



The Texas Union Herald



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

Volume II, Issue 2 February 2017

Rattling Sabres

by
Glen E. Zook

My pleas for articles, photos, etc., are again falling on deaf ears as far as Camp #18 is concerned. However, Past Commander in Chief, of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, for 2005, Donald E. Darby, from Ohio, has contributed two articles for this issue! That should put some shame on the camp members! Those articles are in honor of Abraham Lincoln's birthday 12 February 1809.

As for me, I missed Lincoln's birthday by 135-years, 20 hours and 58 minutes, and Valentine's Day by 3 hours and 2 minutes being born, according to my mother, at 8:58 PM on 13 February 1944. February has played a definite role in my history with my grandmother, Lillian Ester Stump Zook, being married on 28 February 1916 and her grandfather, Private William James Stump, Company I, 128th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, the ancestor to whom I owe my joining the SUVCW, was born on 18 February 1822.

These days, Lincoln's birthday has been combined with that of George Washington into "Presidents' Day" rather than being celebrated separately as was done when I was in elementary school. Of course, Lincoln spent a good amount of his forming years in Indiana and his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, is buried in Clay Township, Spencer County, Indiana. As such, his birthday was definitely celebrated in Indiana in the 1950s.

The Texas Union Herald is distributed beyond just Camp #18 members going to all of the Department Commanders of whom E-Mail addresses are known and to a fair number of National SUVCW officers and Past Commanders in Chief again to whom the E-Mail addresses are known. There is no "out of pocket costs" to distribute the newsletter and the only effort required is to enter the E-Mail address in the "address book" used for newsletter distribution. That takes less than a minute.

The response, from outside the camp, has been very favorable as to the content of this newsletter and although I do have several years worth of historical articles, etc., to call upon, up to date information is also needed as well as additional historical articles contributed by Camp #18 members.

For the old "Lone Star Unionist" newsletter, that I was the editor / publisher for a number of years, I never was without new articles of historical and modern subjects coming in every month as well as fairly lengthy columns by various camp officers. As always, I am imploring each Camp #18 officer, and camp member, to contribute things for inclusion in this newsletter. You don't have to be an accomplished author, just get the information "on paper", in

an E-Mail, etc., and I can edit / rewrite the information, if necessary, and get the article, column, etc., in a form that is suitable for publication and, when everything is said and done, you will be surprised at how well you can write!

I encourage every Camp #18 member who has a Union uniform to wear it to the monthly camp meetings. I do have several uniforms from various ranks that I have held in the SVR and in the old Department of the Southwest that I do wear to the meetings. I don't re-enact but I have done "living history" as well as wearing my uniforms to various SUVCW and SVR functions.

In the old Department of the Southwest, there were ranks assigned to the various Department Officers. The Department Commander was a Brigadier General, the Senior Vice Commander was a Colonel, the Junior Vice Commander was a Lieutenant Colonel, and various appointed officers were Majors or Captains. When a Department Commander retired, he was brevetted Major General.

I never got around to obtaining a uniform the year that I was the Department Commander but I did obtain a uniform the year I was Senior Vice Commander and another after I retired as the Department Commander. As such, I do have a Colonel's "shell jacket" and a Major General's "frock coat". Also, I held the rank of Captain as commander of the old SVR 1st Lone Star Infantry and also was the National SVR Public Information Officer and held the rank of Captain in the national SVR as well. I do have a "sack coat" with Captain's bars thereon.

One thing that I never "got the hang of" is tying a sash! I have both a maroon sash to wear with my Captain's and Colonel's uniforms and a buff sash to wear with my Major General's uniform. I usually wear my sword belt, that is decorated with gold metallic cord, and forgo the sash!

Sometimes, I wear a holster with a reproduction 1851 Colt Navy revolver on the sword belt along with either an original 1850 Field Officer's sword (with the Captain's or Colonel's uniforms) or a reproduction 1850 Staff Officers sword with the Major General's uniform. The Field Officer's sword actually dates from after the Civil War. However, the same, identical, sword was made from 1850 until around World War I. I was very lucky and when an outlet in Denison, Texas, got a small supply of original 1850 Field Officer's swords, and offered them for just under \$100 in 1999, I bought one!

The original Field Officer's sword fits the scabbard much better than the reproduction Staff Officer's sword. The Field Officer's sword goes in, an out, of the scabbard with a whole lot less effort than what the Staff Officer's sword requires.

Anyway, I definitely suggest that anyone, who has a uniform, wear it to the monthly Camp #18 meeting!

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.

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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 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	John Schneider schneider1@sbcglobal.net
SVC	Rick Erder rerder@verizon.net
JVC	Paul Ridenour paulridenour@tx.rr.com
Secretary	Don Gates d_gates@verizon.net
Treasurer	Don Gates d_gates@verizon.net
Chaplain	Larry Johnson
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



Abraham Lincoln's Favorite White Cake

Contributed by

Donald E. Darby
Past Commander in Chief SUVCW

Long, long ago, a certain little French caterer in Lexington, Kentucky, made a wonderful white cake in honor of his countryman, Lafayette, who was to pay a visit to the city. The cake was beautifully decorated with flags made of color sugar, with marvelous icing, but the cake itself contained only the whites of eggs and when cut, the cake was snow-white. Thereupon the famous cake baker in the Blue-Grass region immediately making white cakes; and the recipe for the most famous of all was originated in the household of the ancestors of Mary Todd, who many years afterward made the cake for Abraham Lincoln after she became his wife. He declared this white cake was the best in Kentucky. Here is Mary Todd's recipe with modern backing instructions included:

Pre-heat oven to 375

1 cupful of butter
whites of 6 eggs
2 cupsful of sugar
1 Teaspoonful of Vanilla or other favoring
1 cupful of milk
1 cupful of chopped blanched Almonds
3 cupful of flour
3 teaspoons of baking powder

Cream the butter well, add the sugar and cream again, sift flour and baking powder together, add butter and sugar alternately with milk. Then stir in the chopped nuts meats and beat well. Finally fold the stiffly beaten whites of the eggs, and pour into a well-greased, paper-lined pan And bake for one hour in a moderate oven. Remove let cool for 10 minutes remove from pan.

Ice with boiled icing to which you have added half a cupful of candied pineapple and cherries cut in very small pieces.

Icing

1 cup sugar and 1/3 cup of water and ¼ teaspoon of cream of tartar and a dash of salt 2 egg whites, 1 teasppn vanilla Bring to boil until sugar dissolves.
Place 2 egg whites in mixing bowl and SLOWLY pour hot syrup over beating CONSTANTLY with mixer until peaks form, beat in 1 teaspoon of vanilla.

