



The Texas Union Herald



Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18
Department of Texas
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Volume I, Issue 8, September 2016

Rattling Sabres

by
Glen E. Zook

Summer is almost over and autumn is rapidly approaching. Vacation time has come to an end and it is back to the same old grind! I am almost certain that some of the SUVCW members, while on vacation, visited at least one location that played some part in the Civil War who also took some photographs while there. Please, take a few minutes and forward some of those photographs to be included in The Texas Union Herald. In fact, include some text describing your experience(s) at the site. I am certain that a number of the organization's members would be very interested in your experience(s), I know that I would be!

The National Encampment, of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, was held in Springfield, Illinois, during mid August. The Colonel E. E. Ellsworth, Camp #18, had representatives at this encampment. Hopefully, there will be at least one written report, as well as a number of photographs, concerning this encampment included elsewhere in this edition.

At the August meeting, the subject of "Big Shanty", the location at which the Andrew's Raiders took possession of "The General" locomotive engine which started the "Great Locomotive Chase" through northern Georgia, came up. One camp member said that the location is now Marietta, Georgia. That is not correct! "Big Shanty" is now Kennesaw, Georgia, and "The General" is housed in a museum located very near the city square of the city. My youngest daughter lives in Powder Springs, Georgia, which is just a few miles from Kennesaw and I have visited the museum several times



The "Texas", the other locomotive involved in the "Great Locomotive Chase" was housed in the Cyclorama which used to be located in Grant Park in Atlanta. However, the Cyclorama has moved to a new location on the north side of Atlanta and the "Texas" is now being restored to its original glory and will not again be on display until sometime next year.

I have visited the Cyclorama a number of times, at least at the Grant Park location, over the years, starting back in like 1965 when I was a student at the Georgia Institute of Technology better known, worldwide, as "Georgia Tech".

By the way, Grant Park is NOT named for Hiram Ulysses Grant, a.k.a. Ulysses Simpson Grant! It is named for Lemuel P. Grant, an Atlanta engineering and businessman who donated 100 acres for use as a park. This was in 1882. A few years later, the City of Atlanta purchased an additional 44 acres for the park.

Around Atlanta, there are quite a few battle sites from the Civil War. My youngest daughter's back yard literally is next to one of those sites. Where her property ends, a protected site begins. There is no use of a metal detector allowed on the grounds and there are still some indications of fixed defensive positions on the grounds. This site is a few miles from the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain National Military Park. So far, I have not discovered any information on the individual battle that took place at the site. The only thing that gives any information on the battle is the name of her street, Captain Mathes Drive. Unfortunately, there were quite a few with the surname Mathes who held the rank of captain in the Confederate army. As such, so far, I have not found any real information on the Internet concerning that particular site.

No reports from the National Encampment came through even though I held sending out this issue for about 48-hours. Hopefully, there will be something for the October issue.

Fortunately, Brother Richard Erder came through with photos from the 7 August 2016 tombstone and monument cleaning session at Greenwood Cemetery. As such, there are some new photographs for this issue.

Until next month

The Texas **Union** Herald

The Texas **Union** Herald is published monthly by the **Colonel E.E. Ellsworth Camp #18, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**. For official business, including editorial and article submission, the mailing address is as follows:

Glen E. Zook
The Texas **Union** Herald
410 Lawndale Drive
Richardson, Texas 75080

E-Mail: texasunionherald@sbcglobal.net

Telephone: (972) 231-3987
(972) 231-5011

Articles, news items, features, and the like are welcomed for publication in **The Texas Union Herald**. Deadline is normally the 1st of the month of the cover date of publication. Submissions may be handwritten, typewritten, or submitted in any of the popular computer formats (Microsoft Word, Open Office, Word Perfect, and ASCII). Please contact the editor for details.

All material herein is copyrighted by either the original author or the Ellsworth Camp #18, Department of Texas, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. However, it may be reproduced by any non-profit organization unless the article **specifically indicates that it is not to be reproduced or that permission must be given in writing** by the original author **provided that the following is complied with:** No changes are to be made in any manner to the original article or news item (this includes any editing, etc.); full credit is given to the original author and **The Texas Union Herald**; and a copy of any publication incorporating such excerpts is immediately provided to both the original author and the editor of **The Texas Union Herald**.

Articles Needed!

If the members of the **Colonel E.E. Ellsworth Camp #18** do not want to be inundated with articles that were chosen by the editor (what he wants to see in the newsletter) then they need to start inputting items for inclusion in **The Texas Union Herald**. Tidbits about the Civil War, stories, articles, current news items, photographs, even commentaries are most welcome.

Don't worry if you are not an accomplished author. Get the idea onto paper (computer, etc.) and get it to the editor. He really can edit (rewrite, etc.) and you'll be surprised at just how well you can write!

If you have E-Mail capabilities, you can either include the information in the body of the message or put it in either Word format or ACSII ("txt") format. If, for some reason, you cannot do either, contact the editor to see if your particular word processor format can be handled.

If "hard" copy, make sure the copy is legible (can be read by someone else!). Typewritten, computer printed, even in Crayon on "Big Chief" tablet is acceptable. Just get the information in!

Even small (1 or 2 paragraphs) material, or photographs, can be used. That makes editing and publishing the newsletter easier since "fill" material is available for those little areas that seem to happen whenever an article is included in the publication.

