



# Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Major John C. Hutto Camp #443  
Jasper, Alabama

---

Published Monthly

April 2016

---

**Major John C. Hutto Camp**

**April Meeting Notice**

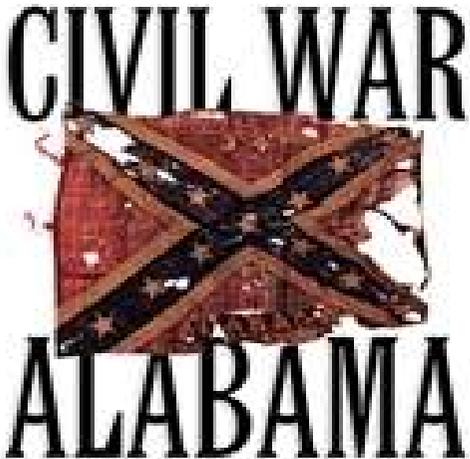
**Sunday, 17 April 2016 - 2:30 PM**

\*\*\*\*\*

Dr. Brandon H. Beck is Lr. Commander of the Caledonia Rifles SCV Camp in Caledonia, Miss. He is the founder and former Director of the McCormick Civil War Institute at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Va. He teaches part time at East Miss. Community College.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please call your representatives in Montgomery. The Alabama Heritage Protection Act of 2015 (SB13) passed the Senate, and is in the Alabama House. Contact information for our representatives is on our [website](#), and will be in this month's program. Come to the meeting and learn how to protect your heritage and your future.



CHRISTOPHER LYLE McILWAIN SR.

“Civil War Alabama” author Christopher Lyle McIlwain, Sr., spoke at the Hutto Camp meeting in March.

## April is Confederate History Month



The tall monument in the foreground is the Confederate monument that was installed the same year. The monument has stood as a memorial to Walker County Confederate soldiers and their families for the past 109 years.

\*\*\*\*\*



A second Confederate monument has been discovered on Jasper Square hidden in plain sight. The monument honors notable members of the Bankhead family, particularly Confederate Captain John Hollis Bankhead, Sr. (1842-1920) Confederate Captain, U.S. Congressman and Senator and father of good roads in America.

Recently a loud cry went up around Walker County when it was discovered that a large backhoe was digging around the Confederate Monument on Jasper Square. No one can rest easy with all the monument and flag hate going around. Investigation by several members of the Hutto Camp and the general public, revealed that Jasper Square is undergoing extensive improvements. Digging around a 109 year old foundation is risky business. You decide? Please disregard the date on the following pictures.



## The Los Angeles Riots – 1992



The Los Angeles Riots were a series of riots, looting, arson, and civil disturbance that occurred in Los Angeles County, California, in 1992, following the acquittal of police officers on trial regarding the videotaped and widely published arrest of Rodney King.

The Los Angeles Riots were the largest riots seen in the United States since the Detroit Riot of 1967, the largest in Los Angeles since the Watts Riot of 1965, and the worst in terms of death toll after the New York City draft riots of 1863.

Source: <http://historythings.com/the-los-angeles-riots-1992/>

\*\*\*\*\*



## **Four Days of Fire: The New York City Draft Riots**

The July 1863 draft riots were the largest civilian insurrection in American history.



Thanks to its status as the business capital of the United States, New York City was a deeply divided city at the start of the Civil War in April 1861. Its merchants and financial institutions were loath to lose their southern business and the city's then-mayor, Fernando Wood, had called for the city to secede from the Union. Meanwhile, to the city's poorer citizens, the war increasingly came to be seen as benefitting only the rich, as the coffers of the city's elites filled with the financial spoils of battle and the conflict became known as a "rich man's war, poor man's battle." The passage of the nation's first military draft act, in March 1863, only worsened the situation. Not only did it allow men (presumably only the wealthy) to buy their way out of military service by paying a commutation fee of \$300 (more than \$5,500

in today's money), it also exempted blacks from the draft, as they were not yet considered American citizens. Opposition to the draft was widespread across the North, and in New York, some of the loudest critics of the bill could be found in city government, as politicians (primarily Democratic) railed against the legality of the bill and its impact on the city's working class poor.

