



GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the
Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
Our 64th Year
and The Iron Brigade Association



JANUARY 10, 2013

DAVID A. POWELL

The Confederate Cavalry in the Chickamauga Campaign

Major General William Rosecrans would march his Union Army of the Cumberland out of its defenses at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, on June 23, 1863. Rosecrans' objective was General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee stationed around the Confederate supply base at Tullahoma near Chattanooga, and further, to capture Chattanooga itself. Rosecrans and Bragg had fought each other previously at the Battle of Stone's River.

In three weeks, Rosecrans, using deception and maneuver, had taken Chattanooga. Bragg realizing he had been outflanked abandoned the rail center of Chattanooga and withdrew into the mountains of North Georgia.

Bragg then began his own campaign of deception, sending out scouts to be captured with misinformation and spreading stories among the local populace that he was in flight, unable to confront his Federal foes. In actuality, Bragg was planning something similar to the surprise flank attack he had employed at Stone's River. He was awaiting the arrival of reinforcements from Virginia under the command of General James Longstreet, and was hoping to draw an overly confident Rosecrans into a trap.

In his January presentation to our Round Table, Dave Powell will discuss the role of the Confederate cavalry in the Chickamauga Campaign, and how their operations effected Braxton Bragg's decisions, first to abandon the city of Chattanooga, then to strike back at the Federals, and finally, in deciding how best to pursue the enemy after the bloody contest on the battlefield itself.

Powell will also explore matters of discipline and training, as well as looking at the personal relationships between Generals Bragg, Joseph Wheeler and Nathan Bedford Forrest.

David Powell is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute (1983) with a B.A. in History. He has published numerous articles in various magazines, and more than fifteen historical simulations of different battles. For the past decade, Dave's focus has been on the epic Battle of Chickamauga, and he is nationally recognized for his tours of that important battlefield. The result of that study was his first published book, *The Maps of Chickamauga: An Atlas of the Chickamauga Campaign, Including the Tullahoma Operations, June 22-September 23, 1863* (2009). His second work, *Failure in the Saddle: Nathan Bedford Forrest, Joe Wheeler, and the Confederate Cavalry in the Chickamauga Campaign* (2010), examines the role played by the Confederate cavalry during that campaign.

Dave lives and works in Chicago, Illinois, in the same-day delivery industry.

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JANUARY MEETING AT A GLANCE

David A. Powell
"The Confederate Cavalry in the
Chickamauga Campaign"

The Wisconsin Club

9th & Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee
(Jackets required for dining room)
5:30 p.m. – Staff Meeting
(Open to all members)
6:15 p.m. – Registration & Social Hour
6:45 p.m. – Dinner
7:30 p.m. – Program

Dinner – **\$25 by reservation.**

Deadline: Monday, January 7, 2013
See page 7.

Speaker and topic are subject to change.
In case of inclement weather, listen to
WTMJ or WISN radio.

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS

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CWRT ANNUAL FUND

The following members have shown their generous commitment by making an investment in the CWRT Annual Fund. This list reflects donations received through December 17, 2012.

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2013 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

February 7, 2013: Dr. Mary Ambroe, Lt. Col. Charles Grosvenor, 18th Ohio Inf. Rgt.

March 7, 2013: Lance Herdegen, The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory

April 11, 2013: John Fitzpatrick, Lincoln at Gettysburg

May 9, 2013: Ethan Rafuse, Lee and Gettysburg

June 13, 2013 (at the Country Club): Timothy B. Smith, Battle of Corinth

ANNOUNCEMENTS • EVENTS • MEETINGS

January 5, 2013

Fancy Dress Ball for Twelfth Night 1863, 6:30 p.m.
Wauwatosa Woman's Club
Tickets: info@wssas.org or (414) -427-3776, www.wssas.org

January 8, 2013

Waukesha Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Citizens Bank of Mukwonago – Waukesha Branch
Speaker: Kathleen Ernst: "Too Afraid to Cry: Maryland Civilians in the Antietam Campaign."

January 14, 2013

Manitowoc Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Manitowoc Historical Society Heritage Center

January 15, 2013

Prairieville Irregulars Round Table, 7 p.m.
Boardroom, Campus Center Building, Carroll University
Speaker: Patricia Lynch

January 28, 2013

West Side Soldiers Aid Society, 7 p.m.
Wadsworth Library, VA Grounds
Speakers: Margaret Berres and Tom Ludka: "Eternal Bivouac: Forest Home Cemetery"



Guy Crane
Mark Purnell
Jeff Hyler

MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE QUARTERMASTER'S REGALIA

What better way to show off your pride in our organization! All items are made of first-rate, quality materials, modestly embroidered with the Round Table/Iron Brigade logo, along with your name or initials.

