



# The Texas Union Herald



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

Volume II, Issue 1 January 2017

## Rattling Sabres

by  
Glen E. Zook

A couple of people have asked about the medal, that I wear along with my past Department Commander's medal, past Camp Commander's medal, and SUVCV member's medal, shaped like the State of Indiana.

The main reason is that the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial, located in downtown Indianapolis, is emblazoned on the face of the medal. This memorial is in honor of all of the soldiers, sailors, and marines, from the State of Indiana, who served during the Civil War.

The truth be known, the medal was issued for attendance at the American Legion State Convention that was held, in Indianapolis, during the summer of 1958. Believe it or not, although I was only 14-years old at the time, the medal was actually presented to me! I was the member of a senior drum and bugle corps and the medal was to be worn, on our "overseas" style caps.

During the late 1950s, membership in the American Legion was dropping and, therefore, not as many people were available for the drum and bugle corps. So, it was decided that up to 10% of the corps members did not have to be members of the American Legion. Also, there was no age limit to be a member of a drum and bugle corps.

The Hammond Grey, Post 83, LaPorte Lancers Drum and Bugle Corps, who had been Indiana state champions for decades, as well as placing high in the National Drum and Bugle competitions, decided, in early 1957, to form a junior corps. At the time, I was playing first coronet in the junior high school band and my parents suggested that I also join the junior corps.

Because I already was playing a brass instrument, I was immediately placed as "first chair", soprano bugle. There were 3-others who were playing brass instruments in high school bands whereas most of the other members had little, or no, experience playing brass instruments.

The senior corps immediately offered the 4 of us membership in the LaPorte Lancers as well as remaining members of the junior corps, The Maple City Cadets. All of us were about the same height, 5'10" tall and were taller than a number of the older members. As such, when in uniform, we looked just like any other member of the corps.

Because of our ages, since a number of the older corps members might be offended, none of us were placed in the section, of the soprano bugles, where we played "first part". There were 3 "parts" and I was put in the 2<sup>nd</sup> "part" and the other 3 were put in the 3<sup>rd</sup> "part" section.

I spent the next 4-years travelling, on weekends, all over the Midwest, participating in drum and bugle corps competitions and exhibitions during the warmer months. I even participated in national competitions and have a medal from the 1958 National Competition in Chicago, Illinois.

By the late 1950s, the bugles were no longer the B-flat types but had a single piston valve and were in the keys of G-D. To add even more "notes" to the range of the bugles, some bugles had a rotary valve and even a few had a moveable slide. All of the bugles were the property of the drum and bugle corps.

The junior corps had raised money to purchase new bugles for the entire organization and had gotten a very good price for each bugle. I had decided that I didn't want to continue to use the older bugle that belonged to the senior corps and wanted to own a bugle of my own. I was working summer vacations from high school and could afford to purchase my own instrument. So, I made a "deal" with the company making the bugles for the junior corps to manufacture a special bugle and, because the junior corps was making a very large purchase, there was no additional cost for my special bugle!

This special bugle had not only the piston valve but also had a rotary valve and slide all incorporated in the same instrument. Until that particular instrument was made, either a rotary valve or slide was available since they both fit the same place on the bugle. Having the piston valve and the other 2 features, gave my bugle the same basic range of notes as a trumpet.

Over the years, the bugles used for drum and bugle corps added an additional piston valve and, finally, were replaced with true trumpets with all 3-valves. However, my "special" bugle started the trend to instruments that had a wider range of notes and, as such, could play considerably more complex songs. Within a very few months, the company, that made my bugle, started advertising instruments with the same configuration as the "special" bugle and, eventually, went to the 2-valve and, finally, the 3-valve instruments.



# The Texas **Union** Herald

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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.

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## 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 ASCII ("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.

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> Year (continued)

**Battle of Grenada, Miss.** - Fought 17th of August, 1863, between a Union expedition sent out by General Hurlbut, under Lieutenant-Colonel Phillips, of the 9th Illinois mounted infantry, and a Confederate force of 2,000 men under General Slimmer, who occupied Grenada. The Confederates were so hardly pressed by the attacking party that they fled in confusion, leaving behind an immense quantity of ordnance and stores. These, with the depot, the machine-shop, the railroad track, 57 locomotives, and more than 400 cars, were destroyed by the Unionists.

**The War in Arkansas** - August 22, 1863, the Union force under General Blunt, numbering 4,500, attacked 11,000 Confederates under General Cooper, in the Indian Territory, and compelled the latter to retreat to Red river. On the same day, Union cavalry under Colonel Woodson, successfully attacked numerous Confederate guerrilla bands in Arkansas, capturing the Confederate general, Jeff Thompson, with his entire staff. On the 29th of July, 1863, the Confederate army under General Price, then in Arkansas, was severely pressed by the Union forces under General Steele. The same day, Steele's advance under General Davidson, drove 3,000 Confederates, under Marmaduke, out of Brownsville and across the Arkansas river. September 1, 1863, General Blunt defeated the Confederates under Cooper and Cabell, and captured Fort Smith, Ark. The same day the Confederates evacuated Little Rock, and General Steele occupied it September 10, 1863.

**Quantrell's Raid** - A force of Confederate guerrillas, numbering 350, collected in Cass county, Mo., under the leadership of Quantrell. In the dead of night, August 25, 1863, they unexpectedly attacked the town of Lawrence, in Kansas, set it on fire, burned 182 buildings to the ground, destroying \$2,000,000 of property; killed 145 persons, including helpless women and children, and wounded 591 citizens, many of them mortally. Soon afterwards, the guerrillas having departed, the citizens organized a force, commanded by General James H. Lane, and pursued the marauders to Grand River, Mo. There, when attacked, the murderers dispersed in various directions, but about 80 of them were slain.

**Occupation of Knoxville, Tenn.** - The Confederate General Buckner, evacuated Knoxville, leaving behind a considerable quantity of quartermaster's stores, with other valuable property, and General Burnside, with his

Union force, occupied the place September 3, 1863, to the delight of the inhabitants.

**Battle at Sabine City, Texas** - Fought September 8, 1863, between the Confederate force occupying the fortifications of the town and the 19th Union army corps under General Franklin, with 4 Union gunboats. The fight was quite severe, but resulted in the repulse of the Unionists and the loss of 2 of their gunboats.

**Affairs at Chattanooga, Tenn.** - After the battle of Stone river, at the beginning of 1863, the Confederate army under Bragg occupied Chattanooga. September 8, 1863, when Rosecrans and his Union army approached, the Confederates abandoned the place, and, on the 9th, Crittenden's division of the Union army occupied it. Bragg's army having been reinforced by Longstreet, managed to drive the Unionists out of Chattanooga, while Rosecrans attempted to force the Confederates from their threatening position in that vicinity. The result was the battle of Chickamauga.

**Affairs at Cumberland Gap, Tenn.** - This narrow pass, which separates Kentucky from Tennessee, and became an important point during the civil war, was occupied early in the contest by the Confederates, then by the Unionists, and again by the Confederates. September 9, 1863, General Burnside's Union army recaptured it, with 2,000 prisoners and 14 cannon, from General Frazer.

**Battle of Chickamauga, Tenn.** - Fought September 19 and 20, 1863, between about 50,000 Confederates, under Bragg, who began the contest, and about 55,000 Union soldiers, besides cavalry, under Rosecrans. The cavalry and about 10,000 of Bragg's infantry were not, however, long in the action. At the close of the first day both armies occupied nearly the same position that they did in the morning. The battle occupied the whole of both days, and resulted in defeat and the retreat of the Unionists to Chattanooga. The Union loss was 1,644 killed, 9,262 wounded, and 4,945 prisoners. The Confederate loss is estimated at not far from 18,000 men.

