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Harper's Weekly: Civil War Naval Illustrations

By Gary McQuarrie and Charles Williams

HARPER'S WEEKLY, A JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION, was one of three major American illustrated newspapers (along with *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* and the *New York Illustrated News*) during the Civil War years and the most widely read periodical in the United States during the conflict. These publications were classified as newspapers because they reported current events; however, they focused on material more often seen in magazines, mainly features and illustrations. The Harper brothers (James, John, Wesley, and Fletcher) started publication of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* in June 1850. The success of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, which had been inspired by *The Illustrated London News*, as well as growth in circulation and interest in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, appear to have spurred the Harper brothers, specifically the youngest brother Fletcher, to launch *Harper's Weekly* on January 3, 1857 in New York City. Fletcher's grandson, Joseph Henry Harper, said that it "became his pet enterprise" and until just before his death "the best energies of his controlling mind were devoted to its management."



Fletcher, James, John, and Joseph Harper, circa 1860, founders of the printing and publishing company Harper & Brothers, publisher of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. Library of Congress (LC-BH82-5244A [Prints & Photographs]; LC-DIG-cwpbh-02806). Brady-Handy Collection.

The initial 'Managing Editor' of *Harper's Weekly* was Theodore Sedgwick (1857-1858), followed by John Bonner (1858-1863) and then by George William Curtis (1863-1892), who oversaw the newspaper during the remaining Civil War years; however, Fletcher Harper was considered to have had significant editorial control and influence over the newspaper almost until his retirement in 1875 and death in 1877.

The early issues of *Harper's Weekly* were devoted mainly to non-political affairs, but at the start of the Civil War it began as "a national power," supporting the Union and Republican views and positions. In 1861, it advertised itself as a "first-class illustrated family newspaper."

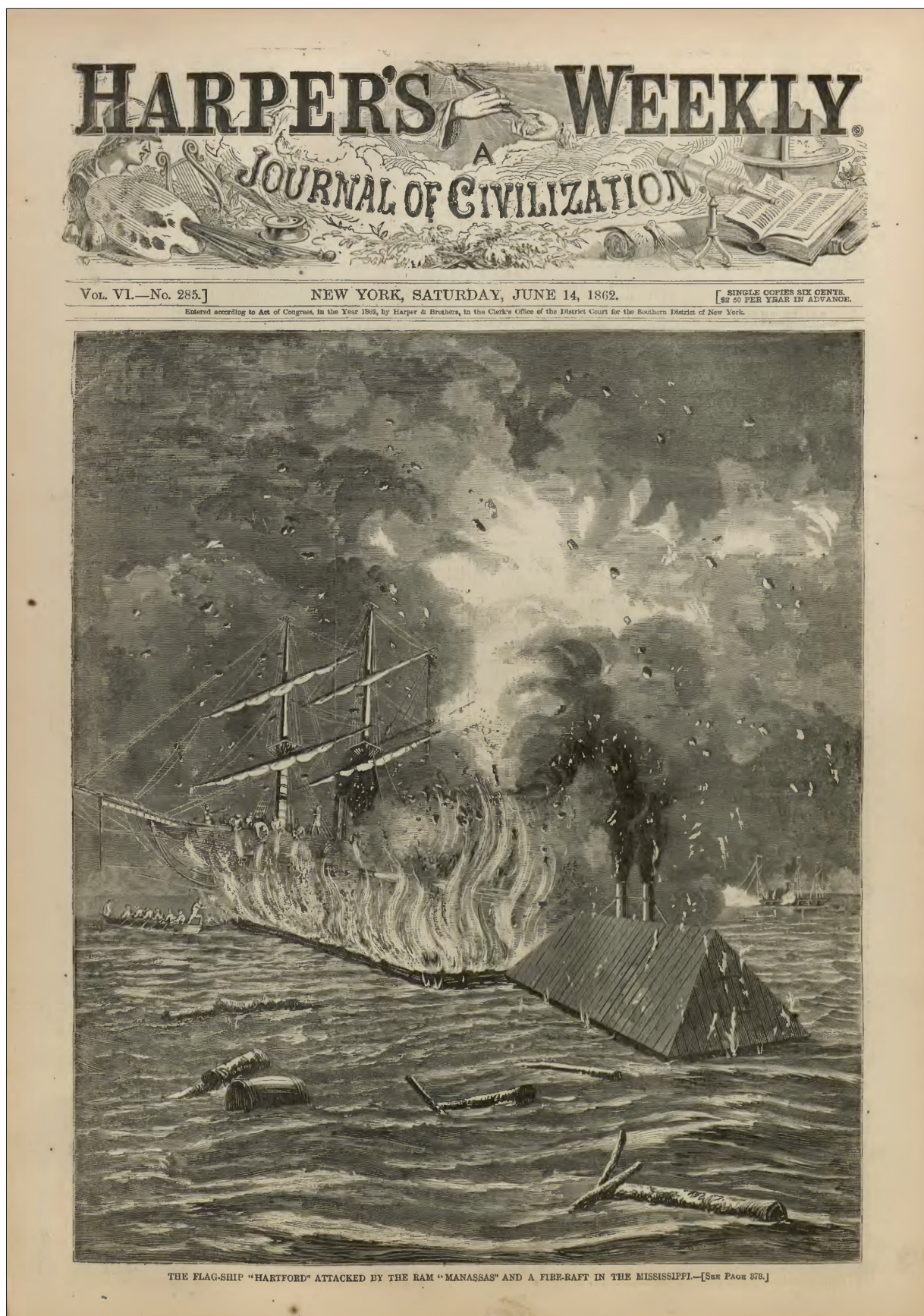
Harper's Weekly enjoyed continued success for about 2 decades after the Civil War, eventually falling out of favor after widespread attacks for its opposition to the Republican presidential nominee in 1884, from which it did not fully recover. The final issue was published on May 13, 1916; it then became absorbed into *The Independent* (a weekly magazine published in New York City), which subsequently merged with *The Outlook* (another weekly magazine published in New York City) in 1928.