Mailing Address:

Editor
Texas **Union** Herald
410 Lawndale Drive
Richardson, Texas 75080

E-Mail: texasunionherald@sbcglobal.net

Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18 Camp Officers

Commander	Paul Ridenour paulridenour@tx.rr.com
SVC	John Schneider schneider1@sbcglobal.net
JVC	Brother Erder rerder@verizon.net
Secretary	Don Gates d_gates@verizon.net
Treasurer	Don Gates d_gates@verizon.net
Chaplain	Harold Sickler HaroldSickler@sbcglobal.net
Patriotic Instructor	Drake Peddie dmpeddie@aol.com
Graves Registration	Open
Historian	Don Gates d_gates@verizon.net
Civil War Memorials	Open
Eagle Scout Coordinator	John Schneider schneider1@sbcglobal.net
Editor	Glen E. Zook gezook@sbcglobal.net texasunionherald@sbcglobal.net



The following is from a book entitled **Hill's Manual of Social and Business Forms** copyright 1886 and published in 1890. Although the title of the book does not suggest any connection what-so-ever with the Civil War, it contains much information about the battles of the Civil War, summarized by the persons who fought during the war. The volume is virtually a 4 year college course in one book, including all sorts of things like Government, proper writing forms, how to make public speeches, correct use of the English language, and many other topics. It covers all major battles of the Civil War and many of the minor skirmishes. All spelling, punctuation, capitalization, etc. are directly quoted from the original ("sic") and are not those necessarily used today.

Battles of the 3rd Year

(continued)

Battle at Unionville, Tenn. - Fought March 7, 1863, by a force of Unionists under General Minty and a body of Confederate cavalry, the latter being defeated, with the loss of their wagons, horses and tents and about 60 prisoners.

Battle of Fairfax, Va. - Fought March 9, 1863, between General Stoughton, with a Union force, and a band of rebel cavalry. The latter passed through the Union lines, and captured the General and some of his men.

Fight at Newbern, N.C. - Fought March 13, 1863, between an attacking force of Confederates and the Unionists who held the place. The attempt resulted in a failure to recapture the place.

Battle at Port Hudson, La. - March 13, 1863, Commodore Farragut's Union fleet attempted to pass the Confederate batteries, but only a part of the vessels succeeded. One - the Mississippi - ran aground and was destroyed.

Battle Near Kelly's Ford, Va. - March 17, 1863, a force of 200 Union cavalry, under General Averill crossed the Rappahannock river, where only one horseman could pass the ford at once, and notwithstanding a galling fire from the Confederate rifle-pits and sharpshooters, charged upon the Confederate entrenchment's, killing or capturing nearly the entire force of their enemies. They then encountered a body of Confederate cavalry, under Stuart, with whom they had a hand-to-hand encounter for five hours. The Confederates were routed with great slaughter, and the Unionists took 80 of them prisoners.

Battle at Milton, Tenn. - Fought March 20, 1863, between 4,000 Confederates under Wheeler and Morgan, and 1,323 mounted Unionists, under Colonel Hall. The Confederates were totally defeated, with a loss of 400.

Capture of Jacksonville, Fla. - March 20, 1863, the Confederates were driven from the city by a Union brigade of colored soldiers.

Battle of Steele's Bayou, Miss. - Fought March 22, 1863, between about 4,000 Confederates and General Sherman's division of the Union army, assisted by Union gunboats. The brief contest resulted in the retreat of the Confederates, with heavy loss, while the Unionists lost but one man, who was killed.

Capture of Mount Sterling, Ky. - March 22, 1863, a force of Confederates, under Clark, captured Mount Sterling.

The Brentwood, Tenn., Affair - March 25, 1863, Brentwood was occupied by about 500 Unionists. That day

the place was captured and sacked by about 3,000 Confederates under Wheeler, Forest, Armstrong and Stearns. Green Clay Smith, with a body of Union cavalry pursued them as they departed with their spoils and prisoners, in the direction of Columbia. About nine miles from Brentwood he overtook them, charged upon them, killing many and driving them six miles further. The Confederates having been reinforced by Wheeler's cavalry, 2,500 strong, Clay slowly withdrew from the advancing foe, retreating two miles, when the Confederates gave up the pursuit. The Confederate loss was estimated at fully 400 men, many horses, ambulances, etc. Smith did not lose a man as prisoner, but brought away 47 of the enemy.

Battle of Somerset, Ky. - Fought March 29, 1863, between a force of Unionists, under Carter and Gilmore, and a body of Confederate cavalry, under Pegram. The battle resulted in the total defeat of the Confederates, and their evacuation of Kentucky.

Battle near Woodbury, Tenn. - Fought April 1, 1863, between a Union force under General Hazen, and 600 Confederates, under Colonel Smith. The latter were defeated, with a loss of 20 killed and wounded, 30 prisoners, 50 horses, besides mules and wagons.

Battle near Nashville, Tenn. - Fought between General Mitchell, with 300 Union cavalry, and an encampment of Confederates, April 6, 1863. Mitchell made a sabre charge, killing 15 Confederates, taking 5 prisoners and capturing all their arms, tents, horses and equipments.

Attack on Charleston, S.C. - April 7, 1863, Commodore Dupont, with nine Union iron-clad war-vessels, attacked Charleston. The fight continued for two hours, under a sharp fire from Forts Sumter and Moultrie, when the Union fleet retired, five of the vessels being disabled, and one - the Keokuk - subsequently sank at her anchorage. The Union loss was 16 wounded - 1 fatally.

Fight at Franklin, Tenn. - Fought April 10, 1863, between a large Confederate force under Van Dorn, and the Union troops occupying the town, under General Granger. After a protracted fight the Confederates were driven off and pursued until nightfall.

