

Marian Moser Jones

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

from Clara Barton to the New Deal



*The Red Cross
serves humanity*

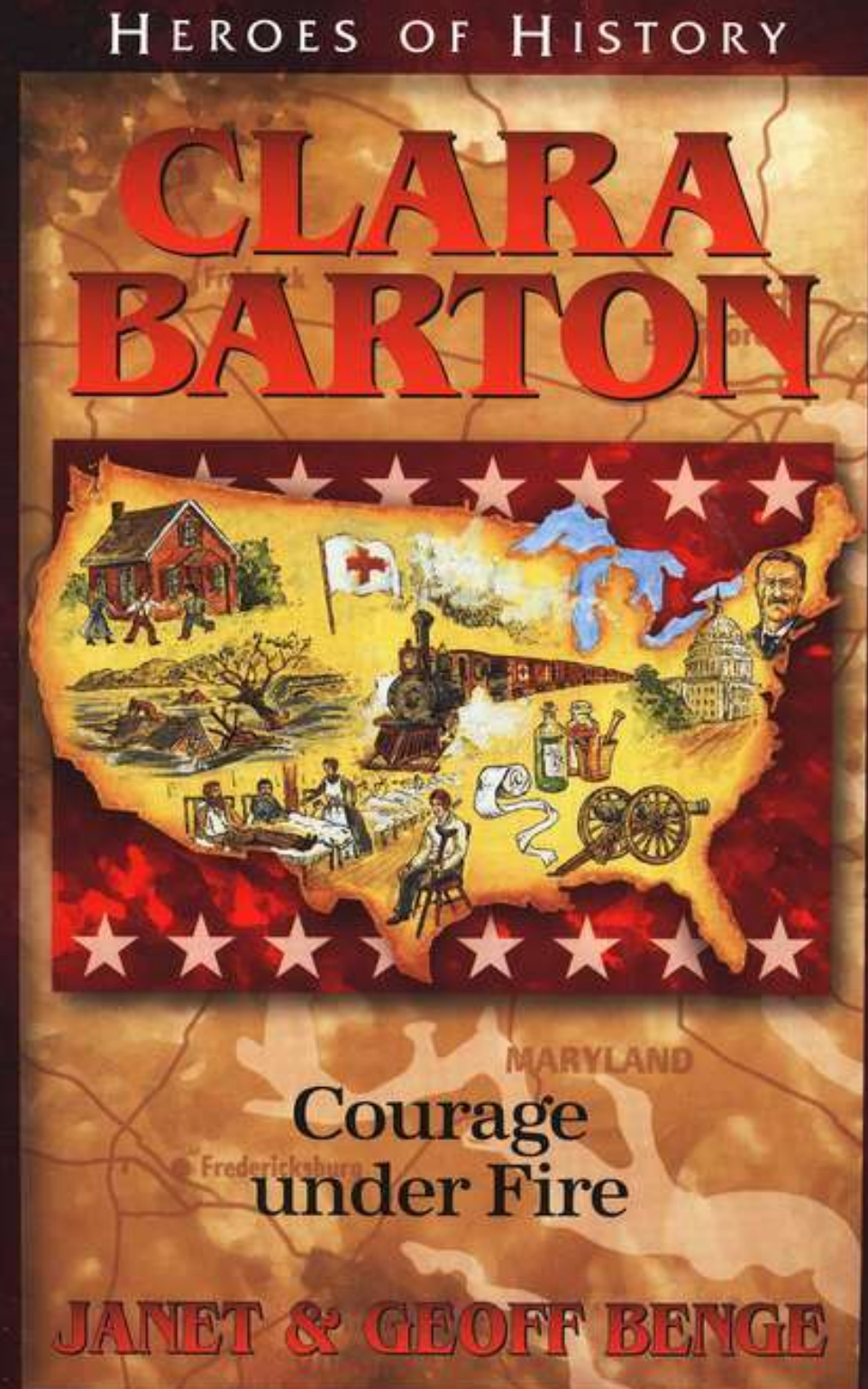
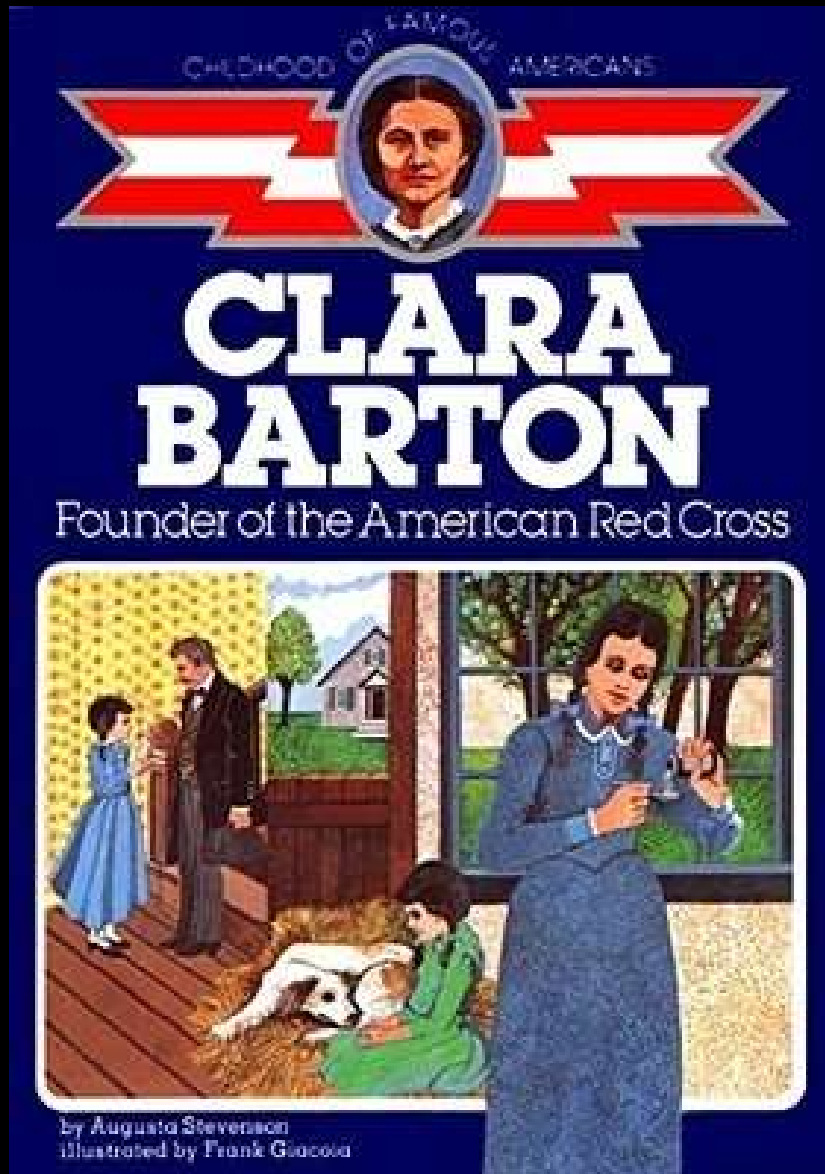
Why Clara Barton Still Matters