***Harper's Weekly* During the Civil War Years**

Harper's Weekly had a profound influence on the nation socially and politically and became renowned for its detailed, extensive reporting on the Civil War and for ultimately publishing the greatest illustrators of the period, including Winslow Homer, Theodore Davis, Jasper Green, Livingston Hopkins, Andrew McCallum, Henry Mosler, Thomas Nast, Granville Perkins, Allen C. Redwood, William Shelton, David Strother, A.W. Warren, Robert Weir, and the Waud brothers, Alfred and William. At the beginning of the Civil War, *Harper's Weekly* did

not have a sufficient talent pool of sketch artists and engravers as did *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, and its engravings were few in number and considered relatively dull and lacking in detail and appropriate perspective. However, as *Leslie's* established illustrations as an effective and successful technique of reporting, Fletcher Harper made aggressive efforts to recruit the best illustrators from rival illustrated newspapers and to ultimately exceed *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper's* national distribution figures and at least match its illustration capabilities. At the outset of the conflict, to help overcome the lack of artistic talent in the field, each officer of the Union army and navy who forwarded an address to *Harper's Weekly* was sent a free subscription with a request to send in sketches of interest. In 1862, Harper managed to successfully recruit the artist and political cartoonist, Thomas Nast, from *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* to join *Harper's Weekly* full time. Nast's contributions drew a very large following. In addition, Harper managed to recruit Alfred Waud from the *New York Illustrated News* in 1862 and then his more technically competent brother, William, from *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* in 1864. Ultimately, *Harper's Weekly* engaged 10 identified 'Special Artists' as on-scene corresponding illustrators who each had at least 10 illustrations published. The illustrations on the pages of *Harper's Weekly* improved significantly and ultimately rivaled those of competitors.

Harper's Weekly was published weekly on Saturdays. A single issue price was 5 cents; individual subscriptions were priced as follows: 1 copy for 20 weeks, \$1.00; 1 copy for 1 year, \$2.50; and 1 copy for 2 years, \$4.00. Bound (in cloth) annual volumes for prior years were offered for sale at \$3.50. Clubs of 12 or 25 subscribers were offered annual prices of \$20.00 and \$40.00, respectively. *Harper's Weekly* was sent gratuitously for 1 month, as a specimen, to anyone who applied for it. Clergy and teachers were supplied at the lowest club subscription rates. Subscriptions could begin with any issue. An annual individual combined subscription to *Harper's Weekly* plus *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* was offered for \$4.00. In 1862, the single issue price increased to 6 cents, with 1 copy for 1 year, \$3.00 and 1 copy for 2 years, \$5.00, reflecting the increased demand for the journal and increasing paper and ink costs. *Harper's Weekly* advertised



THE FLAG-SHIP "HARTFORD" ATTACKED BY THE RAM "MANASSAS" AND A FIRE-RAFT IN THE MISSISSIPPI.—[SEE PAGE 378.]

Front page of *Harper's Weekly*, Volume VI, No. 285, p 369, June 14, 1862, showing the Flag-ship "Hartford" Attacked by the Ram "Manassas" and a Fire-raft in the Mississippi.

itself as the “best, cheapest, and most successful illustrated journal ever published on the continent,” typical of the somewhat grandiose self-promotion of the illustrated newspapers of the era. Prices generally remained stable during 1863 and 1864. By 1865, the price of a single issue jumped to 10 cents, with 1 copy for 1 year costing \$4.00.