Three Battles in Louisiana - April 11, 1863, General Banks, with the Union troops under Emory and Weitzel, started from Berwick, at the mouth of the Atchafalaya river. In three sharp engagements with the Confederate forces in the Bayou Teche region, on April 15, 16, and 17, he took nearly 2,000 prisoners, caused the destruction of their 3 gunboats and several transport vessels, with a large amount of other Confederate property, dispersing their army in that section. The Union loss was 700.

Porter's Fleet Runs Past Vicksburg - April 17, 1863, Commodore Porter succeeded in running six vessels of his Union fleet safely past the Confederate batteries at Vicksburg.

Battle of Fayetteville, Ark. - Fought April 18, 1863, between 2,000 Union troops occupying the town and an attacking party of Confederates, numbering 3,000, with four cannon. The Confederates were repulsed, the Unionists losing 5 killed and 17 wounded.

Capture of a Union Steam-Ram - April 22, 1863, the Union ram, Queen of the West, was captured by the Confederates, in Grand Lake, La., with her commander, Captain Fuller, and all her officers and crew, numbering 90. The same day General Banks occupied Washington and Opelousas, Miss.

Battle at Fairmont, W.Va. - Fought April 30, 1863, between the Union forces, under Colonel Mulligan, and Confederate troops. The former were repulsed, and the Baltimore & Ohio railroad bridges, at Fairmont and Cheat river were blown up.

Battle at Monticello, Ky. - Fought May 1, 1863, between 5,000 Union troops, under General Carter, and the Confederate forces under Pegram. The latter were driven from the field, with a loss of 66 men. On the same day the Confederate troops, under Marmaduke, were driven out of Missouri by the Union General Vandever.

Battle of Port Gibson, Miss. - Fought May 1, 1863, between the united Union armies of Generals Grant and McClelland and the Confederate force under General Bowen. The latter, after a severe fight, were defeated with the loss of 1,550 men and 5 cannon.

Grierson's Raid in Mississippi - Colonel Grierson, of the 6th Illinois regiment, with his own and the 7th Illinois cavalry, 900 strong, and 6 cannon, started from La Grange, Tenn., April 17, 1863, to march southerly through the entire center of Mississippi. May 2, 1863, they reached Baton Rouge, La., having traveled nearly 800 miles in 16 days, and having passed through 17 counties. As they went they destroyed Confederate railroads, bridges, cars, locomotives and stores of all kinds, fought successfully against several attempts to capture them, and brought into Baton Rouge more than 1,000 horses and a large number of cattle, besides 500 colored people who followed them.

Battle of Chancellorsville, Va. - The Army of the Potomac, under General Hooker, made its second attempt to capture the Confederate fortifications at Fredericksburg, Va., between April 21 and May 3, 1863. The main body of the Union army crossed the Rappahannock river April 27, at Kelly's ford, about 20 miles northwest of Fredericksburg, taking a position 10 miles west of that stronghold, at Chancellorsville. The main battle, after two days' severe skirmishing, took place May 3, between the Confederate army, under Lee and Jackson, and Hooker's army. The Unionists, in this battle, were defeated. In the meantime the Union General Sedgwick had crossed the Rappahannock river and occupied Fredericksburg, but he, too, was defeated and compelled to retire. Hooker's army recrossed the river on the night of May 5. Hooker's whole effective force was about 95,000; Lee's, in all, 60,000. The Union losses were about 17,000 - 12,000 killed and wounded - 5,000 missing; the Confederates, 13,000 - 10,300 killed and wounded.

During the battles of Chancellorsville, May 1-4, 1863, the Union General Stoneman, with a large body of cavalry, raided Virginia, destroying large quantities of Confederate provisions at different points and a portion of the railroad between Gordonsville and Charlottesville, and considerably damaging one or two other railroads.

Capture of Alexandria, La. - May 5, 1863, Admiral Porter and his Union gunboats captured this town.

Streight's Surrender - After effective service and hard fighting in the enemy's country, May 8, 1863, Union Colonel Streight, with 1,700 men, was captured by the Confederate cavalry under Forrest, near Cedar Bluff, Ala.

Fight on the Cumberland River - Fought May 9, 1863, between Union Kentucky cavalry, under Colonel Jacobs, and a Confederate guerrilla force, near Horseshoe Bend, Tenn. The latter were defeated, with the loss of a number killed, 8 prisoners and the destruction of their camp.

Battle of Raymond, Miss. - Fought May 12, 1863, between a Union force, under General McPherson, of Grant's army, and two divisions of Confederates, under Gregg and Walker. After a fierce of two hours, the place was captured, the Confederates losing 103 killed, 720 wounded and prisoners. Union loss, 69 killed, 341 wounded, and 32 missing.

Battle Near Jackson, Miss. - Fought May 13, 1863, between Grant's Union army and Confederate troops under Joseph S. Johnson. The latter was defeated, losing the town, 7 cannon, 400 prisoners, and large quantities of military stores. The State House was burned.

Fight at Linden, Tenn. - Fought May 13, 1863, between 55 men of the 1st Tennessee cavalry, under Colonel Breckenridge, and twice that number of Confederates. The latter were defeated, with the loss of 43 officers and privates, 50 horses and a quantity of other property.

Battle at Suffolk, Va. - Fought May 15, 1863, between a Confederate detachment and a party of Unionists, in which the former were defeated.

Battle Near Holly Springs, Miss. - Fought May 15, 1863, between Faulkner's Confederate cavalry and a Union force, the former being defeated.

Battle of Baker's Creek, Miss. - Fought May 15, 1863, between the Confederates, under General Pemberton, and the Union army, under General Grant, about 25,000 men being engaged on each side. The fight ended in the defeat of the Confederates, who lost 2,600 killed and wounded, 2,000 prisoners and 29 cannon.

