



GENERAL ORDERS

The Newsletter of the

**Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
and The Iron Brigade Association**



January 8, 2015

FATHER ROBERT J. MILLER

The Most Christian Nation in the World: Religion in Society on the Civil War Homefront

In 1860, the single most socially influential factor in America was religion and faith. The United States literally was the most Christian nation in the world's history. The great majority of Americans – both North and South – approached the issues surrounding the Civil War through the lens of their faith, religion, and specific cultures. Faith defined many aspects of American culture:

- Immigrants "link" to "home"
- Education and schooling
- Basic source of social information
- The pervasive values for all of America

Religion had already been crucial to America's founding, and helped the country slowly move apart since the Revolution. Now on the eve of the Civil War, differing sectional approaches to Faith and the Bible further split the country socially, politically, theologically and (ultimately) irretrievably. The impact of religion would continue well after the War as well – as African Americans moved into an uncertain future, and as a new "civil" religion began to replace traditional pre-war fervor.

Our January speaker, Father Robert J. Miller, will look at American culture on the eve of war through the prism of the Faith of two different families and their differing cultures, economics, backgrounds, and belief systems. These families – one from Michigan (German Evangelical Presbyterian), and one from Mississippi (Southern Baptist) – capture well the painfully transforming issue which the Civil War became in American history.

Robert Miller was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan. After seminary studies in Wisconsin and New York, he obtained a B.A. in Philosophy, a Masters of Religious Education, and a Masters of Divinity. He was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1976. In 1990, Father Bob officially joined the Archdiocese of Chicago, and began ministering in Chicago's African-American south-side community, first at St. Joachim Church and then Co-Pastor of Holy Angels Church in Chicago's historic Bronzeville neighborhood. In July 2006, he became Pastor of St. Dorothy Church, also on the southside of Chicago, where he is ministering at present. From 2003-2006, he held official positions in the Civil War Round Table of Chicago, culminating in helping lead two battlefield tours, and becoming President of the group in 2005-2006. From January-June 2006, Father Bob took a sabbatical at Notre Dame University, taking courses in spirituality and, fulfilling a long-held dream, completed his sixth book *Both Prayed to the Same God – Religion and Faith in the American Civil War* (Lexington Publishers, 2007). He continues to travel, speaking and promoting the topic of Civil War religion, while shepherding at St. Dorothy's, and ministering around the Midwest.

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January 2015

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January Meeting at a Glance

Wisconsin Club

9th and Wisconsin Avenue

[Jackets required for the dining room.]

5:30 p.m. - staff meeting- as needed
[Open to all members]

6:15 p.m. - Registration/Social Hour

6:45 p.m. - Dinner

[\$25 by reservation, please]

Reservations are accepted until

Monday, January 5, 2015

7:30 p.m. - Program

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

November Newsletter Correction

In the article on "What It Meant to Be a Union Soldier" it was incorrectly stated that General Edward Livingston Campbell's brother, Eleazar Jackson Campbell also held the rank of general. Eleazar was actually a corporal with the Wisconsin 19th Regiment in Company C. Eleazar, as noted in the article, is the great-great grandfather of Round Table members Susan Kapanke and David Johnson.

milwaukeeecwrt.org

Civil War Round Table News

When Reservations are Cancelled

Please be aware that cancellations of dinner reservations within 48 hours of the meeting are subject to payment in full. The MCWRT is charged for these dinners whether they are used or not!

Your Cooperation is Appreciated

“Walk-in dinner” requests are sometimes difficult to honor. Remember, dinner reservations are to be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting date. We are always happy to accommodate where possible, but we cannot always guarantee a dinner that evening if you have not called in or emailed your reservation. Thank you for your understanding.

MCWRT Annual Fund

The following members have made a generous commitment to the MCWRT by investing in that fund. The following list reflects those made from July-December 2014.

Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

Grant Johnson

Patron (\$200-\$499)

Crain Bliwas, Robert Parrish

Associate (\$100-\$199)

Paul Eilbes, David Jordan, Stephen Leopold,
Paul Sotirini, Bernard VanDinter

Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Dale Bspalec, John Busch,
Cynthia Cooper, James DeValkenaere, Bob Dude,
Lori Duginski, Gary & Judith Ertel, Ted Fetting,
A. William Finke, Richard Gross, Douglas Haag,
Erwin Huston, Eugene & Jane Jamrozy,
Dr. Bob & Judy Karczewski, Ardis Kelling,
Jerome Kowalski, Rod Malinowski, Herbert Oechler,
James & Ann Reeve, David & Helga Sartori,
Jean Schwonek, Dennis Slater, Dan Tanty

2014-2015 Speaker Schedule

February 12, 2015 – Leslie Goddard

"Gone with the Wind" and Popular Culture

March 12, 2015 – Thomas Huntington

“Searching for George Gordon Meade”

April 9, 2015 – Professor Michael Burlingame

"The Assassination of President Abraham Lincoln"

May 7, 2015 – Eric Leonard

“When We Held Each Other Prisoner:

Civil War Military Prisons and Prisoners of War”

June 11, 2015 – Garry Adelman

“4-D Civil War Photography Extravaganza”

Speakers and topics are subject to change.