Marian Moser Jones, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor,
Health Services Management & Policy and
History

The Ohio State University

Jones.7849@osu.edu

Children's book heroine





Photos:
Bordentown
Historical
Society
Website,
Centraljersey.
com

Clara Barton,

Dec. 25, 1821 - April 12, 1912

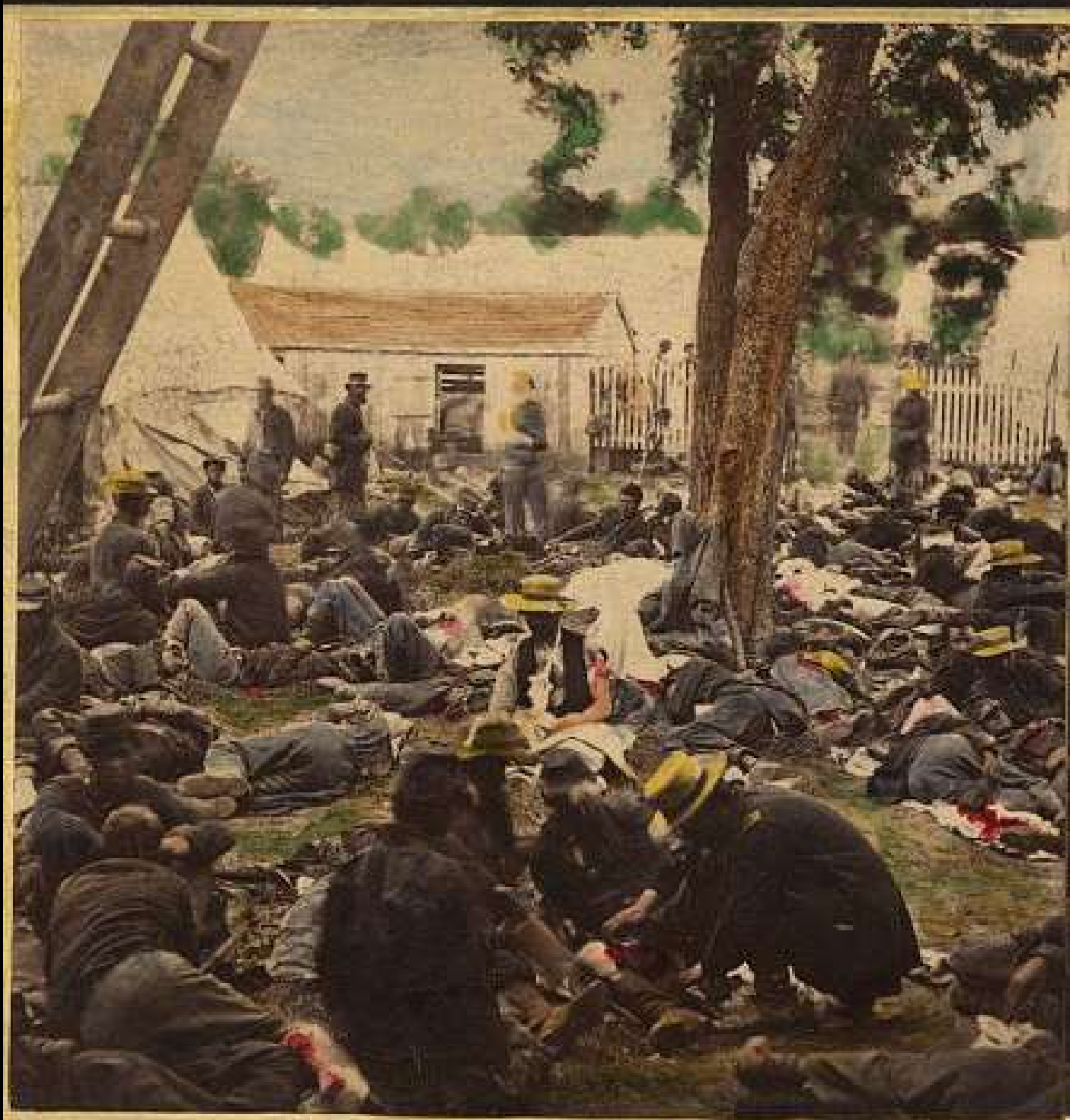


Photo: Matthew Brady, 1860s (Library of Congress)



Drawing: Smithsonian Institution website, https://www.civilwar.si.edu/smithsonian_pob.html#

Treating wounded soldiers,
Virginia, 1862
Stereograph: James Gibson



Testimony before Joint Committee on Reconstruction, 1866

- Describes inhuman conditions of formerly enslaved woman she met at Andersonville: “bucked and gagged” and lashed while pregnant...
- Emphasizes that Black Americans, contrary to racist ideas, not “less moral, not less religious, not less truthful than any other race.”

The five founders of the International Committee of the Red Cross



- Dr. Louis Appia, Henri Dunant, Gustave Moynier, I Général Dufour and Dr. Théodore Maunoir, 1863 (photo F.Martin)
- Source: Croix-rouge.fr (French Red Cross website)



1863: Geneva businessmen form international movement to provide neutral assistance to battlefield wounded.

1864: Treaty of Geneva directs each nation signing to form volunteer organization to carry out this mission.