1. This article has appeared several times over the years. It is currently on the internet and most currently published in the *Country Gentleman Service Department*, Independence Square, Philadelphia, PA. It was also published in articles for Groce Post Circleville Ohio and Sgt. Enderlin SUVCW Camp 73 Chillicothe, Ohio

NOTES OF THE TRIP TO GETTYSBURG 1913 ^(a)

Contributed by

Donald E. Darby
Past Commander in Chief SUVCW

Our train left the Union Station, Columbus Ohio, at One-thirty, June 30th, 1913. The train goes through to Gettysburg without change of cars, leaving the Main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Harrisburg. The Distance from Harrisburg to Gettysburg is Forty-five miles by rail. Just before boarding the train, I met Sergeant John Summers; He asked me if I lived in Columbus. I told him that I did, then he wanted to know if I knew John M. Morris, and I said "Yes, I'm the Kid!" We met for the first time, since being mustered out of the service in July 1865, both being boys. He was 25 years old , and I was only 20. He was quite feeble, yet I could see in his eye that some of the vim of 62 was still in him: He was a Gun Corporal, in the right section of Battery "L" at Gettysburg.

On the train, was Ben f. Reed. He was also of the right Section, we three, being the only Battery "L" Boys in Franklin County.

On the train, I met quite a jolly old Comrade, Mr. T. Moon, who belonged to Battery "A" 4th U.S. Artillery. This Battery suffered severely in the fight at the place named the " Bloody Angel." They received the center of General Pickett's world famous charge. Mr. Moon had a sore on his head, and had to keep it wrapped in a big white cloth. He said that his folks did not want him to come to Gettysburg, and he also said, "Gentlemen, I hate to be around among you young fellows with my head all tied up in a white rag, but a white rag, beats a Dead Man all to the devil, don't it?" And we all voted "Yes".

We certainly did travel in style, as out train was composed entirely of Pullman Cars, and as soon as we were fairly under way, we were assigned to our berths, and my ticket read, "Train 1, Car A, Section 5. At Newark, Governor Cox came in the car, and presented each of us with a very handsome badge as a Souvenir of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Battle of the Civil War, Gettysburg.

There is now going on a spirited discussion among the Boys as to the rapid promotion some men received, during the War, and our old Friend Comrade Moon, told us about a young fellow that Enlisted in is Company. "Why Gentlemen," said he, He was so awkward, that he would fall down standing still, and some one shouted to the Captain as he was swearing the young fellow into Service, Captain, what do want with that young "Feller": as a Soldier? He wont be worth the Cracker and Sow Belly you will have to feed him to keep him up! And, yet this same young man turned out to be a natural born Soldier, and was discharged from the Army as an Officer of High Rank. So, said he, Boys you may think you know it all, but sometimes you can't always tell just what is going to happen.

Arriving in Pittsburgh on time, we found another surprise awaiting us. We formed a line, with Governor Cox at the head, and marched up to the Seventh Avenue Hotel, where we found a nice six o'clock dinner awaiting us, which all seemed to enjoy, their appetites being whetted by the Afternoon's ride from Columbus. When we returned to our

train, we found our Berths made up, and we were all soon in bed and our train speeding on it's way through the Allegheny Hills for Gettysburg, where we arrived safely after a pleasant journey at Six-thirty o'clock, July 1st, 1913.

We did not have to walk over a quarter of a mile to where we found the tents in two rows, fronting on 40th and 41st Street, marked at the head of the Street in big black letters "OHIO". But we found our tents filled with New Jersey Boys, which was no fault of those in charge, as the New Jersey Boys arrived in the night, and without being regularly assigned to quarters, took possession of the Ohio Camp. However, this was soon settled by General Wood and within an hour or two, the "Troops from OHIO" were comfortably quartered and were busy "WASHING UP". Governor Cox never forgot to look after our comfort, and would come into our tents with his shirt sleeves rolled out, smokeing his pipe, and say " Well Boys, how are you all? I hope comfortable, but if not, report to headquarters." And, for fear some of our Boys might not have quarters, he personally secured extra Tents and ground on which to erect them, so that everybody would be provided for. In fact, Governor Cox and his staff, were constantly on the outlook for any opportunity that might offer. Whereby they could do something to add to our comfort as Old Soldiers and their Guests, and they will long be remembered by the "Old Boys" of Ohio, as well as those from other States, as I heard a Massachusetts Man say, " Your Ohio Governor is a Daisy, with a big "D".

Our Camp is near the crest of Cemetary Ridge. Our tents occupy the ground over which General Pickett made his world famous Charge; Just across the Railroad, are tents occupied by the Confederates, and they are busy looking over the ground, where Fifty Years ago today, they put up such a valiant fight, and were just as valiently repulsed by their "Brother Yanks".

While there is a nice breeze blowing, the sun is very hot, but everybody is in good humor, shaking hands, and the salutation of "Hello Johnnie" and "Hello Yank" is quite often heard, but the excitement is not so intense, as it was Fifty Years ago, for about two o'clock in the afternoon of this day, it was a question as too "WHO was WHO".

Battery L, First Ohio Light Artillery, was composed of six twelve pound brass guns known as Napolians. The Battery was recruited by Captain L. N. Robinson, at Portsmouth, Ohio, in the year of 1861, but after the battle of Anteam he resigned, and the Battery was commanded to the close of the War by Captain F. C. Gibbs. They were engaged in the following Battles: Winchester, #1, Port Republic, Chantilly or 2nd Bull Run, Antietam, Fredricksburg, Chandellorsville, Mine Run, New Hope Church, Gettysburg, Fisher's Hill, Winchester #2, Cedar Creek, and numerous other small engagements that I cannot recall. The names of the Boys that came to Gettysburg in 1913, and who took part in that Battle in 1865, are as follows"

Ben F. Reed	Right Section
John Summers	" "
James Miles	" "
John H. McGhee	" "
Marion Tempel	Center Section
John M. Morris	" "
Frank Piles	Left Section

Tip Massie	"
Charlie Shaw	"
Henry Wishon	"
Joseph Hornung	"
Billy Gage	"
Abraham Doll	"

I may have some of these names in the wrong Section, but they were all at Gettysburg, and took an active part in the big fight, and it is a pleasure to meet them all, and talk over what happened here fifty years ago.

On July 1st, the day we arrived in Camp, as the sun was hot, we spent the day around the Camp in the afternoon, went over to the Confederate Camp for a little social visti, and was very pleasantly surprised at the cordial manner in which I was treated, and enjoyed my two hour visit over there very much. Came back to Camp, had a nice super, and was entertained with a couple of old time songs by Ben Reed, who, by the way, said he was a good singer when he was a "Young Feller" but that of late years, he found that he could not hit some of the high notes as they should be hit.