ITEM	COST
Hooded Sweatshirt in Northern Blue.....	\$35.00
Baseball Cap	\$10.00
Blue Brief Case.....	\$25.00
Blue Light-Weight Sweatshirt.....	\$30.00
Blue Izod Polo Shirt.....	\$40.00
Blue Dress Shirt.....	\$40.00
Blue Fleece-Lined Jacket.....	\$60.00
Iron Brigade Pin.....	\$5.00
CWRT Pin.....	\$5.00
Bugle Pin.....	\$5.00
Iron Brigade Medal.....	\$25.00
Red River Medal.....	\$25.00
CWRT 60 Year Medal.....	\$10.00

Contact Roman Blenski, Quartermaster, 4601 W. Holt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53219, (414) 327-2847, dbcpmilw@execpc.com or see him in person at the Monthly Meeting at Book Raffle.

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

The Civil War Art of Keith Rocco

John M Antaramian Gallery

On display through April 13, 2013

Images of the Civil War interpreted in original paintings and glicée prints by an accomplished narrative painter.

January 26, 2013, 1 p.m.

Why Religion and Faith Mattered in the Civil War, Father Robert Miller
A largely uncovered topic of Civil War study is the role that religion and faith played in it. Before, during, and after the war, religion and faith had a deep, pervasive influence on politicians, soldiers, and civilians alike. Father Miller considers seven reasons religion and faith's role were critical in justifying, supporting, and promoting nearly every aspect of our Civil War. *Sponsored by the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee and The Iron Brigade Association*

CIVIL WAR MEDIA CLUB

Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 7-8:30 p.m.

Book: *The Help* by Katherine Sockett

Set in the early 1960's, *The Help* delves into the complex relationships between white households who employed black female housekeepers in a deeply segregated society in Jackson, Mississippi. The Media Club, led by Civil War Museum Curator Doug Dammann, will not only discuss the plot of the book, but also consider Jackson, Mississippi's history during the Civil War and Civil Rights Movement. \$10/\$5 Friends of the Museum

The Civil War Museum now has an official Facebook Page! "LIKE" them on www.facebook.com/CWMKenosha

WEST SIDE SOLDIERS AID SOCIETY SESQUICENTENNIAL OBSERVED

On a rainy Saturday morning, December 15, 2012, members of the West Side Soldiers Aid Society celebrated their 150th anniversary in a reception at the VA's Wadsworth Library following the Wreaths Across America ceremony.



In 2003, Patricia A. Lynch revived the West Side Soldiers Aid Society as a living history unit, taking the story of the women of Milwaukee to local reenactments, schools and civic groups. By 2006, dozens had joined the effort to recreate the Society and to explore ways to serve today's soldiers and veterans. A member organization of VA Voluntary Service at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, the West Side Soldiers Aid Society serves the patient libraries and archives and has recently taken on a special project for the Adaptive Cycling program of the VA's Spinal Cord Injury Center. It has supported Fisher House Wisconsin, Adopt-a-Platoon, Stars and Stripes Honor Flights, Dryhooch, Reclaiming our Heritage, and Wreaths Across America. Members have also revived annual Decoration Day traditions at the Soldiers' Home section of Forest Home Cemetery. A Fancy Dress Ball (masquerade) on January 5, 2013, will benefit the Spinal Cord Injury Center project.

The society's January 5, 2013, Fancy Dress Ball is a fundraiser for the VA's Spinal Cord Injury Adaptive Cycling Program. For information on the January 5 fundraiser and other activities, visit www.wssas.org or <http://www.facebook.com/groups/287723871801/>

CIVIL WAR NEWS

Civil War Trust Announcement

The Civil War Trust is proud to announce a new opportunity to reclaim perhaps the bloodiest acre of any Civil War battlefield – the very ground where Confederate soldiers under the command of Pat Cleburne, Hiram Granbury, and Francis Cockrell were locked in a savage struggle with men from Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky.

Dear Civil War Preservationist:

How many times in life do you get to do something that is truly heroic? How many times do you get the chance – not just to preserve – but to reclaim, restore and even resurrect a part of America's history that seemed to have been lost forever? In 2005 the Trust worked to buy and restore the "Pizza Hut" property at Franklin. I can remember swinging the sledge hammer against the sides of that building, helping begin the site's transformation into a battlefield park.