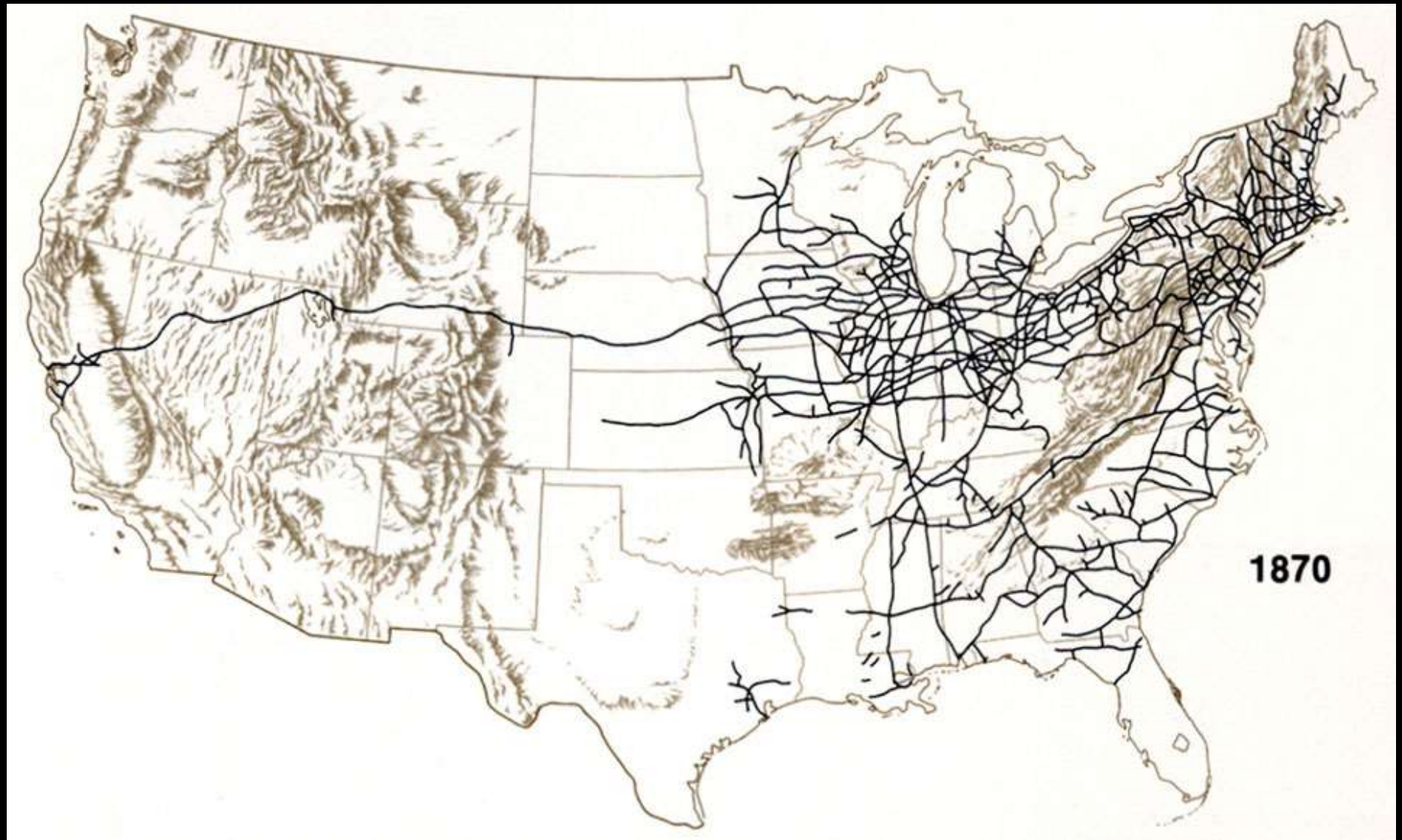


Red Cross aiding the war wounded in Lausanne, Switzerland, during the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 (ICRC photo)