After a good night's rest, we started in on July 2nd, to take in Little Round Top, where our Battery was engaged all day. Upon arriving there, we found no trouble in locating not only the position of the Battery, but of each individual gun. The scenery looked familiar. Just like looking at an old picture that you have not seen for years. While we were there, two Confederate Soldiers came over from where their lines was, shook hands with me, and one of them said, "Were you in this Battery?" I said that I was! "Well said he, "SHAKE" I belonged to the Brigade that charged your Battery twice. I'm from Georgia." I told him that I was glad to meet him and that I thought they did some pretty good charging. "Yes and we all thought you did some pretty good shooting, said he, and we tried to give you all your money's worth." And they surely did. He said, " This reunion here for both the Armies that were engaged in the fight, is one of the greatest, grandest things that a Nation on the face of the Globe can boast of. Here, Fifty years ago, we were engaged in one of the greatest battles of the Civil War. Today we meet as old neighbors and friends, anxious to let feeling be buried, and nothing but friendship and Brotherly love exist. Oh my Dear Sir! This is a great County, and one worth living for." Goodbye!! I am glad I met you: "And my Johnnie Friend was gone." After pulling a little Cedar Bush that grew up on the very spot our gun stood in that engagement, and Henry Wishon waved the flag that he brought with him from Portsmouth, Ohio, we turned our faces toward the Camp. I forgot to mention that the Commission have erected a very nice little Monument to mark the location of the Battery, with the following inscription:

F.C. Gibbs
 BATTERY "L", FIRST
 OHIO LIGHT ARTILLERY

He held this position under a galling fire all day July 2nd, 1863. It would be impossible for me to even attempt to describe the many beautiful Monuments and pieces of Statuary that have been erected to the memory of the different Regiments and Batteries that were engaged that day, as one can follow the line of Battle by the markers. On the way back to Camp, we passed the Monument which

was erected to mark the highwater tide of the Rebellion. This was as far North as any fighting was done, and it is a large Bronze Book resting on a marble base. The next important point is what is known as "The Bloody Angle". This Angle is formed by two stone fences running at right angles. Here, the two lines met, and was the turning point in the famous "Pickett Charge", and I also think the turning point in the Battle in our favor. A Confederate Soldier who was wounded here at this Angle said to me. " I lay here for ever two hours, bleeding, and I saw more dead and dying men than it would seem possible to lay on such a small area. The time that I laid there, seemed ages to me. Not far from this point, Pennsylvania has a massive and very beautiful Monument erected to the memory of her Soldiers, who so gallantly fought to hold this line and to repulse the vicious assault of the "Pickett Brigade".

But here we are, opposite the Camp, and it is now noon! We decided to go down, and refresh the "Inner Man". For dinner we had:

Nice Roast Beef
Brown Potatoes
Green Peas
Ice tea

Who would want anything better than this for a Camp dinner? Everything was nicely cooked, and the Cooks and the kitchen, faultlessly clean.

After dinner, Marion Tempel and I decided to take in the Cemetery Ridge and Culps Hill, where the first day's fight began. The first place of interest was the place where the unknown Dead are buried. "Eleven Hundred, unknown Dead". At the head of each grave is a small stone with only a number on it, which tells the sad story, that some poor fellow had to die alone with no Friend to "Write to the folks at home". But I feel sure, that for the Comrade who fought so gallantly fought, giving up his life for his Country's cause, there surely is a near seat around the "White Throne" in the Great Beyond.

It would be folly to even attempt to describe the many beautiful Monuments and Bronze pieces, that were erected all along the line of battle. The Government has placed Cannons in the same position that they were on the day of the fight. The Rifle pits and Redoubts around the Guns are the same as they were, only covered with nice green sod. As I looked at those Breast Works that were thrown up there Fifty Years ago last night. I thought " If you could but talk, what a wonderful story you would tell!!"

We are now at Culps Hill, where the first day's fighting was done. Here, was charging and counter-charging. At this point, we were repulsed, losing quite a number of men, killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. We also losted a number of pieces of Artillery. This news spread like wild-fire, down the line of battle, and matters began to look gloomy. The 5th and the 2nd Corps arrived that night which brightened the out-look, and the tide of Battle began to turn Yankeeward. In going back to Camp, we went through the town of Gettysburg, which had been made famous by this hard fought fight, and Battle.

It is quite a nice shady little place, but I hardly think she will ever enjoy again the distinction of entertaining the crowd, she has here during this reunion. Everybody is keeping Boarders, and I am informed the charges are very reasonable.

When we arrived at Camp, it was supper time, and our little jaunt over the line whetted my appetite. (which is pretty good at all times) and our supper tasted good, composed of the following:

Breakfast:

Bacon
Fried Potatoes
Boiled Eggs
Coffee
Bread and Butter

The Bugle sounded Taps, and we turned in. This morning, we decided to take in the line of Battle occupied by the Confederate Army, and we walked over this line, until we were opposite the position held by our Battery on Little Round Top. The Grays had all their commands marked, and one could easily tell what Brigade occupied certain positions. Wilcox Brigade, was in our front. About the center of this line, there is being erected a Monument in honor of General Lee, but it is not finished. Only the base or pedestal is completed. We also visited the old School-house, where General Longstreet had his head quarters. There were no familiar scenes along this line for us, as we are happy to say, we were not over there.

If there was any preferences in position of the two Armies, the Johnnies had it. And, as one of the Confederates said " If you had all been on the Offensive instead of the defensive, the result would have been quite different". I told him yes, " And if you had been successful, heaven alone knows what the results would have been, as this was not a victory of one Section over another, but the rescue of popular Government," and I handed him the Baltimore Sun from which I quoted, said "Goodbye" and we turned our steps toward camp, passed the house where General Sickels had his Head Quarters. The General was sitting out on the porch, and while quite feeble, he was ever ready to extend a friendly hand shake to everyone. When we arrived at Camp we found a nice dinner awaiting us, which I need not say, we enjoyed very much.

This afternoon, Our Governor Cox made a nice speech at the big tent. We Ohio Boys, fell in line, and escorted him to the tent. Vice President Marshall, also Champ Clark and other, made speeches. In the evening, Governor Cox said "Boys, I am in receipt of an invitation to visit the Confederate Camp, this evening, and as you Boys met them Fifty Years ago, I would like to have you go with me, and show me how to do it." We again fell in line, with our Governor leading, and marched over to the Gray Camp, and were very cordially received, and spent quite a pleasant evening.