Now, in the final days of 2012, we have another grand opportunity to reclaim more of the once-lost Franklin Battlefield. Along with two other great tracts, the Trust, working with our friends at Franklin's Charge, is now pushing to reclaim the "strip center." We've been waiting a long time to preserve this property. Instead of paving over our nation's history, we will reclaim it, and make it a must-see destination! I can't wait to swing my sledge hammer once more. Join me in saving this hallowed ground.

Jim Lighthizer, Civil War Trust President

Civil War Multimedia Offering

As commemorations of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fredericksburg occur, the Civil War Trust has launched a pair of multimedia offerings available to the public at no cost. The Trust hopes to deepen public understanding of the battle and its unique place in American history; with more than 200,000 participants, no Civil War battle featured a higher concentration of soldiers than Fredericksburg, which also marked the first incidence of intense urban conflict during the conflict and the first major opposed river crossing in American military history.

First released in May 2011, the Trust's Fredericksburg Battle App has received a major upgrade and overhaul in time for the battle's sesquicentennial anniversary. The upgrade integrates a selection of new sites and supporting media, as well as a "Field Glasses AR" viewer, which allows you to use augmented reality to locate key battlefield landmarks.

Fredericksburg 360 provides panoramic images of the battlefield. All the panoramic images are linked together allowing you to travel, virtually, across the Rappahannock, through the streets of town, up the bloody slopes of Marye's Heights, along Prospect Hill and to the Slaughter Pen Farm.

Visit the Trust at www.civilwar.org/fredericksburg to view the entire Fredericksburg offering.

The Future of Civil War History

This coming March 14-16, 2013, Gettysburg College and the National Park Service will co-sponsor *The Future of Civil War History* conference, featuring one of the greatest assemblies of Civil War historians of our time. The three-day program, which will be held at Gettysburg College, will devote itself to exploring new ways the historical community can make the Civil War past more engaging, more accessible, and more usable to public audiences beyond the 150th commemorations and to the future of Civil War history. Built around a wide variety of panels, presentations, working groups and field experiences, *The Future of Civil War History* will feature over 150 speakers, including James McPherson, Brooks Simpson, Nina Silber, Pete Carmichael, Stephen Berry, Leslie Gordon, Mark Smith, Karen Cox, Scott Hartwig and John Hennessy.

For more information visit the conference website at: <http://www.cwfuture150.com>

FROM THE FIELD

January 1863

Friars Point Mississippi, January 3, 1863

My Dear Sister Jane –

Another year has rolled around and I am permitted to enjoy the same good health that has ever attended me, as also is Alfred. Albert is I believe a little unwell but he is able to do duty. New Years was a happy day for me and I had the pleasure of receiving eight letters all of which were welcome, one was from you. Alfred got five with the one West brought him. So we had a regular old time reading letters. I suppose you would like to know what we had for new years. Well N. Years eve Alfred and some of the other boys drew a gated fat pig. I don't mean I drew it from the commissary, no we drew it by the ears across the field and New Years we had a spare rib. Alfred went foraging and he had all the honey we wanted but I was on picket guard and could not go. There was a cow came along the picket line and the boys thought they would have milk for New Years. So we caught the cow and two held her by the nose and horns and one by the tail and I milked her but the cow was a dry one and we did not get only enough for tea. You see when we want anything here we don't pretend to steal it but take it and welcome. Last night we called out in a fury of officers, shins, and a peacible citizen would have thought the whole rebel army were upon us, but come to find out it was nothing but a tree that had fell and the officers thought it was a volley fired into our pickets. There was a man down here to get one of the men that died at Camp Salomon Helena. In the hubbub last night some one set fire to one of the buildings and if the wind had been favorable would have burnt the whole place. Lieut. Baring is bragging that he stood up bravely to the racket last night, but the boys think it was badly scared. One of the men asked him if he should load his gun when we were falling in last night. Yes said he, for Gods sake load your guns quick. It is a hard thing for me to live up to the first and second verses of the 2nd Chapter of Timothy, where it says pray for all those that are in authority. I am like the old woman that I heard mother tell about that prayed for her enemies and after she had done praying come to think how mean they were she said God curse them I cant bear 'em. I could not pray for them with much faith unless it was for them to be out of office, for I cant have much faith in praying for the success of officers that will keep men out for the rebels to shoot at while they are guarding cotton for them to speculate on. That is all we ever came here for. We have not done a thing toward putting down the rebellion. Our Reg. is called the cotton regt. We are going today or tomorrow. Some day we are going back to our old quarters, but I guess we shall go to Memphis and join Grants army. There was 20 prisoners taken where we were before, after we came away. We hear they are fighting at Vicksburg like fury. There was a boat that came bringing the body of Col. Winn of the 13th Regt. That and the 4th Regts were cut up pretty bad they say. Banks is below Vicksburg with 10,000 men and I think they will be pretty apt to take the place at least I think so.

