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Irish Immigrant, Civil War Hero, and Gilded Age Politician
LSU Press to Publish First Biography of Patrick Henry Jones

Baton Rouge—In a masterful new biography, to be published by LSU Press in May 2015, author Mark Dunkelman resurrects the story of **Patrick Henry Jones**, an exceptional military officer and influential politician of nineteenth-century America.

A poor Irish immigrant, Jones began his career in journalism before gaining admittance to the New York bar. When the Civil War erupted in 1861, Jones volunteered for service in the Union Army. He rose steadily through the ranks of the 37th New York, became colonel of the 154th New York, and eventually attained the rank of brigadier general. Jones was one of only twelve native Irishmen ever to attain that rank in the federal forces.

When the war ended, Jones's reputation as a military hero gave him an entry into politics under the mentorship of editor Horace Greeley and politician Reuben E. Fenton. He served in both elective and appointed offices in the state of New York, navigating the corruptions, scandals, and political upheavals of the Gilded Age. Ultimately, his entanglement with one of the most sensational crimes of his era—a high-profile grave-robbing from the cemetery of St. Mark's Church—tainted his name and ruined his once-respectable career.

Patrick Henry Jones's obituary vowed that "his memory shall not fade among men." Yet in little more than a century, history has largely forgotten Jones's considerable accomplishments in the Civil War and the Gilded Age that followed. The first full-length biographical account of this important figure, *Patrick Henry Jones* tells the quintessentially American story of an immigrant who overcame both his humble origins and the rampant xenophobia of mid-nineteenth-century America to achieve a level of prominence equaled by few of his peers.

Mark H. Dunkelman is the author of *Brothers One and All: Esprit de Corps in a Civil War Regiment; War's Relentless Hand: Twelve Tales of Civil War Soldiers; and Marching with Sherman: Through Georgia and the Carolinas with the 154th New York*.

May 2015
288 pages, 6 x 9, 9 halftones
978-0-8071-5966-8
Cloth \$45.00s, ebook available
Civil War Studies / U. S. History

To request a review copy or set up an interview with the author,
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