The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

1. (caption) of person subject to the military law because the age of maturity and during the process, and all concerned persons subject to the military law since the age of during the process and under the age of birth of. (date) 12 months after that person subject to the military law.

EXHIBIT B—CONSOLIDATED LIST of all persons of CLASS II, subject to the military law in the Third Congressional Election, involving of the County of Calumet, Michigan William Davidson and brotherless State of Michigan, resided during the month of June 1947, under the Act of May 1947.

| RESIDENCE | NAME | DESCRIPTION | | PLACE OF BIRTH (showing full name, State, or Country) | FEDERAL MILITARY SERVICE | REMARKS |
|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|--|
| | | AGE (at date of birth) | Physical Characteristics (height, weight, color, etc.) | | | |
| Evanston | 1. <u>Convincing David</u> 41 | white | Evansville | Indiana | | His files, declaration of intention, etc. not full. Declaration, name in my file is <u>David</u> . His declaration of intention is <u>white</u> . |
| | 2. <u>Raymond Patrick</u> 56 | | Chicago | Illinois | | |
| | 3. <u>Charles Patrick</u> 51 | | Evansville | Indiana | | |
| | 4. <u>Paul Benjamin</u> 43 | | | | | |
| | 5. <u>John Howard</u> 28 | | | Ill. | | |
| | 6. <u>Paul Augustus</u> 35 | | | Indiana | | |
| Chicago | 7. <u>Paul George</u> 41 | | Evansville | Indiana | Black | |
| | 8. <u>Charles Eugene</u> 41 | | | Ill. | | |

FROM THE CIVIL WAR TRUST

December 12, 2014



The Civil War Trust today applauded members of U.S. Senate and House of Representatives for enactment of landmark legislation to preserve America's endangered battlefields.

The legislation, part of an omnibus lands package included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 3979), reauthorizes a highly successful federal matching grant program for the preservation of Civil War battlefields. In addition, the bill expands that existing program to provide grants for the acquisition of land at Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields.

In addition to the American Battlefields Protection Program Amendments Act, the lands package in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) also included other important battlefield preservation initiatives, including modest expansions of the national military parks at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, as well as legislation to explore adding Mill Springs Battlefield in Kentucky to the National Park System. President Obama is expected to sign NDAA into law later this month.

The Civil War Trust is the premier nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds. The Trust is the principal nonprofit advocate for federal battlefield preservation programs and legislation. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields, through its Campaign 1776 initiative, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust has preserved more than 40,000 acres of battlefield land in 20 states.

milwaukeecwrt.org



In January 1952 Elmer Gertz talked to the Round Table on "Charles A. Dana, The Eyes of the Government at the Front."

Grady McWhiney was our Round Table speaker in January 1962 speaking on "Braxton Bragg."

"Grant and Vicksburg" was the topic of Miner Coburn's presentation to the Round Table in January 1972.

William C. Davis visited our Round Table in January 1982 speaking on "The Orphan Brigade: The Kentucky Confederates Who Couldn't Go Home."

In January 1992 our two featured speakers, Karen Osborne and Dr. Virginia Crane spoke on "A Woman's War: Two Perspectives – North and South."

"Tattlings of a Collecting Voyeur: Life with the Lincoln Bookshop" was presented by our January 2002 speaker Daniel Weinberg.

Parker Hills was our featured speaker in January 2012. The topic that evening was "Chickamauga."

At last year's January meeting we welcomed Robert Girardi who spoke about "The Murder of Major General William "Bull" Nelson."