Yours truly and good bye for this time.

Peter (TUBBS)

Co. I, 29th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry

Letter from the Seventh Regiment, Camp near Bell Plaine

Messrs, Editors Patriot:

SUNDAY, Jan. 25th. – I take up with the next day (Sunday); I believe I said we arrived in camp, our old camp – but if I mistake not, I have not stated where that camp is located; it is situated near the mouth of the Potomac creek, 1½ miles from Bell Plaine, near what is called the Lower Landing and about 1/5 mile from said landing. When first our brigade came here the hills were covered with trees, but the busy ax has laid them low and constructed them into huts. Wood is getting very scarce and has to be carried up hills; pretty hard work, yet, as we have nothing else in particu-

lar to do, we manage to keep a good fire – rained a little last night and this morning cleared up about 10 o'clock, and the balance of the day was very pleasant...

MONDAY, Jan. 26th. – very much such a night and morning as last night and yesterday morning; only a little colder. I hear our Pay Master has got his money for this brigade. I hope he has for many of the boys are out of money; they ought not to have been, but many are very careless and use their money too freely, thus it soon gives out. I guess there is no danger of our leaving here till the roads are settled in the Spring without we are sent off on some expedition.

TUESDAY, Jan. 27. – Misty more or less all day. Quite unpleasant. The papers brings us the resignation of Gen. Burnside or I ought to have said the report of his resignation. If General McClellan would be put in command, what a thrill of joy would run through the whole army if they could hail him as their commander. The army will not miss Burnside much. He did well enough when he had command of a division or corps but he is not the general that can handle such a vast army as he has commanded for the past few months.

If Gen. McClellan was placed in command of the army again I do not think there would be so many desertions. It is a shame the way the men have been deserting especially on this last march.

Some of them will be caught and perhaps made an example of. I suppose those who desert have not got confidence in the commanders and do not wish to sacrifice their lives where there is no good to be accomplished. The future looks dark but as the old saying goes "It is darkest before day." So we live and hope...

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 28. – we are getting our winter in dead earnest now. It rained more or less all night and this morning it turned to snow and snowed unremittingly all day. An awful storm to be exposed in. Mightily glad we are to be back in our quarters. I pity the poor fellows that have to build their fires and do their cooking out in the open air to-day. The snow melts and would soon wet a person through yet the wind is very raw. It is such a day as one would like to hug the fires and keep indoors.

The papers say that Burnside, Franklin and Sumner are relieved and that Porter is dishonorably discharged... It appears that the McDowell Court of Inquiry has convicted Porter; and if he is guilty of what has been brought to light he ought to have the hemp process applied to him. He ought to be made an example of, then our Generals would be more careful how they disobeyed orders, or neglected them...

THURSDAY, Jan. 29th. – The snow is going off rapidly. It is pleasant overhead, but sloppy underfoot.

It appears that Maj. Gen. Hooker is placed in command of the Army of the Potomac. The soldiers generally place great confidence in him and I think he stands next to Gen. McClellan, in the estimation of the army. The papers say he is going to see what the rebels at Fredericksburg are made of; but although he is a brave energetic General yet I think he will hardly hazard such an attempt, at present...

FRIDAY, January 30th. – It has thawed very fast today. The boys have had a good time snow balling especially when they could get sight of a pair of "shoulder-straps," when they seemed to take especial delight in throwing at them. We were called out on an undress parade (thank fortune there is no room for a dress parade) to hear orders published. Among the order was that which pertains to the relief of Gen's Burnside, Franklin and Sumner; also that of Gen. Joseph Hooker being assigned to the command of the army of the Potomac. The order was received with no demonstration whatever... I cannot help but mark the change and if the war is not more successful I fear at the opening of Spring there will

be many desertions. It appears there has been about 10,000 who desert from the army during this last march. That is the number that Madame Rumor has set it down at, how true I cannot vouch. The true number will be kept shady no doubt.

SATURDAY, Jan 31. – Most splendid day – that’s all I have go to say about it. Another change has taken place. Our regimental Surgeon is dismissed from the service for incompetency. The boys are all glad of it and hope they will never see him again. The fact is he has been the means of

causing a number of deaths in the regiment by inhumanly making them march when they were scarcely able to stand up. I know of two cases that have come under my own observation. There are at present quite a number of poor fellows languishing in the hospital and many of them will die if they are kept here. It is too bad. It is said he has powerful and influential friends in Washington who will get him reinstated, but we hope to see him no more in our regiment. Perhaps I speak too frank but I do it for the benefit of our friends not for malice. – S.J.M.

