

Author Fergus Bordewich will discuss his latest publication, "Congress at War," over Zoom on January 14

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# LancasterHistory

## For Immediate Release

**Contact:** Emily Miller  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
717-392-4633 ext. 133  
[emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org](mailto:emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org)

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## First virtual lecture in upcoming LancasterHistory spring series focuses on Congress' role in helping win the Civil War

*Author Fergus Bordewich will discuss his latest publication, "Congress at War," over Zoom on January 14*

*Lancaster, PA (January 07, 2021) – On Thursday, January 14, 2021, historian and author Fergus Bordewich will join LancasterHistory virtually to discuss his book, **Congress at War: How Republican Reformers Fought the Civil War, Defied Lincoln, Ended Slavery, and Remade America**, which chronicles the story of how Congress helped win the Civil War. Bordewich offers new perspective that puts the House and Senate, rather than Lincoln, at the center of the conflict.*

Building a riveting narrative around four influential members of Congress—Thaddeus Stevens, Pitt Fessenden, Ben Wade, and the pro-slavery Clement Vallandigham—Fergus Bordewich shows how a newly empowered Republican party shaped one of the most dynamic and consequential periods in American history. From this new perspective, Bordewich will discuss how Congress undertook drastic measures to defeat the Confederacy, pushed President Lincoln into action, and laid a foundation for a strong central government that came fully into being in the 20th century.

**Fergus M. Bordewich** is the author of seven nonfiction books, including *The First Congress: How James Madison, George Washington, and a Group of Extraordinary Men Invented the Government*; *America's Great Debate: Henry Clay, Stephen A. Douglas, and the Compromise That Preserved the Union*; and *Washington: The Making of the American Capital*. He lives in San Francisco with his wife, Jean. Bordewich was also a 2016 recipient of a LancasterHistory National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship.

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## EVENT DETAILS & HOW TO REGISTER

This event will take place **online via Zoom** on January 14, 2021 at 7pm Eastern. **This is NOT an in-person event.**

The program is free and open to the public but requires advance registration. Registration is available online at <https://bit.ly/rhc21jan14>. **Your link to the Zoom event will be emailed to you upon successful registration.**

To view all of LancasterHistory's upcoming Spring 2021 Virtual Lectures, visit [lancasterhistory.org/virtualrhc](https://lancasterhistory.org/virtualrhc).

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**Author Photo of Fergus Bordewich**

*Author photo of Fergus Bordewich credited to David Altschul.*

*Book covers of "Congress at War" are available from Amazon or Penguin Random House.*

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