

The Dispatch

Newspaper of the

CAPITAL DISTRICT
CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PO Box 14871 Albany, NY 12212
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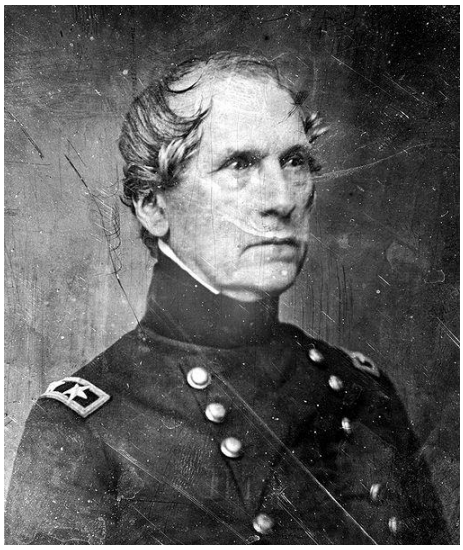
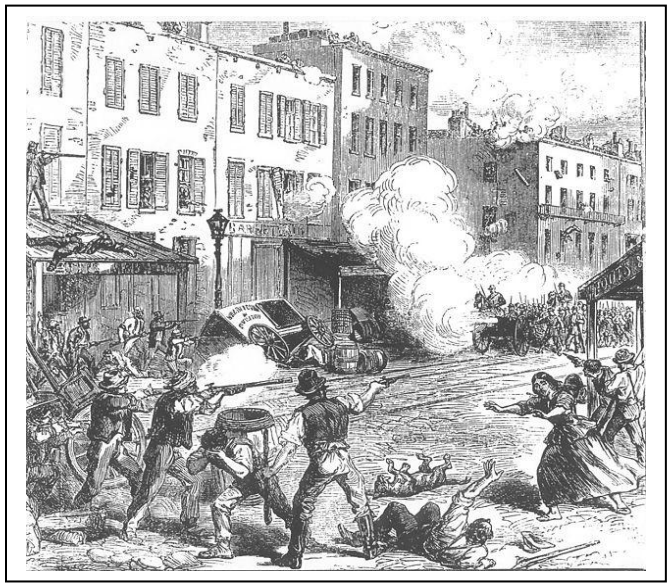
RIOTS IN THE CITY – GEN. WOOL TO LEAD TROOPS





On Saturday, July 11, 1863, the first drawing of numbers for the draft was held peacefully in New York City. However on Monday the 13th, just ten days after Meade's victory at Gettysburg, a furious crowd of about 500 attacked the Ninth District Provost Marshal's Office on the corner of Third Ave. and 47th Street where the draft was taking place. Rioters smashed store fronts, started fires, destroyed fire fighters' engines, cut telegraph wires and killed street car horses. Police superintendant, John A. Kennedy, was attacked and beaten.

Governor Horatio Seymour is expected to address a large crowd at City Hall on Tuesday. Gen. John E. Wool (pictured above), Commander of the Eastern District, is bringing troops into the city from the harbor forts and West Point. The New York State Militia, which had been sent to Pennsylvania, and some Federal troops are also being recalled to New York City. Predictions of heavy rain Tuesday may discourage rioters.

SEPTEMBER MEETING
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2012
WATERVLIET SENIOR CENTER
1541 BROADWAY
WATERVLIET, NY

General John Ellis Wool: Restoring a Reputation

Laurence Hauptman

Social Hour	**6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**
Business Meeting	**7:00 – 7:30 p.m.**
Presentation	**7:30 – 8:30 p.m.**
Questions & Answers	**8:30 – 9:00 p.m.**
More Socializing	**9:00 – 10:00 p.m.**

CDCWRT MEETING

The September meeting of the Capital District Civil War Round Table will be held on Friday, September 14, 2012. This meeting will be held at the Watervliet Senior Center, 1541 Broadway in Watervliet. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Laurence Hauptman whose topic is entitled, **GENERAL JOHN ELLIS WOOL: RESTORING A REPUTATION.**

General Wool was an outstanding officer in the Regular Army in three major American Wars, but was forced out of the military because of his actions during the New York City Draft Riots in July of 1863, The focus of this presentation will be on his actions during the riots.