Battle of Big Black River, Miss. - Fought May 17, 1863, between the Confederates under Pemberton and Grant's Union army, the former being again defeated, with a loss of 2,600 men and 17 cannon.

Destruction at Austin, Miss. - May 24, 1863, Colonel Ellet's Union marine brigade burned the town, which had been occupied by the Confederates.

A Navy-Yard Destroyed - May 25, 1863, the Unionists destroyed the Confederate navy-yard at Yazoo city, Miss.

Loss of a Union Gunboat - May 28, 1863, in an encounter between the Union gunboat Cincinnati, on the Mississippi river, and the Confederate batteries at Vicksburg, Miss., the former was sunk, going down with flying colors. The Union loss was 25 killed and wounded and 15 drowned.

A Raid in South Carolina - June 3, 1863, the second South Carolina Union regiment (colored), under Colonel Montgomery, numbering 200 men, passed up the Coosa river, landing in full view of two Confederate regiments, who retreated. Penetrating 25 miles into the country, Montgomery brought away 725 negroes, a lot of blooded horses, and other property belonging to the Confederates, valued at \$600,000.

Battle at Triune, Tenn. - Fought June 11, 1863, between 5,000 Confederate cavalry and two batteries, under Forrest, and a force of Union cavalry, under Colonel R. B. Mitchell. The Confederates were defeated, with a loss of 21 killed and 70 others wounded and taken prisoners. Mitchell's loss was 6 killed.

Sinking of a Blockade Runner - Off Charleston, June 11, 1863, the Confederate and notorious blockade-runner, the Herald, was sunk by a broadside from the Union blockading fleet.

Battle of Winchester, Va. - Fought June 14, 1863, between about 7,000 Unionists, under Milroy, and the advance of Lee's army on its way to Pennsylvania. Besides a small number killed and wounded, Milroy lost 4,000 prisoners, about 30 guns, many small arms, and 300 wagons.

A Naval Fight - Fought June 17, 1863, in Wilmington waters, off the coast of North Carolina, between the Confederate ram Atlanta and the Union vessel Weehawen, commanded by Captain John Rodgers. The Atlanta was decoyed and captured.

Battle Near Aldie, Va. - Fought June 17, 1863, between Union troops, under Colonel Kilpatrick, and 5 regiments of Confederate cavalry, under Fitzhugh Lee, with artillery. After a desperate hand-to-hand encounter, the Confederates retreated, leaving 100 prisoners in the hands of the Unionists.

Second Battle of Big Black River, Miss. - Fought June 23, 1863, between a Confederate force, under Johnston, and a division of the Union army, under Osterhaus. The latter was defeated.

Fights in Tennessee - June 24, 1863, the Union general, Rosecrans, began his advance from Murfreesboro, Tenn. On the same day, Willich's brigade, of McCook's division of the Union army, wrested Liberty Gap from the Confederates, sustaining a loss of 75 killed and wounded. Next day, Willich, Wilder and Carter's brigades of Rosecrans' army defeated a division of Confederates, under Claiborne. The Unionists lost 40 killed and 100 wounded; the Confederates, who retreated in disorder, suffered a much greater loss. June 24, 1863, Wilder's mounted Union brigade captured Hoover's Gap from the Confederates. His loss was 53 killed and wounded. June 26, 1863, Wilder's Union brigade destroyed the Decherd bridge in the rear of the Confederate general, Bragg, between Tullahoma and Chattanooga. Other fights and skirmishes were features in this nine days' campaign by the Unionists under Rosecrans, whose total loss was 85 killed, 462 wounded and 13 missing. The Confederates lost 1,364 prisoners and 11 cannon, and were expelled from Middle Tennessee.

Morgan's Raids - June 27, 1863, John Morgan, with 2,500 Confederate guerrillas and 4 cannon, began a raid in Kentucky. On the 3d of July, a sharp fight occurred between them and a reconnoitering party of Unionists under Captain Carter. The captain was killed, his men retreated, and Morgan occupied Columbia. On the 4th of July, Morgan fought 200 Unionists, under Colonel Moore, at Tebb's Bend, on Green river, Ky. For four hours the battle raged, when Morgan was repulsed and retreated, leaving his dead on the field. At Lebanon, Morgan captured 300 Union militia, robbed and paroled them. Morgan then raided Southern Ohio and Indiana. At Corydon, Ind., in a fight, Morgan had 2 men killed and 7 wounded, while the opposing Unionists lost 15 killed and wounded. There and at other places large amounts of merchandise and horses were seized by the raiders, money was extorted as a ransom for property, and their operations created general excitement. In the meantime, a pursuit by armed men to capture Morgan was vigorously prosecuted. At Bussington's Island, in the Ohio river, July 19, Morgan encountered a force of Unionists under General Judah, Lieutenant O'Neil (of the 5th Indiana cavalry), and two gunboats, and a bloody battle ensued, which resulted in the utter rout and dispersion of Morgan's band. They left behind them about 1,000 prisoners, all their artillery, and

large quantities of stolen plunder. John Morgan and 500 of his men escaped, but were hotly pursued by General Shackleford, of the Union army, and on July 26, at West Point, Ohio, Morgan, finding himself surrounded by a superior force, unconditionally surrendered, his band having been slain, dispersed or captured.

Battle of Grey's Gap, Tenn. - Fought June 30, 1863, between Union cavalry and infantry under Stanley and Granger and a force of Confederate cavalry and infantry. The latter were driven from point to point, hotly pursued, and many of them were killed, drowned and wounded in their flight. The capture of Shelbyville, Tenn., by the Unionists, with a large number of prisoners and a quantity of arms and commissary stores, were the results of this day's work.