This evening down at the Village, someone made a disrespectful remark about President Lincoln, which was immediately taken up and quite a serious cutting scrape was the result. I understand it looked like a Riot for a while, but I am told it was all the out-come off too much drink.

I forgot to mention the very fine display of Fire-works that was given us from the side of "Little Round Top". It was certainly fine, and we enjoyed it very much.

This morning, July 4th, 1913, we were notified that our train would start for Ohio at One-forty, and that we should form at the foot of 41st Street at that hour, which we did, all present and accounted for except John Summers, who was taken to the Hospital sick. But General Wood left

an Officer there to look after those who might have missed the train, and I was informed that Mr. Summers got home the next day safe.

We returned to Columbus, in the same cars in which we went. Had a splendid time, and were treated as nice as men could be, and as tenderly cared for, as men could be. Every little detail that would in the least add to our pleasure and comfort was looked after, and Governor Cox was on the job all the time, watching the interests of the Boys from Ohio.

On the morning of July 5th, 1913, we landed at the Union Station, Columbus, Ohio, at six o'clock. We held a meeting in the Station, and offered a vote of thanks to the Great STATE OF OHIO, who so generously provided for this trip, and to "OUR GOVERNOR" who was constantly with us, looking after our pleasure and comfort. When I attempt to say anything nice about "OUR GOVERNOR OF OHIO", my English fails me, as I cannot express in mere words how very kind and nice he and his Staff were to all of us.

General Wood and his Assistants were right with us in Camp, and two or three times a day would come to the different tents to know how we were getting along. Every little detail was worked out to perfection, and that great Camp was handled as smoothly as though it had been in operation for years. Everybody was pleased, Everybody in a good humor, and we all hope that the crowd that will assemble Fifty Years from now, to celebrate the Centennial of the Gettysburg Battle may have as nice a time and be as courteously treated as we were.

If I were to attempt to describe in detail, the beautiful Monuments and all the interesting things we saw and heard, it would make a book.

In closing, I wish to say, that the trip was greatly enjoyed by all, and I will always remember it, as one of the most pleasant affairs of my life.

John M. Morris
Columbus, Ohio
August 13, 1913

(a) Note: These notes are transcribed just as the author wrote them, complete with misspellings. Donald E. Darby.

Source: Morris, John M. 1913. Notes of the trip to Gettysburg, August 6, 1913. Columbus, Ohio.

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 4TH Year

(continued)

Battles in Arkansas - March 26, 1864, a small Union force, from Rosecrans' army, marched from Pine Bluff, Ark., to Mount Elba and Longview, on the Washita river, destroying at the latter place several pontoon bridges, 35 wagons loaded with camp and garrison equipage, ammunition, stores, etc., and capturing 320 prisoners. March 30, 1864, this Union force encountered 1,200 Confederates at Monticello, routing them capturing a large quantity of arms, wagons, and 300 horses and mules, and losing but 15 men during the expedition.

Battle of Natchitoches, La. - Fought March 31, 1864, between a cavalry division, under Lee, of General Banks' Union army, and a Confederate force under Taylor, estimated at 1,000. After a brisk but brief skirmish the Confederates were completely routed, with a loss of 6 or 8 killed and wounded and 25 prisoners. The Unionists lost none.

Battle of Crump's Hill, La. - Fought April 2, 1864, between 3 brigades of Union troops under Lee, and a body of Confederates. The former made a charge which caused the Confederates to retreat, and the Unionists pursued them seven miles, killing and wounding a number. The Confederates made a stand, however, and a severe fight of an hour's duration ensued. Then, the Confederates again retreated. A number of prisoners fell into the hands of the Unionists.

Fight Near Pleasant Hill, La. - Fought April 7, 1864, between the cavalry of Bank's and Smith's Union armies and about 3,000 Confederate cavalry under Green. At first it was a running fight, but the Confederates being reinforced, Colonel Haral Robinson, of Lee's Union cavalry brigade, dashed upon them with so much vigor that Green's force was whipped and driven from the field. This engagement lasted two and a half hours, and the losses on each side were estimated at 40 killed and wounded. Robinson pursued the retreating enemy until the latter reached a superior reinforcement. He then retired.

Battle Near Sabine Cross Roads, La. - Fought April 8, 1864, between the advance of General Bank's Union army, under General Stone, and from 18,000 to 22,000 Confederates under Kirby Smith, Dick Taylor, Green, Price and Mouton. The Unionists were repulsed on that day, but on the next, after a severe conflict, the Confederates were defeated. 2,000 of them throwing away their arms during their flight. The losses in killed and wounded were very heavy, being estimated at 2,000 on each side. The Confederate General Mouton was slain, and 700 Confederate prisoners were captured.

Battle of Fort Pillow, Tenn. - The Unionists occupied the garrison with 19 officers, 276 white infantry and 262 colored infantry, a section of light artillery (colored), and 1 battalion of white cavalry, the whole being commanded by Major Booth. On April 12, 1864, the Confederates under Forrest attacked the fort, but by the aid of a gunboat they were kept at bay by the garrison. Major Booth was killed, and Major Bradford took command of the beleaguered fort. A demand to surrender from Forrest was refused by Bradford. New and commanding positions having gained by the Confederates, their attack was resumed, and they soon carried the fort. No quarter was shown to its inmates, either black or white, male or female,

and even children were slain by the invaders. Thus the Unionists were destroyed.

Gunboat Battles in North Carolina - April 17 and 18, 1864, at Plymouth, N.C., the Confederate iron-clad ram Albermarle, with the aid of a battery, destroyed 2 Union gunboats. On May 5, 1864, an effort was made by Union gunboats to destroy the Albermarle, but the attempt failed. October 27, 1864, Lieutenant Cushing, of the Union navy, succeeded with a torpedo in blowing this formidable craft to pieces, narrowly escaping his own destruction.

Battles of the Wilderness, Va. - May 4, 1864, General Grant, commanding the Union army of the Potomac, about 130,000 strong, crossed the Rapidan river into the "wilderness" of Virginia, to dislodge the Confederate General Lee and his 60,000 troops from their position between the Unionists and the Confederate capital. As Grant advanced, Lee prepared for a stubborn contest. From May 5 to May 31 there was fought a terrible series of battles, unprecedented in American annals for their sanguinary results. During those 27 bloody days various fortunes of war were experienced by both armies, and closed, leaving Lee on the south side of the North Anna river, and the Union force on the shores of the Pamunkey river. The Union losses during these battles were 5,584 killed, 28,364 wounded, and 7,450 missing - a total of 41,398 - which does not include the losses in Burnside's corps. No trustworthy statement of the Confederate losses was made, but they are estimated at about 20,000.