**A Cavalry Defeat** - Confederate under Wheeler, which had come north of the Tennessee river for the purpose of operating against Rosecrans' Union army, encountered Union forces October 9, 1863, at Farmington, Tenn., and near Shelbyville, Ky., and was defeated, with considerable loss, at both points.

**Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.** - General Thomas, who succeeded Rosecrans in command of the Union army, was practically besieged by the Confederates at Chattanooga. A battle was fought November 24, 25, and 26, 1863, at this point, between about 80,000 Unionists, under Grant, who had partially raised the siege and reinforced the garrison, and about 50,000 Confederates under Bragg. The latter's army occupied strong positions above Chattanooga, on Lookout mountain at the south and Missionary ridge on the east. Hooker, with 10,000 Unionists, went to Lookout mountain to assail the Confederate left. Sherman, Sheridan, and other Union commanders, with their several divisions, stormed and carried the Confederate redoubts, as did Hooker those on Lookout mountain. The Confederates fled from a galling fire from their own cannon, and were vigorously pursued. The Union losses were 757 killed, 4,529 wounded, and 330 missing. The Confederate loss in killed and wounded did not, probably, exceed 4,000 killed; but the lost 6,142 prisoners, 40 cannon, and 7,000 stand of small arms. This battle ended the war in Tennessee for a year.

**The Storming of Knoxville, Tenn.** - Under instructions from superior officers, General Burnside prepared for a vigorous defense of Knoxville. The second division of the 23rd army corps under General Julius White, and other troops, was to co-operate with Burnside. November 14, 1863, a fight occurred in the vicinity between General White's command and the Confederates on Huff's hill, in which the Confederates were dislodged with considerable loss on both sides. November 16, another severe fight occurred near Knoxville, between the 23rd and 9th Army corps, with artillery, and a Confederate force at Campbell's station, but the Unionists were obliged to retreat, which they did in good order, although hotly pursued. On the 17th a close siege of Knoxville began, which terminated, November 28, in an attempt of the Confederates to carry the fortifications by storm, commanded by General Longstreet. The assault, however, was repulsed with do much vigor, that, in connection with the defeat of Bragg at Missionary Ridge, the Confederates deemed it advisable to raise the siege. Longstreet, therefore, retreated, followed by Burnside's forces, while another army, under Foster, started from Cumberland Gap to cut off their retreat. The number of Unionists engaged in this siege was about 12,000; their loss was less than 50; the loss of the attacking party was about 500.

machine shops, lumber and flour mills were destroyed. Near Decatur a skirmish occurred in which the Confederates were repulsed with the loss of 5 killed and three prisoners. The expedition marched more than 400 miles in 24 days, liberated 10,000 slaves, and brought away an immense amount of booty. The estimated losses of the Unionists during this raid were 50 men killed and wounded and about 100 prisoners. The Confederate losses in killed and wounded were considered much larger, and in deserters and prisoners were estimated at more than 600.

**Escape of Union Prisoners** - February 9, 1864, a large number of Union prisoners escaped from the Confederate Libby prison, at Richmond, Virginia.

**Battle of Plymouth, N.C.** - Fought February 17, 1864, between about 10,000 Confederates, under General R. F. Hoke, and about 1,500 Unionists, under General Wessel. who occupied Fort Williams, one of the defenses of Plymouth. Six times the Confederates assaulted this stronghold without capturing it, but on the fourth day, after fighting six times his own force, Wessel gave up the unequal contest and surrendered.

**Battle of Olustee, Fla.** - Fought February 20, 1864, between a Union force of about 4,500 infantry and 400 cavalry, with 20 cannon, under General Seymour, and an estimated Confederate force, under General Finnegin, of 3,000. The fight lasted three and a half hours, and resulted in the retreat of the Unionists before a superior force to Barber's station. Union loss 2,000 men, besides artillery, ammunition and wagon trains. Confederate loss about 1,000 men.

**A Raid on Richmond, Va.** - February 28, 1864, a Union cavalry expedition, under General Kilpatrick, started from the army of the Potomac to liberate Union prisoners at Richmond. After several skirmishes, March 4, 1864, Kilpatrick withdrew from the raid, having destroyed a large amount of Confederate property in the vicinity. Colonel Ulric Dahlgren had command of a branch expedition of Union cavalry in another direction, which also destroyed a large amount of property; but on the third of March, his command fell into a Confederate ambush, and he lost his life, and a large number of his men were taken prisoners.

**Capture of Fort de Russey, La.** - March 15, 1864, a large Union force under General mower, of Smith's Red river expedition, stormed this formidable fortress of the Confederates. The veterans, however, after a short but sturdy fight, carried the fort, capturing 12, cannon, 2,000 barrels of powder, a large supply of army stores and ammunition, with 325 prisoners.

**Surrender of Union City, Tenn.** - March 24, 1864, between the Confederate force under Forrest and 500 Unionists under Hawkins, who occupied the place. The latter repulsed the attacking party several times, but at length surrendered.

**Battle at Paducah, Ky.** - Fought March 25, 1864, between 6,000 confederates under Forrest, Buford, Harris, and Thompson, and the 40th Illinois regiment under Colonel S. G. Hicks, numbering 655 Unionists, assisted by some Union gunboats. Hicks made a stand at Fort Anderson and repelled several attacks and refused to surrender. Three more attacks were then made on the fort, but were repulsed with heavy losses each time, Thompson being killed. The Confederates retired next day, having suffered an estimated loss of 300 killed and from 1,000 to 1,200 wounded. The Union loss was 14 killed and 46 wounded.

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## Battles of the Fourth Year of the War

**Battles Near Newbern, N.C.** - February 1, 1864, a Confederate force, estimated at 15,000, attacked a small number of Union troops, under General Palmer, at Bachelor's creek, an outpost of the Unionists at Newbern. The latter, finding themselves outnumbered, fell back in good order, with only a slight loss, although the fight was severe, and they were pursued by the Confederates. Next morning a Confederate force in boats boarded the Union gunboat Underwriter, which had run aground and, after a sharp struggle, captured her with about on-third of her crew. Engineer Allen and a part of the crew of the gunboat, rose up against the crew of the Confederate barge that was carrying them off, overcame them and rescued the commander and crew, bringing them safely into port.

**Battle at Stevesburg, Va.** - Fought all day, February 6, 1864, between the second and third corps of the Union army, under General Sedgwick, and a Confederate force. The Unionists withdrew, having lost 200 men in killed and wounded.

**Sherman's Raid in Mississippi** - February 3, 1864, General Sherman, with a Union force of 25,000 men, marched from Big Black river on a grand raid through the Confederate State of Mississippi, returning to Vicksburg, March 4, 1864. At messenger's station there was a sharp skirmish with a Confederate force, resulting in a Union loss of 12 killed and 35 wounded, and a much larger one on the part of the Confederates. At Canton Sherman's troops captured artillery, ammunition and prisoners. Jackson, Brandon, Morton, and Meridian were visited, with some opposition, but with loss to the Confederates. A meridian the Unionists remained seven days, destroying Confederate stores, ammunition and public buildings, the arsenal, hotels, etc. Other places visited by the Unionists were Enterprise, Marion, Quitman, Hillsboro, Lake station, Decatur, Bolton and Lauderdale springs. At these places railroad property,

## January Meeting

The January 2017 meeting of the  
Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18  
SUVCW

Will be held on

Tuesday 17 January 2017

At the

Heritage Farmstead Museum, Plano, TX.