Shortly after the start of the Civil War, during June 1861, the circulation of *Harper's Weekly* was claimed to be 115,000 (*Harper's Weekly*, Volume V, No. 233, June 15, 1861), only slightly lower than that of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, which had started in December 1855. The circulation continued to grow, reaching 120,000 by the end of 1861 (*Harper's Weekly*, Volume V, No. 261, December 28, 1861) and remained above 100,000 throughout most of the Civil War (*Harper's Weekly*, Volume VII, No. 339, June 27, 1863). After mid-1863, the circulation of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* was finally exceeded by the circulation of *Harper's Weekly* and that of the *New York Illustrated News*. During 1865, the circulation averaged over 100,000 copies per issue, with some single issues exceeding 200,000 copies (*Harper's Weekly*, Annual Volume 9, Editor's Note, p iv). Looking back, *Harper's Weekly* was ultimately considered to be of markedly higher quality than *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, being both superior in literary excellence and better printed, although *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* was generally considered to have excelled in “liveliness,” at least in its early years, and in its number and caliber of illustrations in the early years of the Civil War. Like *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, *Harper's Weekly* became a great pictorial history of the Civil War through its illustrations.

Harper's Weekly Volume V, No. 224, April 13, 1861 through Volume IX, No. 437, May 13, 1865, encompassed the Civil War, a total of 213 issues (known as “numbers”). During the Civil War, typical issues of *Harper's Weekly* were 16 pages in length, with dimensions of approximately 11½ x 16 inches (the size allowed easy shipping), and would contain 10 to 15 (or more) illustrations consisting of two types:

- 1) Based on photographs (many taken by Mathew Brady or photographers in his studio) and
- 2) Illustrations (engravings) based on sketches done by staff artists and “corresponding artists.”

In addition, soldiers and army officers sent in sketches and naval officers sent drawings of their ships and the war on the rivers and at sea. The artists whose sketches were the basis for the illustrations were not always identified. Some Civil War illustrations attributed to “Harper's” were only published in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* (which was renamed *Harper's Monthly Magazine* in December 1900) or in *Harper's Pictorial History of the Great Rebellion*.

Both photographs and sketches were transferred onto paper by the state-of-the-art technology of woodcut engraving and then locked in place with handset type; each page was then electrotyped to produce multiple copies of a metal printing plate, allowing extended print runs. Because other periodicals in both the North and the South consistently published almost exclusively content, perhaps with occasional maps, *Harper's Weekly* eventually provided one of the most extensive set of original illustrations of the war, although some other illustrated newspapers (e.g., *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*) also provided similarly extensive illustrations of the war. Because of the time needed for the production of the engraving plates from which the illustrations were printed, most news accounts were reported about 1 to 3 weeks after the specific event had occurred. This speed was made possible by the method of making a drawing on a large wood block (usually boxwood), then cutting the block into multiple blocks and assigning each smaller block to an individual engraver (10 to 15 or more engravers in total), then reassembling the blocks, a method generally attributed to Frank Leslie.

Harper's Weekly: Civil War Naval Illustrations



Farragut's Victory in Mobile Bay—Capture of the Rebel ram Tennessee. Sketched by Robert Weir. Line engraving published in *Harper's Weekly*, Volume VIII, No. 402, p 585, September 10, 1864.

Impact of *Harper's Weekly* During the Civil War Years

In 1865, the *North American Review* (Volume 100, Issue 207 [April 1865], p 623-625) reflected on and characterized *Harper's Weekly* impact during the Civil War years:

"It has been one of the most powerful of the organs of public opinion. Its vast circulation, deservedly secured and maintained by the excellence and variety of its illustrations and scenes and events of the war, as well as by the spirit and tone of its editorials, has carried it wide and far. It has been read in city parlors, in the log hut of the pioneer, by every camp-fire of our armies, in the wards of our hospitals, in the trenches before Petersburg, and in the ruins of Charleston; and wherever it has gone, it has kindled a warmer glow of patriotism, it has served the hearts and strengthened the arms of the people, and it has done its full part in the furtherance of the great cause of Union, of Freedom, and of Law."

Harper's Pictorial History of the Great Rebellion

In May 1866 (First Part [Volume 1]) and April 1868 (Second Part [Volume 2]), Alfred H. Guernsey and Henry M. Alden (both editors of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* at different times) authored *Harper's Pictorial History of the Great Rebellion* (New York: Harper & Brothers). The two volumes comprised a total of 836 pages that detailed the history of the conflict based on extensive original content from published Union and Confederate official reports (and in manuscript form), official returns of the armies on both sides, war correspondents' letters, interviews with and documentation from prominent military officers on both sides, and numerous biographical sketches. Based on a manual review by the Editors of *Civil War Navy—The Magazine*, this set also contained approximately 1,000 illustrations of scenes and incidents (562), maps and plans (97) [some provided by military sources], and portraits of military and public officials (335), mainly from the Civil War-year editions of the illustrated newspaper, including over 150 naval-related illustrations (128 scenes and incidents [including coastal and river forts], 11 maps of rivers and harbors, and 18 portraits [officers and shipbuilders]). Subsequent editions were retitled by the original publisher to *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War* and



Bombardment of Port Hudson by Admiral Farragut's Fleet, March 14-15. — Sketched by Mr. Hamilton. Line engraving published in *Harper's Weekly*, Volume VII, No. 329, p 248-249, April 18, 1863.