Butler's Operations on the James River, Va. - On May 5, 1864, General Butler and a Union force started from fortress Monroe, for a cruise up the James river in transports toward Richmond, destroying the railroads, bridges, etc. Occasional skirmishes were had with Confederates, and on the 16th of May occurred

The Battle of Fort Darling, Va. - Fought between Butler's Union army and a force of Confederates under Beauregard. Butler's troops were forced to retire, with the loss of about 5,000 men, mostly prisoners, and several cannon. The fight was resumed on the 19th, and after a short conflict the Confederates were repulsed. Next day the Confederates drove the Unionists out of their entrenchment's. Another fight ensued, and the Unionists recovered their rifle-pits.

Second Battle of Fort Darling - Fought May 21, 1864, between the Unionists under Gilmore, of Butler's army, occupying the entrenchment's, and a large force of Confederates of Beauregard's army, who advanced upon the fort. Gilmore's batteries opened upon them at short range, and the several fierce charges of the Confederates were repulsed, with heavy loss. The Union gunboats also assisted in shelling the Confederates during this battle.

Battle of the Kulp House, Va. - Fought May 22, 1864, between a force of Confederates, under Hood and Hooker, and Schofield's divisions of Sherman's Union army. Hood made the attack, but was repulsed and driven off, leaving his dead and wounded on the field, and losing many prisoners.

Battle of Wilson's Wharf, Va. - Fought May 24, 1864, between a brigade of Confederate cavalry, under Fitzhugh Lee, and two regiments of negro Union troops, under General Wild, who occupied a strong position on the north bank of the James river. Lee demanded the surrender of the post, which was refused. A severe conflict followed for several hours, but the Confederate attempts to capture

the position proved fruitless, and they finally abandoned the assault.

Battle of New Hope Church, Ga. - Sherman's Union army, in pursuit of Johnston's Confederate forces in Georgia, after several unimportant skirmishes, found themselves confronted with the Confederates about three miles from Dallas, Ga., May 25, 1864. After a general action the Confederates were driven three miles and into their inner intrenchments.

Battle of Powder Springs, Ga. - Fought in May, 1864, between McPherson's division of Sherman's Union army and a considerable force of Confederates of Johnston's army. After a sharp engagement the latter were driven toward Marietta, with a loss of 2,500 killed and wounded (left on the field), and about 300 prisoners. The Union losses did not, it is officially stated, exceed 300.

Sherman's Expedition from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Atlanta, Ga. - In the spring of 1864, General Sherman, with a force of 100,000 Unionists and 254 cannon, aided by Generals Thomas, McPherson and Schofield, commanding divisions, started to march from Chattanooga, through the Confederates' country, to Atlanta. Opposing this expedition was the Confederate General J. E. Johnston, aided by Hardee, Hood, and Polk, with Wheeler's cavalry, their entire force numbering about 60,000 men, including 10,000 cavalry and artillery. The Union expedition began its operations May 7, 1864, and closed them successfully at Atlanta, Ga., September 2, of the same year, occupying Dalton, May 8.

Sheridan's Raid in Virginia - May 13, 1864, General Sheridan, with his Union cavalry force, reached the rear of Lee's army, near Hanover junction, breaking 2 railroads, capturing several locomotives, and destroying Lee's depot for supplies at Beaver Dam, containing more than 1,000,000 rations.

Battle of Resaca, Ga. - Fought May 15, 1864, between General Sherman's Union troops and Johnston's Confederate army. The battle lasted two days, and resulted in the evacuation of Resaca by the Confederates and their pursuit by the Unionists. The losses were estimated at 3,600 killed and wounded, including among them the latter Generals Hooker, Willich, Kilpatrick, and Manson. The Confederates lost, it is estimated 2,000 killed and wounded, including 3 general officers reported among the former, several hundred prisoners, and 7 cannon.

Second Battle of Cold Harbor, Va. - Fought June 3, 1864, between the Union army, under Grant and Meade, and the Confederate forces, under Lee and Longstreet. Grant had about 150,000, and Lee about 50,000 men. The fight was brief but desperate, lasting less than half an hour, and resulted in the repulse of the Union army at every point. Grant's loss in killed, wounded and missing, including 3 brigadier-generals killed, was about 7,000 men; Lee's loss, including one general officer, was less than half that number.

Battle of Pine Mountain, Ga. - Fought June 14, 1864, between a body of Confederates, who held the place, and a force of Union artillery under Sherman. During this fight the Confederate General Leonidas Polk was killed, and on the next day the stronghold was found to have been abandoned, the Confederates having entrenched themselves along the lines of hills connecting Kenesaw and Lost mountains, this line was abandoned, however, on the 17th. Being pressed by the Unionists under McPherson,

the Confederates took to Kenesaw mountain and there were strongly entrenched.

Sheridan's Raid in Virginia - June 7, 1864, General Sheridan and a Union cavalry force set out to destroy the Confederate railroads leading from Gordonsville. On the 11th, at Buck Childs', he encountered a force of Confederate cavalry, which was driven back and outflanked. The result was a complete rout of the Confederates, who left their dead and nearly all their wounded on the field, besides the capture of 20 officers, 500 men and 300 horses by the Unionists. About five miles from Gordonsville the Confederates had constructed rifle-pits, and on the 12th there was a cavalry engagement of considerable importance. The Confederates lost heavily, including several general officers. Sheridan lost about 85 killed and 490 wounded. The raid was successful.

Morgan's Second Guerrilla Raid - The Confederate guerrilla General Morgan again invaded Kentucky, June 7, 1864. After plundering Lexington and taking Cynthiana, he was attacked and had nearly all his force captured or dispersed by the Union General Burbridge. By the 17th of June, Morgan was discomfited and his raid ended. Morgan's operations were finally ended September 5, 1864, at Greenville, Tenn., where he was killed.

Averill's Raid in the Shenandoah Valley, Va. - June 16, 1864, General Averill, with a body of Unionists proceeded to destroy the Virginia and East Tennessee railroad, in order to cut off Lee's communications with Richmond. He succeeded in destroying 15 miles of track, and burned five bridges, depots, cars, large quantities of Confederate stores, and captured 200 prisoners and 150 horses. His loss was 6 men drowned, 5 wounded, and 14 missing, during his rugged expedition of 355 miles.