The January 2017 meeting will be the swearing in of the 2017 officers of the Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18. Everyone who has a Union Army uniform is encouraged to wear it for this special meeting. Also, because of the nature of the January meeting, every camp member is encouraged to attend.

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## December 2016 Minutes

Commander Ridenour took the task of coordinating the rededication with the sisters of the Arlington Tent of the DUVCW

### New Business:

Brother Gates reported that a slate of candidates for the new elected officers had been prepared but that there was still no candidate for Junior Vice Commander. Commander Ridenour reopened the nominations for new camp officers. Discussions followed and Brother Sickler nominated Commander Ridenour. He accepted the nomination for Junior Vice Commander. Brother Zook moved that since the slate was complete and there were no contested positions, that the slate should be accepted by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Brother Harper and it was carried unanimously. Officers will be installed at the January meeting. The new camp officers for 2017 are as follows:

Commander .....	John Schneider
Senior Vice Commander .....	Rick Erder
Junior Vice Commander .....	Paul Ridenour
Secretary .....	Don Gates
Treasurer .....	Don Gates

### SVR/1<sup>st</sup> US Business:

Brother Gates, the SVR adjutant indicated the Lt. Thomas, the current commander would serve as commander for 2017.

### Closing Announcements:

The next month meeting will be on Tuesday, January 17, 2017.

There being no further business before the camp, Commander Ridenour declared the meeting closed at 7:58 PM.

### Closing Benediction:

Brother Sickler conducted the Benediction. After the Benediction the camp enjoyed a brief Christmas party with Christmas cookies and apple cider.

Respectfully Submitted,  
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Don Gates, PDC  
Secretary/Treasurer

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## Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain And The 20th Maine (Part Three)

by  
Dr. Ralph Widener, Jr.

Early September 12, 1862, the men in blue, including the 20th Maine, received orders to "move out." Most of the troops weren't used to the heat and humidity of the area in Maryland, and, as they moved in a northwesterly direction, sweat ran down their backs, down their legs, into their shoes, where the ill-fashioned leather rubbed blisters the size of silver dollars. After awhile, the 20th Maine began to divest itself of some of the equipment bought from peddlers in Portland. Some of the men even threw away their blankets; it was hard to understand, they told themselves, how a man would ever need a wool blanket as hot as it was. The march that day was to be sixteen miles, but the 20th Maine never made it.

However, the regiment collected itself that night, and the next morning was cooler. There were pretty villages, and prettier girls. The farmers along the way offered them fresh-baked bread, fruit, and cold water. They marched twenty-four miles that day, surpassing by two miles what they were to cover in two days.

On September 14th, there was audible evidence that something ominous was happening in front of them. It gradually increased to the soft, thudding sound of distant artillery fire. Beyond Frederick, Maryland, they came to their first battle through a series of magnificent vistas; first from the top of the Catocin Mountains, and then from the summit of the South Mountain range. Within the hour, they saw their first Confederate prisoners being escorted to the rear to be questioned. Then, they came upon burial parties approaching those who lay, as they had fallen, in groups of two or three, with single bodies scattered here and there. They were older men with silvery hair, as well as beardless boys and men, all of them looking as if they were sleeping, though already sealed in a still, bloody death. The jubilation of a "first" encounter with the enemy became quite somber. The youngest Union soldiers accepted for service were eighteen; the oldest forty-five.

Finally, at nightfall on the 16th, the 20th Maine reached the middle ridge on the east side of Antietam Creek where they were held in reserve when the bloodiest single of fighting of the entire war took place on September 17th. Among the many criticisms leveled at General McClellan for the stalemate at Antietam Creek was that he let the Fifth Corps remain idle when it, and other Union troops, might



have achieved a complete victory over the Confederate forces there.

But Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain felt that the 20th Maine could thank it's lucky stars for McClellan's caution in not inserting them in the battle, as they had not even received any real training at all; that to direct effective fire against an enemy force, while, at the same time, defending themselves, required the ability to maneuver in formation, and that Antietam Creek, one of the most violent battles of the entire war, was no place for "green" troops.

On October 1st, President Lincoln came to Antietam Creek to talk with "Little Mac" (General McClellan), a man he described as being a victim of "the slows," who always felt he was facing a bigger army in General Lee, and didn't want to attack him until he (McClellan) had greater forces. The President urged McClellan to pursue the enemy with greater vigor at every opportunity, even providing McClellan with figures showing the Union army was twice the size of those commanded by Lee.

Then, Lincoln visited the Fifth Corps, giving the men of the 20th Maine the opportunity to see the two men: the President and the Commander of the Army of the Potomac. Physically, the contrast was striking: McClellan - trim, dashing, romantic, with his cap cocked at a jaunty angle; Lincoln - angular, ungainly on his borrowed mount, with his deep-lined, bearded face, his shrouded eyes. Spiritually, there was a contrast, too: McClellan personified the glory of war, with all the trappings inherited from European tradition, a glamour that was soon to fade for these men of the 20th Maine. Lincoln - with his rural, woodland and small-town background - was nearer home; he had something to remind them all of what they were or what they had been. He was America itself, a giant emerging from the wilderness with all his imperfections pathetically laid bare, and it may be imagined that they took him to their hearts with a fierce, protective pride. The glory would fade, but the pride would last, even to the mud of Petersburg when war became as unglamorous as murder in a back alley.

It's hard to know exactly what the men felt. We only have a brief description from what Chamberlain wrote down after the visit. But, because the men of the 20th Maine loved their Lieutenant Colonel, perhaps what Chamberlain put down was the way they felt, too. Chamberlain remembered that "we could see the deep sadness in his face, and feel the burden on his heart, thinking of his great commission to save this people, and knowing that he could do this no otherwise than as he had been doing - by and through the manliness of these men - the valor, the steadfastness, the loyalty, the devotion, the sufferings and thousand deaths, of those into whose eyes his were looking."

Within a few days of the Battle of Antietam Creek, President Lincoln gave the war a badly needed moral lift by issuing the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation (September 22, 1862), which, together with Lee's failure to win at Antietam Creek, helped dissuade the European countries, notably Great Britain and France, from recognizing the Confederacy. England, in particular, could never support slavery.

After a spell of picketing near Shepherdstown Ford - very pleasant duty in the shady glens, with the autumn-covered hills towering up before them - the 20th Maine moved to an encampment near the old Iron Works near the mouth of Antietam Creek where it joins the Potomac

River. Here Colonel Ames finally got the chance to give the regiment its much-needed military education.

Even in the procedure of loading its weapons, the 20th Maine needed training. Between firings of the muzzle-loading rifle, a man had to go through all these manual operations: He had to reach into his cartridge box and get a cartridge (which consisted of a charge of powder and ball wrapped in paper); place one end of the cartridge between his teeth and tear it open; empty the powder into the barrel and insert the ball with pointed end uppermost; ram the ball home; return the rammer; half-cock the hammer and remove the old cap; reach into the cap pouch, get a new cap, and press it down on the nipple.

At a turkey shoot, or in the leisure of hunting in the Maine woods, shooting a muzzle-loading rifle was a simple enough procedure. But, strange things could be done in the brain-fogging frenzy and fear of battle. In his terrible excitement, a man could neglect to withdraw the ramrod from the barrel, so that it sailed off through the air with a dismal twang when he fired, leaving him without the means of properly loading his rifle again. Or, he might forget to remove the old cap and put on a new one. Then, with the noise all around him, he might pull the trigger, think he had fired, and ram in another charge on top of the first one, and perhaps do the same thing again. Often, muskets were found on the battlefields crammed to the muzzle with unfired charges.

