Ball served with distinction throughout the remainder of the war. He was wounded at the Battle of Brandy Station on June 9, 1863. He was promoted again to lieutenant colonel of the 11th Virginia Cavalry on July 23, 1863.⁵¹

Following his promotion to lieutenant colonel, Major General J.E.B. Stuart recommended a Captain William Harness to succeed Mott as the new major of the regiment. However, Mott strongly objected to Harness’ promotion. On October 20, 1863, Lieutenant Colonel Ball, then in command of the regiment, brought serious charges against Harness. Ball charged Harness with: 1) Repeated neglect of duty. In that Captain Harness and several of his men, allowed themselves to be cut off from the regiment during an engagement with the enemy, near Jack’s Shop, in Madison Co., 9/22/63. Captain Harness did not try to find the regiment and report in a reasonable time, remaining absent until 9/28/63. Later, Harness failed to keep his place in the column, while charging the enemy near Haymarket, Prince William Co., on 10/19/63; 2) Cowardice – In that, Captain Harness left the regiment without orders, near Upperville, Fauquier Co., on 6/21/63, and sought a place of safety. During the charge at Haymarket (mentioned above), he dropped out of the column, again without orders, and

when the regiment advanced, he went to the rear, while the regiment was engaged; 3) Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman – In that, when Captain Harness was reprimanded by Lieutenant Colonel Ball, for his absence during the engagement near Haymarket, gave false and unsatisfactory excuses. This took place on the march from Buckland to Rixeyville, 10/20/63. Several officers of the 11th Virginia Cavalry were named as witness' to Harness' conduct. In view of the charges facing him, Harness resigned immediately.

On December 17, 1863, Lieutenant Colonel Ball led the 11th Virginia Cavalry in an attack on the Union cavalry guarding the Orange and Alexandria Railroad at Sangster's Station, Fairfax County, Virginia. The 11th Virginia Cavalry captured the flag of the 164th New York Infantry.⁵² Several months later, on April 18, 1864, Lieutenant Colonel Ball and his regiment presented the flag to the cadets at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia.⁵³

On October 9, 1864, Mott was wounded a second time. He received a severe gunshot wound to the right foot, at the Battle of Tom's Brook, in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. He did not return to duty until February 6, 1865. On February 21, 1865, he became the acting colonel of the regiment effective with the resignation of Col. Oliver R. Funsten.⁵⁴

On April 9, 1865, at Appomattox, Mott Ball participated in one of the last engagements of the war. That morning he was one of the approximately twenty five hundred Confederate cavalymen who cut their way through Federal lines and escaped towards Lynchburg. The 11th Virginia Cavalry was disbanded near Lynchburg, Virginia on April 10, 1865.⁵⁵

The next installment will focus on Mottrom Dulany Ball's life in Alaska subsequent to the Civil War.

(Endnotes)

- ¹ Mottrom Dulany Ball, was a 1st cousin, three times removed, to George Washington.
- ² Fairfax County Deed Book S3, Pg. 123-128, February 15, 1853, *Woodberry Estate Plat* (1850) & Division, Fairfax County Circuit Court Clerk's Office.
- ³ Fairfax Co. DB F5, Pg. 387-392, December 2, 1886, *Estate Division Ball v. Ball*.
- ⁴ *The Rambler*, December 12, 1915.
- ⁵ Georgetown pike bisected Woodberry northeast to southwest. All of the land comprising Woodberry north of Georgetown Pike to the Potomac River, approximately 336 acres, is now the Scotts Run Nature Preserve, owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority.