First Battle at Petersburg, Va. - Fought June 15 and 16, 1864, between the Confederate army under Lee (about 70,000 strong), which occupied the town, and Grant's army, about 100,000. A series of engagements resulted first in the repulse of the Unionists under W. F. Smith, and subsequently other repulses, which cost the Union army a loss of 1,198 killed, 6,853 wounded, and 2,217 missing. June 21, 1864, an attempt was made by the Unionists to seize the Weldon railroad, which cost them 3,000 men. Afterwards this and other roads were seized by them, which prevented supplies reaching Lee's army at Petersburg. July 30, 1864, a mine containing 8,000 pounds of powder was exploded under a Confederate fort at Petersburg by the Unionists. The effect was not so beneficial as was expected by the Unionists, the earth being blown into an inaccessible position, so that entrance to the city was extremely difficult by that route. The Confederates poured in shell upon the attacking party, and after four hours' ineffectual assault the Union forces withdrew, having lost 4,003 men killed, wounded and missing, while the Confederate loss is set down at less than 1,000. August 5, the Confederates exploded a mine in front of a Union corps, without inflicting serious injury, and considerable fighting ensued, without important results or serious losses on either side.

Battle of Rood's Hill, Va. - Fought in June, 1864, between 6 regiments of Unionists under General Sigel and about 7,000 Confederate infantry, with cavalry and artillery, of Breckenridge's army. Sigel was defeated with the loss of about 600 killed, wounded and mission, and 5 cannon.

A Naval Victory - June 19, 1864, in the French port of Cherbourg, the famous Confederate ocean-cruiser Alabama, commanded by Raphael Semmes, was defeated and sunk by the United States war-ship Kersarge, commanded by Commodore Winslow. Semmes escaped.

Battles of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga. - Finding the Confederates strongly intrenched upon Kenesaw mountain, June 27, 1864, General Sherman ordered his Union troops to attempt to dislodge them. This assault was participated in by McPherson, Thomas, Blair, Dodge, Logan and other division commanders of the Union army. The assault was well made, but the Confederate intrenchments could not be carried. A flank movement was at once made, with such effect that early on the morning of July 3, 1864, the Union skirmishers appeared on the mountain above the Confederate intrenchments, which had been abandoned on the previous night. In the attack of June 27, the Unionists lost from 2,000 to 3,000 men.

Battle of Monocacy River, Md. - On the 9th of July, 1864, an action occurred between 15,000 Confederates, under Early, and Rickett's division of the sixth Union army corps, under General Wallace. The latter were outflanked and forced to fall back with the loss of about 1,200, including about 600 prisoners.

Battle Near Washington, D.C. - Fought July 11, 1864, about 5 miles from the city between Union troops, under General Augur - a brigade of veteran infantry - and Confederate skirmishers. The former were the attacking party. The Confederates were completely routed, leaving about 100 of their dead and wounded on the field. The Union loss was about 200.

Battle of Peach-Tree Creek, Ga. - Fought July 20, 1864, between Sherman's Union army and the Confederate forces under Johnston. Hooker's Union corps suffered in the severe conflict, but the Confederates were driven to their intrenchments, leaving more than 500 of their numbers killed and over 1,000 wounded on the field, 7 stand of colors and many prisoners. Their entire loss was estimated at 5,000. Sherman lost 1,500 killed, wounded and missing.

Battle of the Howard House, Ga. - Fought July 22, 1864, between the Confederate army under Hood (who had superseded Johnston) and Sherman's Union army, the former attacking the latter. The conflict was general and stubborn until the Confederates gave way, repulsed. Sherman's loss, including the death of General McPherson, was 3,722 killed, wounded and prisoners. The Confederates, it is estimated, lost 3,240 killed, or 8,000 in all.

Another Fight In Front of Atlanta, Ga. - Fought July 24, 1864, between the Confederate army, under Hood, and a portion of Sherman's Union army, under Howard and Logan, the former coming out of their Atlanta intrenchments to attack the latter. This bloody conflict resulted in the complete repulse of the attacking party, with a loss of about 650 killed, and probably not less than 4,300 wounded. Sherman lost less than 600 in killed, wounded, and missing.

Battle Near Winchester, Va. - General Crook, with a small Union force, was defeated on the 24th of July, 1864, by the Confederates under General Early.

(To be continued)

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain And The 20th Maine

(Part Four)

by

Dr. Ralph Widener, Jr.

Unknown to Chamberlain, and the other officers of the 20th Maine, changes in the Army command had been made. "Little Mac" had been replaced by the president because of his failure to achieve victory when his forces outnumbered those of the Confederates by a margin of almost two-to-one. Chamberlain sensed that something had happened. He wrote Fanny: ". . . There has been good fighting on both sides, but while we will not be beaten, still something seems to strike all the vigor out of our arms just at the point of victory." The change was made on November 5th, President Lincoln selecting General Ambrose E. Burnside to take his place.

Burnside reorganized the Army into Grand Divisions: the Right Grand Division formed from the 2nd and 9th Corps under Major General Edwin V. Sumner; the Left Grand Division from the 1st and 6th Corps under Major General William B. Franklin; and the Center Grand Division from the 3rd and 5th Corps under Major General Joseph Hooker.

The 20th Maine had not known McClellan very well and so was not greatly upset by his departure. Unfortunately, it was to know Burnside too well by his deeds, and few men who survived the experience "Burn" prepared for them at Fredericksburg were to have a more unpleasant impression of his generalship than Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain. Part of Chamberlain's estimate of Burnside was not Burnside's fault: he thought he had an agreement with General Halleck, the General-in-Chief of the Armies, to have pontoon trains at Falmouth, Virginia, on November 17th, but Halleck had opposed Burnside's crossing of the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg, and did not get them there until November 22nd. By that time, Marye's Heights beyond Fredericksburg were swarming with Lee's veterans, making almost impossible an attack in that area. And Burnside should have given up altogether his plan to cross the river opposite Fredericksburg, but with the pontoons finally in place, he decided to do it anyway.

On December 11th, Burnside ordered General Franklin to slash at Lee's right flank and roll it up, with General Sumner driving through the left center at Marye's Heights. General Hooker was to remain in reserve north of General Franklin, prepared to insert his strength where needed.

On December 12th, both attacking Grand Divisions moved across the river. The next morning (December 13th), Union artillery opened against Confederate positions through a heavy fog. Franklin then went into action, and, about eleven o'clock, Burnside ordered Sumner's Grand Division to assault the Heights. The result was a bloody catastrophe: the Confederates controlled everything. Franklin, furthermore, let his 6th Corps stand idle while his 1st Corps was being torn up and destroyed. The Confederates then concentrated on Sumner, and the magnificent courage of his men went for naught.

