

The Dispatch

Newsletter of the

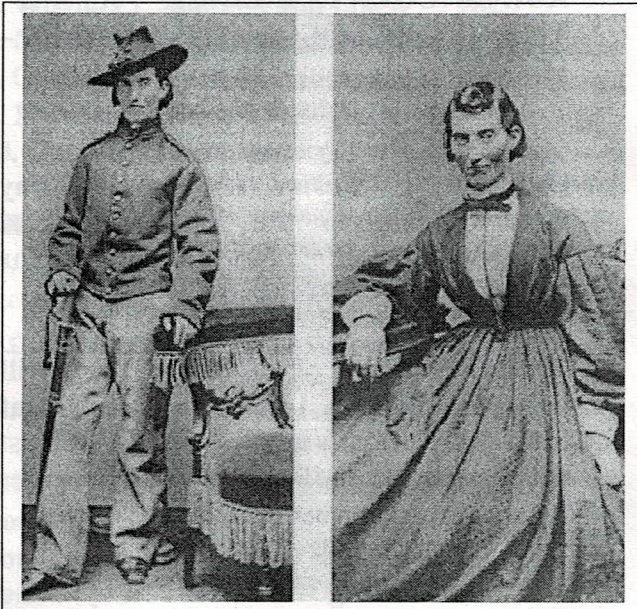
Capital District Civil War Round Table

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CDCWRT's web site: timesunion.com/communities/cdcwrt

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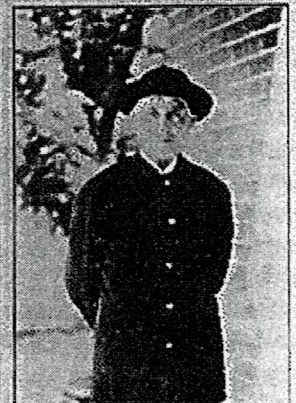


Woman Soldier in 95th Ill.



ALBERT D. J. CASHIER
of
COMPANY G, 95TH ILLINOIS REGIMENT

Photographed November, 1864



ALBERT D. J. CASHIER
of
COMPANY G, 95TH ILLINOIS REGIMENT

Photographed July, 1863

Top Left: Frances Clayton (alternate spelling Clalin) served with her husband in a Minnesota regiment. He was killed, and Frances wounded in a bayonet charge at the battle of Stones River. Up to that point, she had successfully hid her sex.

Top Right: Jennie Hodgers, a.k.a. Albert D.J. Cashier, joined the 95th Illinois V.I. in 1862. She participated in many campaigns, including Vicksburg. Many of the regiment were surprised when her biologic sex was discovered after the war.

(from the book, *All the Daring of the Soldier – Women of the Civil War Armies* by Elizabeth D. Leonard)

March Meeting

Friday 3/12/04

**Guilderland Public Library
Route 20 Western Ave.
Guilderland, NY**

SOCIAL HOUR	6:00PM
BUSINESS MEETING	7:00PM
PROGRAM	7:30PM

CDCWRT MEETING

*The March meeting of the CDCWRT will be held in the Guilderland Public Library on Friday 12, 2004 at 7:30pm. The topic will be **WOMEN SOLDIERS DURING THE CIVIL WAR**. Our speaker will be introduced at the meeting.*

Records indicate that over 400 women served as soldier in the Union armies during the Civil War. Our speaker will explore the reasons why they enlisted, and what happened to many of them. Join us a fascinating topic which has never been presented previously to our Round Table.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Maj. Mark Johnson's presentation about the Capital District at Stones River was an excellent presentation about the lives of three local soldiers who were members of *That Body of Brave Men: The U.S. Regular Infantry and the Civil War in the West*, (which you may have guessed is the title of his recently published book). He spoke with the passion and knowledge of one who has been gathering information for years, and who knows his 'men.' Mark autographed the more than a carton of books

that were garnered by RT member's.