Harper's Weekly: Civil War Naval Illustrations

published by other publishers; many facsimile editions since and in the modern era are so titled and have been produced by various publishers, often with new, authored introductions. These editions contain very high-quality illustrations. In both *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War* and *Harper's Pictorial History of the Great Rebellion*, none of the illustrations are credited to the original issues of the newspaper in which they were published nor are any illustrations credited to named artists.

Accessing Harper's Weekly Online

Today, *Harper's Weekly* is available online for reading and, in a number of digital sources, full-text searching, on a variety of websites (only some of which are listed herein) (Table 1). However, identifying and locating specific Civil War illustrations, including naval illustrations, in most online sources still involves some degree of manual effort, typically consisting of reviewing an index of illustrations listed in each annual volume by description of the illustration, with the search effort guided generally by the date of a specific event or time period of the war of interest or relevance and, in the case of naval illustrations, by a ship name, a naval battle or action, or a high-ranking naval officer's name.

Finding Civil War Naval Illustrations in Harper's Weekly

During the course of the Civil War, *Harper's Weekly* published approximately 2,600 original illustrations, over 400 of which were naval-related illustrations (including maps and officer portraits).

The challenge for most Civil War naval enthusiasts is how to identify and readily locate specific naval illustrations in the 213 individual issues covering the war (included in 5 annual volumes of the journal, Volumes 5-9 [V-IX]) published from the start to the end of the war.

These illustrations richly complement the Civil War photographs of coastal defenses, naval vessels, navy yards, and naval officers because many of them depict actual naval scenes of engagements and battles, bombardments of forts, and some naval vessels and naval officers for which actual photographs are not available historically.

It should be kept in mind that the illustrations, though based on submitted sketches, were detailed by multiple engravers and thus were subject to some interpretation artistically; in addition, though many illustrations were based on eyewitness sketches by the artists, some illustrations were based on the witness reports of other individuals and even occasionally depicted events that had not occurred simultaneously. Thus, the illustrations should not be interpreted as though they were actual photographs of an event.

In 2000, Richard A. Owens (Fairfax, VA) self-published an updated, comprehensive book containing very detailed indices to the illustrations appearing in *Harper's Weekly* during the Civil War years that he had meticulously compiled (*An Index to the Illustrations of Harper's Weekly During the Civil War Years 1861-1865*).

This index is probably the single-most comprehensive, useful reference guide to locating specific illustrations that appeared in *Harper's Weekly*, including naval illustrations, starting with the approximate date and year of a known naval event or subject of interest (eg, name of ship, naval battle or engagement, or officer) during the war.

(In 1998, Owens had initially self-published the predecessor book entitled *The Civil War Illustrated By Compiling the Woodcut Engravings and Sketches from Harper's Weekly Magazine into Thirteen Different Categories for the Years 1861-1865*; this was followed 2 years later by the self-published book in which the

Table 1. Online Access to Harper's Weekly

Web Source & Access

Harper's Weekly 1857-1912

<https://alexanderstreet.com/products/harpers-weekly-1857-1912>

Available from Alexander Street, a ProQuest Company

Access: For libraries and academic researchers: annual subscription or one-time purchase of perpetual rights, scaled to library budget and size

Attributes

- Contains over 75,000 images, including illustrations, cartoons, maps, and portraits, each image scanned at 600 dpi in gray scale or better (can be viewed in 3 different sizes and printed or downloaded)
- Content was rekeyed to near perfect accuracy and not optically scanned
- Articles, editorials, and illustrations have extensive depth of indexing, including subject terms not part of the original text, helping to locate material that cannot be found with a keyword search
- The Editors of *Civil War Navy—The Magazine* do not have access to this database to evaluate its indexing and searching functionality

Hathi Trust Digital Library

<https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000061498>

Access: Free

- Many volumes from 1860 to 1916 are available; **for Civil War years, 1863 and 1865 not available**
- Volumes sourced from several university libraries; may be viewed magnified with reasonably good resolution
- Civil War years' annual volumes may be viewed; each volume has a general index and an index to illustrations
- Offers full-text search capability, as well as ability to perform jumps to pages or sections and download individual pages or volumes as PDF files
- Using key search words, like the name of a ship, illustrations can be located (if the word is in the caption, the search result will show the portion of the caption containing the ship name with a page number, the caption so indicated by all capital letters in the search results)