Capture of Tullahoma, Tenn. - July 1, 1863, the Unionists under Brannon, Negley and Sheridan occupied Tullahoma, which the Confederates had evacuated on the previous night. This was one step in the campaign which drove the Confederates from Middle Tennessee.

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa. - Fought July 1-3, between the invading Confederate army under General R. E. Lee, and the Union army of the Potomac under General Meade. The forces engaged or near at hand, July 2, were about equal, each numbering between 70,000 and 80,000 infantry and artillery. The battle, one of the most terrible of the war, resulted in the defeat of the Confederates, their compulsory evacuation of Pennsylvania and Maryland, their withdrawal from the valley of the Shenandoah, and heavy losses, as follows: 5,000 killed, 23,000 wounded left on the field, 8,000 prisoners, 3 cannon and 41 battle flags; 24,978 small arms were collected on the battle field. The Union loss was 2,834 killed, 13,713 wounded, and 6,643 missing.

Battle at Helena, Ark. - Fought July 4, 1863, between about 4,000 Unionists, under General Prentiss, and 7,600 Confederates under General Holmes, the latter being defeated with the loss of 173 killed, 687 wounded, and 776 missing. The Union loss did not exceed 250 in killed and wounded.

Surrender of Vicksburg, Miss. - General Grant began his siege of Vicksburg, May 18, prosecuting it with great vigor until July 4, 1863, when Pemberton, the Confederate General occupying the place, surrendered to the Union army 27,000 prisoners, 132 cannon and 50,000 stand of arms. Thus the Mississippi river was opened to the Gulf of Mexico.

Battle of Port Hudson, La. - General Banks' Union army invested Port Hudson in May, 1863, the place being strongly fortified and defended by a force of Confederates under General Gardner. Three important assaults were made upon this stronghold by land and water, May 27, June 11 and 14, in which some of the Confederate works were captured, but the Unionists were on both days repulsed, with the loss of about 3,000 men. The siege was continued until July 7, when Gardner capitulated (owing to the surrender of Vicksburg), and on the 9th of July, 1863, General Banks entered the town, taking 6,408 prisoners, 2 steamers, 51 cannon, and a quantity of small arms.

Draft Riots at the North. - From July 13 to 16, 1863, New York, Boston and other Northern cities, were the scene of riots in opposition to the drafting of soldiers for the Union army. In New York mobs held possession of the city for three days; the drafting offices were demolished and the buildings burned. A colored orphan asylum was pillaged and burned down. Collisions were frequent between the

authorities and the mob, and many persons were killed. These riots cost the city more than \$1,500,000 for losses by them.

Battle at Jackson, Miss. – Fought July 17, 1863, between the Union army under Sherman and the Confederates under Johnston. The result was the occupation of the city by Sherman, the capture of a large quantity of stores, 40 locomotives and the rolling stock of three railroads.

Capture of Natchez, Miss. – July 17, 1863, General Ransom and a party of Unionists captured this city from the Confederates, taking a large quantity of ammunition, 13 cannon, 2,000 cattle and 4,000 hogsheads of sugar.

Battle of Elk Creek, Ark. – Fought July 17, 1863, between 2,400 Unionists under General Blunt, and 5,000 Confederates under General Cooper. The latter were defeated, with the loss of 184 men. The Unionists lost 40 men.

Union Cavalry in North Carolina – July 20, 1863, the cavalry expedition sent out by the Union General Foster, attacked the Wilmington & Weldon railroad at Rocky Mount, burned the long bridge over Tar river, tore up two miles of track, destroyed the depot, a large cotton factory, a supply train and 5,000 bales of cotton belonging to the Confederates.

Battle at Wytheville, Va. – Fought July 20, 1863, between Union cavalry under Colonel Toland, and the 34th Ohio mounted infantry, and a Confederate force; it resulted after a severe conflict in the defeat of the Confederates, the burning of the town, the seizure of 3 cannon, 700 stand of arms and 120 prisoners. The Confederates also lost 75 men killed and many wounded. The Unionists lost 65 killed and wounded, including among the former Colonel Tolland.

Bombardment of Chattanooga, Tenn. – July 22, 1863, Colonel Wilder, of Rosecrans' army, shelled Chattanooga, creating considerable agitation among its Confederate occupants, but without definite results.

Recapture in Louisiana – July 22, 1863, the Union gunboat Sachem recaptured Brashear city from the Confederates.

Battle Near Manassas Gap, Va. – Fought July 23, 1863, between 800 Unionists, under General Spinola, and about twice as many Confederate troops from Georgia and North Carolina. The latter were utterly routed.

Battle in the Southwest – Fought July 23, 1863, between Kit Carson's Union 1st New Mexico regiment and a party of Navajos, near Fort Canby. The Indians were defeated.

Kentucky Invaded – The Confederates re-invaded Kentucky, July 23, 1863. July 31, 1863, the Unionists in that State, commanded by Colonel Sanders, completely routed the Confederate forces under Scott and Pegram, and martial law was declared.

Battle at Culpeper, Va. – Fought August 2, 1863, between Union cavalry under Buford, and Confederate cavalry under Stuart. The battle was indecisive, but 100 prisoners were taken by the Unionists.