ANNOUNCEMENTS – EVENTS - MEETINGS

January 12, 2015

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

January 13, 2015

Waukesha Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Citizens Bank of Mukwonago Waukesha Branch
Speaker: Jenna Theissen, "The House of Abraham"

January 20, 2015

Prairieville Irregulars Civil War Round Table, 7 p.m.
Citizens Bank of Mukwonago Waukesha Branch
Favorite and Not So Favorite Civil War Books Discussion

COMING UP at the Kenosha Civil War Museum

Second Annual Great Lakes Home Front Seminar
Exploring the Civilian Experience During the Civil War Era

Saturday, April 11, 2015

Registration 8:30 – 9:30 with the last lecture at 3:30
\$60/\$50 Friends of the Museum – includes lunch

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Second Friday Lunchbox Series

Sons of Thunder: A History of Battery H, First Illinois Light Artillery

Friday, January 9, 2015, Noon

Presented by: Dave Oberg, Grayslake Heritage Center and Museum executive director

The storied history of Battery H of the First Illinois Light Artillery who participated in campaigns including Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, and Atlanta and the March to the Sea will be discussed. Most of the men who served with the Battery were born overseas. 40% were Swedish immigrants.

Sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and the Iron Brigade Association

Lincoln Lore Discussion Group

Wednesdays, Noon – 1 p.m.

Discuss topics brought forth in the Civil War Museum's collection of *Lincoln Lore Bulletins* first published by Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum in 1928.

- January 14, 2015 – Lincoln and His Family
- January 28, 2015 – Foreign View of Lincoln

Civil War Movie Night

Santa Fe Trail

Friday, January 23, 2015, 6:30 pm.

\$10/\$5 Friends of the Museum

1940 movie is the story of JEB Stuart, his romance with Kit Carson Holliday, friendship with Custer and battles against John Brown in the days leading up to the outbreak of the Civil War.

Includes unlimited popcorn and a beverage.

When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again: Iron Brigade Veterans and Peace

Saturday, January 31, 2015, 1 p.m.

The returning soldiers of the Iron Brigade came home to an uncertain future. Some came back with mental and physical ailments of which they were unaware. Others returned missing an arm or leg or other injury. Home had changed in the four years they were gone.

Join Lance Herdegen as he tells what happened to some of them and how they coped and came to accept their Civil War experiences.

Chickamauga Up Close

Sunday, February 8, 2015, 1-3 p.m.

\$15/\$10 Friends of the Museum

David Powell's presentation and discussion focuses on the critical decisions that define the Battle of Chickamauga, September 18-20, 1863. Explore the course of the battle over those 3 days and track the commanders as they react to events.

For further information call 262-653-4141 or visit

www.kenosha.org/wp-civilwar/

Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for January 8, 2015

Mail your reservations by Monday, January 5, 2015 to:

Paul Eilbes
1809 Washington Ave
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

ALSO, call in reservations to: Paul Eilbes (262) 376-0568
peilbes@gmail.com

Enclosed is \$ ____ (meal price \$25.00 per person) for ____ reservations for January 8, 2015, 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 _____

AND SO IT CONTINUES: JANUARY 1865 MARKING THE CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL

January 1865

Both Congresses are in session. In Richmond Congress dissatisfaction with the Davis administration was increasing; there were talks of restoring Joseph E. Johnston to command, of making Lee General-in-Chief and rehashing the question of whether to use slaves as soldiers and the possibility of peace overtures. In Washington constitutional abolition of slavery and reconstruction were the main topics of conversation; thoughts were beginning to turn to post-war Western expansion.

January 1, 1865 • In the trenches around Petersburg and Richmond soldiers tried to keep warm. On the James River at Dutch Gap, Major General Benjamin Butler had started digging a canal across Trent's Reach in the past year and came back to finish the job. On this day he exploded 12,000 pounds of powder in what was to be the final excavation. The explosion came; dirt and gravel flew into the air and came back down in the same place it went up from. Butler quit the project which would later be finished but never used.

January 2, 1865 • A group of Kentuckians applied to have Butler assigned to their state and Lincoln replied, "You howled when Butler when to New Orleans. Others howled when he was removed from that command. Somebody has been howling ever since at his assignment to military command. How long will it be before you, who are howling for his assignment to rule Kentucky, will be howling to me to remove him?"

January 3, 1865 • Grant assigns Major General Alfred H. Terry to command the army element of the assault on Fort Fisher. In his instructions to Terry, Grant said, "I have served with Admiral Porter and know that you can rely on his judgment and his nerve to undertake what he proposes..." Grant notified Porter that Terry was coming as the commander of the army troops.

In Georgia, Sherman, planning for his move northward into South Carolina, began transferring part of Howard's Army of Tennessee from Savannah to Beaufort.

January 4, 1865 • Admiral D.D. Porter directs that all available sailors and Marines are to form into landing parties to hit the beach on the seaward side of Fort Fisher, while the Army assaults the landward side. The sailors were to be backed up by the Marines.