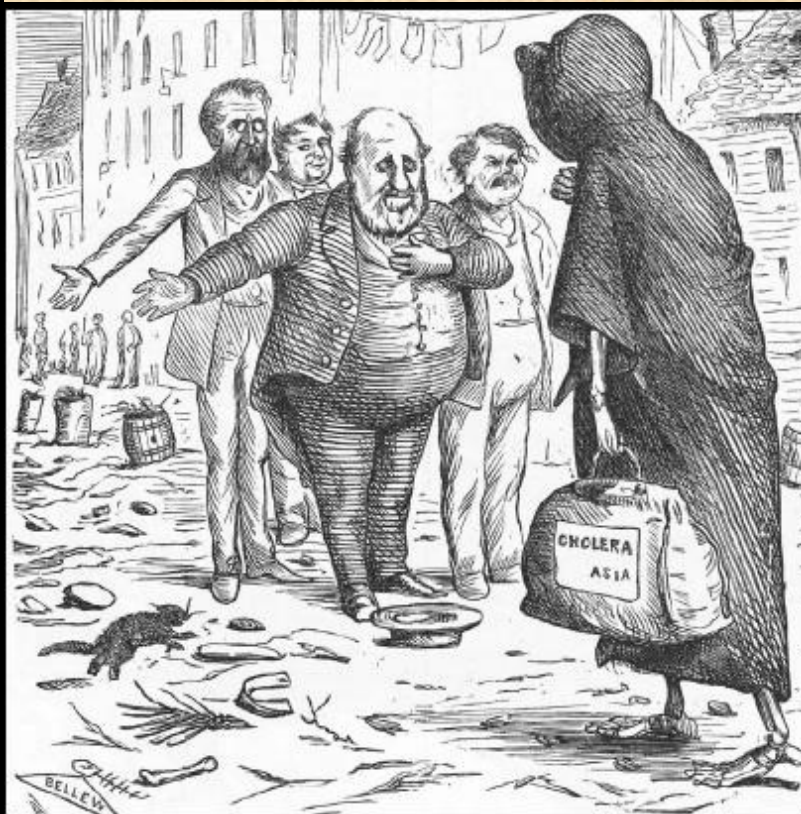
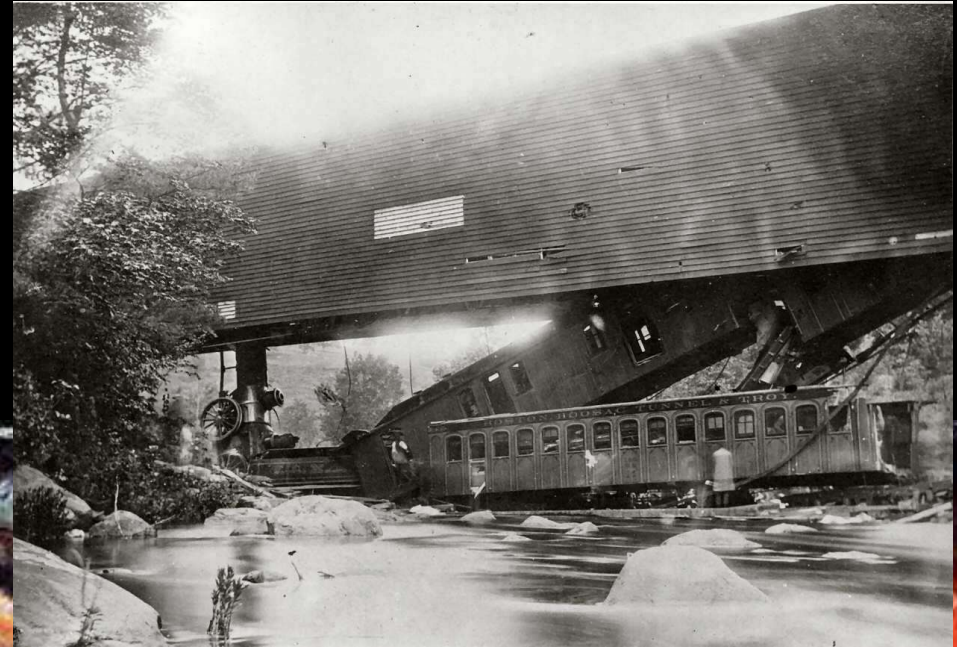
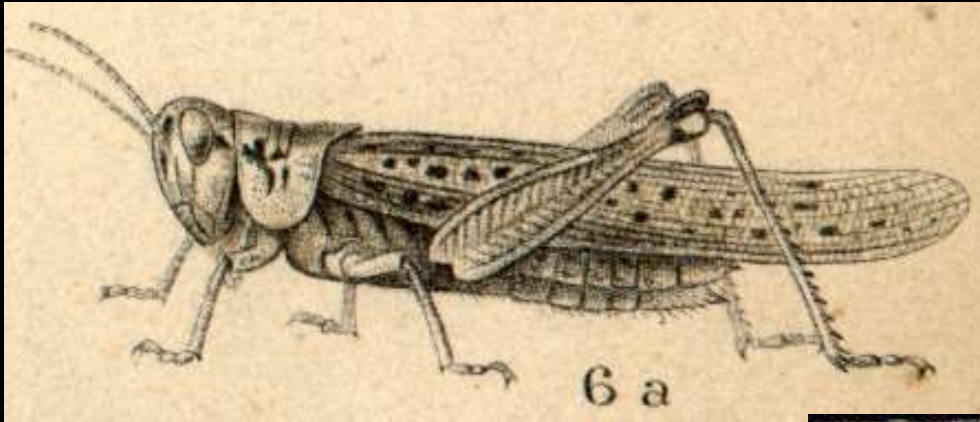
A Military Power?

- 1870 - Population of U.S. ~ 38 million
- # in military: 37,200
- 1890 – Population of U.S. ~ 62 million
- # in military - 27,300
- 2014 – Population of U.S. ~ 317 million
- # in military 1.42 million
- Growth of population (1890-2014) X 5.11
- Growth of military (1890-2014) - 52 times (5200%)
- Proportional growth of military - 10.4 times (1040%)

Transplanting an Idea



American Problems, 1870s



The American Red Cross



Founded 1881 by Clara Barton

Wartime: neutral aid to all wounded under Geneva Conventions

Peacetime: aid in "National Calamities" – floods, earthquakes, epidemics, fires, etc.

Translating Neutrality



Portrait of Clara Barton in the year she organized the Red Cross, in *Clara Barton, Humanitarian* (1918), by Corra Bacon-Foster.

“[The American Red Cross must be] free from all shadows of sex or race... and must give to the Moslem, the Israelite and the Heathen the same consideration it accords the Christian.”

– Clara Barton, 1903

Debacle at Jacksonville, 1888

THE RED CROSS AT WORK.

Miss Clara Barton and Her Society Doing Good Work for the Fever Sufferers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 15.—[Special].—The relief work of the Red Cross Association in plague-stricken Florida is being pushed under the direction of Miss Clara Barton, whose headquarters are at the Riggs House in this city. "The Order of the Red Cross," Miss Barton said this afternoon, "six days ago was called on for assistance. Now we have fifty thoroughly acclimated feverproof men and women nurses at work, and more on their way today from New Orleans in answer

Chicago Tribune, Sept. 16, 1888, p. 25

GOSSIP HERE AND THERE.

The reports of insubordination on the part of the Red Cross nurses which have been sent North are likely to lead to an investigation which will not be a pleasant one for the people of Jacksonville. One of the nurses under arrest had under her charge sixteen patients, and was asked to take care also of another patient who lived some distance away on the other side of a swampy wood. She was