The answer was training so that a man would form the habit of loading his rifle with the complete and proper sequence, and this habit would persist even though the rifleman's mind went temporarily bland under the emotional stresses of combat. This training was provided for in the School of the Soldier, in a "by the numbers drill," LOAD IN NINE TIMES, which organized the movements into nine consecutive operations, performed over and over until they became, as it were, automatic.

Besides instruction in the handling of weapons, the School of the Soldier also included the different steps and movements of facing, alignment, and marching. When the individual soldier was trained to the point of maneuverability, then came the School of the Company, and this was the basis of maneuvers by larger units. The idea, of course, was to get all these soldiers into the best arrangement from which to start shooting at, or advancing on, the enemy. The ultimate objective was to mass firepower. Today, with longer ranges and modern communications, fire can be massed from weapons located at widely dispersed positions. But, in the Civil War, massing fire meant massing the men who delivered it. The drill-book line of battle consisted of riflemen in two ranks, one behind the other. Two paces behind the rear rank stood a line of lieutenants and sergeants who were known as file closers.

The file closers were placed as they were to direct the men and also, it must be said, to restrain them in case conservation of Federal manpower should prove to be an idea of sudden and irresistible appeal to the ranks. The position of file closer had its advantages. Lawrence's brother, Sergeant Tom Chamberlain, writing home with the obvious intent of reassuring his sister, pointed out that "if you shoot a Sergeant you have to fire through two men first. A Sergeant never fires his rifle until the men in front are killed, and not then unless you want to show off."

Drawn up in two ranks, a unit could execute certain limited maneuvers, but the formation was too unwieldy for movements of any length or complexity. For such moments

the formation was usually a column of narrower ranks, for example a "column of fours."

The ability to go from line of battle into column and from column back into line of battle, with a high degree of teamwork in all formations, was a tactical necessity. The various orders and prescribed movements for accomplishing this, as set forth in Casey's Infantry Tactics\* - the manual used by the 20th Maine - make modern infantry drill regulations look as uncomplicated as a diagram in a dancing school advertisement.

Colonel Ames didn't know how long he would have before his embattled farmers would be thrown into another full-scale scuffle like Antietam Creek; so, he trained the 20th Main in some of the more elementary movements first, and left the fancy ones until later.

One of the first requirements in the School of the Company was to be able to "march by the flank" - that is, to go from a line of battle into a "column of fours," heading off in a sideways direction, parallel to the original line. Here's how, for example, a movement to the right flank was accomplished: At the command, "Company, right FACE," all faced to the right, and the rear-rank men (now standing in a long file) side-stepped a pace to their right to make room for "doubling." In the procedure of "doubling," every even-numbered man stepped up to the right side of the man in front of him, so that four men stood abreast. This converted the formation into a column of fours. At the command, "Forward MARCH," the column moved forward and was then "marching by the right flank."

Meanwhile, it was important for a soldier to remember his number. There were only two numbers, 1 and 2, but even so, a few minutes after "counting off," a man could forget, and this would result in indescribable confusion. For example, with the column of fours moving by the right flank as we just left it, it might be desired to put the men back into the original line of battle. At the command, Company, HALT - FRONT, the men halted and faced to the left; then the even-numbered men had to remember to "undouble" and jump back into their places in line-of-battle ranks.

These maneuvers, confusing as they may sound, were as nothing compared to the drills and evolutions for the next higher unit of instruction, The School of the Battalion (this really meant School of the Regiment; the regiment while drilling was called a Battalion). With heads whirling, the men of the 20th Maine milled and marched up and down the dusty road with Colonel Ames shouting such nightmarish commands as:

"By the right companies to the rear into columns. Battalion, by the right flank - MARCH!",

or,

"Close column by division. On the fourth division left in front. Battalion left-FACE! MARCH!"

It was dull, exhausting, enraging work - but needful preparation for which the Maine men would thank the West Pointer later on - but while it was in progress there is some evidence that the men hated the Colonel's giblets. Still, there began to emerge a grudging pride of accomplishment and a definite "esprit de corps."

Chamberlain was so impressed with his colonel that he wrote his wife, Fanny, on October 26th: "I believe that

no other new regiment will ever have the discipline we have now. We all work together for the best for the 20th Maine!" He also wrote Fanny: "I study, I tell you, every military work I can find. And it is no small labor to master the evolutions of a Battalion and Brigade. But, I am determined to understand everything."

Ames was impressed with his Lieutenant-Colonel. On virtually every night, after Taps were sounded and the men were all asleep, a solitary candle burned in the headquarters tent where Ames was giving Chamberlain a special course in tactics.

\* Casey, Silas (General) Infantry Tactics (New York: D. Van Norstrand, 192 Broadway, 1862, 3 volumes, 274 pages)

To Be Continued

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## Couriers

Fiction by  
Harry Dolbier

James Mackenzie and Augustus Featherman left Richmond on the evening of August 3, 1861, carrying messages from the Confederate War Department overland to rebel agents in Baltimore and Philadelphia.

Their instructions were to travel together as far as Baltimore, where Featherman would pick up dispatches and return to Richmond while Mackenzie went on to Philadelphia.

Four days later the pair, tired and dirty, reached Baltimore at mid-morning and checked into Miller's Hotel.

Mackenzie, a tall, muscular man of about thirty, wore his dark hair long and sported a heavy mustache whose ends curled about the corners of his mouth. He was surveying the busy Baltimore street from his second-floor window when he heard the door open. He turned and asked, "Well, Gus, feeling better?"

"Lord, yes," replied his young companion, stepping into the room. "A bath and a clean suit -- that's what I needed, especially after spending last night in that barn."

Mackenzie stretched out on the bed. "I thought the worst part was the night in Zekiah Swamp."

Adjusting his cravat before the mirror over the dresser, Gus commented in his soft Virginia accent, "I'll enjoy it while I can. The journey back to Richmond won't be any nicer. When do you head for Philadelphia?"

"Right after I turn the dispatches over to our people and pick up your package for Richmond. I'll meet them at one-thirty this afternoon. So if you want to sleep in this bed, you'd better sleep fast."

There was a loud knock at the door. Mackenzie leapt up. Gus whispered, "The package?"

"Outside the window on the ledge." He crossed to the door, glanced back at Gus, and opened it.

Two men stood in the hall. The one in front was short and scowling. A colossal sand-colored mustache covered most of his mouth. "Are you James Mackenzie?" he demanded. Without waiting for an answer, he strode into the room followed by his companion, a huge man with a bushy black beard behind which drooped the face of a tired bloodhound, who immediately began opening drawers and

looking behind pictures.

"Yes," Mackenzie began, "I'm..."

"We're detectives from the Provost Marshal's office," the small man interrupted. "My name's Robinson. He's Smith." Smith took no notice of the introduction. Completing his tour of the room, he took his place behind Robinson, between him and the door.

Robinson turned to Gus. "Who are you?"

Gus seemed to study the toes of his boots for an instant, then looked up at Robinson. "My name is Augustus," he replied. "I'm an assistant manager of this hotel." The other stared at him, silently. "I was just seeing if Mr. Mackenzie was comfortable."

Robinson grunted and returned his attention to Mackenzie. "All right, Mr. Mackenzie," he said. "We want to know something about you."

Mackenzie smiled. "At your service, gentlemen. I have nothing to hide."

"You just checked into the hotel this morning." It wasn't a question. "Where'd you come from?"

"I came to Baltimore from Ohio by way of Philadelphia. You see, I'm English, and..."

Robinson stepped closer to him. "Don't you mean you came from Richmond?"

"Richmond? In Virginia? No, I've never been there."

The small man poked a finger in Mackenzie's chest. "Don't give me that hogwash," he snarled. "When'd you get to town?"