January 6, 1865 • The passage of the Thirteenth Amendment is a matter of priority for Lincoln. The amendment had passed the Senate but failed in the House. For the rest of the month the debate took up much of the time in the House.

At Petersburg, Grant, tired of Butler's inability and politicking, wires Lincoln asking that Butler be removed from command of the Army of the James. Agitation for the removal of Butler had increased since the Fort Fisher fiasco.

January 7, 1865 • Lincoln, who has procrastinated over Butler, agrees to Grant's request and removes Butler from active duty. Butler would be replaced by Major General E.O.C. Ord.

January 8, 1865 • The naval fleet under Rear Admiral David D. Porter and the transport fleet with Terry's force, arrive at rendezvous off Beaufort, North Carolina, before making their attempt to take Fort Fisher. Major General E.O.C. Ord takes command of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina and the Army of the James.

Major General John A. Logan, who had resigned from active command when Sherman relieved him of command of the XV Corps during the Battle of Atlanta, returns to Sherman's army and resumes command of his old corps.

January 9, 1865 • The passage of the Thirteenth Amendment came one vote closer when Democrat Moses Odell of New York came out in favor of its passage. The Constitutional Convention of Tennessee adopts an amendment abolishing slavery in the state; the amendment is put to a vote by the people and is ratified in February.

January 10, 1865 • The second expedition to Fort Fisher was held up by raging seas and stormy weather off Beaufort, North Carolina. The debate in the House over slavery heatedly continued.

January 11, 1865 • The Constitutional Convention of Missouri, meeting in St. Louis, adopts an ordinance abolishing slavery. Major General Thomas L. Rosser, CSA, led a raid on Beverly, West Virginia, netting 580 prisoners and tons of rations. In Richmond, President Davis was trying, without much success, to gather all available troops to oppose Sherman's march through the Carolinas.

January 12, 1865 • In the early evening the Federal war fleet of about sixty vessels and a large number of transports bearing 8,000 army men arrives off Fort Fisher – landings would be put off until the following day. Colonel William Lamb at Fort Fisher learned of the arrival and informed General Bragg, who commanded the Wilmington area.

President Davis wrote to Lt. General Richard Taylor, "Sherman's campaign has produced bad effect on our people, success against his future operations is needful to reanimate public confidence. Hardee requires more aid than Lee can give him, and Hood's army is the only source to which we can now look." Davis indicates that some of Hood's troops should be kept by Taylor to help hold Thomas in check, but the main part should be sent to "look after Sherman."

January 13, 1865 • The naval fleet under Admiral Porter begins bombarding Fort Fisher. Accuracy was high and Confederate guns and defensive works were battered. Using small boats from the navy, Terry's 8,000 troops were put ashore on the narrow north-south peninsula above Fort Fisher with no opposition from Bragg's men. Admiral Porter would say of the bombardment: "It was soon apparent that the iron vessels had the best of it; traverses began to disappear and the southern angle of Fort Fisher commenced to look very dilapidated." Terry's army dug in, constructing a defense line facing north to hold off Bragg, and then prepared to move southward to assault the fort. Colonel Lamb, in command of Fort Fisher, called upon Bragg to attack the Federal landing party and crush it.

John Bell Hood resigned as commander of the Army of Tennessee. Lt. General Richard Taylor was named to succeed Hood under the supervision of P.G.T. Beauregard.

January 14, 1865 • General Terry prepared defensive works facing his approaches from Wilmington to protect his rear from a possible assault by Bragg's troops. Terry visits Porter on the *Malvern* to coordinate the attack for the following day. The plan called for 4000 of Terry's troops to hold the defensive line while the other 4000 attacked the land face of the fort in midafternoon. At the time of the attack, 2000 sailors and Marines would attack the sea face of the fort on the northern bastion.

January 15, 1865 • A naval and marine brigade of 2000 moves forward on the east side of the narrow peninsula and are met by the full force of the defenders' infantry and three remaining movable guns – they fall back in panic and defeat. On the Cape Fear River, on the west side, Adelbert Ames division of Terry's command, with 3300 men, rush forward but more success.

After being held up for a time by strong traverses constructed by the Confederates, they get through. By late evening the fort and garrison of about 1900 men is taken. General Whiting, CSA, is mortally wounded during the assault and Major James Reilly takes command after Colonel Lamb is hit in the hip by a bullet. Reilly would fight doggedly but was finally driven from the fort and would surrender his men late that night.