Wool was born in Newburgh, married and moved to Troy, New York. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery and his gravesite has the tallest obelisk in the Cemetery.

Laurence Hauptman will give a different perspective on the Draft Riots. He will trace Wool's long career as the Army's Inspector General, his diplomatic involvement during the removal of the Cherokees (not like the ruthless methods applied by his successor, Winfield Scott), his brilliance during the Mexican War, his command of the Department of the Pacific after the Mexican War, and his Civil War career before he was forced to "fall on his sword" and take the blame for others during the Draft Riots.

Hauptman has written three articles on Gen. Wool, which have appeared in **Civil War History, Georgia Historical Quarterly,** ***and the*** **New York Archives.**

Dr. Hauptman is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at SUNY New Paltz where he taught courses on Native American History, New York History and Civil War History for forty years. He is the author, co-author, or co-editor of 17 books on the Iroquois and other Native Americans. He has published three books on the American Civil War.

He has received numerous awards, most recently the New York State Archives Lifetime Achievement Award for his research and publications on the Empire State. Dr. Hauptman has been honored by the New York State Board of Regents, the Pennsylvania Historical Association, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and the New York Academy of History, The Seneca Nation has bestowed upon him the name "haiwadogesta" meaning "interpreter." Twice Dr. Hauptman was the recipient of the Peter Doctor Indian Memorial Foundation Award from the Six Nations for his scholarship and applied work on behalf of Native Americans in eastern North America.

His book, **Between Two Fires: American Indians in the Civil War (1995),** ***was the basis for the History Channel Documentary,*** **"Indian Warriors of the Civil War,"** ***in 2006.***

UP-COMING EVENTS

The following list of up-coming events is provided to help Round Table members plan their long term calendars. These are events that involve our Round Table, especially events that provide opportunities to raise funds for our preservation activities. Some events may change as the year progresses, so members should check the list monthly. Details of Sesquicentennial Civil War events can be found on the web-site: www.nycivilwar150.org.

Friday, October 12th will be the regular meeting of the CDCWRT. Our presenter will be Mark Dunkelman who will talk about the 154th New York Volunteer Infantry.

On Thursday, October 25th, the Hudson-Mohawk Industrial Gateway will honor the CDCWRT for its preservation efforts at the Gateway Gala. The Gala will be held at the New York State Museum near the Civil War exhibit which will open soon. Special guests will speak at the Gala and the enclosed flyer lists the program and costs.

Friday – Sunday, November 2-4, 2012 will be the second Sue Knost Memorial Conference entitled "*1862: And the War Came."* Most of our speakers have all confirmed and include Chris Kolakowski, Bruce Eelman, Frank O'Reilly, Steve Muller and John Quarstein. The conference will occur at the facilities at Siena College. Look for a conference flyer in the mail in early September.

Friday, December 14th will be the regular holiday meeting of the CDCWRT. Our speaker will be Joseph Thatcher who will talk about the Confederate coal torpedo.

BOARD MEETING – 6/25/2012

The Board met on 6/25/2012. The Treasurer reported $3,058.14 in the regular account and $3,240.41 in the Preservation Account, that included $550 for the November conference. Not included in the Preservation Account was $340 raised at the Masonic Temple CW Days on June 2nd and 3rd.

The title for the November conference will be **"1862 – A year of Battles."** A schedule of talks and activities will be developed by September. This will be a 3-day conference with banquet on Friday and talks on Saturday and Sunday morning. There were some changes in the presenters for October and December meeting that are reflected in the section on Up-Coming Events

.A nominating committee will be formed early to propose a slate of candidates for the January meeting.

BOARD MEETING – 7/30/2012

The Treasurer reported $2,604.00 in the regular account. The Preservation Account has $4,527.09 after a deposit of $1,843.30 from cachet and book sales at Gettysburg. Addition mail orders of cachets brought the final Gettysburg total to $1,983. Additional Civil War stamp sets for 2011 and 2012 were purchased, and will be used for postage and cancels this year and next year.

The 2011 sets are no longer available in post offices. The set includes the Ft. Sumter and 1st Bull Run stamps. Members of the CDCWRT may purchase the 2011 set of 12 stamps for $8.00.

