

# GENERAL ORDERS



The Newsletter of the

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



December 12, 2019

Daniel Weinberg

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN BOOK SHOP ARTIFACTS

*I was born and raised in Chicago, so Lincoln is in my DNA like any Illinoisan. It just is—you can't help it.*

Dan Weinberg

At our December meeting we will be welcoming Daniel Weinberg, owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop as our featured speaker. Dan has provided a taste of his upcoming presentation:

I have been a dealer in historical artifacts relating to Lincoln and the Civil War for the past 49 years. Early on I learned that, if I was to put food on the table, I would have to let go of those wonderful treasures. I would have to watch others live with those cherished items of mine, taking solace in the fact that I had at least been their custodian for a few days, months, or years. But I could still retain the stories that they told - for each artifact of the past has a story as to why it even exists. It is my responsibility - and joy - to tease out those stories so that these items are not just static objects. With a power point presentation, I'll speak of some of the more interesting pieces I've handled over the years. Hopefully I'll also indicate how artifacts inform so that we might ourselves experience their import to those who manufactured them. And, I'll speak about being a dealer in historical artifacts.

Daniel R. Weinberg has been president and sole owner of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, Inc. since 1984, having previously been-co-owner from 1971. This firm has an international reputation as experts in the buying, selling, appraisal, and authentication of historical, literary, artistic, and museum properties etc. since 1938. The Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, Inc. has acted as consultant in the assembling of some of the major collections in the United States, both public and private, representing them both privately and at auction. The firm has conducted appraisals for libraries, museums, banks, insurance companies, and private collectors.

Mr. Weinberg was a member of the official Advisory Committee to the Federal Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. He served for a decade on the Board of Trustees and the Executive Board at Lincoln College, Lincoln, Illinois, being chair of the Heritage Committee, which

oversaw the Lincoln Heritage Museum at Lincoln College. He has delivered numerous talks on the collecting and value of books and manuscripts as well as determining authenticity of historical documents and artifacts. He is a member of numerous historical societies and associations including: The Lincoln Forum (a Director); The Abraham Lincoln Association (a Director); Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America; American Booksellers Association; the Lincoln Group of Illinois (past President); and The Civil War Round Table, Chicago (past President).

He is co-author of *Lincoln's Assassins: Their Trial and Execution* (Arena Editions: 2001) and has lectured extensively on the subject. He is the founder of *Author's Voice*® a live streaming author interview and book signing web broadcast; and the creator of *The Artifact Whisperer*™, a live web program relating to American Historical Artifacts. Mr. Weinberg pursued his undergraduate work, in history, at Temple University, Philadelphia, and his graduate work in the same field at New York University at Washington Square, New York City.

## General Orders No. 12-19

December 2019

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### December Meeting at a Glance Country Club of the Wisconsin Club 6200 Good Hope Road

[Jackets required for the dining room.]

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

6:45 p.m. - Dinner

**[\$30 by reservation, please]**

Reservations are accepted until

Monday, December 9, 2019

7:30 p.m. - Program

### 2019-2020 Speaker Schedule

Find the speaker schedule on page 6.

# 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.

## Special Dietary Needs

We have quite a number of regular members who have opted for special entrees as options to the regular dinner being served. The Wisconsin Club and the Round Table will make every effort to meet any special dietary needs you may have. As a courtesy, **please give a reminder when making your reservations**, so we don't forget to serve you what you're expecting!

## The Lighthizer Legacy Fund

After twenty years of leadership and tens of thousands of acres preserved, Jim Lighthizer is planning to retire from his position as President of the Trust. In tribute to his extraordinary service and impact on battlefield preservation, we're proud to introduce **The Lighthizer Legacy Fund**.