MARIETTA’S OTHER RUFUS

The people of Marietta hear much about Rufus Putnam, and rightly so, as founder of our fair city. However, many local citizens know very little, if anything at all, about “Marietta’s Other Rufus.” Rufus R. Dawes. If one goes by his home on 4th Street, the sign out front tells only of his son, Charles Gates Dawes, who won the Nobel Peace Prize and was Vice-President under Calvin Coolidge. This is unfortunate, because Rufus Dawes played an equally significant role in American history, although in a different setting, and his accomplishments should also be recognized and celebrated. This is especially true now, since we are in the second year of the Sesquicentennial remembrance of the American Civil War, wherein Dawes’ role was preeminent.

Rufus R. Dawes was born on the 4th of July in 1838 in nearby Malta, Ohio, and even though it may not actually have been the case, the “R” came to stand for “Republic,” since he entered this world three score and two years to the day after our Declaration of Independence. This was even more affirmed due the fact that he was the great-grandson of William Dawes, who rode with Paul Revere to spread the warning that “the British are coming!” A graduate of Marietta College, he was in Wisconsin (his father had business connections there) when Ft. Sumter was fired upon, and he took the lead in organizing what eventually became Company K of the 6th Wisconsin, becoming its first captain. He could not have known then that this regiment would become part of one of, if not **the** most celebrated brigades of the War Between the States, the “Iron Brigade.” In spite of this Wisconsin connection, Rufus always considered himself an Ohioan, and his wonderful memoirs, *Service with the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers*, were originally published in Marietta and are punctuated throughout with letters he wrote to “M.B.G.” – which he said stood for “My Best Girl” – but was in fact Mary Beman Gates of Marietta, Ohio, whom Dawes would marry in the middle of the War and have several children with, including the above-mentioned Charles, as well as Beman Gates Dawes, co-founder of the Dawes Arboretum near Newark, Ohio. The house there, called Daweswood, has many family treasures, including Rufus’ sword and uniform, which I inappropriately touched with my bare hands when the historian, who had used white gloves to bring it out, had his back turned!

I am writing this reflection on the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Brawner’s Farm, sometimes also called Gainesville or Groveton, 28 August 1862. This was the literal “Baptism of Fire” for the Iron Brigade, on the Eve of the Second Battle of Manassas/Bull Run, as well as part of the campaign of what was one of the crucial turning points of the Civil War, perhaps more important than even Gettysburg. After Robert E. Lee’s stunning victory at 2nd Manassas, Lee took the war North for the first time, invading the border state of Maryland. Just about two weeks after their baptism, on 14 September 1862, Dawes and the Iron Brigade were heavily involved in the Battle of South Mountain. It was during this battle that the Brigade received its now famous name, supposedly given by the then Commanding General of the Army of the Potomac, George B. McClellan. As Dawes and the 6th Wisconsin, along with the other regiments of the Brigade (the 2nd & 7th Wisconsin, and the 19th Indiana – the 24th Michigan would join the Brigade before Gettysburg), were assaulting the Mountain on the National Road at Turner’s Gap, McClellan, noticing their steadfastness during the attack, remarked: “They must be made of Iron!” – the appellation stuck. This naming was just in time, for 3 days later, on 17 September 1862, Dawes

and his fellow men of Iron would be in the thick of things at a battle near a small town called Sharpsburg, above a winding creek called the Antietam.

Dawes was by then the Major of the regiment, and as dawn came on what would become the bloodiest day in American history, not exceeded even by 9-11, the Iron Brigade began its assault from the North Woods into “The Cornfield.” Not long after the attack had begun, the regiment’s colonel was wounded, meaning command of the regiment fell upon the shoulders of 24 year old Rufus. In his memoirs, Dawes commented: *I felt a great sense of responsibility when thrown thus suddenly into command of the regiment in the face of a terrible battle.* The movement was toward the Dunkard Church, where the men of Stonewall Jackson (at whom Rufus may have taken a few pot shots) were ready to give Dawes and the Iron Brigade a “warm reception.” To say that the fighting was intense is understatement, with Dawes writing: *The men are loading and firing with demoniacal fury and shouting and laughing hysterically, and the whole field before us is covered with rebels fleeing for life into the woods.* This “fleeing” would not last long, however, as men of John Bell Hood’s Confederate division counter-attacked, pushing Dawes and the Brigade back through the Cornfield. To prevent a rout, Rufus recalls: *I took the blue color of the state of Wisconsin, and called a rally of Wisconsin men.* The Iron Brigade added significant numbers to the day’s overall casualties, which numbered more than 23,000 men! Every December, the citizens of Sharpsburg put luminaries on the battlefield to mark all of those casualties; if you ever have a chance to go there for a drive through on this occasion, I encourage it. It is an awesome sight!

