**SEAN A. SCOTT** [seanscott@bsu.edu](mailto:seanscott@bsu.edu)

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., History, 2008, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Fields: U.S. History, Civil War and Reconstruction, U.S. Religious History

M.A., History, 2000, Ball State University, Muncie, IN

B.A., History, 1998, magna cum laude, Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC

**EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Teaching Professor of History, 2015-present, The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, Muncie, IN

Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies, 2014-15; Post-doctoral Fellow, 2011-13, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA

Assistant Editor, 2010-11, The Papers of Abraham Lincoln, National Archives

Assistant Professor of History, tenure track, 2008-09, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, AR

Adjunct Instructor, 2006-07, Heidelberg College, Tiffin, OH

Graduate Instructor, 2004-05, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

**Courses Taught**

Surveys Upper level

U.S. History to 1877 (23 times) Life and Times of Abraham Lincoln (4)

U.S. History since 1877 (11) Civil War and Reconstruction (2)

Western Civilization (13) Colonial America

World Civilization since 1648 (5) Revolutionary America

Contemporary World (4) African American History (2)

The American Experiment (11) Frederick Douglass

Economics (8) American Experiment: Global Influence (2)

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Book**

*A Visitation of God: Northern Civilians Interpret the Civil War*. Oxford University Press, 2011; paperback, 2012.

**Peer reviewed articles**

“‘The Glory of the City Is Gone’: Perspectives of Union Soldiers on New Orleans during the Civil War,” *Louisiana History* 57 (Winter 2016): 45-67.

“‘My Conscience Has Been Void of Offence’: A Tale of Alleged Treason during the Civil War,” *North Carolina Historical Review* 93:1 (January 2016): 1-27.

“*The Character and Influence of Abolitionism*: A Sermon that Gripped a Nation and Defined a Man,” *American Nineteenth Century History* 16:2 (June 2015): 193-211.

“Conscientious Children and Authoritative Fathers: Two Clashes of Religious Liberty and Parental Rights in 1840s Pennsylvania,” *Journal of Church and State* 57:3 (Summer 2015): 469-86.

“‘His Loyalty Was But Lip Service’: Loyalty Oaths and the Military Arrests of Two Ministers in Occupied Virginia during the Civil War,” *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 122:4 (December 2014): 298-35.

“‘Earth Has No Sorrow That Heaven Cannot Cure’: Northern Civilian Perspectives on Death and Eternity During the Civil War.” *Journal of Social History* 41 (Summer 2008):

843-66.

“Providence and the Union: Hoosier Laity Interpret the Civil War.” *Journal of the Indiana Academy of Social Sciences* (2005): 19-30.

**Book chapters**

“‘Patriotism Will Save Neither You Nor Me’: William S. Plumer’s Defense of an

Apolitical Pulpit,” in *Contested Loyalty: Debates over Patriotism in the Civil*

*War*, ed. Robert Sandow (Fordham University Press, 2018), 168-97.

“Religion,” in *A Companion to the U.S. Civil War*, ed. Aaron Sheehan-Dean (Wiley Blackwell, 2014), 2:1021-1034.

“‘Good Children Die Happy’: Children and Youth Confront Death during the Civil War,” in *Children, Youth, and the Sectional Conflict*, ed. James Marten (New York University Press, 2012), 92-109.

**Shorter pieces**

“All Nations,” in *Faith and History: A Devotional*, ed. Christopher Gehrz and Beth Allison Barr (1845 Books, 2020), 141-44.

“The Preacher and the President” (the story of Rev. Samuel B. McPheeters), *New York Times* Disunion Blog, Dec. 23, 2013.

“The *Church Advocate*.” *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 135 (October 2011): 553-54.

“Desertion/Presidential Pardons” and “Great Emancipator,” in *The Political Lincoln: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Paul Finkelman and Martin Hershock (Congressional Quarterly Press, 2008), 211-13, 303-05.

**CURRENT PROJECT**

I am writing a biography tentatively titled “Devoted to God and Country: An Indiana Methodist’s Southern Sojourn during the Civil War Era.” It follows the life of Nelson L. Brakeman (1829-81), a Methodist clergyman, Union chaplain, and northern missionary who worked to reconstruct the South religiously and politically after the war.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Insufficient Loyalty: The Case of Reverend William S. Plumer. Indiana Association of Historians 37th Annual Meeting, Lafayette, IN, February 18, 2017.