With The Lighthizer Legacy Fund, we hope to build on the incredible progress we've made under Jim's leadership by completing these three projects of particular passion and historical significance. The three projects involve saving land at Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor, the Liberty Trail of the Southern Campaigns in the American Revolution, and the 1862 Maryland Campaign. Your support of this Fund honors Jim's years of dedication and makes a valuable contribution to our nation's shared history. We hope you'll agree that continuing Jim's momentum on these three critical projects is more than a tribute to the man himself – it's a gift to our nation.

To inaugurate The Lighthizer Legacy Fund, we currently have the opportunity to save 278 hallowed acres at Shepherdstown, where, after the carnage of Antietam, the Confederates managed to slip back into Virginia to fight another day. Learn more about the land at stake, then make a tax-deductible donation to start building on Jim's extraordinary legacy today.

Donations can be made directly through the American Battlefield Trust website. There is a special page set up there for this purpose. A phone call to the Trust at 1-888-606-1400 may also be made.

As Jim himself said recently concerning his retirement and the involvement of grassroots members of the Trust,

*"I can be replaced, but you most definitely cannot!"*

## The Muster Roll: NEW MEMBERS

NAME	RESIDENCE	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH	DATE OF BURIAL
Tim Flatley	...	...	...	...
Julius Wojciechowski	...	...	...	...

## MCWRT Annual Fund

The following members have made a generous commitment to the MCWRT by investing in that fund. This list reflects those donations made from July 1, 2019 through September 14, 2019.

### Major Contributor (\$500 and above)

#### Patron (\$200 - \$499)

Eugene & Jane Jamrozy, Daniel Nettesheim

#### Associate (\$100 - \$199)

Dale Brasser, Bill & Claudette Finke, Gerald Frangesch, Doug Haag, William & Carol Hughes, Peter & Jean Jacobsohn, Bernard Jene, Stephen Leopold, Kathy McNally, Bob & Mary Lou Parrish, Randle Pollard, James & Ann Reeve, David & Helga Sartori, Dennis Slater, Jr.

#### Contributor (up to \$99)

George Affeldt, Dale Bspalec, T. James Blake, John & Linda Connelly, Cynthia Cooper, Gordon Dammann, Michael Deeken, Lori Duginski, John Durr, Paul Eilbes, Gary & Judy Ertel, George Geanon, Julian Gonzalez, Jr., Leon & Margaret Harris, Christopher & Mary Beth Johnson, Jay Lauck, Rod Malinowski, Robin Martin, Carol Maudie & Gerald Witherspoon, Jim & Monica Millane, Ed Newman, Herb Oechler, Thomas Olsen, Tom Pokrandt, John Rodahl, Sam Solber, Dan Tanty, Bernard VanDinter

#### Speaker Enhancement Fund

George Affeldt, Donna Agnelly, Jeryl Anthony, Tom & Terry Arliskas, Mike Benton, Dale Bspalec, T James Blake, Angela Bodven, Dale Brasser, Civil War Time Travelers, Tim Crawford, Ellen DeMers, Bob Dude, Lori Duginski, John Durr, Paul Eilbes, Gary & Judy Ertel, Julian Gonzalez, Jr., Rick Gross, Doug Haag, Dan & Carol Hughes, Van & Dawn Harl, Leon & Margaret Harris, Jim Heinz, Gene & Jane Jamrozy, Bernard Jene, Grant Johnson, Allan Kasprzak, Bruce Klem, John Kuhnmuensch, Jr., Stephen Leopold, Robin Martin, Kathy McNally, Jim & Monica Millane, Thomas Olsen, Bob & Mary Lou Parrish, David Perez, Tom Pokrandt, Jack Rodencal, David & Helga Sartori, Diana Smurawa, Dan Tanty



In December 1949 Robert B. Browne spoke to those assembled on "Brice's Crossroads."

"Tuka" was the topic presented by William Lamers in December 1959.

Robert P. Ashley was the speaker at the December 1969 meeting speaking on "The St. Alban's Raid."

At the December 1979 meeting Henry A. Pomerantz spoke to the Round Table members on "Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville: Prelude to Gettysburg and Aftermath of Brandy Station."