As the July draft approached, New York City was already on edge. A labor demonstration earlier that year had turned violent, as had a protest by the city's white, largely immigrant dockworkers, who refused to work alongside African-American workers. The two groups, on the lowest rung of the socio-economic ladder, had long jostled for the city's lowest paying jobs, and tensions had only increased as the war continued.

Remarkably, the first day of the draft, Saturday, July 11, passed largely without incident. However, as the initial lists of the conscripted began to spread, a large-scale protest movement got underway. When officials (accompanied by just a dozen police officers) arrived at the city's Provost Marshall's office on the morning of Monday, July 13, they found a restless, anxious crowd of roughly 500, many of them armed. Shortly after the draft's 10:30 a.m. start time, a volunteer fire company, angered at the military conscription of their chief two days earlier, arrived on the scene. Known as Black Joke Engine Co. No. 33, the burly group was just as famous for their fist-fighting skills as they were for their fire fighting. The men soon began to smash the building's windows

and force their way inside, followed closely by the growing mob. After breaking in, they destroyed much of the draft equipment as local officials fled the scene. The protestors, meanwhile, began to spread out across the city, growing in numbers.

An early target of the mob was the pro-war press, particularly the New York Tribune, run by ardent abolitionist Horace Greeley. By mid-morning a group of protestors had descended on the city's lower Manhattan media district and were only turned away under heavy fire by armed newspaper staffers. Around the same time, another mob contingent laid waste to the one of the city's armories.



Late that afternoon, the crowd reached the Colored Orphan Asylum on Fifth Avenue and 43rd Street, home to more than 230 children. The orphanage's staff was able to evacuate all of the children to safety, but just minutes later the mob turned on the

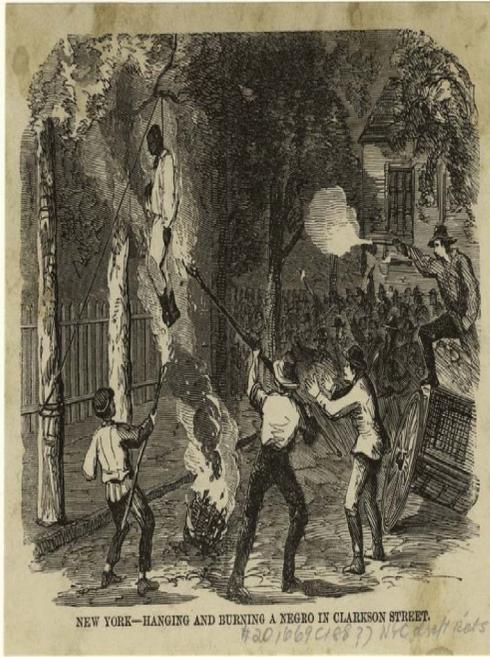
building with a savage ferocity, uprooting trees, destroying clothing, toys and supplies before setting fire to the building. As the first day of the riots wore on, many of its early members, whose opposition had been focused

solely on the draft itself, turned away from the increasingly violent mob. Many, including some of the men from the Black Joke Engine Co. would spend the next several days combating the rioters and protecting the city's citizens.

After a night of heavy rain, rioters returned to the streets early on Tuesday, July 14, looting and destroying businesses in the downtown area, including a large Brooks Brothers' store, which as a contractor for the U.S. government, had been churning out thousands of pieces of military garb for more than two years. The mob also began constructing barricades around the city that proved difficult for police to overcome.

The targeted attacks on blacks intensified and included the lynching of at least two African-American men: a young sailor who had been attacked after speaking to a young white boy and a man who had been captured and killed while attempting to escape to Brooklyn (reportedly disguised in his wife's clothing). Among the dead that day was Col. Henry O'Brien, the commander of a local regiment who had come to the aid of beleaguered policemen and been attacked and killed by the angry mob. As the violence continued to spread, New York politicians squabbled amongst themselves about how to bring order to the city. The Democratic governor, who had openly opposed the draft law before it went into effect, seemed reluctant to move forcefully against the demonstrators. The city's Republican mayor, well aware of the shortage of available police officers, formally asked the War Department

to send federal troops, but stopped short of declaring martial law and turning over control of the situation to federal officials.