“Unadulterated Lincolnism”: The Confederate Military’s Imprisonment of R. J. Graves for Alleged Treason. What a Cruel Thing is War: A Conference to Commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War in North Carolina, Wilmington, February 28, 2015.

“An Odious Discrimination”: Ecclesiastical Disputes and the Military’s Requisition of

Episcopal Churches in Civil War Washington. 41st Annual Conference on DC Historical

Studies, Washington, DC, November 22, 2014.

“The Business of Supplying Churches with Pastors”: Military Interference in

Ecclesiastical Affairs in Civil War Norfolk. Society for Military History 79th Annual

Conference, Arlington, VA, May 11, 2012.

A Visitation of God: Northern Civilians Interpret the Civil War. National Archives, Washington D.C., April 13, 2011.

“Like the Voice of God” or “Prostituting the Bible”? Civilian Responses to Henry Van Dyke’s *The Character and Influence of Abolitionism*. The University of Mississippi’s Center for Civil War Research 2010 Conference, Oxford, MS, October 14, 2010.

“The Ways of Providence Are Passing Strange”: Northern Women Interpret the Civil War. Society for Women and the Civil War Meeting, Raleigh, NC, July 24, 2010.

A Visitation of God: Northern Civilians Interpret the Civil War. Society of Civil War Historians Second Biennial Meeting, Richmond, VA, June 18, 2010.

“This Accursed War is Doing Religion and the Church Serious Injury”: Northern Christians and Perceived Spiritual Decline during the Civil War. Third Annual Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture, Waco, TX, October 8, 2009.

“Gone to Live Forever”: Methodist Obituaries of Children and Youth during the Civil War. Thirty-First Mid-America Conference on History, Norman, OK, October 2, 2009.

The Baptism of Miss Armstrong: Parental Authority, Ministerial Duty, and the Religious Liberty of a Minor in 1840s Pennsylvania. Roger Williams University Conference on Religion and the State, Bristol, RI, April 24, 2009.

“The Cement of Morality Is Gone”: Perspectives of Union Soldiers on New Orleans during the Civil War. Southern Historical Association 74th Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, October 11, 2008.

“We Must Have Revenge”: The Views of Religious Northern Women Toward Rebels and Copperheads. Indiana Association of Historians 28th Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, February 23, 2008.

“How Mysterious Are the Ways of Providence”: Northern Civilian Attitudes toward the Assassination of Lincoln. Popular Culture/American Culture Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, April 5, 2007.

“A Butternut Prayed Out of Church”: The Politicization of Religion in the Midwest during the Civil War. 31st Annual Great Lakes History Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, October 20, 2006.

“May God Give Us Wisdom in This Crisis”: A Northern Religious Interpretation of Secession. Ohio Academy of History, New Concord, OH, April 8, 2006.

Providence and the Union: Hoosier Laity Interpret the Civil War. Indiana Academy of Social Sciences, Terre Haute, IN, October 21, 2005.

**BOOK REVIEWS**

James P. Byrd, *A Holy Baptism of Fire and Blood: The Bible and the American Civil War*. Forthcoming *North Carolina Historical Review*.

John H. Matsui, *Millenarian Dreams and Racial Nightmares: The American Civil War as an Apocalyptic Conflict*. Forthcoming *Journal of Church and State* 64:2 (Spring 2022).

Ben Wright, *Bonds of Salvation: How Christianity Inspired and Limited American Abolitionism*. *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 125:2 (October 2021): 208-210.

Joseph P. Reidy, *Illusions of Emancipation: The Pursuit of Freedom and Equality in the Twilight of Slavery*. *North Carolina Historical Review* 97:1 (January 2020): 129-30.

Benjamin L. Miller, *In God’s Presence: Chaplains, Missionaries, and Religious Space*

*During the American Civil War*. *Civil War News* 45:10 (October 2019): 39.

Steve Luxenberg, *Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson, and America’s Journey*

*from Slavery to Segregation*. Liberty Fund’s Law and Liberty website, posted August 2019, <https://www.lawliberty.org/book-review/segregation-setback-the-story-of-plessy-v-ferguson/>

Grant R. Brodrecht, *Our Country: Northern Evangelicals and the Union during the Civil War Era*. *Civil War News*. 45:2 (February 2019): 41.