January 16, 1865 • Francis Preston Blair, Sr., reports to Lincoln on his January 12th talk with President Davis regarding peace negotiations. Blair gives Lincoln a letter from Davis in which Davis talks about peace negotiations between the two nations, not about reunification. Lincoln turns down the offer.

Near Wilmington, Bragg orders the destruction of the remaining forts guarding the port despite urgings from Davis that Bragg try to retake Fort Fisher. With Fort Fisher lost, the port was effectively closed as a blockade running port.

The Confederate Congress passes a resolution making Robert E. Lee General-in-Chief of the Armies of the Confederacy with Beauregard commanding the army in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and J.E. Johnston the Army of Tennessee.

January 17, 1865 • Rain and high water in the rivers delays Sherman's army from starting their move northward from the Savannah area. At Richmond and Petersburg the siege goes on with the Confederates unable to find enough troops to defend all the major threatened points.

January 18, 1865 • Sherman transfers command of Savannah and the area to Major General Foster and the Department of the South.

January 19, 1865 • Sherman issues orders for his army to get under way in its march from Savannah northward. Movement of some segments of Sherman's troops begins. President Davis, Hardee, Beauregard, and others continue to struggle in recruiting men to oppose Sherman with little success.

President Lincoln inquires of General Grant whether there was a place in Grant's military family for his son Robert.

January 20, 1865 • Sherman's troops are moving although Slocum's left wing was being hampered from moving by heavy rains. Union troops were eager to reach South Carolina, which they saw as the birthplace of the rebellion, and were eager to wreck the state.

January 22, 1865 • Sherman's march along the coast includes the area along the railroad running to Branchville, South Carolina. Sherman notified General Blair not to destroy the railroad, since it might be needed later.

January 23, 1865 • In Richmond, Davis signed an act creating the position of General-in-Chief of Confederate Armies with the position obviously intended for Robert E. Lee. In Mississippi, Lt. General Richard Taylor assumed command of the remainder of the Army of Tennessee.

January 24, 1865 • The Confederate Congress again offers to exchange prisoners and this time Grant accepts. Sherman's headquarters heads north along the coast of South Carolina with the Union navy providing support along the river at any point to which gunboats could ascend. Nathan Bedford Forrest assumes command of the Confederate District of Mississippi, East Louisiana, and West Tennessee.

January 25, 1865 • Sherman is notified by Grant that Lee would not send any troops from Petersburg to bolster the Confederate forces in the Carolinas.

January 27, 1865 • Lee points out again to Richmond the "alarming frequency of desertion from his army." Lee also noted that the "ration is too small for men who have to undergo so much exposure and labor as ours." Lee believed that the Commissary Department could do a better job.

January 28, 1865 • Davis names three commissioners to hold informal talks with Federal authorities: Vice President Alexander Stephens, R.M.T. Hunter of Virginia, and former U.S. Supreme Court Justice John A. Campbell.

Off Wilmington, North Carolina, Grant visits Admiral Porter to coordinate the next assault – Wilmington. For this purpose, Grant had troops en route from Tennessee, commanded by General Schofield.

January 29, 1865 • Sherman began to veer away from the coast towards the interior of South Carolina. In Petersburg, soldiers, blue and gray, huddled against the cold.

January 30, 1865 • Lincoln issues a pass for the three Confederate ambassadors to go through U.S. military lines to Fort Monroe. Sherman turns northwest and heads towards Columbia, South Carolina.



AND SO IT CONTINUES ...

January 31, 1865 • The month comes to an end with the House of Representatives passing the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery by a vote of 119 to 56. It would be December 1865 before two-thirds of the states approved the amendment making it law. President Davis proposed and the Confederate Congress approved the appointment of Lee as General-in-Chief of all Confederate Armies. Lincoln directs Secretary of State Seward to go to Fort Monroe to meet with the Richmond peace committee. The mandate remained ONE common country, not TWO as Davis had insisted. Sherman continues towards Columbia with the little resistance they met being outflanked and brushed aside.



Janesville Daily Gazette
December 20, 1864

THE HOLIDAYS - Editors Gazette:

Christmas is at hand, and many, very many hearts are bounding with delight at the approach of that happy day. Fingers are preparing delicacies and delights for the loved ones and the expected visit of Santa Claus already drives sleep from the eyes of many an urchin. A Merry Christmas is the general wish. But who thinks of the poor, the really poor at this busy time of year.

What farmer will be seen giving a load of wood, a sack of potatoes or flour, a turkey or a pair of chickens, or even a "spare rib" to a poor family, that that family may be merry and glad?

