

Clara Barton: The Angel of the Battlefield

Early Life and Education

Clara Barton was born on December 25, 1821, in Oxford, Massachusetts. She was the youngest of five children born to Stephen Barton, a farmer, and Sally Stone Barton. Clara's early life was marked by tragedy and hardship. Her father died when she was just eleven years old, and her mother struggled to support the family on her own. Clara was forced to leave school at a young age to help care for her younger siblings.



Who Was Clara Barton? (Who Was?) by Stephanie Spinner

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Despite the challenges she faced, Clara was a bright and determined young woman. She was an avid reader and had a thirst for knowledge. She eventually managed to complete her education, and in 1852, she became a teacher.

The Civil War

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Clara Barton was living in Washington, D.C. She immediately volunteered her services to the Union

Army, and she was soon appointed the superintendent of nurses for the Army of the Potomac.

Clara Barton was a tireless worker, and she quickly became known for her compassion and dedication to the wounded soldiers. She organized a network of volunteers to provide food, clothing, and medical supplies to the troops. She also established hospitals and convalescent homes for the sick and wounded.

Clara Barton's work was not without its risks. She was often under fire, and she was once captured by Confederate soldiers. But she never gave up, and she continued to provide aid to the soldiers until the end of the war.

The American Red Cross

After the Civil War, Clara Barton continued to work to help the sick and wounded. In 1881, she founded the American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization that provides aid to victims of war, natural disasters, and other emergencies.

Clara Barton served as the president of the American Red Cross for 23 years. During that time, she led the organization through some of its most challenging moments, including the Spanish-American War and the First World War.

Clara Barton retired from the American Red Cross in 1904, but she continued to work for humanitarian causes until her death in 1912. She is remembered as one of the most important figures in American history, and her legacy of compassion and service continues to inspire people to this day.

Clara Barton's Legacy

Clara Barton was a pioneering humanitarian who dedicated her life to helping others. She founded the American Red Cross, and her work helped to save countless lives. She is a role model for all who seek to make a difference in the world.

Here are some of Clara Barton's most famous quotes:

* "I may be compelled to face danger, but never fear it, and while our soldiers can stand and fight, I can stand and feed and nurse them." * "The greatest glory of a free-born people is to transmit that freedom to their children." * "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."



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