Alan Levine, Thomas W. Merrill, and James R. Stoner Jr., eds. *The Political Thought of the Civil War*. Liberty Fund’s Law and Liberty website, posted December 2018,

<https://www.lawliberty.org/book-review/civil-war-was-it-a-refounding/>

April E. Holm, *A Kingdom Divided: Evangelicals, Loyalty, and Sectionalism in the Civil War Era*. *Church History* 87 (September 2018): 925-27.

Brian R. Dirck, *Lincoln in Indiana*. *Journal of Southern History* 84:1 (February 2018): 158-59.

Paul Kahan, *Amiable Scoundrel: Simon Cameron, Lincoln’s Scandalous Secretary of War*. *Civil War News* 43:11 (November 2017): 30.

James B. Conroy, *Lincoln’s White House: The People’s House in Wartime*. *Civil War News* 43:4 (April 2017): 33.

John W. Brinsfield, Jr., *Summon Only the Brave! Commanders, Soldiers, and Chaplains at Gettysburg*. *Civil War News* 43:1 (January 2017): 28.

Daniel W. Crofts, *Lincoln and the Politics of Slavery: The Other Thirteenth Amendment and the Struggle to Save the Union*. *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 124:4 (December 2016): 351-52.

William F. Moore and Jane Ann Moore, *Collaborators for Emancipation: Abraham*

*Lincoln and Owen Lovejoy*. *The Historian* 78:4 (Winter 2016): 764-66.

Frederick Hatch, *John Surratt: Rebel, Lincoln Conspirator, Fugitive*. *Civil War News* 42:10 (November 2016): 27.

Linda S. McCardle, ed., *A Just and Holy Cause?: The Civil War Letters of Marcus*

*Bethune Ely and Martha Frances Ely*. *Civil War News* 42:8 (September 2016): 33.

Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley, *Behind the Scenes: Or, Thirty Years a Slave, and Four Years in the White House* [1868]. *Civil War News* 42:6 (July 2016): 17.

Harold Holzer and Thomas A. Horrocks, eds., *The Annotated Lincoln*. *Civil War News* 42:5 (June 2016): 24.

Ben Wright and Zachary W. Dresser, eds., *Apocalypse and the Millennium in the American Civil War Era*. *Nova Religio* 19:3 (February 2016): 117-18.

Jim Quinlan, ed., *Armed Only With Faith: The Civil War Correspondence of Chaplain*

*William Lyman Hyde, 112th New York Infantry*. *Civil War News* 42:1 (January 2016): 20.

Kathryn Canavan, *Lincoln’s Final Hours: Conspiracy, Terror, and the Assassination of America’s Greatest President*. *Civil War News* 41:11 (December 2015): 23.

Edward Steers, Jr.,*Lincoln’s Assassination*. *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 108:3-4 (Fall/Winter 2015): 413-15.

Max Longley, *For the Union and the Catholic Church: Four Converts in the Civil War*. *Civil War News* 41:9 (October 2015): 26.

Cheryl Janifer LaRoche, *Free Black Communities and the Underground Railroad: The Geography of Resistance*. *Journal of Southern History* 81:3 (August 2015): 721-22.

Robert R. Mathisen, ed., *The Routledge Sourcebook of Religion and the American Civil War: A History in Documents*. *Civil War News* web exclusive, June 2015, <http://www.civilwarnews.com/reviews/2015br/june/religion-mathisen-brw061513.html>.

Lucas E. Morel, ed., *Lincoln & Liberty: Wisdom for the Ages*. *Civil War News* 41:4 (May 2015): 27.

Steve Longenecker, *Gettysburg Religion: Refinement, Diversity, and Race in the Antebellum and Civil War Border North*. *Journal of American History* 101:4 (March 2015): 1276-77.

Todd Brewster, *Lincoln’s Gamble: The Tumultuous Six Months That Gave America the*

*Emancipation Proclamation and Changed the Course of the Civil War*. *Civil War News*

40:11 (December 2014): 31.

Stephen Mansfield, *Lincoln’s Battle with God: A President’s Struggle with Faith and*

*What it Meant for America*. *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* 35:1 (Winter

2014): 71-77.