"Oh, ah, let's see now. Three (no, four days ago.)"

"Oh, yeah? How come you're just checking into the hotel now?"

"I've been -- staying with a friend."

Robinson stepped back. "Mister, I want some straight answers." He turned and nodded his head to Smith. Smith stepped forward and Robinson took his place before the door. The big man stood before Mackenzie, stared into his face with fish-like eyes, then slammed a huge fist into the other man's midsection. Mackenzie uttered a strangled cry and collapsed on bed, doubled over with pain.

Gus, his eyes wide, took a step towards Robinson. "See here," he sputtered. "You can't do that sort of thing. You can't walk in..."

"Shut up," Robinson said quietly, his eyes on Mackenzie. Then raising his voice a little, he said, "Tell us about your friend, Mackenzie. Lady friend, was it?"

Gasping, Mackenzie tried to sit up. "I... I won't tell. It's none of your business, you..."

"Give him another one, Smith," the little detective said. "Make it hard this time. Make him feel it." Robinson moved next to the bed. "You need another one, Mackenzie?"

Gus darted to the unguarded door. "The manager has to know about this," he said. "I'm going to report to him." He dashed out the door, slamming it behind him, before either detective could move to stop him.

The two detectives stood still for a moment and Mackenzie got to his feet. Smith went to the door and looked out in both directions. Turning back, he said with a smile, "Long gone."

"He's halfway back to Richmond," said Robinson with a short laugh.

"I don't know," Mackenzie said. "That lad's got plenty of sand. I expect he'll hang around and try to figure a

way to get that package off the window ledge."

"Well, it'll be there waiting for him," said Smith. "Do you need to see it again, James?"

"No, It's all in here," he said, tapping his skull.

Robinson asked, "Smitty didn't hurt you, did he, James?"

"Nope. I just hope it looked like he did."

"You were real convincing. That's why I asked."

Smith sat on the bed. "Well, I reckon we convinced Featherman all right. Clever boy, with that business about being the hotel manager. I figured we'd have to start to take him in and then let him slip away."

Robinson said, "He'll give a nice report about how the stupid Yankee detectives fell for his story. And about how you wouldn't tell them a thing, James."

Mackenzie opened the wardrobe and retrieved his hat. "I think so. When I get back to Richmond after my brilliant jail escape, the rebs should be ready to trust me with just about anything. Shall we go?" He held out his hands for Robinson to snap the handcuffs on. "Oh. Be sure to make plenty of noise when you haul me through the lobby just in case the Secesh have anybody watching."

"If I spot some character pretending to read a newspaper, I'll give you an extra shove."

Mackenzie shook his head as Robinson opened the door. "Just like you damn Yankees," he muttered ruefully. "No respect for a gentleman."

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## 2017 Dues

The dues, next year, for a current member are **\$44.00**. Additional family members are \$33.00 each and a junior member is \$10.00. Please pay by check and make them payable to: "SUVCW Camp 18". You can give your check to Don Gates at an upcoming meeting or mail them to:

**Don Gates**  
**1205 Balboa Circle**  
**Plano, TX 75075**

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The Short Cruise Of The C.S.S. Atlanta  
by  
Harry Dolbier

In November, 1861 the English iron-hulled steamship Fingal evaded the Union blockade and delivered a cargo of war materiel to Savannah, Georgia. When the blockade tightened and the Fingal couldn't escape to carry cotton back to Europe, her owners were glad to sell the vessel to the Confederate government.



The rebels planned to convert the Fingal into an ironclad ram similar to the famous Virginia, ex-Merrimac. The authorities re-christened the vessel Atlanta, and, with the aid of popular subscriptions and donations from wealthy patriots, proceeded to strip the ship to the water line, install an armored deck, and erect an armored casemate top.

The casemate was constructed of 16 inches of hard wood covered by two layers of iron plate each two inches thick. The sides sloped at a fifty degree angle to encourage any shots that might strike them to ricochet harmlessly upward.

Inside the casemate sat four Brooke rifles: a seven-inch gun pointing forward, another one aft, and a 6.4 inch cannon on each broadside. The fore and aft guns were mounted to fire to the side as well, and the casemate was pierced with three gunports on each side so the ship could fire a three-gun broadside.

The Atlanta was further armed with a spar torpedo, a pole extending twenty feet or so in front of the ship's bow with an explosive device at the end. Self-propelled torpedoes became well known in World War I, but were unheard of during the Civil War. In those days the ship itself propelled the torpedo toward the intended victim. The captain would set course for the target, drop the business end of the spar torpedo into the water, and when contact was made, pull a cord to detonate the explosive. It seldom worked.

Completing her offensive weapons, a heavy metal ram, intended to pierce an enemy's hull underwater, was affixed to the vessel's bow.

The officers navigated the ship from an armored pilot house forward of the casemate, a truncated four-sided pyramid, the top of which consisted of heavy iron bars resting in grooves.

When the rebuilding was done and the armament placed on board, the Atlanta drew sixteen feet with a two-foot freeboard. She displaced 1,006 tons and her triple screws could drive her at ten knots. The ship's complement totaled 142.

The Atlanta served several months as flagship on the Savannah station, then the Confederate naval authorities decided the time was ripe for her to test her prowess against the Federal blockaders. For her first sortie they named Commander William A. Webb to command her.

Admiral Samuel Du Pont, commander of the Union Navy's South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, knew all about the Atlanta. There was no shortage of Southern deserters coming into his headquarters at the huge Union naval base at Port Royal, South Carolina, eager to tell all they knew. When Du Pont learned that the new ironclad was ready to sail, he dispatched two monitors, the Weehawken and the Nahant, to join the wooden gunboat Cimmarron at the mouth of the Wilmington River in Wassaw Sound and wait for her.

The Union's monitors were ironclads, but of vastly different design than the Atlanta. Named after the original of the type, John Ericsson's U.S.S. Monitor, the ships featured an armored deck protecting an underwater wooden hull that housed the machinery, stores, and living spaces. The only prominent structures on the deck were the smokestack, pilot house, and turret. In action the turret rose on a huge spindle and revolved under the power of its own steam engine. The turret held two Dahlgren smooth-bore guns of fifteen-inch and eleven-inch caliber. The guns fired shells, grapeshot, or solid shot through oval ports in the

turret wall with their muzzles remaining inside the turret. By rotating the turret and steering the ship the guns could be aimed, but seldom with great precision. The standard rate of fire for each gun was once every seven minutes, though a well-trained crew could reduce the time to four minutes.

The 200-foot-long monitors drew eleven-foot draft and had barely two feet of freeboard. In calm waters they could steam at seven knots, if their bottoms were clean.

The monitors Weehawken (Captain John Rodgers) and Nahant (Commander John Downes) took up station with the gunboat Cimmarron in Wassaw Sound on the evening of June 13, and began watching for the Atlanta to present herself. As senior officer present, Rodgers commanded the flotilla.

It was just after 4:00 a.m., on Wednesday, June 17, 1863, when the Federals sighted their enemy charging full steam down the river towards them. The tide was with the monitors. Rodgers started downstream to gain running room, then turned back towards the Atlanta.

Captain Webb in the Atlanta thought the monitors were running from him, so he pursued them at full speed only to run aground in the mud off Tybee Island. With the combined force of the tide and her engines, the Atlanta freed herself in 15 minutes.

The monitors had now closed to within a mile, but the Atlanta would not answer the helm, the tide was too strong against her. As she struggled, she became stuck in the mud again. Webb opened fire.

The rebel shots were too high and passed over the Weehawken, which closed to within 350 yards.