Burnside then called on Hooker, and into action went the 20th Maine and LTC Chamberlain, but not immediately. The 5th Corps, now under Gen. Daniel

Butterfield, began to cross the river. So effective were the Confederate cannons that the 20th Maine found it extremely difficult to get across the pontoon bridges. Great was their relief when they reached Fredericksburg, but here their strength was divided: two brigades of the 1st Division were sent to help a hard-pressed division of the 9th Corps. The 2nd and 3rd divisions, with a portion of the 3rd brigade of the 1st Division, including the 20th Maine, moved on Marye's Heights. They did well for a time, but raw courage could not be continued by a command so badly divided. The 20th Maine almost reached the Stone Wall protecting the Confederate defenders until, as Chamberlain later wrote down, "We exchanged fierce volleys at every disadvantage, until the muzzle-flame deepened the sunset red, and all was dark."

That night of the 13th was one Chamberlain never forgot as long as he lived. "Everywhere I heard a dreadful cacophony of moans, shrieks, groans, and delirious mutterings from the wounded - some crying out for a doctor, and others begging to be put out of their misery, and all crying for water." It was more than the humanitarian in Chamberlain could bear. In the company of the regimental adjutant, he went out onto the battlefield straightening limbs, bandaging wounds, holding a canteen to lips that drank greedily in an attempt to quench the feverish thirst that accompanies wounds, and quickly writing down the last wishes of a dying man to send to some distant home.

Chamberlain then tried to get some sleep, but it would not come. The sounds of the battlefield persisted, further depressing him as he thought of man's inhumanity to man and its dreadful consequences. Later that night, the 20th Maine received orders to withdraw.

The problem faced by Ames and Chamberlain was how to get their men back to Fredericksburg from the slopes of Marye's Heights. The two of them made up a plan of retreat. For a while, because of the nearby presence of Confederate soldiers, they would hold the position to keep up appearances. Then every even-numbered man would dig briskly in to ground, while every odd-numbered man would move silently to the rear. This half of the regiment would move back a hundred yards or so and form a new line of battle ready to cover the withdrawal of the even-numbered men. These would then come back through the new line and form another line a hundred yards farther back. The leap-frogging process would then be followed until the command was out of danger.

It worked, and Chamberlain's comment on the reaction will be of interest to all infantry commanders: ". . . the enemy, after a short, puzzled hesitation, came out from their entrenchments and followed us up as closely as they deemed safe, the same traits of human nature in them as in us causing a little 'nervousness' when moving in darkness and in the presence of an alert enemy, also moving." All the moving was done in the darkness of night.

As the 20th Maine reached the edge of Fredericksburg, their feeling of being hunted and pursued was accentuated when a bloodhound began baying somewhere off in the distance. They entered the shadows of the buildings with relief. Fredericksburg was deserted except for some of the badly wounded Union soldiers who had been left behind with only a single doctor to tend to their wounds.

The pontoon bridge they had crossed earlier was covered with sod and brush which helped muffle the sound of their re-crossing it. Day was breaking as they reached

their original position. A dismal rain was falling. The regiment halted for a rest beside the road. Looking back across the river as the light of day strengthened, they saw again the terrible slopes where so many gallant soldiers of the Army of the Potomac had fallen, their blood visible all along those slopes. Twelve thousand Union soldiers had been killed or wounded trying to dislodge Lee's forces on Marye's Heights. For the 20th Maine it had been bad, but not so bad as it might have been with less capable leadership. They had lost four men killed and thirty-two wounded, but they had not been disorganized. They had maneuvered and fought as a cohesive, thinking unit. They knew now they were a regiment.

After the Battle of Fredericksburg, Chamberlain and the 20th Maine retired to their winter quarters at Stoneman's Switch. Their quarters were not unpleasant, their time spent drilling and maneuvering which Colonel Ames insisted would keep them sharp for any eventuality.

On January 20, 1863, Gen. Burnside ordered the army to cross the Rappahannock River with the goal of cutting Lee's communications with Richmond, but within a few hours, a January thaw set in, followed by heavy rains. By noon on the 21st, the whole army was stuck in the Virginia mud unable to move. Burnside then had to order the drenched soldiers back to their winter quarters, the 20th Maine arriving there on January 24th.

The next day, President Lincoln relieved generals Burnside, Sumner, and Franklin of their commands. In Burnside's place, the president promoted "Fighting Joe Hooker" to command the Army of the Potomac.

Chamberlain wasn't overly enthusiastic about Hooker in view of what happened at Fredericksburg, but some of the changes he initiated met with his approval. Hooker looked after his men - and right at this point, following their defeat at Fredericksburg, the soldiers needed looking after, for the camp at Stoneman's Switch was rapidly descending into squalor. In the muddy fields, thousands of soldiers were huddled together; it was cold; and the men were reluctant to ventilate their huts. Rations were not being received in either the right quantity or quality. Much of the cooking was being done individually, and the men had scraps of food squirreled away in clothing, under bunks, or in rough cupboards. Instead of going to the hospital where care was bad at best, the men were being cared for by comrades. The Army of the Potomac was fast becoming a sickly, smelly, unhealthy place.

All this changed under Hooker's direction. He ordered them to air out their huts, observe the Sabbath, and do other things good for body and soul. Rations were received and properly accounted for, with orders that no food was to be retained in haversacks, huts, or elsewhere. Cookhouses were built and company cooks appointed. Bakeries were set up, and the men received fresh bread - "soft bread", the soldiers called it, to distinguish it from hard bread, or hardtack. Meats and fruits and vegetables were supplied, the meats and vegetables cooked right, so as to provide meals that were appetizing and nutritious.

Hooker did something else that was simple, but a great booster of "esprit de corps." He ordered each man to wear a corps badge. This antecedent of the modern shoulder sleeve patch is said to have originated with Gen. Philip Kearny; but Hooker's Chief of Staff, Gen. Daniel Butterfield, apparently had much to do with devising a badge system for the Army of the Potomac. This was the same Butterfield who had already given the Army its famous

"Taps." The plan was to assign to each corps a distinctive badge to be worn upon the center of the top of the cap. Soldiers of the 1st Division in each corps would wear a red badge; soldiers in the 2nd Division a white badge; and those in the 3rd Division a blue badge. Thus, it would be possible to tell at a glance which division a man belonged to. The cap-badge of the Fifth Corps (to which Chamberlain and the 20th Maine belonged) was a Maltese cross, measuring one and seven-eighths inches across. Being in the 1st Division, each man of the 20th Maine wore a red Maltese Cross on his cap. As a means of fostering unit pride, as well as quick recognition, the scheme was enormously successful. To these little pieces of colored cloth, great and lasting devotion was attached.

The next battle that would test the Union Army's resolve would occur at Chancellorsville, Lincoln telling Hooker, "I want to impress upon you one thing: in your next fight, put in all of your men."