Whose fingers are industrially plying the knitting needles, so that some poor, motherless boy may have a pair of mittens or stockings to protect his body, and expand his soul in thankfulness? What notable housewife is preparing pies, cakes or bread, to send to some invalid, indigent mother, who is endeavoring to keep her little ones from feeling the pangs of that poverty and want which have taken the bloom from her cheek and the fire from her eye?

He, whose birthday we are about to celebrate, said

"The poor ye have with you always," and shut our eyes and close our ears as we will, the truth is yet too evident. Benevolent societies are abundant throughout our land, and they are doing noble work. But there are people in your midst who have sacrificed everything at our country's altar. They are poor, yet the love of liberty, the pride and glory of any patriot, prevents, aye, forbids their accepting the cold charities as they are too often doled out by unbid benefactors. So they struggle along, trying to bear bravely what cannot be averted. We need not go far from home to find soldiers' widows and children who are now feeling the bitter throes of want as they never before even imagined them. Shall we, who pride ourselves upon our patriotism, allow those to become objects of charity? God forbid!

Christians, patriots, philanthropists, if you would have yourself a "Merry Christmas" let not sleep visit your eyes until you have devised some plan whereby you may make the hearts of our brave soldiers to rejoice; by lightening their families' burdens of care and want, by alleviating the sufferings of widows and orphans and by robbing Want of its victims. Then put your plans into execution, and you will have earned for yourselves and those around you a Merry Christmas.
G.M.L. Edgertom. December 18, 1864

Hennerville, La.
Jan. 19th, 1865

Dear Sister Jane,

Again I have taken my pen in hand to have a sly chat with my much loved Sister.

I have not read any letter from you myself but I have had the pleasure of reading two of Alfreds letters and it done me almost as much good as it would to have had one myself. Alfred was here yesterday looking well as usual. He gave me the envelope that I am going to put this into as I guess you will readily perceive He said that he had six or eight ahead and they kept coming.

My health is excellent and everything goes on so encouraging that I can not but be in excelant spirits.

There is a courant rumor which seems to be pretty well founded that there are about to be negociations for peace and although I do not fully credit all I hear I don't know that I have any reason to disbelieve but such is the case, for at the rate the rebels have been whipped for the last four months it must have set them to thinking. Some of the boys are so sanguine of peace that they have already got their summer campaign marked out up in Wis. I have concluded to wait a few days longer and hear more particulars.

We are having almost summer weather and the darkies both male and female are out thick as toads after a thunder shower prepairing the land for a crop.

We are not so far from New Orleans so but what the pedlar woman find their way up here. They generally came up on the morning train and return at night

As several of the soldiers became drunk very misteriously, it was mistrusted that the pedlar women brought this whiskee in to camp and so the officers concluded to correll the pedlars the next time the train came in, and so as quick as the train came there was a guard ready to conduct the pedlars into a condensed position with a guard around them surrounded out side by about a thousand soldiers, eagarly watching the performance, well when they had got them all pened (which was as near as I could count over fifty women and one man) a first Lieut. made the grand rounds in search of borbon. I shall not undertake to describe the programe for it is better imagined than described, but will say that there was a small quantity found.

The way that it is generally carried is by tying a small cord around the snout of a junk bottle and this cord is attached to another cord that spans the waist, sometimes they carry six or eight bottles, and I suppose if they were visible would look like a string of bells or some Indian ornaments.

We have not been paid yet and I don't know when we shall. The 2nd. Brig. has been paid four months pay but I understand there is no pay master assigned to our Brig., the reason that we have not been paid.

There are no indications of active operations here right away.

The 99th. Ill. are camped right by the side of our Reg. and as they have a Chaplain, I have a chance to attend preaching or prayer meeting several times a week and loved ones at home are never forgotten, and I always feel sure that I am ever remembered by them and I thank God that I am.

Concluded
Peter Tubbs

General Orders, the official publication of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.
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Send submission to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St. Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or email dagnelly@tds.net or donnaagnelly@gmail.com 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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Yearly memberships available: Individual (\$40), family (\$50), non-resident (\$25), attending an educational institution (\$20).
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.



The Jamrozy's Pamplin Park Civil War Conference

54° when we left Milwaukee, 81° on arrival in Petersburg, Virginia, for our annual October Civil War Symposium at Pamplin Park. As usual, we drove, enjoying the beautiful fall colors in West Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley.

