

# A Gift for General Lee

**Amanda M. Myers**

During the Civil War, much of the clothing donned by General Robert E. Lee of the Confederacy was secretly sent by Thomas N. Webb, a merchant of Baltimore. Webb was so adept at slipping supplies and packages through Union lines that he became known as the "Confederate Postmaster of Maryland." In the spring of 1864, he sent a shipment that contained not only the normal batch of supplies, money, and letters for soldiers, but also two uniform coats for General Lee – gifts from the women Southern sympathizers of Frederick and Carroll Counties, Maryland. After the war, General Lee returned one of the coats to Webb as an expression of gratitude for his support of the Confederate cause. Today, General Lee's coat is on display at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia.

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VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

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HISTORY

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