Fran McCashion reported the passing of longtime member, Art Jewell. Up-coming CDCWRT events include Clarksville History Day, CW Days at the Erie Canal Village, and the CW Days at Schuyler Flatts.

Clara Barton Museum Planned

A museum focusing on Clara Barton's efforts to find missing soldiers is planned for Washington, D.C. The museum will be housed in Barton's former Missing Soldiers

Office on 7th Street, NW, and is to be operated by the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.



Barton worked as a nurse during the Civil War, and would found the American Red Cross. In 1865, she opened the office in D.C. to help families locate missing Union soldiers, and she and her staff would respond to more than 63,000 letters and determine the fate of more than 22,000 men. Barton's office is currently being restored and plans are to open a visitor center in late 2012 or early 2013.

SESQUICENTENNIAL 1862

The newsletters this fall will remind you of some of the events of 1862 – 150 years ago this year. Some are about battles; some are about other events; some are about people. They are as follows:

Battle of Shiloh or Pittsburg Landing April 6-7, 1862

In February of 1862 Gen. Ulysses S. Grant led Union forces in a winter campaign capturing Fort Henry and Fort Donelson in Tennessee, providing the first significant victories for the Union. Confederate Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston withdrew his forces into northern Mississippi near Corinth. Grant and his army of 48,000 advanced up the Tennessee River with naval support to Pittsburg Landing. He was to unite with another Union army of 17,000 men under Gen. Don Carlos Buell. Meanwhile Gen. Johnston moved towards Pittsburg Landing with a force of 45,000 men, hoping to surprise Grant before Buell arrived to join forces.

The Union forces were bivouacked in the area around Shiloh Church, but were not fortified. They still believed Confederate forces were at Corinth. Even though the forces were of equal size, the Confederate army was poorly equipped and inexperienced. About half of Grant's forces were veterans of the Fort Donelson campaign. The Confederates had the element of surprise and had hoped to drive the Union army away from the landing and into swamps to the west.

The dawn attack achieved almost total strategic and tactical surprise. The attack went forward essentially as a frontal assault conducted by a single linear formation, which lacked both depth and weight needed for success. Command and control were lost from the onset of the assault. This is why Shiloh often has been called the "soldiers' battle." Nonetheless, the assault was ferocious and made steady progress until noon, rolling up Union positions one by one.

Union Gen. William Sherman had been remiss in fortifying his position. However when the attack came, he appeared everywhere along his lines, rallying his troops and having three horses shot out from beneath him. Men under the command of Union Gen. Benjamin Prentiss held a position that became known as the "Hornets' Nest." Rather than by-pass the position, the Confederates launched multiple assaults on the position which was a salient in the Union line. Finally the nest was surrounded and was blasted with 50 cannon. The position had held for 7 hours and had allowed a Union semi-circular defensive position to form near the Landing.

While this was taking place, Gen. Johnston was on the front lines directing the right flanking maneuver that was his battle plan. He was wounded behind the left knee, but felt the wound was minor. He bled to death

within the hour, and became the highest ranking general on either side to be killed in the Civil War. Confederate Gen. P.T.G. Beauregard assumed command, but it was too late in the day to organize a successful assault against the Union pocket that was reinforced by more than 50 cannon.

Grant was reinforced by Buell's army during the night. On the morning of April 7th, Beauregard was unaware that he was now out-numbered. He planned to attack the Union line, but was surprised by a massive Union counter-attack before he could act. Gradually the Confederate line was pushed back despite fierce fighting. Having lost the initiative, a quarter of his army, and low on ammunition, Beauregard began an orderly withdrawal in the late afternoon towards Corinth. The exhausted Union army did not pursue very far.

Shiloh was the costliest battle in American history up to that point, Union losses were 13,047 (1754 killed, 8408 wounded, 2885 missing) and Confederates losses were 10,699 (1728 killed, 8012 wounded, 959 missing). Both sides were shocked by the carnage. Grant was vilified by the press and was accused of being drunk (he was not). But Lincoln supported him by stating, "I cannot spare this man; he fights." Shiloh was a turning point in the life of Gen. Sherman who would become one of the most successful Union generals.