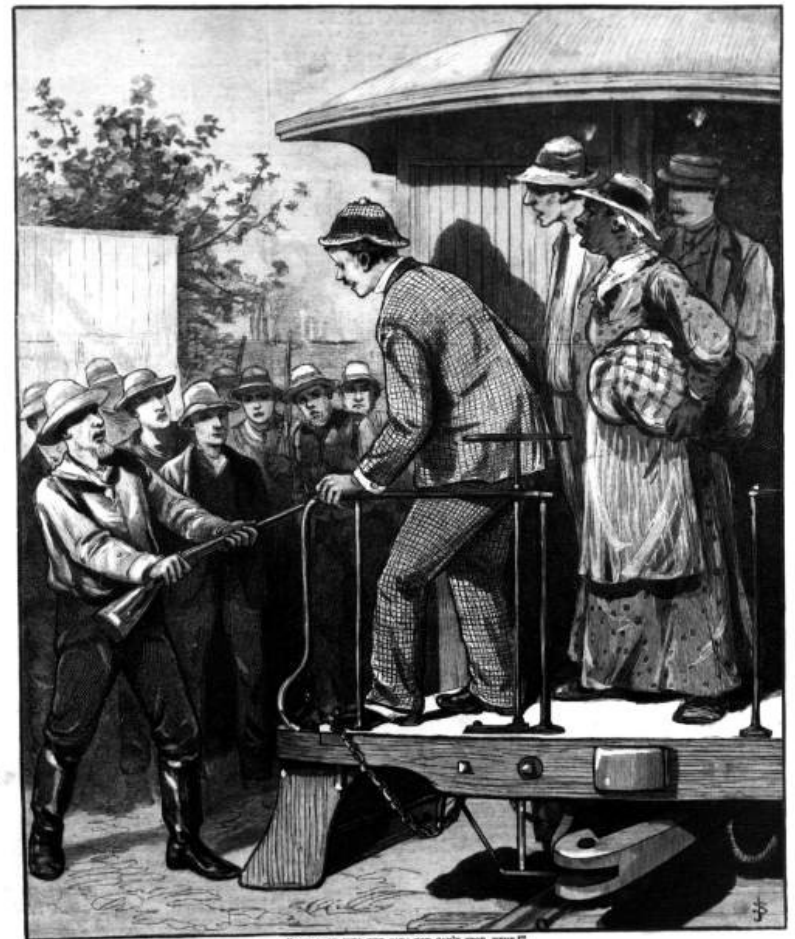
Washington Post, Sep. 30, 1888, p. 4

FRANK LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER

No. 1,721.—Vol. LXVII.]

NEW YORK—FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 8, 1888.

[PRICE, 10 CENTS.]



"GET BACK INTO THE CAR! YOU CAN'T STOP HERE!"
THE YELLOW-FEVER SCOURGE IN FLORIDA.—SCENE AT A RAILWAY-STATION: TURNING BACK REFUGEES.
FROM A SKETCH BY JAMES MOTT.—SEE PAGE 12.

The Johnstown Flood, 1889



A FREAK OF THE FLOOD.

The Red Cross' Supplementary Role

- Emergency supplies, shelter, food
- Filled Short-term need before relief commission could distribute funds
- Addressing psychological dimensions of the problem: “nervous prostration”
- Ladies' commission: engaging the community as agents in relief

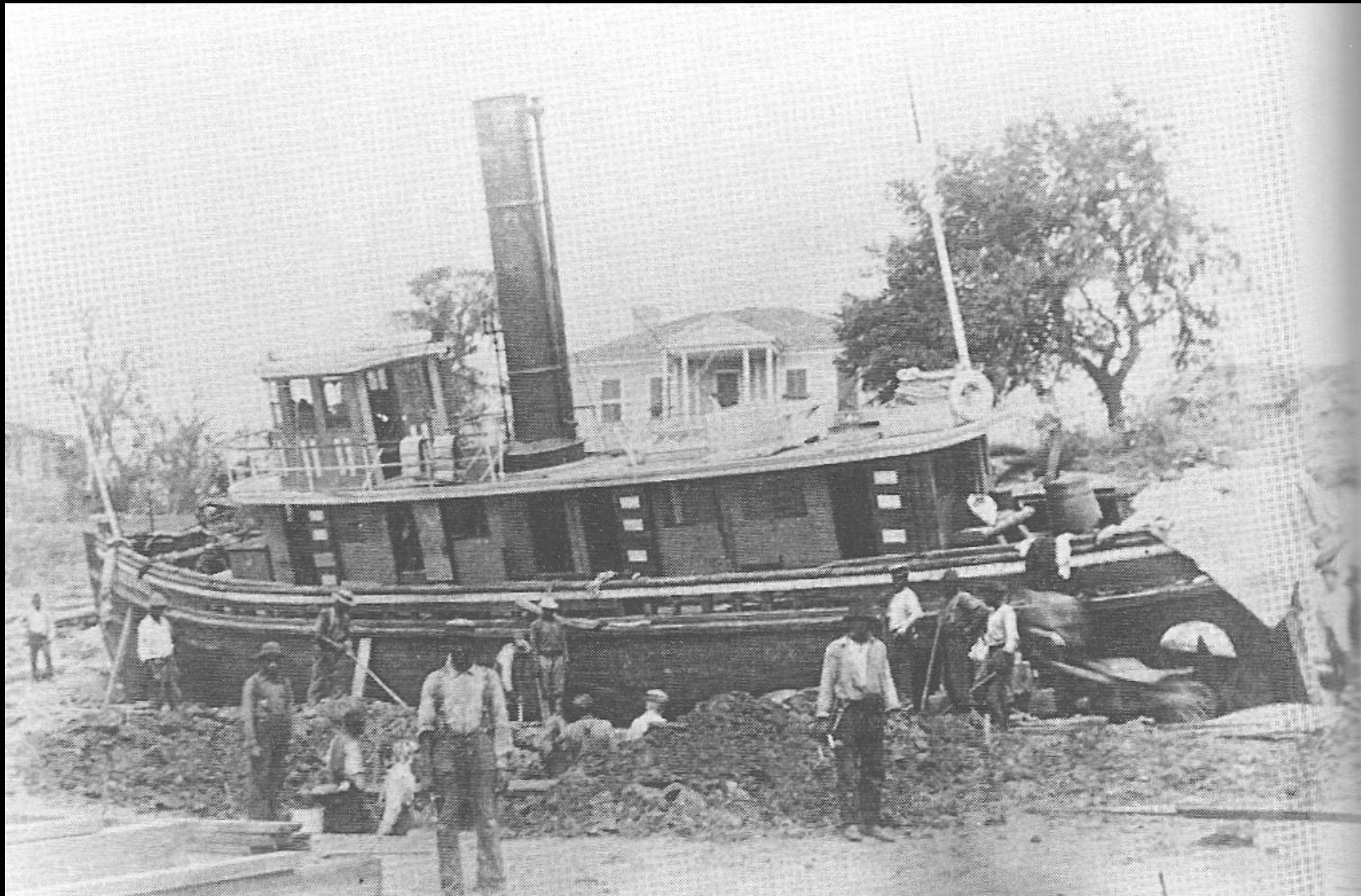
“...[S]he has indeed been an elder sister to us—nursing, soothing, tending, caring for the stricken ones through a season of distress such as no other people ever knew.” –

Johnstown Daily Tribune, 1889



Photo of Clara Barton, Undated, Library of Congress

The Sea Islands Hurricane, Aug. 27, 1893





CLARA BARTON

From portrait taken in Civil War and authorized
by her as the one she wished to be remembered by.