The Weehawken opened fire with her 15-inch gun and scored a hit, damaging the Atlanta's casemate and wounding thirty men of the gun crews. The shot opened a hole in the casemate but did not penetrate, breaking apart upon impact.

After reloading and aiming, Rodgers fired again, this time with both guns. The 11-inch shot hit the Atlanta on the waterline but caused no damage. The shot from the 15-inch gun, however, tore the top off the pilothouse, wounding everyone inside.

Two more hits with 15-inch shot followed, further damaging the casemate.

With the monitors in a position where he could bring no gun to bear on them, and with an hour to wait before the tide would lift him out of the mud, Webb felt he must surrender.

The white flag of surrender was obscured, and Rodgers, not believing victory could be his after firing only six shots, fired again, smashing up the Atlanta further. Then he saw the white flag and ceased firing.

Webb came aboard the Weehawken and surrendered his sword to his friend from the old navy, John Rodgers, who ordered his crew not to cheer their victory. The captured ironclad was towed back to Port Royal, and her disposition was submitted to a prize court in Boston. The court determined that she was the exclusive property of her captors since they had defeated an enemy of equal or greater strength. The court ordered the Atlanta purchased for the U. S. Navy and the assessed value, over \$350,000, was paid to the crews of the Weehawken, the Nahant, and the Cimmarron in proportion to each man's rank.

As for the former rebel ram, the Union navy put her into service with the James River fleet where she served out the war under her new name, U.S.S. Atlanta.

# TERRORISTS - 1864

by  
Harry Dolbier

By April of 1864 Jefferson Davis knew the South was close to losing the war. Convinced that he must now try desperate measures, the Confederate President sent Colonel Jacob Thompson, former U.S. Congressman and Secretary of the Interior in the Buchanan administration, to Toronto, Canada. Thompson's mission: direct subversive activities against the Northern states.

During the months that followed, Thompson and his henchmen hatched a series of plots in collusion with Copperheads, Sons of Liberty, Knights of the Golden Circle, and other groups of Southern sympathizers throughout the North. All of these intrigues failed due to bungling, cowardice, or betrayal by informers.

Nearing desperation, Thompson planned a major effort for November 8, the day of the presidential election. One major goal of this scheme was to set New York City afire, after which the panicked populace would stand dumbly by while the Copperheads took over the municipal government, expelled the Union soldiers, and declared the city's independence. Thompson entrusted the New York operation to Colonel Robert M. Martin, assisted by Captain Robert C. Kennedy, Lieutenant John W. Headley, and five other officers. Most of these men were alumni of Morgan's raiders -- semi-soldiers, semi-guerrillas, semi-bandits.

To prepare for the November uprising, a mysterious agent known only as Captain E. Longuemare (sometimes "Longmire") of Missouri met with Copperhead leaders in New York City, including James A. McMaster, proprietor of Freeman's Journal and Catholic Register. Longuemare then found a chemist who agreed to supply a quantity of Greek Fire, the name given to various chemical compounds designed to ignite upon exposure to the atmosphere.

At the end of October, Colonel Martin and his band slipped into Manhattan bearing false identity papers. They scattered and disappeared into the throngs of the metropolis.

Martin rented a cottage in Central Park for use as headquarters, then along with Lieutenant Headley and Captain Kennedy called at the offices of the Freeman's Journal and Catholic Register, where editor McMaster assured them that 25,000 Sons of Liberty were ready and eager for action. Following the take-over of the city, McMaster asserted, New York Governor Horatio Seymour would immediately come out in public support of the Copperhead cause, and a convention of New York and the New England states would form a confederacy in support of Southern independence. McMaster produced a man he introduced as Seymour's private secretary, who solemnly verified the editor's statements.

On November 3, five days before the election, the Copperheads were shaken by the news that Secretary of State William H. Seward, acting on information received from the British provinces in Canada, had warned officials of the Northern states and principal cities that subversive attacks were imminent. Their resolve was further weakened when Major-General Benjamin F. Butler and ten thousand troops from the front lines in Virginia debarked at New York to garrison the city and assure a peaceful and orderly election day.

In the face of these developments election day came and went with no trouble from the rebels or their sympathizers. Martin and his gang went to ground to await developments. Soon orders came to carry out the mission on November 25. As the day approached, each of the rebels, carrying bogus baggage, rented several hotel rooms under assumed names. The rooms were all in major hotels on or near Broadway.

On the afternoon of the 25th John Headley called at the chemist's shop on Washington Square and asked the elderly proprietor for Captain Longuemare's valise. The old man handed over a black bag carefully packed with 144 four-ounce bottles of Greek Fire. Headley hauled the 40-pound valise along the street, changing hands every few steps until he could board a horse car. On the car, the valise began gave off a noticeable smell something like rotten eggs. Some of the other passengers commented on the odor, but Headley reached his destination before there was any trouble.

Headley met his colleagues at the cottage in Central Park and distributed the Greek Fire. Each man took ten bottles, wrapped them in paper, stowed them in various pockets, and departed to the first of his several hotel rooms.

Headley, in a memoir written in 1906, said, "It was agreed that our operations should begin promptly at 8 o'clock p.m., so that the guests of hotels might all escape, as we did not want to destroy any lives." Captain Kennedy was perhaps more realistic when he wrote, "We desired to destroy property, not the lives of women & children although that would of course have followed in its train." As it happened, the rebels' poor planning and bungling performance insured that no one was killed or seriously injured.

When the conspirators went to work that evening (two of them failed to show up), they all followed the same procedure. The agent would go to one of his hotel rooms, pile blankets, chairs, bureau drawers and anything else flammable on the bed, seal the doors and windows as far as possible, then empty a bottle of Greek Fire onto the pile. As soon as flames shot up he would step into the corridor, lock the door, and leave the hotel to repeat the process at his next stop. After the hotel work was complete, some of them made their way to the waterfront and started fires among goods stored on the docks.

Soon after they set the first fires, the arsonists were gratified to hear the fire alarm bells and see the fire engines racing through the streets. Excited New Yorkers milled about telling each other that the rebels were trying to burn down the city. The rumor was absolutely correct.

Kennedy, somewhat the worse for drink, left his final hotel room and stopped in at Barnum's Museum. When leaving, he had the idea of setting a fire there, so he broke a bottle of Greek Fire in a stairway, "just to scare the people." The museum was full of customers, the fire was soon discovered, and panic ensued. Barnum's giantess was particularly conspicuous as she fled in terror from the building and could not be restrained until she reached the shelter of a nearby saloon.

Few of the fires amounted to anything serious. In many cases the bedding smoldered until discovered and extinguished. The terrorists erred badly in sealing up the rooms where they set the fires. Deprived of a generous supply of oxygen, the fires failed to grow. The largest extent of damage occurred at the St. Nicholas Hotel, where repairs cost ten thousand dollars. The criminals later

concluded that Longuemare and the chemist had conspired against them and diluted the Greek Fire so that it didn't work right. New York's fire marshal, however, declared that chemical analysis showed the compound to be quite deadly and capable of causing great damage if used correctly.

Headley and Martin spent the night together and the next morning perused the newspapers, which were full of sensational stories about the fires and the rebel machinations behind them. The papers listed the fictitious names used to rent the rooms where the fires started along with fairly accurate descriptions of the guests.

Martin called his men together once more at Central Park and made plans to flee the city before they were unmasked. They learned that a train would leave for Albany that night at eleven. A sleeper car would be positioned at the station, and passengers with tickets could board it at nine o'clock and retire for the night. Martin sent the least conspicuous of his associates to buy the tickets, then they all climbed aboard the sleeper, went to their berths, and kept a lookout by peeping around the edge of the window blinds. If detectives boarded the car, the arsonists would attempt to slip out the other end. If the way was blocked, they were prepared to fight it out. But no detectives searched the sleeper, and the train pulled out on schedule.