The Online Books Page, University of Pennsylvania

<http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/serial?id=harpersweekly>

Access: Free

- Many volumes from 1858 to 1916 are available; Civil War years linked to Internet Archive
- Volumes may be viewed magnified with very good resolution; easily scrolled through using slide button; and pages are quickly turned using arrow buttons, making this site useful for relatively rapid scanning
- Offers full-text search capability but is generally not useful for locating illustrations using this site's search engine
- Civil War years' annual volumes may be viewed; each volume has a general index and an index to the illustrations
- Volumes may be downloaded as large PDF files

The Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

[https://archive.org/details/lincolncollection?sort=reviewdate&and\[\]=harper%27s%20weekly](https://archive.org/details/lincolncollection?sort=reviewdate&and[]=harper%27s%20weekly)

Available from Internet Archive

Access: Free

- 1858-1870 volumes are available
- Volumes may be viewed magnified with very good resolution; easily scrolled through using slide button; and pages are quickly turned using arrow buttons, making this site useful for relatively rapid scanning
- Each volume has a general index and an index to the illustrations
- Volumes may be downloaded as large PDF files

Son of the South Civil War

<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/the-civil-war.htm>

Access: Free

- Civil War issues (1861-1864, 1865 issues through May) are available
- The issues published during Civil War years are organized chronologically and can be easily accessed by clicking on the image icon for the dated issue cover
- To provide an interactive experience, text of each issue has been re-typeset for clarity in reading, but also includes highlighted text links to related illustrations within the same issue or in other issues, along with some descriptive narrative, making this a helpful and informative feature

BACM Research—Paperless Archives

http://www.paperlessarchives.com/cw_harper_s_weekly.html

Access: Complete Civil War volumes can be purchased and downloaded as a 1.8-GB zip file

- Downloaded zip file contains a PDF for each year's issues during the Civil War, approximately 4,176 pages in total
- PDFs may be viewed and printed with very good resolution
- PDFs of Volumes 1 and 2 of *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War* (Chicago, IL: The Puritan Press Company, 1894 edition) are included with a purchase

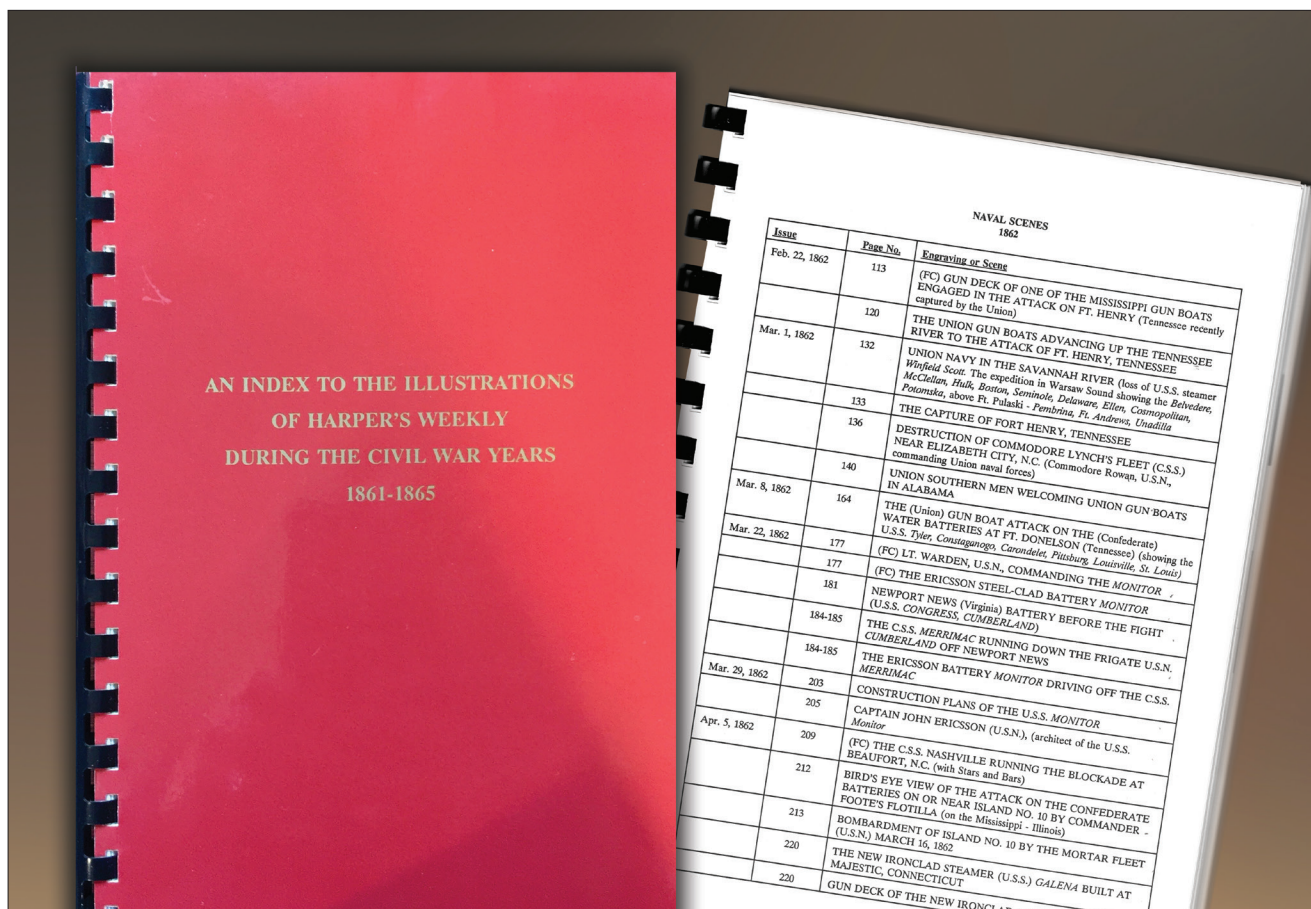
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illustrations were subsequently organized into 14 subject categories. To the subsequent edition, Owens added a category of 'Local Scenes from Northern and Southern States.' The early edition was a soft-cover, wire-bound publication and the latter a soft-cover, comb-bound publication; both are available on a very limited basis. This extremely helpful resource may be searched for and purchased (when available) from online marketplace booksellers. Both the 1998 and 2000 versions of the book can be found individually in a handful of mainly public libraries (WorldCat.org).