For those who have never traveled to the Petersburg area and Pamplin you are missing a fantastic experience. Pamplin Historical Park (not a part of the National Park System) is the site of the Breakthrough Battle of April 2, 1865. Here, Grant's massive pre-dawn attack along the entire Petersburg front shattered a mile of the Confederate fortifications. Less than a week later, Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

We walked for hours among the original, pristine field fortifications on interpreted trails visualizing what happened in 1864 and 1865. Pamplin Park also includes three antebellum houses including Tudor Hall Plantation, HQ of South Carolinian Samuel McGowan; Banks House, HQ of Grant following the breakthrough; and the Hart Farm which saw fighting during the October 2 Battle of Peebles Farm.

An extraordinary museum at Pamplin is the National Museum of the Civil War Soldier. Dioramas, computer exhibits, simulated battles and interactive activities kept our interest through 8 galleries. A highlight was choosing the name of a Union or Confederate soldier to follow through the museum. With personal audio headsets, we ambled through the exhibits hearing the true life story of "our" Civil War comrade. One of the soldiers who is popular with visitors is Elisha Stockwell Jr., Company I, 14th Wisconsin.

As part of the military encampment we enjoyed demonstrations by costumed interpreters as they re-created the daily routine of military life. We watched students participating in soldiers activities and drill, trying on uniforms, learning about rifle firing and eating a soldier's meal.

Seven speakers were part of the symposium ending with a panel discussion Sunday afternoon. Needless to say we were immersed in Civil War 1864!!! A. Wilson Greene, who has been a guest at our CWRT, is Executive Director of Pamplin Park and spoke on the Wilson-Kautz Raid, part of the Petersburg Campaign. Dr. George Rable talked about the Election of 1864 making the point that the critical significance was in showing the world that a democratic country was able to hold an election during wartime. Scott Patchan lectured on the 1864 Valley Campaign, Noah Andre Trudeau talked with us about Sherman's March to the Sea and Gordon Rhea's presentation made the Overland Campaign come alive. Wiley Sword, in his focus on Hood's 1864 Tennessee Campaign, countered attacks made against him by Stephen Hood, author of the new book *Rise, Fall and Resurrection of John Bell Hood*. Dr. Gordon Jones, Senior Military Historian and curator at the Atlanta History Center spoke on Yankees in Georgia. We found out that the Atlanta cyclorama, when restored, will have its new home at the History Center.

Each evening at dinner we had time to "meet the authors." We were privileged to spend time with Andy Trudeau learning about his 30 years with National Public Radio in Washington, DC and research for his upcoming book on Lincoln at City Point. We encouraged Andy to visit us and tour the Kenosha Civil War Museum mentioning Lance Herdegen and Doug Dammann. Andy excitedly said "I've worked with Lance." As we travel, attend conferences and meet Civil War historians we have concluded – who doesn't know Lance!

Because Petersburg was our home for 10 days we were able to study the Eastern Front action, Western Front, Battle of Five Forks and City Point. We explored the entire Bermuda Hundred area near Chester across the James River. Richmond, 20 miles north, gives one the opportunity to see the extensive area of the Richmond National Battlefield Park. In Richmond you would find it difficult to not find sights to enjoy – the Museum of the Confederacy, Hollywood Cemetery, Tredegar Iron Works and Visitor Center as well as the White House of the Confederacy. Our guide through the Virginia Capitol Building provided more information in 3 hours than we thought possible.

Our trip east concluded with stops at Appomattox and Bennett Place in Durham, North Carolina where General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to William T. Sherman on April 17-18, 1865.

submitted by Eugene and Jane Jamrozy

RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR FURTHER READING ON PETERSBURG

The Final Battles of the Petersburg Campaign

(Breaking the Backbone of the Rebellion)

A. Wilson Greene

In the Trenches at Petersburg

(Field Fortifications and Confederate Defeat)

Earl J. Hess

The Last Citadel

(Petersburg, Virginia, June 1864 – April 1865)

Noah Andre Trudeau



Dictator Mortar - Petersburg, VA 1864

Alexander Gardner

The Petersburg Campaign

Volume I – The Eastern Front Battles

June – August 1864

Ed C. Bearss

The Petersburg Campaign

Volume II – The Western Front Battles

September 1864 – April 1865

Ed C. Bearss



BETWEEN THE COVERS

Lincoln's Ladder to the Presidency:

The Eighth Judicial Circuit

Guy C. Fraker

A book I recently read, *Lincoln's Ladder to the Presidency*,

was presented by the author at the Kenosha Civil War Museum on April 20, 2013.

This book covers the beginnings of Abraham Lincoln's legal career specifically in the Illinois 8th Circuit. It is an interesting treatise that shows how Lincoln developed his contacts while practicing his legal profession in handling a wide variety of cases. This work is a first ever study of Lincoln's professional and personal home away from home and helps to demonstrate how the Eighth Judicial Circuit and its people propelled Lincoln to the presidency.