725801

*...“a harder field than Johnstown” -
more people to care for; more
destitute and helpless, spread over
hundreds of square miles of
territory, cut up by streams from
ocean-size to rivulets, subject to
tides, and full of malaria and fever.”*

- Clara Barton, 1893.

Johnstown Flood

10 days of full Front-page coverage
in New York *World* – 115.8 columns
in first two weeks

Newspaper fundraising drive
launched two days later

Sea Islands Storm

Three days on front page – “only
six were white persons” – 17.3
columns total

Newspaper fundraising drive 52
days later -- combined with
Georgia yellow fever epidemic

Dictated

Beaufort, S.C. January 11, 1894

M.

H.W.Pearsall,

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Friend:

We were much pleased to receive your favor of the 9th instant containing encouraging words and a check for \$25.- and in behalf of our thirty-five thousand poor, patient, suffering wards, we thank you heartily for your generous contribution. Money is greatly needed in this field, as it is costing some three hundred dollars a day for food alone. Again we thank you for your generous kindness and remain,

Very cordially yours,

Clara Barton

Pres. Am. Nat'l Red Cross.

Dictated

M.

Beaufort, S.C. January 15, 1894

Mrs. J.P. Turner,

Osseo, Michigan.

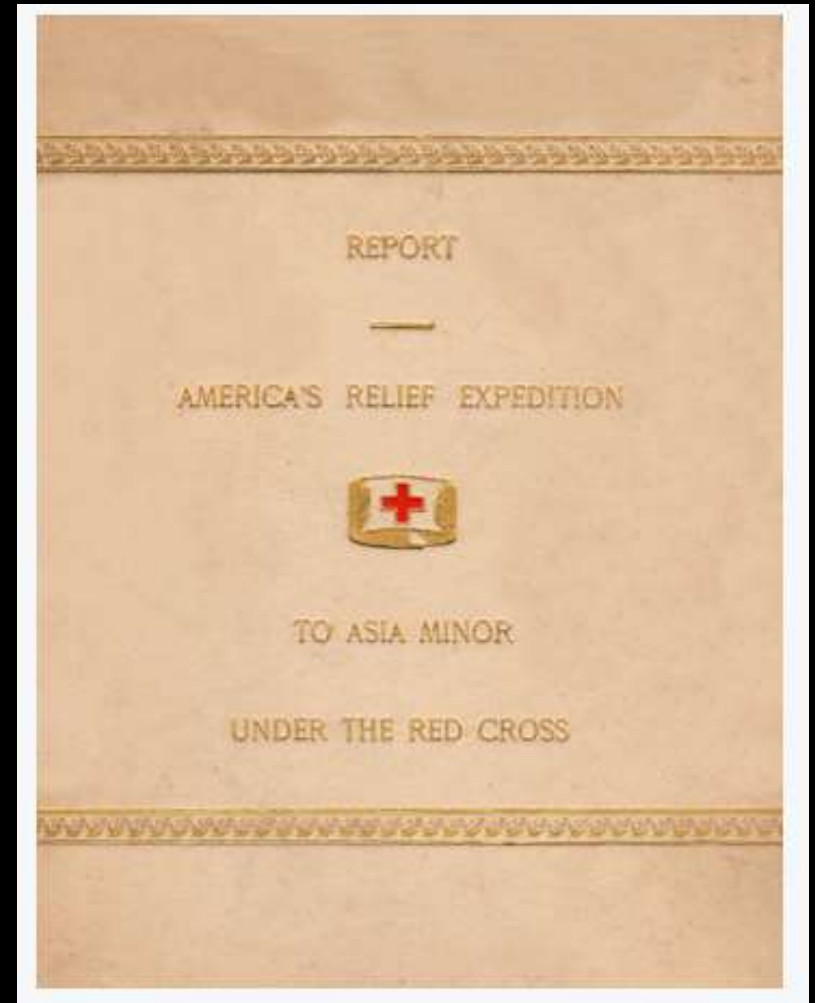
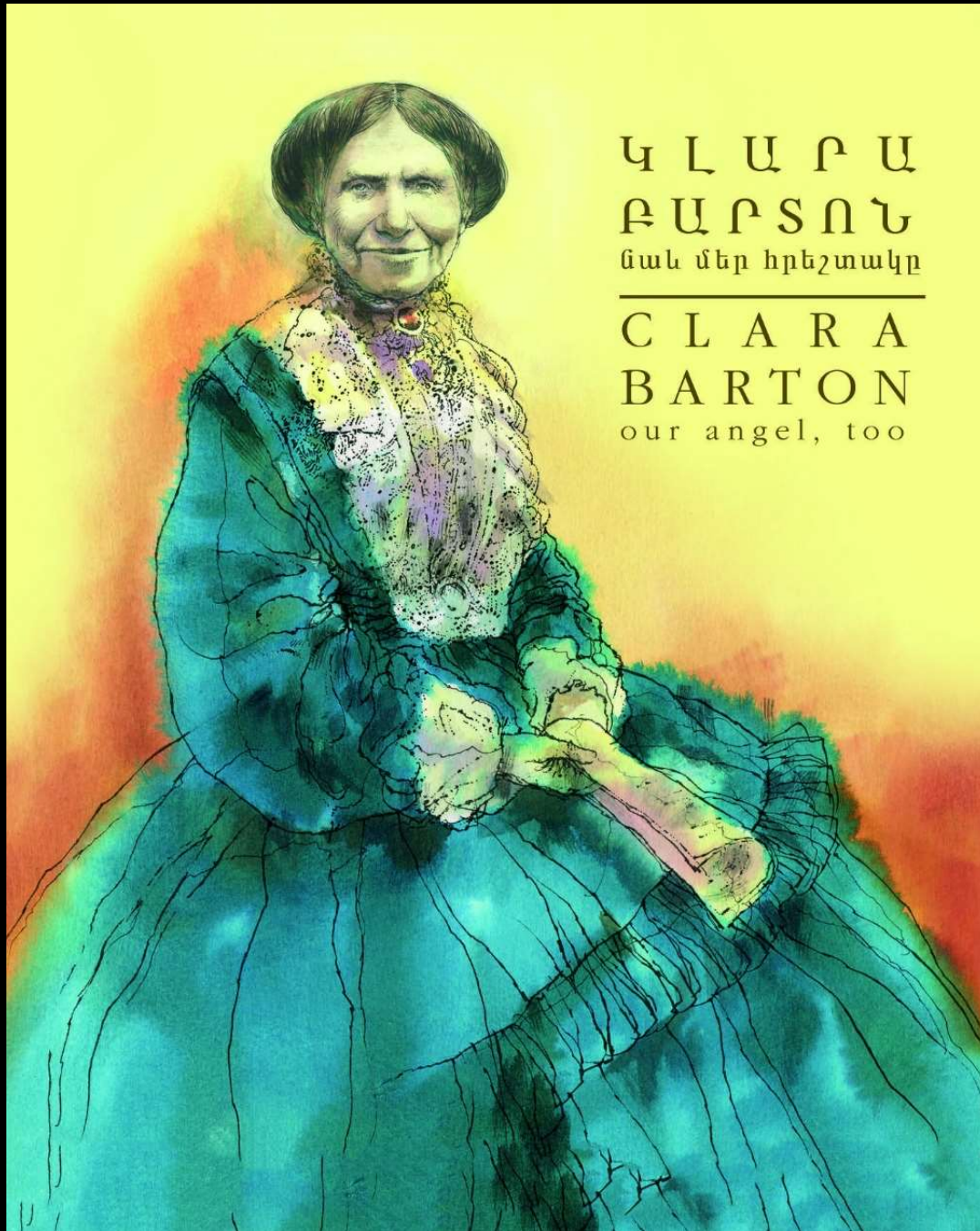
My dear Mrs. Turner,