At the December 1989 meeting The Philip Holweck Civil War Collection was viewed.

The featured speaker at the December 1999 meeting was Cullom Davis who talked about "Lincoln's Law Practice."

The December 2009 meeting featured a Civil War Christmas Gala.

At last year's December meeting David Hirsch and Dan Van Haften spoke to the group on "Abraham Lincoln and the Structure of Reason."

### **I've Heard of Her**

**Third Thursday of Every Month at Noon**

**Bonnie Parker**

**Thursday, December 19, 2019 Noon**

Everyone knows her as half of the crime duo Bonnie and Clyde, but who was Bonnie Parker? Find out more about this young woman who is remembered more as a myth than for who she was.

Bring a lunch and join the Museum staff in a discussion of Bonnie Parker – explore the good, the bad and the in-between. This free monthly program is held in conjunction with Suffrage 100.

**MORE Kenosha Museum Events on page 17**

## **Wade House Christmas**

**Wade House, Dec. 14-15**

Experience an 1860s Christmas, including American and German traditions. Activities include live music, cookie decorating, wagon rides, and more!

## **Kenosha Civil War Museum**

### **Second Friday Lecture Series**

The series is a free program sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and Iron Brigade Association.

#### **Kenosha and Racine in the Civil War**

**Thursday, December 5, 2019 Noon**

**Presenter: Mr. Ron Larson**

Larson's presentation will look at Kenosha's and Racine's participation in the Civil War. Topics will include: escaped slave Joshua Glover who was captured in Racine county and liberated by an abolition mob in Milwaukee in 1854, The 22nd Wis. Inf., largely a Racine regiment and known as "the Abolition Regiment", Racine's own Iron Brigade Company, and the story of John Dearborn Walker who is thought to be the youngest soldier in the Union Army. As for Kenosha, Larson will discuss Kenosha's militia company, the Park City Grays, who became Company F of the 1st Wis. Inf., Camp Harvey, the rendezvous of the 1st Wis. Cavalry which included a number of Kenosha men, the 33rd Wis. Inf. organized in Racine, in which many men from Kenosha county also served.

**Friday, December 13, 2019 Noon**

#### **The Hospital Sites of Antietam**

**Presenter: Dr. Gordon E. Dammann**

The Battle of Antietam left behind more than 23,000 casualties in a single day, a medical emergency not seen before on the North American continent. Caring for the dead and wounded soldiers of the battle had far reaching implications for the farms and towns around Sharpsburg, Maryland. Dr. Dammann will discuss the hospitals that were created after the battle and how they worked for months to save the lives of the wounded.

#### **Grant at Chattanooga**

**Saturday, December 14, 2019 1 – 3 p.m.**

**\$25/\$20 Friends of the Museum**

**Presenter: Dave Powell**

By the summer of 1863, Ulysses S. Grant was a man on the rise. His success at Vicksburg ensured him a place among the first rank of Union generals. And yet, he was not called upon for further service that summer, his army languishing in Mississippi or parceled out to other commands. Then came the defeat at Chickamauga, with William S. Rosecrans and his Army of the Cumberland trapped in Chattanooga. In October, President Abraham Lincoln sent Grant to replace Rosecrans, take overall command in the West, and lift the siege of Chattanooga. In less than two months, Grant succeeded in spectacular fashion. This workshop will consider how much of that victory was luck, and how much was astute generalship. Regardless, this triumph paved the way for Grant to take command of the entire Union war effort, and made him the most famous name in the country.