While tactically a draw, with Lee’s return to Virginia, the Battle of Antietam became a strategic victory for the North. This gave Lincoln occasion to issue the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation five days after the battle, giving the War the dual aims of saving the Union **and** freedom for the slaves. This shrewd political move by Lincoln ended the best chance the South had of receiving European recognition and perhaps intervention. France’s help in the original American Revolution had been crucial for U.S. victory; the South would not receive a parallel assistance in its attempt for independence.

So, as America recalls the 150th anniversary of these significant events in its history, may Mariettans & Ohioans celebrate one of their own who played a very active part during those crucial days of 1862. Dawes had been an abolitionist from the start, an unpopular position even in the North, and when he visited Marietta in early 1863, he spoke of the Emancipation Proclamation in a public address at the Court House, saying: *We (the Army) like the Proclamation because it lets the world know what the real issue is.* A couple of weeks before this in a letter, Rufus wrote: *The more I come in contact with Southern ideas and institutions, the more firmly I become convinced that there can be no understanding between us as long as a vestige of their accursed institution of slavery remains. I expect no peace until its destruction is accomplished.* Dawes would have more opportunities to work towards that “destruction,” particularly at a small crossroads in Pennsylvania called Gettysburg. But for “Marietta’s Other Rufus,” that’s another story...

Submitted by: Jeff Danner, M.A., Associate Member, Licensed Guides of Gettysburg & Civil War Buff & former member of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee

AND SO IT CONTINUES: January 1863...

Marking the Civil War Sesquicentennial

The sound of artillery and small arms would open the year of 1863 as the Battle of Stone's River continued. In the east Burnside's Federals were held on the hills outside of Fredericksburg. Elsewhere, threats continued against the Confederacy on the Mississippi with more assaults on the horizon at Vicksburg. In the North the defeat at Fredericksburg brought criticism of the Army, the Generals and Lincoln's Cabinet.

January 1, 1863 • Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect.

I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free.

For the abolitionists it was not enough; for others it was far too much.

In Tennessee at Murfreesboro the armies of Bragg and Rosecrans were set for a renewal of their struggle along the Stone's River.

At Charleston, Robert Yeadon offers a \$10,000 reward for the capture and delivery of Ben Butler, dead or alive.

January 2, 1863 • Fighting resumed at Stone's River. Confederates under John C. Breckinridge succeeded in taking a small hill but were then driven off with great loss by Federal guns and a countercharge. Once again, the opposing armies would pause on the battlefield, each hoping the other would withdraw.

A Confederate would write of the Stone's River battle:

I am sick and tired of this war, and I can see no prospects of having peace for a long time to come, I don't think it ever will be stopped by fighting, the Yankees can't whip us and we can never whip them, and I see no prospect of peace unless the Yankees themselves rebel and throw down their arms, and refuse to fight any longer.

North of Vicksburg, on the Yazoo River, Sherman gives up his drive and withdraws to the Mississippi, where his troops are placed under the command of McClernand.

In Richmond, belts continue to tighten and prices continue to rise.

January 3, 1863 • Federals push two brigades forward at Murfreesboro but Bragg determines that he cannot hold his positions and during the night, the Confederate Army of Tennessee withdraws from the field toward Tullahoma, Tennessee.

January 4, 1863 • McClernand, with Sherman's troops, begins an unauthorized move up the Arkansas River toward Fort Hindman.

In Washington, Gen. Halleck, ordered by Lincoln, instructs Grant to revoke the controversial General Order No. 11. Grant would comply on January 7.

In Washington, Louisa May Alcott would write in her journal:

Up at six, dress by gas light, run through my ward & fling up the windows though the men grumble & shiver; but the air is bad enough to breed a pestilence & as no notice is taken of our frequent appeals for better ventilation I must do what I can. Poke up the fire, add blankets, joke, coax & command, but continue to open doors & windows as if life depended on it; mine does, & doubtless many another, for a more perfect pestilence-box than this house I never saw – cold, damp, dirty, full of vile odors from wounds, kitchens, wash rooms, & stables. No competent head, male or female, to right matters & a jumble of good, bad & indifferent nurses, surgeons & attendants to complicate the Chaos still more...

January 5, 1863 • Federal troops enter Murfreesboro. President Lincoln sent the thanks of the country to Rosecrans for his victory.