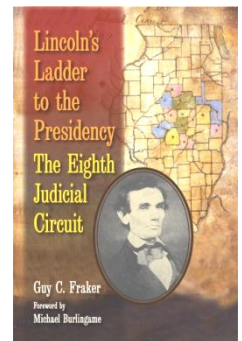
Mr. Fraker introduces the lawyers and clients that Lincoln either traveled with or met on the circuit for over twenty years during his ever growing practice of the law in Illinois. Mr. Fraker points out how this pursuit of the legal career helped him to also develop his network of friends and colleagues who would become instrumental in providing the support of his political career.

I believe that in the development of this book Mr. Fraker shows how Lincoln came to wield this group of supporters in his drive to obtain the White House. Many of the stories help the reader focus and understand the "political animal" that Mr. Lincoln was. He understood how things really worked and the reader will see Mr. Lincoln was far from a simple backwoodsman who knew a little bit about the law and personal relationships. Mr. Fraker describes the people and counties that Lincoln encountered, discusses key cases Lincoln handled, and introduces the important friends he made in that process.

I think this book also shows how the state of Illinois also developed in its' early statehood and provides the reader with that picture as well. Mr. Fraker helps identify those key figures in Illinois' early statehood and may provide the reader with different areas of state history they may want to further read up on.

I found this to be a very interesting study of the detail about Abraham Lincoln's early legal development. Perhaps more importantly it shows Mr. Lincoln's political savvy and how it developed and matured. He definitely knew people and how they react in certain situations.

I definitely recommend this book to anyone with an interest in the study of Abraham Lincoln.



Submitted by Bruce Klem



Winter Encampment at the Wade House

If one steps outside on a typical winter morning this time the year, the bite of the cold is enough to make a trip back into a warm house look very inviting. Soldiers throughout history have had to deal with the elements as well as with the enemy. Civil War soldiers, too, faced extreme cold in their winter camps. Civil War winters were particularly trying and monotonous for the armies.

Winter huts were built by the armies out of readily gathered materials including trees, mud, leaves, and canvas. These huts usually included a chimney. The camps were set up like small villages with streets that crisscrossed, with churches and sutlers. Though cozy in appearance, the crude shelters could in reality harbor disease and death due to ineffective means of waste disposal and a lack of clean water.

A glimpse into winter quarters was made possible at the annual Wade House Civil War Weekend. Held on the last weekend in September, this event gives the general public an opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of Civil War camps and conflict in a unique way. Hidden off a little ways in the woods to the north of the Union camp was a special treasure. A narrow pathway led one around a clump of bushes, and onto a company street reflecting life in a Civil War winter camp. Built by true historians, the winter quarters were marvelous in their authenticity. Even more impressive, however, was their educational value.



Countless diarists have penned descriptions of winter lodgings soldiers constructed while trying to wrest some vestige of comfort from a frozen landscape. Among them is that written by a Confederate near Dalton, GA in 1863.



"Our cabins were built of split logs, the cracks being "chinked" during the severest weather with red clay, thus making a very comfortable house indeed. An ample chimney was constructed of sticks "chinked" in the same manner as the house; and when the fireplace was piled up with wood and set going, we had as comfortable quarters as to warmth one could wish. Our bedsteads were four posts with end and side pieces nailed to them, and boards placed so as to give us room to fill in with straw, and over this our thin quilts and blankets were spread." Frank S. Roberts, 2nd Georgia

While these descriptions painted images in my mind, walking along the street at the Wade House Winter Quarters was like being transported back in time. All of my senses were immediately engaged. I smelled woodsmoke and the scents of cooking. I saw worn uniforms, rags wrapped in place of gloves on cold hands, and men catching a few seconds of rest wherever they could be found. Personal belongs lay inside cleverly constructed huts, giving visitors an insight into the common soldier's existence. A hum of conversation and rowdy chuckles mingled with the metallic clink of tin cups and coffee pots. The pages of even the most engaging diary could never capture this sense of "being there."

A variety of different types of shelters are built back in the woods. They reflect temporary homes from the very basic and minimalistic to much more elaborate huts. Each one is built using methods of the past using, for the most part, tools of the past. A very different kind of Civil War educational experience, this trip down the narrow path at the Wade House is a satisfying sensory treat. Consider a visit into the past next September.

submitted by Dave Wege

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You may also see Roman in person at the
Monthly Meeting at the Book Raffle table.