Owens precisely entered a description of almost every illustration published in *Harper's Weekly* during the Civil War years into one (or more, to cross reference) of 14 different subject categories chronologically by issue date in the journal and organized for each year of publication from 1861 through 1865. Thus, many of the illustrations are cross-referenced in multiple categories; for each illustration, the caption is included (occasionally with

additional explanatory text) and, for some illustrations that appeared without a caption, Owens has written descriptive captions in his book.

"Naval Scenes" is Category VI of the 14 categories Owens used to organize the illustrations and comprises over 400 of the illustrations by year as follows: 1861 (90 illustrations), 1862 (103 illustrations), 1863 (80 illustrations), 1864 (91 illustrations), and 1865 (52 illustrations). The naval illustrations include navy yards, individual warship vessels, action scenes, sinking and destruction of vessels, naval campaigns and battles, and shore and fort bombardments by naval warships. Portrait illustrations of notable naval officers are also included in Category VI, as well as in Confederate or Union Officer Statesmen categories (Categories II and III, respectively). Naval scenes and officer portrait illustrations also occasionally were featured on the covers of *Harper's Weekly*: 1861 (6 issues), 1862 (9 issues), 1863 (11 issues), 1864 (9 issues), and 1865 (3 issues).

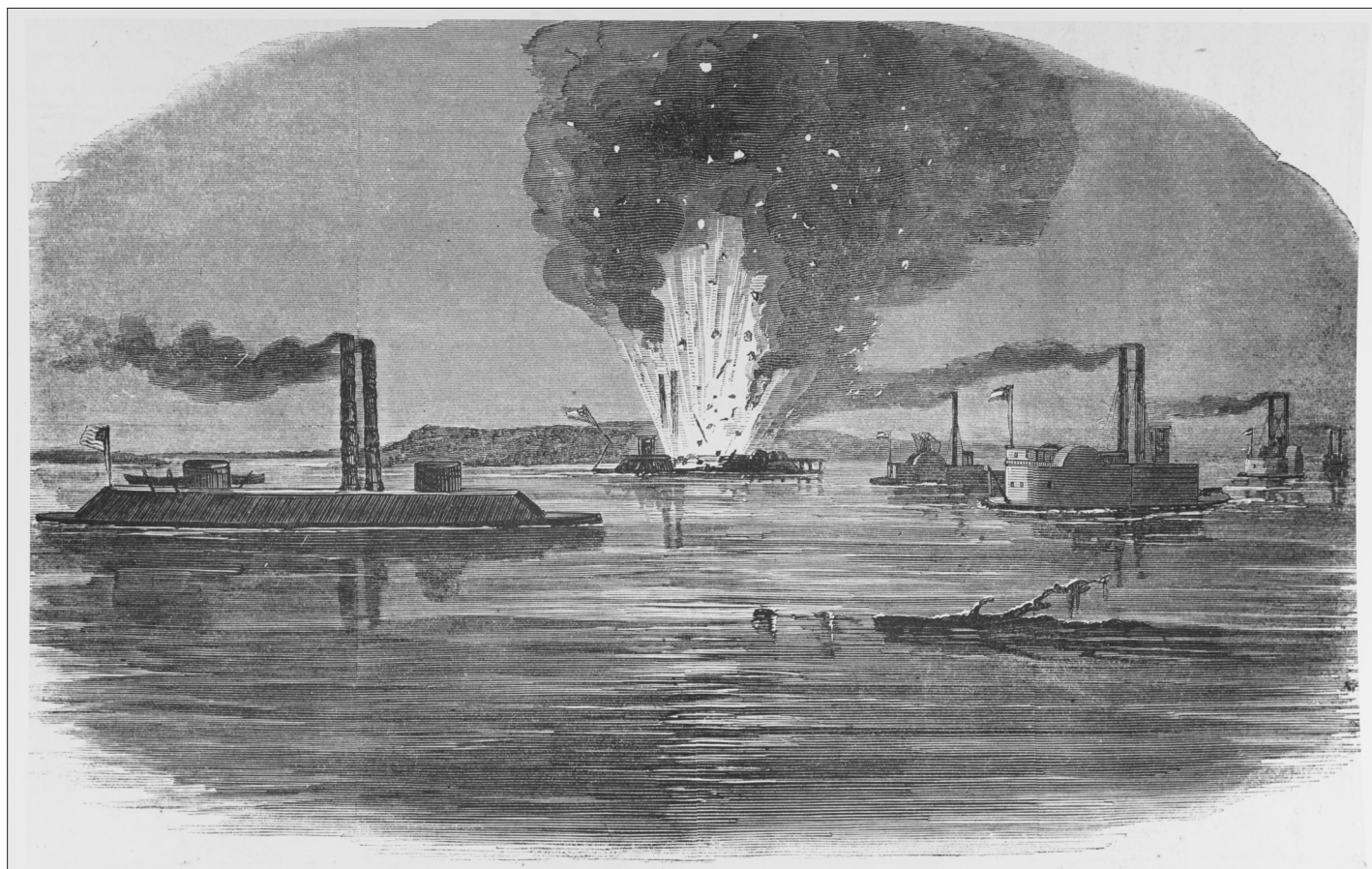


An Index to the Illustrations of Harper's Weekly During the Civil War Years 1861-1865 by Richard A. Owens (Fairfax, VA: Self-Published, 2000) ©Richard A. Owens.

The Editors of *Civil War Navy—The Magazine* have found that manually scanning the ‘Naval Scenes Category’ of illustration listings of the *Civil War year of interest* for a specific illustration is generally a relatively quick, useful, and thorough method for locating a relevant naval illustration and associated caption (if such an illustration is available) and identifying the specific dated issue in which it appeared (as well as the issue page number on which it appeared).

The illustration can then be viewed via one of the online sources or a published special pictorial book edition or issue of the illustrated newspaper.

