The Aftermath of the American Civil War for Delaware

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New Year Message, January 1865
--Asked for bounties for those enlisting in the Union Army
--Resolution of thanks for Delaware soldiers
--Land for a fort near Lewes
--Abolition of slavery by state law
--Representation in the Delaware General Assembly proportional to population
Democrats’ Response:

Censure of Governor Cannon and Rejection of Every Point Stated

Gove Saulsbury (1815-1881)
Democrats’ Response

--Argued against what they saw as race mixing and attempts at black suffrage. Accused Republicans of wanting “perfect equality of the Races”.

--Passed a law that provided $200 for white volunteers. BUT provided $300 to hire a substitute for one year; $400 for two years; $500 for three years.
William Cannon:
Death from Typhus,
1 March 1865
Replaced by Gove Saulsbury, who served as BOTH Governor and President of the Senate
“Papa is more indignant with our Gov. than ever… but he has behaved as if he was the King of Dela. everyone says.”

Evelina du Pont, 3 April 1865

Henry du Pont (1812-1889)
Bad Economic Conditions:
Many businesses closed because of labor and materials shortages and wildly fluctuating prices.
Delaware was a troubled and divided place as the Civil War came to a close.
The Fall of Richmond, Virginia, 2 April 1865
Surrender at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, 9 April 1865
Thomas F. Bayard, Sr.  
(1828-1898)

George R. Riddle  
(1817-1867)
Assassination of Lincoln, 15 April 1865
“The assassination of the President is appalling & one of the most unfortunate events which could have occurred...it is a fearful blow at Republican Institutions, if the Constitutional head of the Government in a free country is liable to such a death!”

Henry du Pont,
22 April 1865
How did Delawareans deal with the war finally being over?
Military and Veterans:
The Grand Review of the Armies, Washington, D.C.,
23-24 May 1865
Military and Veterans: 
State Statistics

11,236 white soldiers
94 sailors and Marines
954 black soldiers
882 total deaths in military service

1860 Census:
90,589 white citizens
11,829 free people of color
1,798 slaves
Military and Veterans: Returning Home, Getting Back to Work
Military and Veterans:
The End of Fort Delaware
Military and Veterans: What to do about ex-Confederates?

--Many felt that terms for ex-Confederates were much too lenient.

--Jefferson Davis hanged in effigy (wearing woman’s clothing) in Wilmington after his capture.

--Delaware’s former Confederates lived relatively quietly. Most pardoned by the Delaware General Assembly or the U.S. Government.
Military and Veterans:
Pensions for Delaware’s Soldiers

The Case of William Rowe (1828-1897)
Military and Veterans:
Pensions for Delaware’s Soldiers

Henry Algernon du Pont
(1838-1926)

Soldier (1861-1874) and
U.S. Senator
(1906-1917)
Delaware Business after the War: The Case of DuPont
Delaware Business after the War: The Case of DuPont

--Largest producer of black powder for the U.S. Army and Navy during the War.
--Produced about 40% of all powder used during the war.
--Manufactured over 1,000,000 pounds of black powder per year from 1862-64 for Government contracts.
Delaware Business after the War:
The Case of DuPont

War is a MAJOR disruption:
Rising cost of raw materials and labor.
Loss of domestic markets.
Loss of products--$110,358.27 of powder confiscated by CSA.
Taxes and Regulations.
Fear of the powder yards’ destruction.
The pressures of working for Uncle Sam.
Delaware Business after the War:  
The Case of DuPont

As soon as the War is over, U.S. Government asks to be released from its black powder contracts.

DuPont enthusiastically says YES.

Why?
Delaware Business after the War: The Case of DuPont

To get back to a better business environment!
Delaware Business after the War: The Case of DuPont

Big Problem:

U.S. Government’s dump of surplus powder into the U.S. explosives market.
Delaware Business after the War: The Case of DuPont

Resolution:
Form a Syndicate.
Delaware Business after the War: The Case of DuPont

1872: The Gunpowder Trade Association (GTA)
Slavery and its Legacy

Delaware was not forced to go through Reconstruction because it remained in the Union.
Delaware was not required to ratify the “Reconstruction” Amendments

- **13th Amendment** (December 6, 1865) Ended slavery
- **14th Amendment** (July 9, 1868) Citizenship, Due Process, Equal Protection
- **15th Amendment** (February 3, 1870) Right to Vote
Slavery and its Legacy:
Strong Negative Reaction to the End of Slavery
Slavery and its Legacy: Delaware sets the tone for Jim Crow
Slavery and its Legacy: Disappointment with Politicians

“I believe their true reward, good Missouri Hemp administered to the most prominent, had it been promptly done, would have been a caution for the future.”

Henry du Pont, 8 January 1866
Slavery and its Legacy: Disappointment with Politicians

“The old regime will return some day. The country will be ruled by the secessionists & their dough faced allies. The Rebel debt will be paid the manumitted slaves paid for & all the damages & losses caused by War to the southern states paid for out of the nat. Treasury & the men that fought to suppress the Rebellion & maintain the Government, will be spat upon, by the Rebel Powers.”

Henry du Pont, 10 January 1875
Reconciliation?

Charlotte (Henderson) du Pont (1835-1877) and E.I. du Pont, II (1829-1877)
Reconciliation?

Elizabeth Bradford (du Pont) Bayard (1880-1975) and Thomas Francis Bayard, Jr. (1868-1942)
Reconciliation?

May Lammot (du Pont) Saulsbury (1854-1927) and Willard Saulsbury, Jr. (1861-1927)