The Confederacy lost Albert Johnston who was considered one of the best in the South. In a modern analysis Grant is recognized for his ability to see the larger tactical picture that ultimately resulted in victory on the second day. The Civil War was slowly being won by the Union in the western theater. But the press reports that attracted public attention were the actions in the East. A modern historical analysis indicates the Union won the war, and the Confederacy lost the war in the West.

Slavery Banned in Territories

On June 17, 1862, the U.S. Congress passed a bill to eliminate slavery in the nation's territories. The measure, which did not affect states, was signed into law by President Lincoln on June 19. The law was aimed at overturning the *Dred Scott* decision of 1857, and affected the territories of Colorado, Dakota, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, and Washington.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in any of the Territories of the United States now existing, or which may at any time hereafter be formed or acquired by the United States, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

Morgan Raids Kentucky!

On July 4, Confederate Col. John Hunt Morgan launched a cavalry raid into Kentucky. Morgan's first raid of the state involved about 900 men and took about three weeks. Morgan would take Tompkinsville, Ky., on July 9, and capture Lebanon on July 12. He reported the capture of some 1,200 Federal troops and several hundred horses, while destroying large quantities of supplies.

The raid alarmed the pro-Union military government of Kentucky, slowed the advance of Maj. Gen. Don C. Buell on Chattanooga, Tenn., and was a factor in the decision to launch a Confederate offensive into the state that fall.



JOHN HUNT MORGAN

Belle Boyd Arrested

One of the most famous Confederate spies, Isabella “Belle” Boyd, was arrested on July 29, 1862, after being betrayed by the lover who had supplied her with information. Boyd was held for a month at the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, D.C., before she was exchanged.

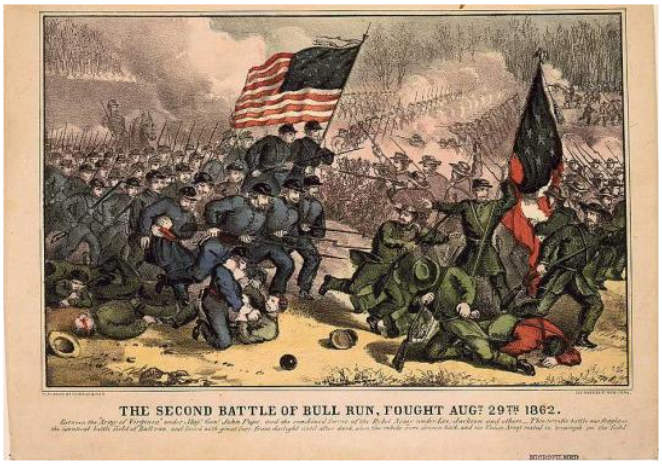


Boyd had passed valuable information to Generals Turner Ashby and “Stonewall” Jackson during the Valley Campaign that spring, for which she was awarded the Southern Cross of Honor and honorary military titles. This was the second of what would be three of her arrests as a spy.

A Second Fight at Manassas!

From Aug. 28 through Aug. 30, Manassas, Va., would see its second major battle of the Civil War. Known in the North as the Second Battle of Bull Run, the clash was on a larger scale than the June 1861 Battle of Bull Run. Having repulsed the advance of Union Maj. Gen. George McClellan’s advance on Richmond, Gen. Robert E. Lee, recently appointed to command the Army of Northern Virginia (CSA), would order “Stonewall” Jackson’s corps to suppress Federal forces in northern Virginia under the command of Maj. Gen. John Pope.

Following an indecisive fight between Jackson and Pope at Cedar Mountain on Aug. 9, Lee would send Maj. Gen. James Longstreet’s corps to support the offensive effort.



After Jackson captured his depot in Manassas, Pope would assault the Confederate forces. The battle would see a series of uncoordinated attacks by Pope and, after a failed assault on Jackson by Union forces, Longstreet would smash the Federal’s left wing. Only a heroic stand by Union troops on Chinn Ridge and, later, Henry Hill would prevent the Federal army from being destroyed.

Second Manassas was a decisive victory that would bring the Confederate army to the height of its power in 1862. Of the approximately 62,000 Union troops engaged, about 10,000 were killed or wounded. Some 50,000 Confederate troops fought in the battle, and their casualties were estimated to be about 8,300.