Your kind and tender letter of the 10th instant brought joy and gladness to our hearts for this tender offering of love. God bless the little Sunday School in the far-away town of Osseo, who were so unselfish as to donate their little Christmas offering to the relief of the poor suffering negroes in the South.

The Red Cross Relief Distribution

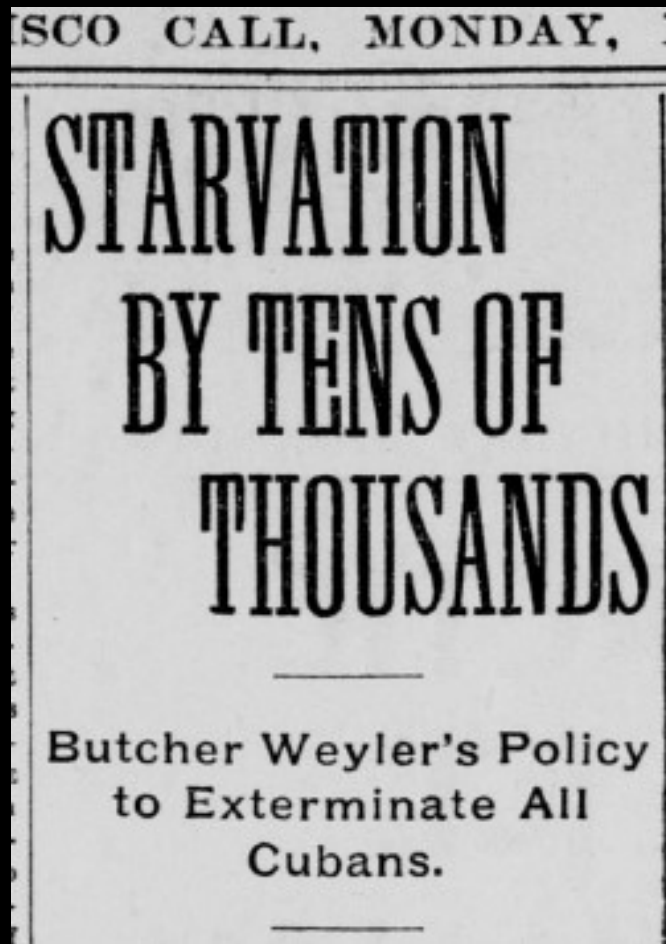


Armenia, 1896



2014 book published by U.S. Embassy in Yerevan,
Armenia & distributed to Armenian children