- ⁶ William Stephen Daniel (1806-1848/9) was the son of Stephen Daniel (O'Daniel) and Nancy Wise Ratcliffe. He was the grandson of Richard Ratcliffe, founder of the Town of Providence (now the City of Fairfax). He married Catherine Daniel Hurst and moved to LaGrange, Jefferson County, VA. *Daniels Run* in the City of Fairfax is named for this family.
- ⁷ *Richmond Enquirer*, May 1, 1832, p. 3, c. 6.
- ⁸ *Richmond Enquirer*, April 19, 1833, p. 3, c. 1.
- ⁹ *National Intelligencer*, September 2, 1847, p. 3, c. 4.
- ¹⁰ *Richmond Whig*, October 22, 1847, p. 4, c. 3.
- ¹¹ Kinsolving, Arthur B., D.D., *The Story of a Southern School, The Episcopal High School of Virginia*, © 1922, The Norman Remington Co., Baltimore, MD.
- ¹² Fairfax Co. DB Y3, Pg. 286, March 17, 1857, *Ball to Ball*.
- ¹³ Fairfax Co. DB S3, Pg. 149, January 1, 1853, *Ball to Gunnell*.
- ¹⁴ Fairfax Co. DB S3, Pg. 123-128, February 15, 1853, *Woodberry Estate Plat* (1850) & Division.
- ¹⁵ Fairfax Co. DB Y3, Pg. 44, January 12, 1853, *Ball to Allison*.
- ¹⁶ *Baltimore Sun*, June 19, 1857, p. 1, c. 6.
- ¹⁷ Ball, Mottrom Dulany, "A Poem," *The Shield: Official Publication of the Theta Delta Chi Fraternity*, Vol. 20, No. 1, (June 1904), p. 169, Ithaca, NY.
- ¹⁸ *Alexandria Gazette*, October 17, 1856, p. 3, c. 6.
- ¹⁹ Minor Third Party Platforms: "Constitutional Union Party Platform of 1860," May 9, 1860. Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project. <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=29571>.
- ²⁰ *Alexandria Gazette*, December 3, 1859, p. 2, c. 4.
- ²¹ <http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:q7ebZC9KV-kJ:www.wm.edu/about/history/historiccampus/wrenchapel/index.php+cd=38&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us>
- ²² Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 2, Vol. 2, © 1898, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., DC.
- ²³ *Alexandria Gazette*, April 29, 1861, p. 2, c. 7.
- ²⁴ Reigart Bolivar Lowry (1826-1880) b. Venezuela, was a career Naval Officer who served in the Mexican War. He accompanied Commodore Matthew C. Perry on his expedition to Japan in 1850. He served with distinction throughout the Civil War. He died at the Brooklyn Naval Hospital. He is buried in Laurel Hill Cem., Phila., PA.
- ²⁵ Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion, Report of Lt. R.B. Lowry, Ser. 1, Vol. 4, © 1896, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., DC.
- ²⁶ Armes, George A., *Ups and Downs of an Army Officer*, © 1900, Wash., DC.
- ²⁷ Scott, Robert Garth, ed., *Forgotten Valor: The Memoirs, Journals & Civil War Letters of Orlando B. Willcox*, © 1999, Kent State University Press, Kent, Ohio.
- ²⁸ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, *Report of Col. Geo. H. Terrett*, Ser. 2, Vol. 3, May 28, 1861, © 1898, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., DC.
- ²⁹ *Daily Dispatch*, June 10, 1861, p. 4, c. 1.
- ³⁰ Armes.
- ³¹ *Evening Star*, May 25, 1861, p. 3, c. 2.
- ³² *Richmond Whig*, May 31, 1861, p. 1, c. 4.
- ³³ *Charleston Mercury*, May 27, 1861, p. 3, c. 4.
- ³⁴ The Executive Documents of the Senate of the United States, 1st Ses., 1889-1890, © 1890, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., DC.
- ³⁵ David C. Woods (1830-1879) b. Massachusetts. Was employed as a seaman on various whaling ships out of New Bedford, MA in the 1840s and 1850s. He volunteered for the U.S. Navy in 1861. In 1864, he was given command of the ironclad *U.S.S. Kickapoo* on the Mississippi River. He was discharged from the Navy in September 1865. He was a Customs Inspector in San Francisco in the early 1870s and Superintendent of the Industrial (Boys Reform) School, San Francisco, CA 1874-1879. He died at Mare Island, Vallejo, California. Mare Island was the first U.S. Navy base on the Pacific coast.
- ³⁶ *National Republican*, June 8, 1861, P. 3, C. 1.
- ³⁷ *Daily Dispatch*, June 13, 1861, p. 2, c. 7.
- ³⁸ *Daily Dispatch*, June 10, 1861, p. 4, c. 1.
- ³⁹ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 2, Vol. 3, © 1893, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., DC.

Fairfax Court House News of 150 Years Ago

AN ALLEGED "SECESSIONIST."—It is alleged by some of the press that most of the members just elected to the Virginia Legislature are secessionists, and that "Wm. Dalany, the State Senator elect from Alexandria and Fairfax, is a bitter secessionist." This loose statement is effectually disposed of by Daniel F. Dalany, Esq., who is the gentleman chosen Senator. In a published card, he says:

"I was a Union man, open and avowed, when some of those now making loud boasts of their Unionism did not show themselves. I voted for Mr. Lincoln at the first election, even under threats of personal violence, and have remained a Union man ever since, and I was elected. If malignity induces these misrepresentations, the shame is on those who put them forth. My brother, William H. Dalany, was not a candidate, and did not even vote. He was originally opposed to secession, and voted against it as a member of the State Convention."

Baltimore Sun, June 1, 1865, p. 2, c. 1.

The National Intelligencer says:—"There is considerable inquiry already for small farms in the vicinity of this city, both in Virginia and Maryland. In Fairfax county offers are made by Northern men for farms at prices higher than they would have brought in 1860. Many Northern officers and soldiers will, it is supposed, become land owners and cultivators in this neighborhood."

Alexandria Gazette, June 3, 1865, p. 3, c. 1.

General Gamble's brigade of the Twenty-second army corps, stationed at Fairfax Court House, has erected a monument of sandstone on each of the Bull Run battle-fields.

The Age, June 10, 1865, p. 2, c. 1.