UP-COMING EVENTS

CIVIL WAR FILM (AND LECTURE) FESTIVAL begins Friday, March 19th, at the Guilderland Library at 7:00. This series is jointly sponsored by the Library and the CDCWRT. Dr. P. Thomas Carroll, Executive Director of the Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway, will discuss the Capital District's important contributions to the construction of the USS Monitor. The film, **IRONCLADS**, will follow. This Turner Pictures historical epic is about the Civil War's most famous sea battle in North America: the clash between the mighty ironclads, the Monitor and the Merrimac. Other movies to follow are:

ABE LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS – April 15
THE GREAT LOCOMOTIVE CHASE – May 6th.

Our Spring Muster will be a 3-day weekend trip to the Wilderness and Spotsylvania battlefields. The balance for the trip is due by March 31st.

The May meeting of the Round Table will be on Friday, May 14th, 2004. Dana Shoaf from the Central Virginia Battlefield Trust will speak on a Pennsylvania volunteer whom he has been researching.

The June meeting will be on Friday, June 11th, and our speaker will be Ray Wemple. Ray will talk about the Confederate Signal Corps.

The annual picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 11th, at Peeble's Island.

Other up-coming events in which you Round Table is involved, are listed below:
April – Vermont Full Duty Banquet

May - Open House at Peeble's Island
 June 12-13th Peterboro Civil War Days
 July 1-5th -Gettysburg 141st Re-enactment

The Albany Civic Theater is producing *The Andersonville Trial* on the weekends of May 7-9, 14-16, and 21-23. Carol King will be director. Volunteers are needed for a variety of activities.

TRIVIA

Match the event with the date	ANS.
1. Erie Canal is opened	1825
2. US bans importation of slaves	1808
3. Black Hawk War	1832
4. South Carolina secedes	1860
5. Robert Fulton's steamboat	1807
6. World's 1 st photograph taken	1826
7. <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> published	1852
8. Gold discovered in California	1848
9. 1 st transcontinental telegraph	1861
10. Cotton gin invented	1793

TRUE OR FALSE

11. On November 6, 1860, Lincoln received 180 electoral votes and carried every Northern state. TRUE

12. By the time Lincoln assumed the office of the presidency on March 4, 1861, all but Tennessee and Virginia had seceded from the Union. **FALSE**, Arkansas and North Carolina also had not seceded.

13. It has been confirmed that Abraham Lincoln had the congenital disease called Marfan Syndrome, and would have died in office of a ruptured aorta had he not been assassinated. **FALSE**. Congress has authorized DNA testing, but it has never been performed.

14. At 4:30 a.m. on April 9, 1861, the first shots of the war were fired at Fort

Sumter, in Charleston, SC. **FALSE** it's April 12th; Lee surrendered on April 9th.

DISCOVERING THE LAST LINCOLN PHOTOGRAPH

Brig-General Edward Townsend had become a confidante of Lincoln when Townsend was Adj-General of the Army. He later assembled the 128-volume *War of the Rebellion or the Official Records*. His keen sense of history compelled him to give special permission to Jeremiah Gurney, Jr. to photograph Lincoln lying in state in New York City. Various artists sketched the scene, but when the press reported the story of Gurney's special privilege, Edwin Stanton was besieged by similar requests. Mary Lincoln read a paper account of the dispute and complained to Stanton also.

The Secretary of War ordered all plates, sketches and engravings to be seized and destroyed. At least one sketch and one photograph escaped the order. Gurney campaigned to save his plates and prints, and Stanton relented, and allowed Gurney to make a single print from the multiple image negative. On April 29th, Gurney sent the albumen print to Stanton who presented it to Robert Todd Lincoln. Aware of his mother's wishes, Robert ordered the print and plate destroyed. Stanton did not have the heart to destroy the small print, and placed it among his personal papers. His son, Lewis sent it to John Nicolay 22 years later.

On July 20, 1952 Ronal Rietveld, a Lincoln researcher, was allowed to peruse the papers of Lincoln's secretaries. With a letter dated January 17, 1887, Lewis Stanton had sent the photograph to Nicolay, who had left his collection to the Illinois State Historical Library. By chance, the last photo had again come to the surface.