The next day was Sunday and no trains ran across the border. The terrorists waited unmolested in Albany and the next day took the train across the suspension bridge at Niagara.

A few days later two of the gang, Kennedy and John Ashbrook, took a train from Toronto to Detroit. Federal detectives, alerted by informers inside the rebel camp, set out on their trail and boarded the train before it reached Detroit. They began a sweep through the coaches, and the two criminals, in the same car but not sitting together, saw them coming. Ashbrook opened a window, jumped out into the snow and disappeared. The Federal agents captured Kennedy as he left the train at the Detroit station.

Kennedy was taken back to New York to stand before a military court which speedily convicted him and sentenced him to death. He was hanged on March 25, 1865.

Robert Martin also fell into Federal hands, but not until the war was over and civil authority was restored in New York. State prosecutors declined to proceed against him.

After the war Martin, perhaps with a lingering affinity for burning things, became a tobacco merchant.



Gouverneur K. Warren  
8 January 1830



William H. French  
13 January 1813



Hugh J. Kilpatrick  
14 January 1836



Henry W. Halleck  
16 January 1816



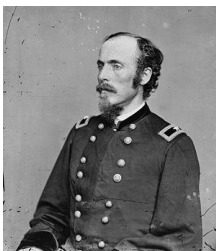
John C. Fremont  
21 January 1813



Nathaniel Banks  
30 January 1816

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## January Birthdays



Emerson Opdycke  
7 January 1830

## More Recipes of the Civil War

### Federal Fudge

- 2 cups sugar
- 2 squares chocolate (or equivalent cocoa)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups milk
- 2 tablespoons corn syrup
- 2 tablespoons butter (or margarine)

Put sugar, milk, chocolate, and syrup together. Stir over medium heat until sugar is dissolved. When the temperature of 236 degrees F. or "soft ball" stage is reached, add vanilla and butter. Allow to cool. When cool, beat with a spoon and spread on a pan. Cut into squares.

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### Maple Flavored Rice Pudding

- 2.5 cups cooked rice
- 2.5 cups milk
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup maple syrup
- 0.5 teaspoons salt
- 0.5 teaspoons nutmeg
- 1 cup raisins

In a bowl combine the rice and milk. Beat the eggs and maple syrup together; then add them to the rice / milk. Add the other items. Pour the mixture into a pudding dish, set it in a pan of hot water, and bake it in a 350 degree oven or cook it on top of the stove in a double boiler. Serve warm or cold. Serves about 6.

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### Johnny Cakes

- 1 cup cornmeal
- 0.5 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1.5 cups boiling water
- 0.5 cup milk

In a bowl combine the cornmeal, salt, and sugar. Stir in water while beating out the lumps. Slowly add the milk. Drop by tablespoonfuls into a hot, greased skillet. Cook slowly for about 5 minutes. Turn over and cook for 5 minutes more. Makes about 10 cakes.

### A Boiled Dinner (Stew)

- 4 pounds corned beef
- 6 potatoes peeled and cubed
- 6 carrots sliced
- 1 yellow turnip quartered
- 1 butternut squash cubed
- 1 cabbage quartered
- Water

Place corned beef in a large pot and cover with water. Bring to a boil, cover and reduce the heat and cook for 3 to 4 hours until the meat is nearly tender. 30 minutes before serving add the potatoes, carrots, and turnip. 15 minutes before serving add the squash and cabbage.

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### Scalloped Tomatoes

- 2 cups cooked tomatoes
- 0.5 teaspoons salt
- 2 tablespoons butter (or margarine)
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 cup cracker crumbs
- Pepper to taste

Cover the bottom of a baking dish with a layer of tomatoes. Sprinkle salt, pepper, dots of butter and honey. Cover with a layer of cracker crumbs. Repeat with another layer of tomatoes, seasoning, and cracker crumbs. Bake about 20 minutes in a hot oven (about 400 degrees F.).

### Ginger Snaps

- 0.5 cups sugar -may use half brown sugar and half white
- 0.5 cups shortening
- 1 egg
- 0.5 cups molasses or sorghum syrup
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 0.5 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons ginger

Cream sugar and shortening together; then add the egg and molasses (or sorghum syrup); beat well. Add the sifted dry ingredients; mix well. Chill the dough for several hours. Roll into small balls, dip in sugar, then flatten by stamping cookies with a flat-bottomed glass or similar item covered in a damp cloth. Bake in a 375 degree F. oven for about 15 minutes. Makes about 48 ginger snaps.



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Office of the Commander-in-Chief  
Donald L. Martin  
6025 State Route 772  
Chillicothe, Ohio  
[cinc@suvcw.org](mailto:cinc@suvcw.org)



General Order # 5  
SERIES 2016-2017  
26 September 2016

**Appointment of Robert E. Grim as Commanding Officer of the Sons of Veterans Reserve.**

1. The National Military Affairs Committee has recommended that Major General Robert E. Grim, Commanding Officer of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, be appointed as Commanding Officer of the Sons of Veterans Reserve for a term of three years.
2. I concur with their recommendation and hereby appoint Robert E. Grim as Commanding Officer of the Sons of Veterans Reserve, at the rank of Major General, commencing on 14 November 2016 and ending on 16 November 2019.

Ordered this 26th Day of September, 2016.

Donald L. Martin  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Donald L. Martin*

Attested:  
Jonathan Davis  
Secretary, National Order,  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*In every battle there comes a time when both sides consider themselves beaten then he who continues the attack wins. — Ulysses S. Grant*



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General Order #7  
SERIES 2016-2017  
12 October 2016

Brothers,

With sadness I report the passing of Real Son and Brother Ernest John Pool on September 24, 2016, he was 97 years old.

Brother John was born on November 10, 1918 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. He was the son of PVT Charles Parker Pool, of Company D of the 6th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. PVT Pool mustered into service on August 20, 1861 and served until August 27, 1864 when his term expired.

Brother John was recruited along with his brothers, Garland, and William into Col. John C. Bryner Camp 67, Department of Illinois and initiated in January, 2004.

It is ordered that the National Web site, the Charters of all Departments and Camps and membership badges be draped in black for a period of 30 days from the date of this General Order.

Ordered this 12th Day of October, 2016.

Donald L. Martin  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Donald L. Martin*

Attested:  
Jonathan Davis  
Secretary, National Order,  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*We know not of the future and cannot plan for it much. ~ Joshua Chamberlain*



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General Order #6  
SERIES 2016-2017  
12 September 2016

Brothers, stay abreast of your local and state lawmaker activity. Each of us has a duty to watch for proposed legislation in Congress, Executive Orders or elsewhere that may impact the SUVCW, the Constitution or the United States of America.

Many legislative matters concerning the SUVCW are local in manner, not widely publicized and/or not available online for easy research. Assistance from Camps and Departments is essential to the thorough examination of possible legislation that may affect the welfare of the Order.

If such potential legislation is discovered, contact the National Legislation Officer or Assistant National Legislation Officer for further review and/or advice on how to address the issue consistent with the position of the SUVCW.

Ordered this 12th Day of September, 2016.

Donald L. Martin  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Donald L. Martin*

Attested:  
Jonathan Davis  
Secretary, National Order,  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Always make your opponent think you know more than you really know. ~Philip Sheridan*



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
Office of the Commander-in-Chief  
Donald L. Martin  
6025 State Route 772  
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General Order # 9  
SERIES 2016-2017  
8 November 2016

Brother Kenneth S. Tuma of the General George Wright Camp #1865, Department of Columbia, is hereby suspended from the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War per Chapter IV, Article 17A of the Constitution and Regulations and with the unanimous vote of the Council of Administration. The suspension shall remain in effect pending the verdict of the Hearing Council appointed by the Senior Vice Commander in Chief.