**Fredericksburg –  
December 12 -15, 1862**

*At Fredericksburg, in order to have the regiments of the brigade in the same uniform, I had ordered all to be equipped with the regulation black felt hats. In the battle of Gainesville, the men we took prisoners asked who "those black hatted fellows were" they had been fighting and after that the men were accustomed to refer to themselves as "The Black Hat Brigade." How or where the name of the "Iron Brigade" was first given I do not know but soon after the battle of Antietam the name was started and ever after was applied to the brigade.*

*John Gibbons*

**Col. O'Connor's Remains Found and Buried**

The public will rejoice to learn that the remains of the late. Col. Edgar O'Connor, of the 2d Wisconsin regiment have been found and buried in the congressional cemetery at Washington. The following letter from W. Y. Selleck, Vice President of the Wisconsin Soldiers Aid Society, will be read with interest:

Washington, Dec. 14th, 1862

Hon. B. O'Connor,  
Beloit, Wis.,

Dear Sir: - On Thursday last I started for Gainesville, Va. to recover the remains of your son, late Colonel of the 2d Regt. Wis Vol. Gen. Schurz had promised me that on my arrival at Centerville he would give me an escort to Gainesville but on my arrival at Fairfax Court House, I was informed that Gen. Schurz with his troops, with the exception of some cavalry, had left to join General Burnside. Gen. Sigel, therefore, gave me a flag of truce to proceed with from Centerville. I spent Thursday evening at Centerville, and on Friday morning early started for Gainesville; or rather for the battle field a mile and a half this side. I had a team and driver and a young man, formerly a member of the regiment, with me to assist. On our arrival on the battle field we were unable by our diagrams (which proved mainly to be imperfect) to find the graves of our Wisconsin soldiers so after a considerable search I drove in to Gainesville to make inquiry. I there found a man who was acquainted with the battle field and at my urgent request went with me to the place where your son was buried. On our arrival we found that both of our diagrams were wrong as you will see by alterations I have made. There were graves of our Wisconsin soldiers, on both sides of the one containing your son's body.

There was one, having a board, with your son's name and Regt. on it, but on examination was found not to be the one; whereupon I picked out one which, from its appearance, I

thought must be an officer's. We opened it and got to the shoulder, pulled aside the blanket and could see the eagle on the strap which satisfied me that it was the body of your son. After we took it out of the grave, Mr. Taylor pulled the blanket aside and lifted the rubber blanket off the face which we found to be undecayed and as white as the day it was buried. I immediately recognized it as that of your beloved son, as would any one who was at all acquainted with him and familiar with his appearance when in life. It was twelve and a half o'clock when we secured the remains in the coffin (which was well made of black walnut) and started for Washington where we arrived at eleven o'clock that evening after having driven 46 miles during the day, twenty miles of which was a very bad road.

Yesterday I consulted with Gen. King, who is here attending on the Court Martial, about a funeral. We concluded to have a military escort. The General gave me a letter to Gen. Heintzelman who has command of all the troops here asking a proper escort. To this Gen. Heintzelman responded by promptly ordering a regiment of infantry to report to me to-day at eleven o'clock, at which time the funeral took place. I went personally to all the members of our delegation here and invited them to attend, to which they promptly expressed their intention to do. I obtained permission of the gentleman of the house where I was boarding to use his parlors for the general ceremonies. The funeral took place this morning at eleven o'clock; the services at the house and grave were performed by an Episcopal clergyman. Among those present were Senators Howe and Doolittle, Representatives Potter and Sloan, Col. Havelock (Brother of the late General Havelock of the British Army), Col. Harte, also several of the officers belonging to various regiments, Senator Howe's family, Messrs. Gordon and Goddard and several others from Wisconsin, Gov. Randall among them, together with a number of citizens of this city. The coffin was placed in the hearse and covered with the Stars and Stripes under which he had so gallantly fought. The escort was by the 26th regiment of Maine Volunteers with their regimental band; there were six carriages filled with our Senators, Representatives and others who went to the grave. The procession went through Pennsylvania Avenue up by the capitol to the Congressional Burying Ground, where the remains now repose, encased in a black walnut coffin which is placed in a stout outside case made of thick pine.

Everything went off well and satisfactorily. It was my endeavor to have your son buried in a manner suited to his rank and which would be satisfactory and gratifying to you, his wife, mother and friends, also to the regiment which he commanded.