The second-best method is an initial search of the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) Photographs collection (<https://www.history.navy.mil/our-collections/photography.html>) which can locate a majority of *Harper’s Weekly* Civil War naval illustrations (approximately 75% of those available). In the NHHC Photographs collection, The Editors of *Civil War Navy—The Magazine* found just over 300 naval illustrations (including 18 portraits and 6 maps). These naval illustrations are digitized and may be easily downloaded in low, medium, or high resolution. The naval illustrations in the NHHC Photographs collection may be found by using the combined search terms of “*Harper’s Weekly*” AND “Civil War year of interest.” The results using “*Harper’s Weekly*” as a search term do include some duplicate images, unrelated images, and some images with more than one Civil War year included in the title description; typically, these illustrations are attributed to a specific month and year of the illustrated newspaper, although some include specific citation details such as the



“Baches Quaker” Driving the “Queen of the West” and Causing the Confederates to Blow Up the “Indianola.” —[Sketched by Mr. Theodore R. Davis.] Line engraving published in *Harper’s Weekly*, Volume VII, No. 326, p 197, March 28, 1863. NH 59105 courtesy of Naval History and Heritage Command.

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issue date of publication. The descriptions accompanying these digitized illustrations sometimes provide the 6-month bound edition date (eg, January-June 1863) and associated page number but often (but not always) do not include all details regarding the specific issue of *Harper's Weekly* (volume number, issue number, date of issue) in which a particular illustration appeared. Alternatively, the specific naval event or battle or the name of the warship involved (or naval officer name) may be used as a search term in the NHHC Photographs collection and the search results scanned, but this can be a hit-or-miss approach; however, a search (or modified search) can be performed and the results scanned quickly. Other online sources (eg, Library of Congress) also typically have only selected *Harper's Weekly* illustrations and are not go-to solutions for finding naval illustrations.