Depredations by Highwaymen.—Accounts continue to reach us from various parts of the adjoining counties of Loudoun, Fairfax, and Prince William of depredations committed upon travelers and citizens by bands of desperadoes, who are for the most part ex-members of Mosby's command. Having subsisted themselves for three years by depredations committed upon Union people, they find it very inconvenient to break away from their old habits. Until they are scourged out of the country by a determined and concerted action on the part of the citizens themselves, they cannot hope for safety from their lawless violence.

National Republican, June 21, 1865, p. 4, c. 2.

An order has been issued by Gen. Augur directing the Court House and attached building of Fairfax County, which have been in the possession of the U. S. Government for the last two or three years, be turned over to the proper County Officers. The next session of the Fairfax court will be held therefore, not in the house Joseph Bruin, at West End, but at the Court House.

Alexandria Gazette, July 19, 1865, p. 3, c. 1.

The Washington Star says that the sale of barracks, block houses and other buildings, to have taken place at Fairfax Station, Va., yesterday, has been postponed, application having been made for them by the Freedmen's Bureau. It is proposed to establish a colony of freedmen at that place. It further says that "the buildings at Camp Distribution are being fitted up by the Freedmen's Bureau for tenement houses for colored people. Accommodations will be provided for several hundred families. A railroad runs into the heart of the camp, and terminates at a commodious station-house, a reservoir affording an ample supply of water to every building. A neat little church and library are already provided, and everything complete for the establishment of a flourishing colony."

Alexandria Gazette, August 16, 1865, p. 3, c. 1.

Welcome New Members!

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

Jerry Stein

Michael and JoAnne DeMarco

Bennie Leonard

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.

Visit us on the web:
HFCI Website!

<http://www.historicfairfax.org>

In the Next Issue...

The role of Colonel Mottrom Dulany Ball in the founding of Alaska will conclude in the next issue of the *Fare Facs Gazette*.

Rev. McMurdy. This was followed by a hymn written especially for the occasion by Rev. John Pierpont, and sung to the tune of "*Old Hundreth*." Speeches were given by Judge Abram B. Olin of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia (now the U.S. District Court), followed by General's Heintzelman and Farnsworth. A salute was then fired by a Union artillery battery positioned nearby.

The inscription on the Henry Hill monument reads:

"In memory of the Patriots who fell at Bull Run, July 21, 1861."

The inscription on the Groveton monument reads:

"In Memory of the Patriots who fell at Groveton, Aug. 28, 29, & 30, 1862."

The National Park Service now manages the Manassas National Battlefield Park and maintain the monuments erected and dedicated 150 years ago.

Ball endnotes continued...

⁴⁰ Julian Alvin Carroll Chandler, et al, "Letter of General Robert E. Lee to M. Dulany Ball," *The South in the Building of the Nation*, V. 12, (1909), p. 80-81, The Southern Publication Society, Richmond, VA.

⁴¹ *Richmond Whig*, June 25, 1861, p. 1, c. 1.

⁴² Letter of Henry F. Ritter to his Uncle, July 23, 1861, Manassas National Battlefield Park Library, Manassas, VA. Online <http://nps-vip.net/history/letters/ritter.htm>

⁴³ Clarke, Charles H., *The History Company F. 1st Regiment Rhode Island Volunteers*, © 1891, B.W Pearce, Printer, Newport, R.I.

⁴⁴ *Daily Dispatch*, August 9, 1861, p. 2, c. 4.

⁴⁵ The Watkinson Library & College Archives, Trinity College, Hartford CT. Online <http://commons.trincoll.edu/ring/category/uncategorized/>

⁴⁶ *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, October 14, 1883, p. 5, c. 3.

⁴⁷ Letters of Thomas J. Goree to Mary Frances Goree Kittrell, August 23, 1861. Cutrer, Thomas W., (Ed.), *Longstreet's Aide: The Civil War Letters of Major Thomas J. Goree*, © 1995, University of Virginia Press, Charlottesville, VA.

⁴⁸ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 2, v. 3, *Letter of M. Dulany Ball to L.P. Walker, Secretary of War, August 19, 1861*, © 1893, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., D.C.

⁴⁹ Record Group No. 109, Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Virginia, *M.D. Ball*, National Archives and Records Administration, Wash., D.C.

⁵⁰ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 1, V. 51, pt. 2, © 1897, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., D.C.

⁵¹ Journal of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, 1861-1865, © 1904, U.S. Govt., Prntg. Ofc., Wash., D.C.

⁵² O.R., Ser.1, Vol. 29, pt. 1, pp. 982 - 983, *Report of Brigadier General Michael Corcoran*, © 1890, U.S. Govt. Prntg. Ofc., Wash., D.C.

⁵³ *Daily Dispatch*, April 21, 1864, p. 1, c. 3.

⁵⁴ Record Group No. 109, Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Virginia, *Col. Oliver R. Funsten*, N.A.R.A., Wash., DC.

⁵⁵ McDonald, William N., *A History of the Laurel Brigade*, © 1907, Sun Job Printing Office, Balt., MD.

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