I remain.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.,

Box 781

W. Y. Selleck





## IN MEMORIAM

Virginia Tech announced that on Saturday, November 2, 2019, James I. “Bud” Robertson died after a long illness. He was Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at Virginia Tech. He was 89 years old.

Virginia Tech made the following announcement:

“History is the greatest teacher you will ever have,” Robertson often told his students. If history is the greatest teacher, many of them might have argued, then he was the second greatest.

Dr. Bud, as he liked to be called, grew up poor near the train tracks in Danville, Virginia, with dreams of becoming a railroad engineer. Yet, when he asked for a job at the age of 17, the yardmaster, who knew him well, told him to go to college first. The rest is literally history.

Robertson went on to earn a bachelor’s in history from Randolph-Macon College and a master’s degree and doctorate, also in history, from Emory University.

In 1967, Robertson joined the faculty of Virginia Tech, where he offered the nation’s largest Civil War course to an average of 300 students each semester. During his 44 years at the university, more than 22,000 Virginia Tech students took his class. In several instances, he ended up teaching three generations of the same families.

Robertson held the C. P. “Sally” Miles Professorship at Virginia Tech from 1976 until his appointment in 1992 as Alumni Distinguished Professor, a preeminent appointment reserved for recognition of faculty members who demonstrate extraordinary accomplishments and academic citizenship.

In 1999, Robertson became founding director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies. From its home in the Virginia Department of History, the center educates scholars and the public about the causes and consequences of one of the nation’s most momentous conflicts. The center’s annual Civil War Weekend is just one of the ongoing, vibrant programs that Robertson established.

The consummate teacher was also a celebrated author and editor, with more than 20 books on the Civil War to his credit. One of those works was based on another of Robertson’s boyhood passions – General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson.

“For fully six decades Bud Robertson was a dominant figure in his field, and a great encouragement to all who would study our turbulent past during the middle of the 19th century,” said William C. “Jack” Davis, former director of the center and himself the author and editor of more than 50 books on the Civil War and the history of the South.

“The next generation must have a knowledge of the past,” Robertson said. “If you do not know where you have been, you have no idea where you should go.”

A lecturer of national acclaim, Robertson also delivered more than 350 radio essays that aired weekly for nearly 15 years on National Public Radio affiliates as far away as Alaska. Those broadcasts featured the stories of the men, women, children, and even animals who endured the heartbreak of the Civil War.

“If you don’t understand the emotion of the war,” he would say, “you’ll never understand the war.”

Robertson was a long-time generous supporter of Virginia Tech. Not all of his generosity was monetary. He was instrumental in establishing a special Civil War collection at the University Libraries at Virginia Tech. He also donated most of his own 7,000-volume collection – one of the country’s largest private collections of Civil War books – to both that special collection and to Randolph-Macon College.

“Dr. Robertson was a remarkable person who shared his life and gifts with so many,” said Virginia Tech President Tim Sands. “His service to the nation, the commonwealth, his profession, and the Virginia Tech community is unparalleled. We are incredibly fortunate to have had the great benefit of his talents for so many years. May we carry Dr. Robertson’s passion for discovery and spirit of service forward in his honor.”

***And flights of angels guide him to his rest***

## MILWAUKEE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE 2019-2020 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

September 12, 2019	Janet Croon
<i>The War Outside My Window: The Civil War Diary of LeRoy Wiley Gresham</i>	
October 10, 2019	Jim Lighthizer
<i>Battlefield Preservation</i>	
November 7, 2019	Ethan Rafuse
<i>The Valley Campaign</i>	
December 12, 2019	Dan Weinburg
<b>Country Club of the Wisconsin Club</b> <i>Abraham Lincoln Book Shop Artifacts</i>	
January 9, 2020	Pamela Toler
<i>Heroines of Mercy Street: Nurses in the Civil War</i>	
February 13, 2020	Connie Lanum
<i>Wilson Creek Battlefield</i>	
March 12, 2020	David Sutherland
<i>VMI Civil War Legacy</i>	
April 16, 2020	Michael Schaffer
<i>Memory of Self and Comrades: Thomas W. Colley</i>	
May 7, 2020	A. Wilson Greene
<i>Petersburg Campaign</i>	
June 11, 2020	Brian Steele Wills
<i>George Henry Thomas</i>	



**Speakers/topics remain subject to change.**

## Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.