At least four more blacks were killed on Wednesday, July 15, as the riots reached their third day. Desperate to contain the violence, New York Police Commissioner Thomas Acton and Harvey Brown of the New York National Guard decided to concentrate their vastly outnumbered forces at key parts of the city, including the area around City Hall, and northern outposts on the city's east side, allowing them to target the barricaded areas more efficiently, but leaving other areas of the city vulnerable to attacks. In fact, two key decisions that afternoon—the passage of an emergency bill that would provide low-interest loans to New Yorkers wishing to buy draft exemptions and

the announcement of the suspension of the draft itself—did little to quell the violence, as the riots spread to neighboring communities in Brooklyn and Staten Island.

Hoping to appeal to the now largely Irish Catholic mob, secular leaders implored religious leaders to get involved, and early on the morning of Thursday, July 16, Archbishop John Hughes delivered an appeal for peace from his residence near St. Patrick's Cathedral (still under construction and located in what was then the northern section of the city). By mid-day, the first of more than 4,000 federal troops, fresh from the horrors of Gettysburg, arrived in the city. Within hours, they faced off against rioters in what is now the city's Murray Hill neighborhood in what became the final clash of the New York City Draft Riots.

Estimates vary greatly as to the number of people killed in the Draft Riots, though most historians believe around 1115 people lost their lives, including nearly a dozen black men who were lynched after being brutally beaten. Hundreds of buildings were damaged—and as many as 50 burnt to the ground—causing millions of dollars in damage. Republican Mayor George Opdyke vetoed the Democratic-sponsored bill providing funds for draft exemptions—but the veto was promptly overturned by the Tammany Hall-controlled city council. In fact, if it were possible for the draft riots to have any “winners,” then the men of Tammany were just that. Their membership had swelled in recent years thanks to their targeting of newly arrived immigrants as

their voting base, and their championing of the rights of the city's workers before, during and after the increased their popularity. Within a decade, they were in firm control of the levers of city government.

The long term damage to New York's black population was significant: In the aftermath of the riots, the city's black population plummeted by more than 20 percent, to below 10,000, as blacks fled the city in droves. Many of those who stayed relocated from their racially mixed neighborhoods to areas with an elevated police presence or to the relative safety of the outskirts of the city. In all, just 67 people were convicted for their role in the riots and none received significant sentences. One month later, New York City's Civil War-era draft resumed, this time peacefully, and ended 10 days later. Thanks to physical deferments, exemptions and commutations, fewer than 2,400 of the 80,000 men drafted from New York State entered the U.S. Army through the new draft.

Yankee invaders claim the southern invasion occurred to liberate blacks from slavery, and the war was all about slavery. Yet in 1863 New Yorkers lynched the same black folks they were sent to liberate in the South. New Yorkers were so eager to liberate the slaves they burned the town, and murdered blacks in their own neighborhoods. The oft repeated, but never truthful slave liberation tales spun by Yankees do not add up.

## HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

Commander . . . . .	James Blackston
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmd. . . . .	John Tubbs
2nd Lt. Cmd. . . . .	Brandon Prescott
Adjutant . . . . .	Trent Harris
Chaplain . . . . .	Barry Cook
Communications. . . . .	Gene Herren
Facebook . . . . .	Brandon Prescott
News Editor . . . . .	James Blackston

Website: [www.huttocamp.com](http://www.huttocamp.com)

Email: [fair@huttocamp.com](mailto:fair@huttocamp.com)



[Visit our Facebook page](#)

The *Rebel Underground*, is the official monthly publication of the Major John C. Hutto Camp #443. Articles published are not necessarily the views or opinions of the Executive Board or the Editor.

The fair use of any included copyrighted work is for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, or research, and is for nonprofit educational purposes only.  
17 U.S. Code § 107

The *Rebel Underground* is dedicated to bringing our readers the very best of important news concerning Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We are not ashamed of our Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We dare to defend our rights.