



DATE: Wen. Oct. 29th, 2014

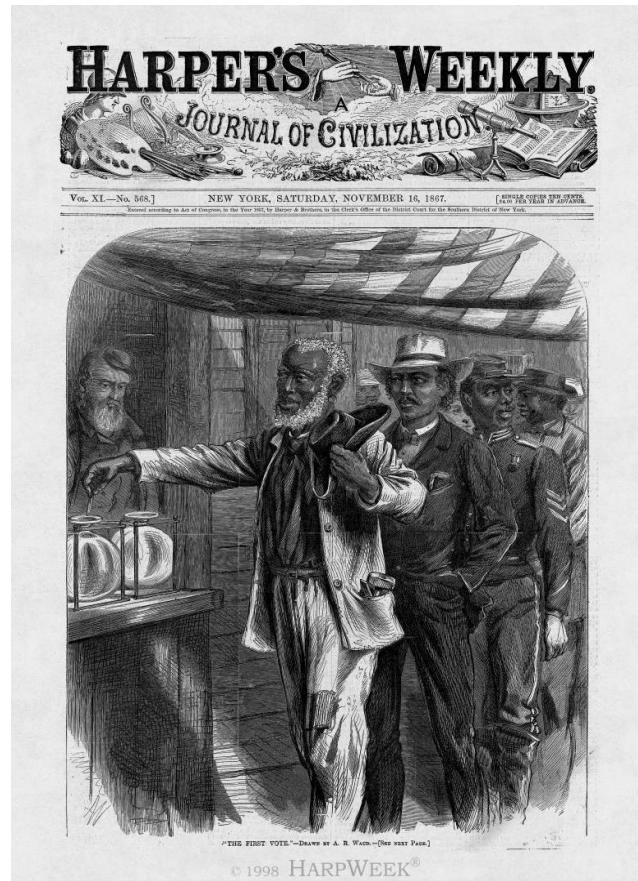
TIME: Noon

PLACE: Turner-Surles Community Resource Center
702 Sycamore St. N.W.
Decatur, Alabama 35601

Special AACWMFF_UCST Civil Rights Legacy_ Sesquicentennial Lecture
by *Asa Gordon*
Secretary General-United States Colored Troops (USCT)

The USCT Legacy of National Redemption and Democracy

(How USCT Soldiers Reconstructed the Union and USCT Veterans Established Democracy in America)



As soldiers of African descent, they transformed the Civil War for reunion into a war for liberation. As Civil War veterans, they redeemed the nation's founding DECLARATION and transformed the Constitution. In the aftermath of America's Civil War it was accepted that the union had been saved, but "The reinauguration of the national authority-reconstruction" (A. Lincoln) and the establishment of full participatory democracy was still very much in doubt. This lecture will examine the under exposed USCT Civil Rights legacy and reveal how USCT Civil War soldiers reconstituted the nation in alignment with the DECLARATION and as veterans established the foundation of citizens' voting rights in the United States of America.



"How the facts of American history have in the last half century been falsified because the nation was ashamed. The South was ashamed because it fought to perpetuate human slavery. The North was ashamed because it had to call in the black men to save the Union, abolish slavery and establish democracy" - W.E.B. Du Bois, *Black Reconstruction in America*, (1935).