To be continued:

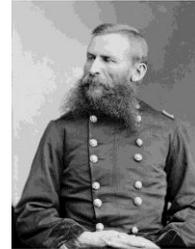
September Birthdays



William F. Rosecrans
6 September 1819



Joshua Chamberlain
8 September 1828



George Crook
8 September 1828



Andrew Hall Foote
12 September 1806



John Sedgwick
13 September 1813



John F. Reynolds
20 September 1820



John Grubb Parke
22 September 1827



Truman Seymour
22 September 1824



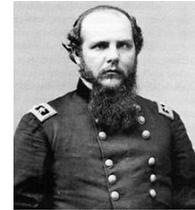
Henry Warner Slocum
24 September 1827



William Babcock Hazen
27 September 1830



William "Bull" Nelson
27 September 1824



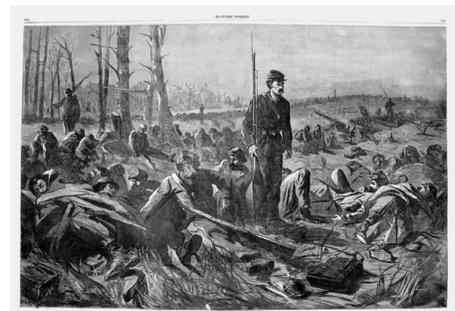
John M. Schofield
29 September 1831



Samuel P. Heintzelman
30 September 1805



Charles P. Stone
30 September 1824



The Peninsula Campaign Summer, 1862

On to Richmond

Instead of marching overland, McClellan decided to take advantage of Union control of the inland waters and transport his army, with its vast supplies and material, down the Potomac River and across Chesapeake Bay to the tip of the peninsula between the York and James Rivers. Then with his supply ships steaming up the York, he planned to march northwestward up the peninsula, join another force under Gen. Irvin McDowell marching overland from Washington, and together, converge on Richmond. To accomplish this, McClellan undertook the largest amphibious operation ever attempted in the western world. Over 400 steam vessels, brigs, schooners, sloops, ferry boats, and barges assembled on the Potomac River. In March 1862 these vessels ferried the Army of the Potomac, with its 3,600 wagons, 700 ambulances, 300 pieces of artillery, 2,500 head of cattle, and over 25,000 horses and mules, to the southeast coast of Virginia. As Q. M. Gen. Rufus Ingalls reported: "Operations so extensive and important as the rapid and successful embarkation of such an army, with all its vast equipment, its transfer to the peninsula, and its supply while there, had scarcely any parallel in history."

Up the Peninsula

After landing at Fortress Monroe the Federal troops pushed aside the thinly held Confederate defenses at Yorktown and Williamsburg and proceeded up the peninsula according to plan. But progress was slow. Every day 500 tons of forage and subsistence were required to keep the army in the field. Early in May it rained and kept raining, day after dreary day. Federal soldiers had a saying: "Virginia used to be in the Union - now it's in the mud." Dirt roads turned into bottomless muck - creeks and gullies became swift flowing streams - fields were swamps. Roads and bridges had to be built and rebuilt, and still the thousands of wagons, horses, and mules continually stuck in the mud.

Realizing that an effective overland pursuit of the retreating Confederate forces under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston was out of the question because of the weather and the condition of the roads, McClellan on May 6 sent Gen. William B. Franklin's division up the York River by transport to West Point, terminus of the Richmond and York River Railroad, in an attempt to cut off the Confederate wagon train. Johnston anticipated the move, however, and on May 7 ordered Gen. W. H. C. Whiting's troops to attack Franklin in the battle of West Point, or Eltham's Landing.

The attack was repulsed, but, even so, the wagon train managed to continue safely to Richmond. McClellan, however, had cleared the way to his next objective - the landing at White House on the Pamunkey River, a tributary of the York. Here the railroad crossed the Pamunkey on its way to West Point. This would be the Union base of supply for the contemplated attack on Richmond. This battle also cleared the way for the right wing of the Union army, which

would have to stay north and east of Richmond in order to hook up with McDowell's anticipated overland march from Washington.

General Johnston, falling back steadily in front of McClellan's slow advance, was the target of severe criticism from Richmond newspapers for not making a determined stand. But he wrote to Gen. Robert E. Lee: "We are engaged in a species of warfare at which we can never win. It is plain that Gen. McClellan will adhere to the system adopted by him last summer, and depend for success upon artillery and engineering. We can compete with him in neither."

Drewry's Bluff

After the fall of Norfolk on May 10 to the Union forces under Gen. John Wool, the crew of the Virginia (Merrimack) scuttled their ship. River pilots had advised that the iron-clad vessel could not navigate the treacherous channel up the James River to Richmond. Loss of the Virginia opened the river to Federal gunboats, and McClellan immediately telegraphed the War Department: "I would now most earnestly urge that our gunboats and the iron-clad boats be sent as far as possible up the James river without delay. Instructions have been given so that the Navy will receive prompt support wherever and whenever required."

Five Union gunboats, including the famous Monitor, started up the James under Comdr. John Rogers in the Galena. By May 15 at a sharp bend, the Confederates had effectively obstructed the river and erected powerful batteries on a 90-foot bluff.

At 7 that morning the Federal gunboats opened fire on Fort Darling. The battle raged for 4 hours while the fate of Richmond hung in the balance, and near panic spread through the city. However, the accurate fire of the heavy guns of the bluff, combined with effective sharpshooting along the riverbanks, finally proved too much for the gunboats, and the Federal fleet retreated down the river. One Confederate officer observed: " * * * had Commander Rogers been supported by a few brigades, landed at City Point or above on the south side, Richmond would have been evacuated."

Although the Secretary of the Navy requested a "cooperating land force" to help the gunboats pass Fort Darling and take Richmond, McClellan, despite his earlier promise of cooperation, wired the War Department: "Am not yet ready to cooperate with them." He neglected to say when he would be ready. Richmond was never again seriously threatened by water.

