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Contact: Emily Miller
Director of Marketing & Communications
717-392-4633 ext. 133
emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org

Author of new Thaddeus Stevens biography to give virtual talk for LancasterHistory on March 18

University of Illinois' Bruce Levine, Ph.D. to discuss new publication on one of the most visionary statesmen of the 19th century and a forgotten champion for racial justice in America.

Lancaster, PA (March 2, 2021) – On Thursday, March 18, 2021, historian Bruce Levine, Ph.D. will join LancasterHistory virtually for a discussion on his latest book, *Thaddeus Stevens: Civil War Revolutionary*. The biography focused on Thaddeus Stevens' life was released today, March 2, 2021.

Thaddeus Stevens was among the first to see the Civil War as an opportunity for a second American revolution—a chance to remake the country as a true multiracial democracy. One of the foremost abolitionists in Congress in the years leading up to the war, he was a leader of the young Republican Party's radical wing, fighting for anti-slavery and anti-racist policies long before party colleagues like Abraham Lincoln endorsed them. It was he, for instance, who urged Lincoln early on to free those enslaved throughout the US and to welcome black men into the Union's armies.

During the Reconstruction era following the Civil War, Stevens demanded equal civil and political rights for black Americans, rights eventually embodied in the 14th and 15th amendments. But

while Stevens in many ways pushed his party—and America—towards equality, he also championed ideas too radical for his fellow Congressmen ever to support, such as confiscating large slaveholders' estates and dividing the land among those who had been enslaved.

Bruce Levine, Ph.D. is the bestselling author of five books on the Civil War era, including *The Fall of the House of Dixie* and *Confederate Emancipation*, which received the Peter Seaborg Award for Civil War Scholarship and was named one of the top ten works of nonfiction of its year by *The Washington Post*. He is a professor emeritus of history at the University of Illinois. His most recent book, *Thaddeus Stevens: Civil War Revolutionary*, was published on March 2, 2021.

EVENT DETAILS & HOW TO REGISTER

This event will take place **online via Zoom** on March 18, 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/rhc21mar18>. **Your link to the Zoom event will be emailed to you automatically upon successful registration.**

To view all of LancasterHistory's upcoming Spring 2021 Virtual Lectures, visit lancasterhistory.org/virtualrhc.

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