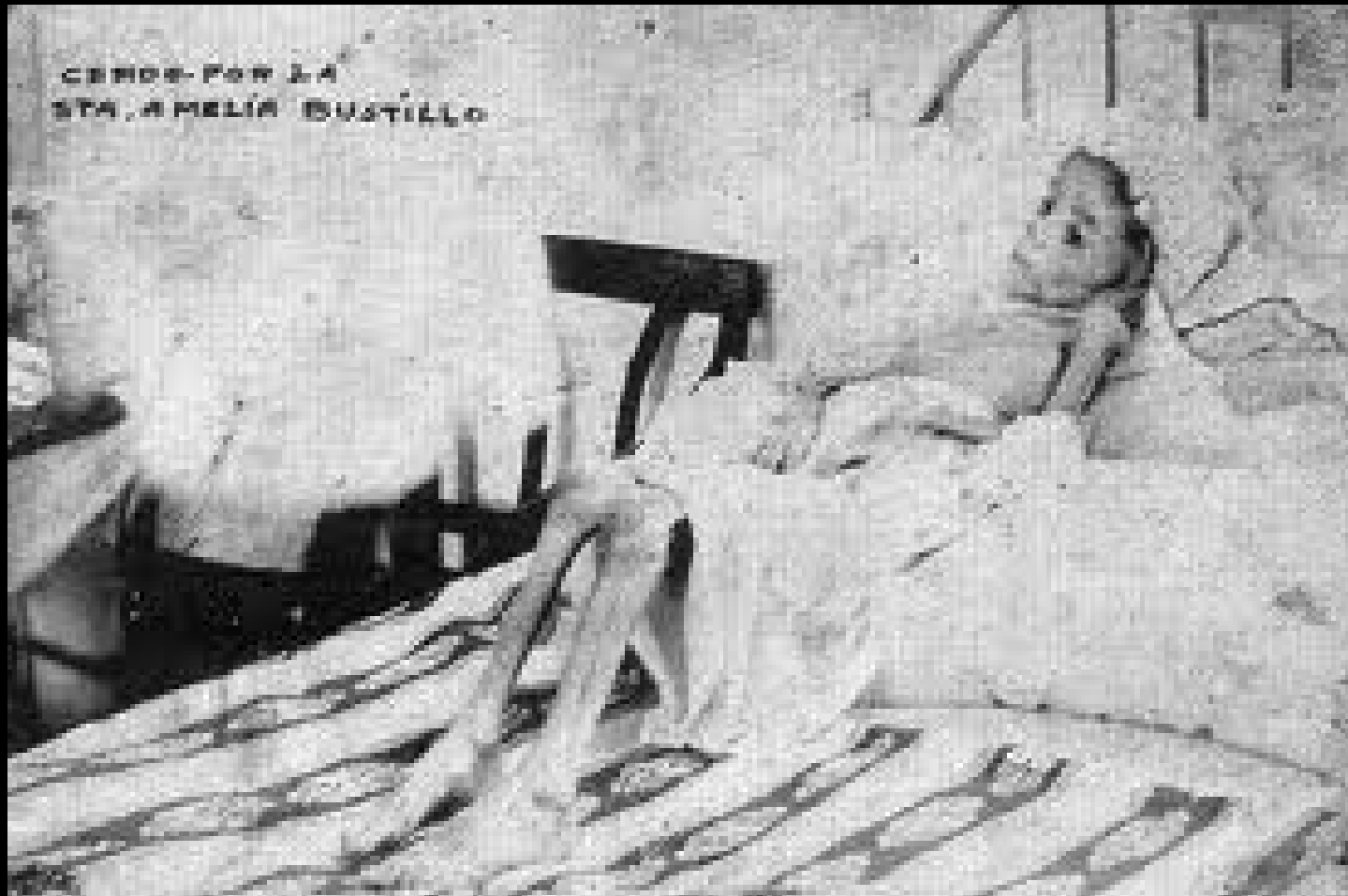
1896-97 Cuban *Reconcentrados*



San Francisco Call, Nov.
1897/NY Tribune Wire

....[T]hey saw their homes go up in flames, their crops burnt down and their cattle and oxen confiscated.” -

Stephen Bonsal ,
New York Herald correspondent
May 1897

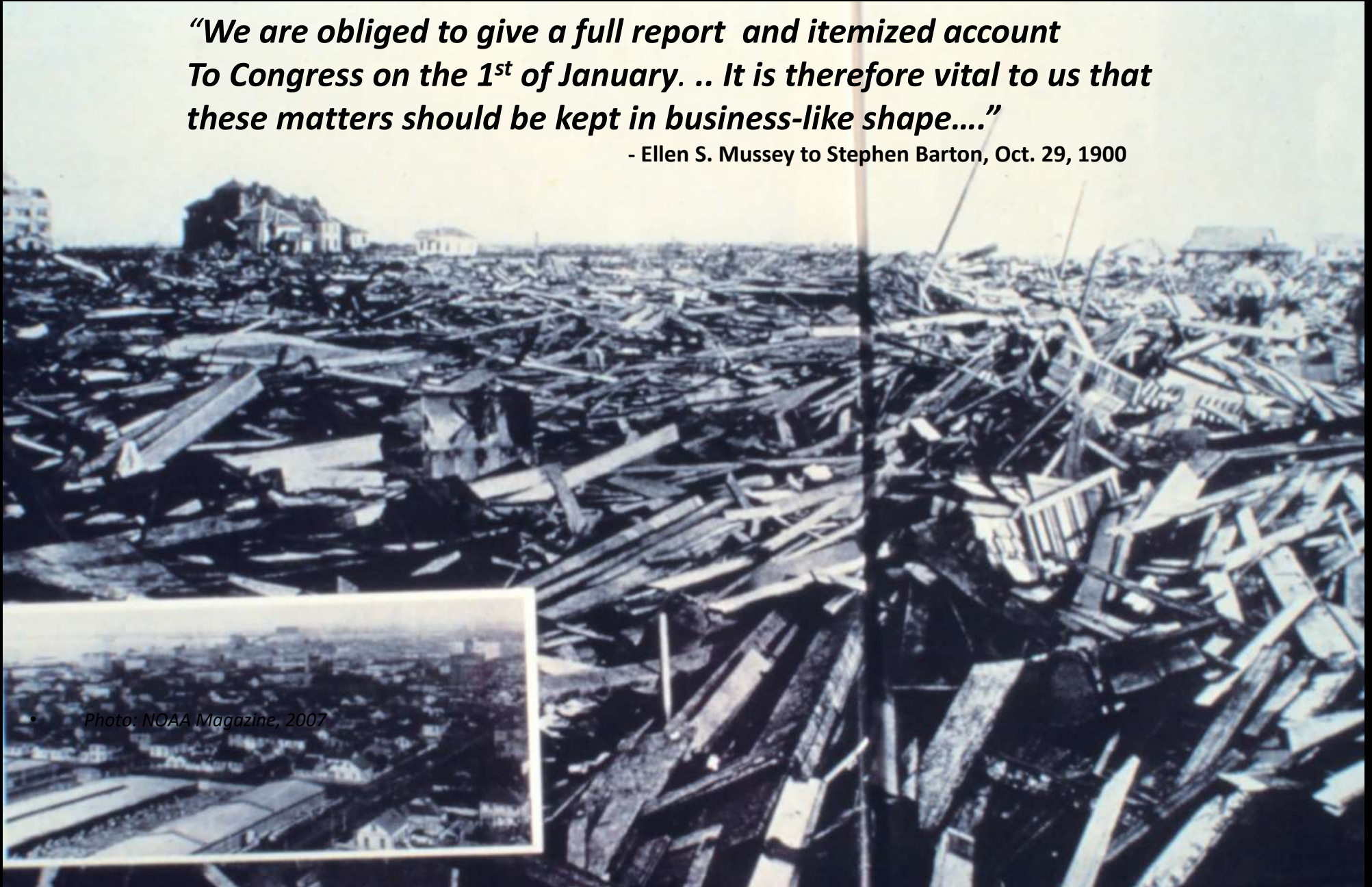


....lying on the floors in their filth—some mere skeletons; others swollen out of all human shape” along with “death-pallid mothers, lying with glazing eyes, and a famishing babe clutching a milkless breast – Clara Barton, 1898

The Galveston Hurricane, 1900

***“We are obliged to give a full report and itemized account
To Congress on the 1st of January. .. It is therefore vital to us that
these matters should be kept in business-like shape....”***

- Ellen S. Mussey to Stephen Barton, Oct. 29, 1900



• Photo: NOAA Magazine, 2007

Photo: NOAA Magazine, 2007

Barton vs. Boardman



Clara Barton, c. 1904



Mabel Boardman, c. 1905

Barton's Last Chapter