Seven Pines (Fair Oaks)

Slowed by the heavy rains and the bad condition of the roads, where "teams cannot haul over half a load, and often empty wagons are stalled," McClellan finally established his base of supply at White House on May 15. Five days later his advance crossed the Chickahominy River at Bottoms Bridge. By the 24th the five Federal corps were established on a front partly encircling Richmond on the north and east, and less than 6 miles away. Three corps lined the north bank of the Chickahominy, while the two corps under Generals E. D. Keyes and Samuel P.

Heintzelman were south of the river., astride the York River Railroad and the roads down the peninsula.

With his army thus split by the Chickahominy, McClellan realized his position was precarious, but his orders were explicit: "General McDowell has been ordered to march upon Richmond by the shortest route. He is ordered * * * so to operate as to place his left wing in communication with your right wing, and you are instructed to cooperate, by extending your right wing to the north of Richmond * * *."

Then, because of Gen. Thomas J. ("Stonewall") Jackson's brilliant operations in the Shenandoah Valley threatening Washington, Lincoln telegraphed McClellan on May 24: "I have been compelled to suspend McDowell's movements to joint you." McDowell wrote disgustedly: "If the enemy can succeed so readily in disconcerting all our plans by alarming us first at one point then at another, he will paralyze a large force with a very small one." That is exactly what Jackson succeeded in doing. This fear for the safety of Washington - the skeleton that haunted Lincoln's closet - was the dominating factor in the military planning in the east throughout the war.

Lincoln's order only suspended McDowell's instructions to join McClellan; it did not revoke them. McClellan was still obliged to keep his right wing across the swollen Chickahominy.

Learning of McDowell's withdrawal, Johnston decided to attack the two Federal corps south of the river, drive them back and destroy the Richmond and York River Railroad to White House. Early in the morning on May 31, after a violent rainstorm that threatened to wash all the Federal bridges into the river, Johnston fell upon Keyes and Heintzelman with 23 of his 27 brigades at Seven Pines.

The initial attack was sudden and vicious. Confederate Gen. James Longstreet threw Gen. D. H. Hill's troops against Gen. Silas Casey's division of Keyes' corps, stationed about three-quarters of a mile west of Seven Pines. Longstreet overwhelmed the Federal division, forcing Casey to retreat a mile east of Seven Pines. Keyes then put Gen. D. N. Couch's division on a line from Seven Pines to Fair Oaks, with Gen. Philip Kearney's division on his left flank. Not until 4 that afternoon, however, did Confederate Gen. G. W. Smith send Whiting's division against Crouch's right flank at Fair Oaks. The delay was fatal. Although Couch was forced back slowly, he drew up a new line of battle facing south towards Fair Oaks, with his back to the Chickahominy River. Here he held until Gen. Edwin V. Sumner, by heroic effort, succeeded in getting Gen. John Sedgwick's division and part of Gen. I. B. Richardson's across the tottering Grapevine Bridge to support him. Led by Sumner himself, Sedgwick's troops repulsed Smith's attack and drove the Confederates back with heavy losses.

The battle plan had been sound, but the attack was badly bungled. Directed by vague, verbal orders instead of explicit, written ones, whole brigades got lost, took the wrong roads, and generally got in each other's way. Nine of the 23 attacking brigades never actually got into the fight at all. Towards nightfall Johnston was severely wounded in the chest and borne from the field. The command then fell to G. W. Smith. Fighting ceased with darkness.

Early next morning, June 1, Smith renewed the attack. His plan called for Whiting on the left flank to hold defensively, while Longstreet on the right swung counterclockwise in a pivot movement to hit Richardson's

division, which was facing south with its right near Fair Oaks. The Federal troops repulsed the assault, however, and when Heintzelman sent Gen. Joseph Hooker's division on the Federal left on the offensive, the Confederates withdrew and the battle was over before noon.

That afternoon President Jefferson Davis appointed his chief military advisor, Gen. Robert E. Lee as commander of the Southern forces. Lee promptly named his new command the Army of Northern Virginia - a name destined for fame in the annals of the Civil War.

Although the battle itself was indecisive, the casualties were heavy on both sides. The Confederates lost 6,184 in killed, wounded, and missing; the Federals 5,031.

Undoubtedly the most important result of the fight was the wounding of Johnston and the resultant appointment of Lee as field commander.

The preceding is excerpted from Richmond Battlefields, A History and Guide to Richmond National Battlefield Park, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

To be continued:

MI Questions And Answers On U. S. History

By
Glen E. Zook

We continue this month with more excerpts from the book entitled MI Questions And Answers On U.S. History or 1001 Questions and Answers On U.S. History published by Hinds and Noble, Publishers, New York City. Original copyright was 1882, with additional copyright of 1895. This was a listing of suggested questions (with the answers) for high school history tests.

As stated last month, not all of the questions concerning the Civil War will be repeated herein, but a number of those which are either very pertinent or are very revealing will be quoted.

265. Locate Chancellorsville, and describe the battle fought there. It is in the eastern part of Virginia. The heaviest engagements were on the 2d and 3d of May, 1863. The Union Army sustained great loss, and Hooker was forced to cross the Rappahannock, May 5th. The Northern forces numbered 90,000, while the Southern were only 45,000. The Union loss was over 17,000 killed and wounded.

266. What famous man was killed in the Battle of Chancellorsville? Stonewall Jackson, accidentally, by his own men.

267. Who was General of the Confederate forces in this battle? Robert E. Lee.

268. Which was the greatest battle of the war? That of Gettysburg, in the southern part of Pennsylvania.

269. When was it fought, and who were victorious? July 1,2 and 3, 1863. The Unionists.

271. When and to whom was Vicksburg surrendered? July 4, 1863, to General Grant.

Civil War "Tidbits"

272. Who commanded the Southern forces in this battle? General Pemberton.

273. Where was the "Battle above the Clouds?" On Lookout Mountain.

274. What was the result of the Chattanooga campaign in 1863? The Union Army was victorious. The Confederate losses were 10,000; the Union one-half as many.