Hooker's plan was comparatively simple, perhaps too simple against a soldier like Lee. Covered by cavalry, three Federal corps would march up the Rappahannock River and cross above the confluence of that river and the Rapidan. They would be joined by additional troops when Lee was sufficiently distracted by a diversionary movement of three corps under Gen. John Sedgwick crossing below Fredericksburg, and Hooker would then sweep down on Lee from the direction of Chancellorsville. Meanwhile, Gen. George Stoneman was to take the Federal cavalry around Lee's flank and slash at his rear, destroying supplies and communications.

Unfortunately, rain slowed the march and Lee figured out what Hooker was trying to do. Though outnumbered a little over 2 to 1 (130,000 to 60,000), Lee divided his army, keeping 15,000 men under his command to demonstrate in Hooker's front, while sending Stonewall Jackson with the rest in a wide-turning movement to roll up Hooker's right flank. Jackson slammed into the 11th Corps on May 2nd just as it was preparing supper. The surprise was complete and the Union right collapsed though Jackson was mortally wounded by his own men. The battle continued until May 6th when Hooker withdrew completely. It then became clear that Lee had won his greatest conflict of the war.

Chamberlain's part in the battle was not what he thought it would be. An epidemic of smallpox hit the 20th Maine so hard that it was detached from the battle for fear it would spread to the rest of the Union army. But before the 20th was removed from the battle, Colonel Ames received a detached service post on Gen. Meade's staff, and a promotion to Brigadier General for his effort in the battle.

The 20th Maine was given the duty of protecting the telegraph line running from Falmouth to Hooker's headquarters. But while the 20th Maine guarded the line, Lieutenant-Colonel Chamberlain crossed the Rappahannock and was with Gen. Charles Griffin's 1st Division of the Fifth Corps when it was involved in a fight with Confederate General J. E. B. Stuart. When the Union soldiers were forced back over the river pontoon bridges, Chamberlain, on May 5 - 6, stayed at the bridges which threatened to give way, steadying the men by his presence and calm words. Engineering officers long remembered his effectiveness, while Gen. Griffin was enormously impressed by his soldierly qualities, and, when Ames was promoted to command a brigade, joined with Ames in recommending

Chamberlain for the colonelcy of the 20th Maine. The promotion became effective on June 23, 1863.

Shortly after the promotion, Chamberlain faced a serious morale problem. The 2nd Maine had been in the war since before First Bull Run and had a fine record. Unfortunately, a mix-up had occurred in signing the enlistment papers so that some of the regiment were in service for three years, and the others for two years. When the two-year men went home, the three-year men could not see why they should not be going home with most of their regiment, and were in a mutinous condition. They refused to obey orders, and for three days no one assumed the responsibility for feeding them. A detachment of the 118th Pennsylvania with fixed bayonets brought them over to Chamberlain, whose orders from the Corps Commander, General Meade, were to "make them do duty, or shoot them down the moment they refused."

Chamberlain had acquired a reputation during the war of being a rather severe disciplinarian, but one who was also just, who looked after his men, who shared their hardships, who expected no feat of courage that he was not ready to participate in, or even to lead. The result was that he had a magnificently trained and loyal command. Yet all of his understanding of soldiers and their problems was put to the test in dealing with the angry soldiers of the 2nd Maine, big men from the Bangor area who had been involved in a slam-bang fist fight with three other regiments and, according to one report, "cleared the field."

All his life Chamberlain stressed the importance of the individual. He did so now. He rode over to Gen. Meade's headquarters and asked permission to manage the men in his own way. His request granted, he sent the guard detail back to its main unit, and ordered food prepared for the hungry men. He had their names entered on the rolls of the 20th Maine, and distributed them by groups to equalize the companies and especially "to break up the 'esprit de corps' of the banded mutineers." Then, "I . . . called them together and pointed out to them the situation; that they could not be entertained as civilian guests by me; that they were by authority of the United States on my rolls as soldiers, and that I should treat them as soldiers should be treated; that they should lose no rights by obeying orders; and that I would see what could be done for their claim."

All but six of the men of the 2nd Maine acceded to Chamberlain's persuasion and returned to duty. The six who did not were kept with the 20th Maine in the hope that they would accede later on, and all but two of them did. Those who were persuaded to stay were also to prove that stubborn soldiers - men who won't be pushed around - are often worth cultivating by means other than force, the chances being that they're the sort of men whom the enemy won't push around, either.

On the whole, leadership is a quality that is complex and not too well understood. Yet a great deal could be learned about the subject from a study of Chamberlain's life in the army. Leadership in military affairs is often thought of as the clarion shout, the waved sword, the "Follow me, men!" But it is also the right word, spoken quietly, at the right time. Chamberlain seems to have had them. And he would soon have the opportunity to prove it, for, within a couple of weeks, the new colonel was on his way to Gettysburg and a rendezvous with destiny.

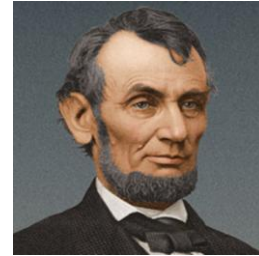
(To be continued)

February Meeting

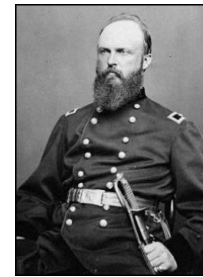
The February 2017 meeting of the
Colonel E. E. Ellsworth Camp #18
SUCVW

Will be held on
Tuesday 21 February 2017
At the
Heritage Farmstead Museum, Plano, TX.

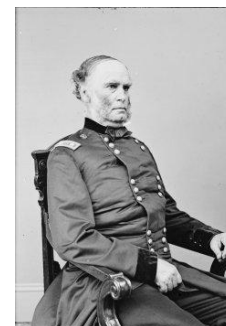
February Birthdays



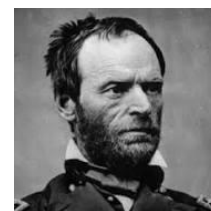
Abraham Lincoln
12 February 1809



John P. Slough
1 February 1829



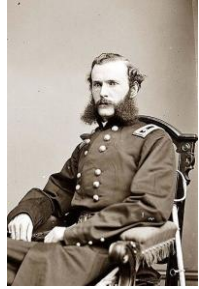
Samuel R. Curtis
3 February 1805



8 February 1820
William T. Sherman



John A. Logan
9 February 1826



Francis J. Herron
17 February 1837



William Buel Franklin
27 February 1823



Quincy A. Gillmore
28 February 1825

2017 Dues

The dues, this 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

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.



2017 Officer Installation





These photographs were taken during the January 2017 meeting of Camp #18 SUVCW wherein the officers, for the 2017 calendar year were sworn in.