Brother Tuma has been charged with the following offenses per the Constitution and Regulations Chapter IV Article 1.

Second- Disobedience of policies or lawful Orders of the SUVCW, emanating from proper authority, four counts.

Fourth: Conduct unbecoming a Brother in his relation to the Order, one count.

Fifth: Conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline, three counts.

Ordered this 8th Day of November, 2016.

Donald L. Martin  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Donald L. Martin*

Attested:  
Jonathan Davis  
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*In our Country... one class of men makes war and leaves another to fight it out. ~ William Tecumseh Sherman*





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General Order #8  
SERIES 2016-2017  
13 October 2016

1. The 2016 National Encampment passed the following in regards to the extra postage required to mail the Banner to our Brothers in International Camps.

*From Committee on Constitution and Regulations- " Page 30 Section 11: Once a brother becomes a member of an International Camp, such brother shall pay his National Per Capita, plus an amount set by the Council of Administration to cover the additional Banner mailing costs, to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the same as if the brother was a member of a Camp of the Order. Such payment is to be forwarded to the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War through the International Camp in the same fashion as a National Camp-at-Large. [ACTION: Executive Director]*

2. In compliance with the National Encampment the Council of Administration passed the following after much debate, compromise and over some dissension. A means to save our Brothers from paying the high amount of additional postage was provided.

*The Council of Administration establishes the following additional fees to cover the costs of mailing a hard copy edition of the Banner that apply only to brothers in International Camps: \$25 for Camps in Europe, \$21 for Camps in Asia, and \$12 for Camps in Canada. In lieu of paying the additional fee for delivery of a hard copy edition of the Banner, on top of the full National Per Capita, members of International Camps may elect in writing, including electronic communications, to only receive access to an electronic version of the Banner. In no way does this action affect the cost or manner of receipt of the Banner for brothers who reside in the United States or who are in the Military overseas.*

3. After passage the argument was still maintained that the CoFA could not authorize the sending of an electronic version of the Banner, so I asked an Opinion from the National Counselor. His following Opinion #2 reads as follows:

1

*I was asked by the Commander-in-Chief on 6 October 2016 to offer an Opinion regarding the vote of the CoFA on emailing the BANNER to the members of the UK Camp. In that vote the CoFA stated that the members of the UK Camp could receive the BANNER via email if they made a request in writing.*

*Those members, save one who is blind, have to a man made such a request. One question that has arisen is that the BANNER cannot be sent via email based on a vote of the National Encampment. I have gone back to each of the PROCEEDING from each of the Encampments beginning from 2000 (The word BANNER/banner is mentioned roughly 35 times per issue).*

*In the 2007 PROCEEDINGS, (Brother Pahl's administration Page 127 as numbered or 146 as the computer has it) PCinC Steve Michaels reporting as the BANNER editor reports that "last year the CoFA requested advance copies of the BANNER be emailed saving money. He, PCinC Michaels, further reported that "Beginning with the Spring BANNER advance copies would be emailed to all but 3 CoFA members. Three PCinC without email capability continue to receive their advance copy issued by 1st class mail.*

*In the 2010 PROCEEDINGS (PCinC Kennedy's administration page 212) Brother Mabie from the Department of California and Pacific made a motion to place the BANNER and all SUVVW Forms on the web site so that members could download them. After a long discussion Brother Mabie withdrew the BANNER portion of the motion and moved that the Forms be made available electronically.*

*There was also an increase of \$5.00 to the per capita dues at that Encampment. But the motion did not state that the money was to go toward the publication of the BANNER. Later in that same 2010 PROCEEDINGS (Page 277) after MUCH Discussion a motion was made "The BANNER be available on line. Any Brother wishing to have a printed copy of the BANNER will be paying for it with costs." This motion failed BECAUSE it would require the members to pay for their BANNER, IF they wished to have a hard copy rather than read it on the website.*

*I further checked the BANNER Policy written 20 March 2009 and approved by the CoA 4/18/2009 and NOWHERE is the any mention that the BANNER cannot be sent electronically.*

*Furthermore I went over both the Constitution and Regulations 4 times, checking not only BANNER/Banner/banner but anything linking that word to per capita. There is no mention that the BANNER could NOT be sent electronically. As the C&R is updated every year, if there was a vote stating the prohibition it would have appeared in a footnote.*

*Finally I also reviewed and searched BANNER/Banner/banner is the "Digest of the Order" (August 2004). There is no mention of the BANNER in this Digest so there is also no prohibition. For those of you that haven't read the Digest, it is full of a ton of historical information, and worth the read.*

2

*So I have given all the historical and legal votes of the Encampments as written in the approved PROCEEDS, It is my opinion that*

- 1. The C&R is mute on the subject of electronically transmitting the BANNER.*
- 2. There has not been a vote since 2000 at a National Encampment prohibiting electronically transmitting the BANNER.*
- 3. There was report on the 2007 Encampment permitting the electronic transmission of the BANNER to certain members as a way to save money, thus setting a precedent for such action that I will also state continues to happen to this day.*
- 4. The BANNER Policy of 2009, approved by the CoFA does not forbid the electronic transmission of the BANNER. Thus it is my Opinion as National Counselor that the vote of the CoFA regarding this matter is correct and is NOT in conflict with the C&R. The BANNER Policy, the vote of any Encampment in this century, and has been set by precedent.*

*Thus it is my Opinion as National Counselor that the vote of the CoFA regarding this matter is correct and is NOT in conflict with the C&R. The BANNER Policy, the vote of any Encampment in this century, and has been set by precedent.*

*In F.C. & L  
Donald E. Darby, PCinC  
National Counselor*

*4. There remains opinion and concern in disagreement with the National Counselor's ruling on the legality of the CoFA's authorization to send an electronic version of the Banner instead of a hard copy. I have examined the points of disagreement and have found no new definitive information presented that forbids sending the Banner electronically or overrides the National Counselor's Opinion #2.*

*I am in total agreement with the National Counselor's Opinion #2. Furthermore, as the "the CoFA requested advance copies of the BANNER be emailed saving money" It seems hypocritical to allow the CoFA to request an electronic copy to save money but not allow our Brothers in overseas Camps the same option.*

*The motion passed by the CoFA does not mandate that Brothers WILL receive the Banner electronically. It allows a Brother to CHOOSE his preferred way to receive the Banner and not have to pay additional postage for it. We are after all, a bottom up organization and Brothers should be able to make this choice.*

*The Constitution and Regulations are not clear on the subject of sending an electronic version of the Banner but they do give the Commander in Chief the ability to make rulings when he deems the C&R is not clear.*

3

*5. I hereby rule in agreement with the National Counselor that the vote of the CoFA is NOT in conflict with the C&R and that the CoFA is correct in stating "In lieu of paying the additional fee for delivery of a hard copy edition of the Banner, on top of the full National Per Capita, members of International Camps may elect in writing, including electronic communications, to only receive an electronic version of the Banner."*

*The Banner Editor shall email Brothers in International Camps an electronic version of the Banner once a Brother has made his request as per the CoFA requirements.*

Ordered this 13th Day of October, 2016.

Donald L. Martin  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*Donald L. Martin*

Attested:  
Jonathan Davis  
Secretary, National Order,  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

*You cannot qualify war in harsher terms than I will.  
War is cruelty, and you cannot refine it...  
- William Tecumseh Sherman*

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