Burnside, still pinned down at Fredericksburg, wrote to Lincoln that, despite the opinion of his subordinate officers, he felt a crossing of the Rappahannock should be attempted.

January 7, 1863 • In Washington, the Federal government gave permission for 450 Southern refugee women and children to leave for Petersburg. The final destination would be the Richmond area.

General Halleck writes Burnside a letter, endorsed by Lincoln, in which he emphasizes that "our first object was not Richmond but the defeat or scattering of Lee's army." Halleck also backs Burnside's plan to attack across the Rappahannock.

January 8, 1863 • The Federal garrison of Springfield, Missouri, successfully defends the city from Marmaduke's Confederates.

The U.S. Senate confirmed the nomination of John P. Usher of Indiana as Secretary of the Interior. Usher would replace Caleb Smith, who resigned due to ill health.

January 9, 1863 • The Federal Army of the Cumberland under Rosecrans is reorganized into three corps, the Fourteenth under George H. Thomas, the Twentieth under Alexander McD. McCook, and the Twenty-first under Thomas L. Crittenden.

At Arkansas Post on the Arkansas River, McClernand's troops land under the cover of naval gunfire.

January 10, 1863 • At Fort Hindman McClernand starts his move on the Confederate fort and drives in upon the outer earthworks. Naval bombardment under D.D. Porter stop the Confederate artillery. Land units are poised to attack.

The Southern refugee women and children reach Petersburg.

Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter was sentenced by court-martial to be cashiered from the Army for his alleged failure to obey orders at Second Manassas.

January 11, 1863 • D.D. Porter's gunboats batter the Confederate guns at Fort Hindman – McClernand's land forces begin their attack. After gallant resistance, Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Churchill, CSA, surrenders the fort. Although the operation was successful, it failed to help the Vicksburg campaign materially and Grant ordered McClernand to return from the unauthorized expedition and to join his Vicksburg forces.

In a rare ship-to-ship duel, the *C.S.S. Alabama* under Raphael Semmes sank the *U.S.S. Hatteras* off Galveston, Texas.

January 12, 1863 • The third session of the First Confederate Congress gathered at Richmond and received a message on the state of the Confederacy from President Davis. In his message Davis asked for financial legislation, revision of the draft-exemption laws, and relief to citizens suffering war damage.

January 13, 1863 • Federal officials formally authorize the raising of Negro troops for the South Carolina Volunteer Infantry to be commanded by Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

January 15, 1863 • Federal troops and sailors burn Mound City, Arkansas, a center of guerilla activities.

President Davis writes to Bragg in Tullahoma: "For the present all which seems practicable is to select a strong position and fortifying it to wait for attack."

January 16, 1863 • Judith McGuire would write in her journal this day about the "most humiliating" treatment the Southern refugees had endured at the hands of Northern officials:

Several friends have just arrived from Yankeedom in a vessel fitted out by the Northern Government to receive the exchanged

prisoners. About six hundred women and children were allowed to come in it from Washington. They submitted to the most humiliating search, before they left the wharf, from men and women. The former searched their trunks, the latter their persons... One young friend of mine was bringing five pairs of shoes to her sisters; they were taken as contraband. A friend brought me one pound of tea; this she was allowed to do; but woe betide the bundle of more than one pound! Some trunks were sadly pillaged if they happened to contain more clothes than the Northern Government thought proper for a rebel to possess. No material was allowed to come which was not made into garments...

January 17, 1863 • President Lincoln signed a resolution of Congress providing for the immediate payment of the armed forces, and asked for currency reforms to stop the additional issue of notes that increased the cost of living through inflation.

January 19, 1863 • On the Rappahannock, Burnside's Federal army began to move in a second attempt to cross the river. The troops started upriver towards the U.S. Ford in good weather. By nightfall, the Grand Divisions of Hooker and Franklin were near the ford.

January 20, 1863 • Burnside, northwest of Fredericksburg, spent the day changing his plans for crossing the Rappahannock. By evening, the rain began. During the night guns and pontoons were dragged into position through the mud and along "shocking" roads.

January 21, 1863 • The winter rains continued and along the Rappahannock River what would become known as the "Mud March" of the Army of the Potomac was about to begin.

In Richmond, President Davis orders Joseph E. Johnston to go to Bragg's army and investigate the retreat from Murfreesboro and criticisms of Bragg's behavior. Davis noted the lack of confidence in their commander among Bragg's officers and that it was vital to get the matter cleared up.

In Washington, Lincoln formally ordered that Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter be cashiered and dismissed from the service of the nation and forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit in the government.