275. Who succeeded Bragg in charge of the Confederate Army in the West and South? General J. E. Johnston.

277. Describe the Battle of Chattanooga. It was begun on the 23d of November, and continued two days. The Confederates were met at Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, and were defeated, and driven southward.

280. Who had been made Lieutenant-General of the armies of the United States? General Grant.

281. Who had borne the rank before? General Washington and Winfield Scott.

283. When did Sherman's army commence its march to the sea? On the 12th of November, 1864.

284. Describe the Battle of the Wilderness. Grant met the Confederates in a thicket of firs and pines called the Wilderness. The battle was fought on the 5th and 6th of May, 1864. Neither side gained a victory.

286. What was called the "Overland Campaign?" The series of battles fought between the Rapidan and the James Rivers.

288. Relate the facts concerning Early's raid into the Shenandoah Valley. Lee sent General Early through the Shenandoah Valley to invade Maryland and threaten Washington. To prevent Early's raid, General Sheridan was sent into the valley, and completely demolished the Confederate Army.

292. When was Mobile taken? August 5th, 1864.

293. What was the condition of paper currency in the fall of 1864? It had depreciated so greatly in value that it took two dollars and ninety cents in greenbacks to buy one dollar in gold.

296. When did Lee evacuate Richmond and Petersburg? On the night of April 2d, 1865.

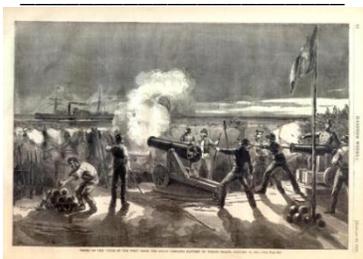
297. Where and when did Lee surrender, after moving his forces westward? At Appomattox Court House, Virginia, April 9.

298. When did Johnston surrender, and why? After hearing of Lee's surrender, he despaired, and gave up Raleigh, the 26th of April, to Sherman.

299. What had taken place by the middle of May? All the Confederate forces had surrendered, and the Civil War was at an end.

301. What became of Jefferson Davis after Lee's surrender? He attempted to reach the sea-shore.

To Be Continued



According to the diary of one Edward Marcus of the Union Army: "Although he was clubfooted and in his forties, Elias Howe, inventor of the sewing machine, served with the 17th Connecticut Regiment but was never officially mustered in. His son, Elias, Jr., enlisted in Company D on August 28, 1862, serving to the end of the war. Elias Howe, then a wealthy man, made himself responsible for many of the expenses of the 17th. When the regiment had gone three months without pay early in 1863, he gave the paymaster his personal check to cover what was due all officers and men. Then, the story goes, he went back into line and drew \$39, his pay for three months as a private."

On the 4th of October, 1864, the C.S.S. Florida (a very successful commerce raider) commanded by Lt. Morris, entered Bahia, Brazil, to secure provisions and refuel. She had been followed by the U.S.S. Wachusett, Commander Napoleon Collins in command. The Brazilian authorities secured a promise from both the U.S. Consul Thomas Wilson and Lt. Morris that no fighting would occur in Brazilian waters. Collins then challenged Morris to a duel of the ships in international waters. However, Morris declined.

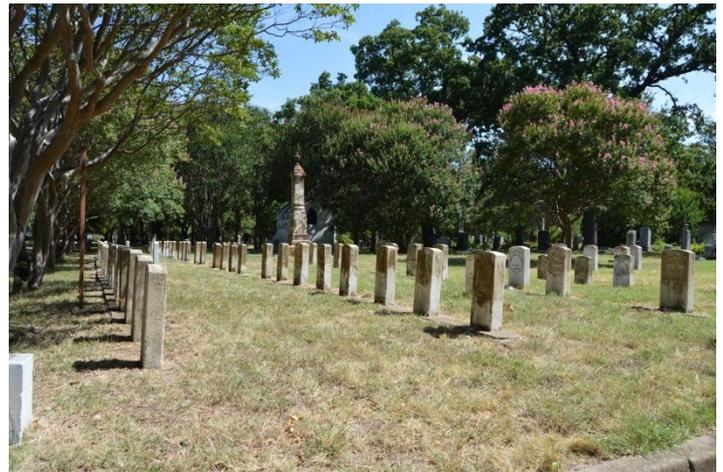
At 3 AM on the 5th, Collins weighed anchor and sailed past the Brazilian gunboat stationed between the ships and rammed the Florida on her starboard (right hand) side. After a brief battle, Lt. Porter (who was in command of the Florida since Lt. Morris was ashore) surrendered the ship. The Wachusett towed the Florida into international waters while under fire from the Brazilian harbor defenses. The Florida was towed to Hampton Roads, Virginia, arriving on November 12, 1864.

Commander Collins was later tried by a naval court and was found guilty of disobeying orders. He was court-martialed and ordered dismissed from the naval service. However, the Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles restored Collins to his command. The "insult" to the Brazilians was finally resolved on July 23, 1866, when the U.S.S. Nipsic fired a 21 gun salute in Bahia harbor.



7 August 2016

Greenwood Cemetery Cleanup



September Meeting

The September 2016 meeting of the
Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18
SUCW

Will be held on
Tuesday 20 September 2016
At the
Heritage Farmstead Museum, Plano, TX.