Freely accessible online digital collections of *Harper's Weekly* searched by the Editors of *Civil War Navy—The Magazine* do not always have volume or annual indices of the engravings or illustrations in the Civil War years of publication. Thus, one is left to manually scan various special edition publications of *Harper's Weekly* illustrations, as well as accessible online digital collections of the illustrated newspaper; with the latter, usually searching within 1-3 weeks (sometimes longer) after the dates of known specific naval events of the war involving specific naval vessels or officers in order to try to locate a specific illustration. The indices of the special edition publications can be manually scanned, but this can be a hit-or-miss method because the index entries are typically shortened keyword descriptions of the captions for the illustrations and the special editions do not contain all illustrations published in the newspaper.

Beside the accessible online digital collections, a number of libraries nationwide contain either bound print volumes or microfilm formats of *Harper's Weekly* (WorldCat.org), and various bound print volumes of *Harper's Weekly* or the special edition publications may be for sale from a commercial source.

Acquiring Original *Harper's Weekly* Issues

Originals of *Harper's Weekly* Civil War (1861-1865) issues (and occasionally bound individual annual volumes or volume sets) can be purchased from a variety of commercial sources, including old or rare book and newspaper sellers (individuals and commercial firms), online book and marketplace sellers (eg, eBay, Amazon), and auction houses. The listings below are a sample of sellers and are not intended to exclude other sellers. Potential acquirers should be aware that there are many listings for *facsimile* reproduction issues, *not originals*, for sale on many sites and the facsimile versions are not always specified; very low prices are typically an indication of a facsimile issue. Additional information on detecting reproductions of Civil War-era newspapers, including *Harper's Weekly*, can be found on an authored collectors information web page at:

<http://www.historicpages.com/cwfakes.htm>

Timothy Hughes Rare & Early Newspapers

This online seller has available more than 95% of the *Harper's Weekly* issues ever printed:

http://www.rarenewspapers.com/entry/harpers_weekly

All issues are authentic originals and unless otherwise specified, are complete and in good condition, although actual issue conditions vary. Issues are continually added to the stock for sale and are made available for sale as quickly as feasible. First-rate issues may have minor foxing (age-related process of deterioration that causes spots and browning on old paper) and wear that is typical for a collectible, and centerfolds may have small binding holes. If images are not present, the seller is pleased to provide them upon request. The seller often has lesser-rated condition issues available at lower prices.

Dietrich's Vault

Dietrich's Vault is an online seller of a comprehensive collection of vintage ephemera, antiques, and collectibles. In addition to other Civil War ephemera, this seller offers only originals of numerous magazines and illustrated newspapers of the era, including *Harper's Magazine* and

Harper's Weekly, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, *The Illustrated London News*, the *Century Magazine*, and *Scribner's Magazine*:

<http://www.dietrichsvault.com/default.aspx>

The seller rates the condition of an issue and provides additional details on its condition. The website also contains a Resources tab under which searchers find useful articles on ephemera preservation and distinguishing original prints and photographs from reproductions and fakes. Purchasers may buy individual pages or complete issues as available.

Harper's Weekly on Biblio.com

This online marketplace seller has hundreds of *Harper's Weekly* issues for sale, including some hardcover, signed, and first edition copies. Most issues are considered in very good or better condition. Other illustrated periodicals of the Civil War era are also available from this seller.

<https://www.biblio.com/harpers-weekly-by-weekly-harpers/work/66092>

Summary

Harper's Weekly is one of the great historic publication resources documenting the Civil War, both in terms of its reporting and in the sheer number and detail of its illustrations. For Civil War naval enthusiasts seeking to locate specific naval illustrations published in *Harper's Weekly*, the Editors of *Civil War Navy—The Magazine* recommend the following options:

First, manually scanning the 'Naval Scenes Category' of Owens' self-published *An Index to the Illustrations of Harper's Weekly during the Civil War Years 1861-1865* book as a relatively quick, thorough, and useful method for identifying and locating specific naval illustrations of interest in this iconic newspaper by issue date and page number. With this method, a specifically named naval vessel, naval battle or engagement, or naval officer in a specific time period are the search strategy terms. Alternatively, visually scanning the illustration index of the annual volume of *Harper's Weekly* for a specific Civil

War year of interest, or online searching of the annual volume of interest, is required using the same search strategy but can be somewhat tedious given that captions are often the index terms. Once the illustration is located, a *Harper's Weekly* online digital resource may be used to identify specific issue details.

An additional, excellent alternative is searching the NHHHC Photographs collection online using the search strategy outlined previously in this article. Finally, manually searching accessible online digital collections of the illustrated newspaper, usually searching within 1-3 weeks (sometimes longer) after the dates of known specific naval events of the war or specific naval vessels or officers, may be used to try to locate a specific naval-related illustration and to identify specific issue details (eg, volume, issue number, page number).

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