Timothy L. Wesley, *The Politics of Faith During the Civil War*. *Church History* 83 (March 2014): 236-38.

Bruce T. Gourley, *Diverging Loyalties: Baptists in Middle Georgia during the Civil War*.

*Civil War History* 59 (September 2013): 397-99.

Randall Fuller, *From Battlefields Rising: How the Civil War Transformed American Literature*. *Journal of the Civil War Era* 2 (December 2012): 630-32.

Dennis K. Boman, *Lincoln and Citizens’ Rights in Civil War Missouri: Balancing Freedom and Security*, and Burrus M. Carnahan, *Lincoln on Trial: Southern Civilians*

*and the Law of War*. *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* 105 (Summer-Fall 2012): 255-57.

Mark E. Neely Jr., *Lincoln and the Triumph of the Nation: Constitutional Conflict in the*

*American Civil War*. *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 110 (Spring 2012): 215-17.

Daniel L. Fountain, *Slavery, Civil War, and Salvation: African American Slaves and Christianity, 1830-1870*. *Church History* 80 (September 2011): 703-05.

Robert F. Engs and Corey M. Brooks, eds., *Their Patriotic Duty: The Civil War Letters of the Evans Family of Brown County, Ohio*. *Ohio History* 117 (2010): 135-36.

David L. Rowe, *God’s Strange Work: William Miller and the End of the World*. *Church History* 79 (March 2010): 222-24.

Drew Gilpin Faust, *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*, and Mark S. Schantz, *Awaiting the Heavenly Country: The Civil War and America’s Culture of Death*. *Journal of Social History* 43 (Spring 2010): 739-43.

James O. Lehman and Steven M. Nolt, *Mennonites, Amish, and the American Civil War*.

*Ohio History* 116 (2009): 133-35.

Stewart Bennett and Barbara Tillery, eds., *The Struggle for the Life of the Republic: A Civil War Narrative by Brevet Major Charles Dana Miller, 76thOhio Volunteer Infantry*. *Ohio History* 114 (2007): 165-66.

Peter J. Kastor, *The Nation’s Crucible: The Louisiana Purchase and the Creation of America*. *Fides et Historia* 37:2/38:1 (Summer 2005/Winter 2006): 258-59.

Richard M. Budd, *Serving Two Masters: The Development of American Military Chaplaincy, 1860-1920*. *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 100 (Autumn 2002): 540-41.

**PUBLIC INTERVIEWS**

**“**Religious Rhetoric in the Civil War,” Research on Religion Podcast, Oct. 19, 2014,

<http://www.researchonreligion.org/historical-topics/sean-scott-on-religious-rhetoric-in-the-us-civil-war>

“A Visitation of God: Northern Civilians Interpret the Civil War,” Carolina Journal

Radio, <https://www.facebook.com/jlf.carolina.journal/videos/1707053269527885/>

**FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS**

Florence Ellen Bell Scholar Award, United Methodist Archives and History Center, Drew University, 2018-19.

Robert P. Bell Education Grant for materials for course American Railroad Empire: History Meets Gaming, February 2018.

Christopher Newport University Faculty Development Grant, 2012-13.

Jack Miller Center Post-doctoral Fellowship, Christopher Newport University, 2011-13.

University of Illinois-Springfield Professional Development Grant, 2010.

Participant in the Witherspoon Institute’s Seminar on Church and State: Protestantism and the American Revolution, Princeton Theological Seminary, July 26-30, 2010.

Participant in the Intercollegiate Studies Institute’s Lehrman American Studies Center 5th Annual Summer Institute, hosted by the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, Princeton University, June 15-27, 2009.

Ouachita Baptist University Faculty Research Grant, 2009.

Purdue Research Foundation Grant, 2005-06 academic year and summer 2005.

Purdue Department of History Woodman Travel Grant, 2003 and 2004.

**SERVICE**

Peer reviewer for *American Nineteenth Century History*, *The Journal of the Abraham*

*Lincoln Association*, and *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*

Professional Activities Committee, Indiana Academy, 2019-present

Chair, Faculty Promotion Committee, Indiana Academy, fall 2019

History faculty search committee, Indiana Academy, spring 2018

May Term Committee, Indiana Academy, 2015-18

Honors Committee, Ouachita Baptist University, Fall 2009