January 22, 1863 • Along the Rappahannock, the scene was one of complete misery. Ammunition trains and supply wagons were stuck in mud. Horses and mules were dropping dead as they attempted to pull the gun carriages and wagons out of the mud. Troops were slogging through mud that, in some places, was nearly knee deep. The entire army was wet, dispirited and hungry.

In the West, Grant assumed command of all the Union troops in Arkansas reducing McClelland to a corps commander. Lincoln would write the furious McClelland, "for my sake & for the country's sake, you give your whole attention to the better work."

January 23, 1863 • Another severe winter storm would continue in Virginia as Burnside's Army of the Potomac finally came back to its old camps at Falmouth.

Much bickering and back-biting had occurred among the Grand Divi-

sion commanders. An angry Burnside issued orders to be approved by the President that Hooker, Franklin, Smith and others be removed from command. Hooker was to be dismissed from the service entirely. The proposed orders accompanied a request to see the President – they were never carried out.

January 25, 1863 • President Lincoln meets with Burnside. Burnside pressed for the removal of Hooker, Franklin and others. If this were not done, Burnside would resign as head of the Army of the Potomac. Later in the morning, Lincoln informs Halleck and Stanton that he was relieving Burnside and naming Hooker to command the Army of the Potomac. Lincoln also relieved E.V. Sumner and W.B. Franklin from duty with the army.

January 26, 1863 • Hooker takes command of the Army of the Potomac at Fredericksburg. Lincoln would write to his new commander:

There are some things in regards to which, I am not quite satisfied with you. I believe you to be a brave and skillful soldier, which, of course, I like. I also believe you do not mix politics with your profession, in which you are right. You have confidence in yourself... You are ambitious... But I think that during Gen. Burnside's command of the Army, you have taken counsel of your ambition, and thwarted him as much as you could, in which you did a great wrong to the country, and to a most meritorious and honorable brother officer. I have heard, in such way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the Army and the Government needed a Dictator... Only those generals who gain successes, can set up dictators. What I now ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship... And now, beware of rashness! Beware of rashness! But with energy and sleepless vigilance, go forward and give us victories.

January 27, 1863 • The proprietor of the Philadelphia *Journal*, A. D. Boileau, is arrested and taken to Washington for printing anti-Northern material.

President Davis compliments Gov. Brown of Georgia for cutting back cotton cultivation and urging produce cultivation.

January 29, 1863 • The Confederate Congress authorized the borrowing of \$15,000,000 through the French financier Emile Erlanger.

January 30, 1863 • The Richmond *Dispatch* printed a list showing that the price of groceries had increased tenfold since the start of the war.

Grant assumes command of all operations against Vicksburg and proceeds with various plans to isolate the city.

January 31, 1863 • The month would end with Confederate gunboats moving out of Charleston Harbor and raiding the Federal blockaders. Although interrupted by the raid, the Federal blockade was not broken.

And so it continues.

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for January 10, 2013

Mail your reservations by Monday, January 7, 2013, to:
Paul Eilbes
1809 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

ALSO, call in reservations to:
(262) 376-0568

Enclosed is \$ _____ (meal price \$25.00 per person) for _____ reservations for January 10, 2013, meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee. (Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

Name of Member _____

General Orders, the official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., is produced September through June and upon request of the Board of Directors.

Send submissions to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St., Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or email to **dagnelly@tds.net** with "Civil War Round Table" in the subject line of your message. All submissions must be received by the Editor no later than the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. The Editor reserves the right to select articles and to edit submissions for style and length.

All address changes or problems receiving your *General Orders* should be directed through Membership Chairman Paul Eilbes.

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General Orders design & layout by Patricia A. Lynch, Harvest Graphics. Yearly memberships available: Individual (\$40), Family (\$50), and Non-Resident (\$25). See also the form on page 7 of this issue of *General Orders*. Contact Paul Eilbes for information: (262) 376-0568.

The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc., admits members of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges and activities of the Round Table.



In January 1948, Max H. Herriott's topic was "Cavalry at Gettysburg."

Harry E. Pratt spoke about "The Hampton Road Conference" at the January 1951 meeting.

In January 1956, Guilbert Piper would speak to the Round Table. The subject of his talk was "Civil War Weapons."

S. I. Neiman spoke about "Judah P. Benjamin" at the January 1967 meeting.

At the January 1977 meeting John W. Schildt spoke about "The Maryland Campaign of 1862."

"General Grant's Staff: A Plus or Minus?" was the topic of Merlin Sumner's talk in January 1985.

In January 1998 Daniel McCarthy spoke to our group. The presentation that evening was on "The Eighty-Third Illinois Infantry."

January 2009 would find Frank O'Reilly visiting our Round Table to discuss "Fredericksburg."