### 2019 – 2020 Board of Directors

Name	Office/Position	Term Expires
Donna Agnelly	Editor, General Orders	2022
Thomas Arliskas	Second Vice-President	2022
Terry Arliskas	Secretary	
Michael K. Benton	Past President	2020
Roman Blenski	Quartermaster	2022
Crain Bliwas	Member	2022
Paul A. Eilbes	Treasurer	2022
A. William Finke	Member	2020
Van Harl	Past President	2020
James J. Heinz	Member	2020
Grant Johnson	Membership, Past President Webmaster	2021
Bruce Klem	President	2021
Daniel Nettesheim	First Vice President	2021
Frank Risler	Program Chair	2021
Tom Thompson	Member	2020
David Wege	Layout, General Orders	2021

**milwaukeeecwrt.org**

### ~ CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE NEWS EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS ~

Would you like to receive an email reminder before each meeting? How about an email telling you about a special or upcoming Civil War event in our area? If you are interested in receiving an email reminder/notification please send your email address to Grant Johnson at: [grant.johnson@responsory.com](mailto:grant.johnson@responsory.com)

Grant will be creating a database with email reminders set to go out a week before the scheduled event. This is a purely optional choice on each member's part. If you have any questions please talk to Grant at a Round Table meeting or email him at the listed email address.

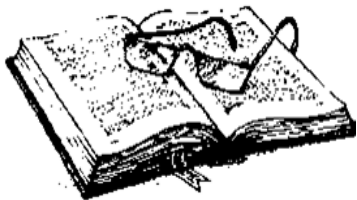
## Milwaukee Civil War Round Table Dinner Reservation for December 12, 2019

Mail your reservations by Monday, December 9 to:  
Paul Eilbes  
1809 Washington Avenue  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-9730

Call or email reservations to:  
(262) 376-0568  
[peilbes@gmail.com](mailto:peilbes@gmail.com)

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (meal is \$30.00 per person) for \_\_\_\_\_ people for the  
December 12, 2019 meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee.  
(Please make checks payable to the Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, Inc.)

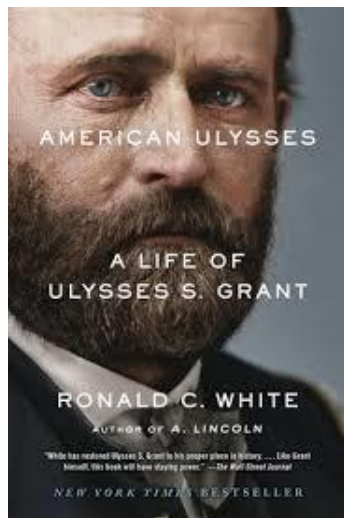
Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_



## BETWEEN THE COVERS

### AMERICAN ULYSSES: A LIFE OF ULYSSES S. GRANT

Ronald C. White



This book was reviewed at the Kenosha Civil War Museum on October 14, 2016 with the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop. Naturally, I had to pick it up to add it to my reading list. I finally started reading it in January of this year and finished it in March. At 659 pages it is not a short book but one I found that flowed and was a great read on Grant.

Mr. White goes into great detail showing how Grant grew from relatively simple beginnings to become a great military and civilian leader. Mr. White provides details that show that Grant was a very well read, intelligent, modest man who loved his wife dearly. His memoirs are considered some of the very best of their genre. While he was certainly a man of action, never hesitating to engage in aggressive offensives resulting in sometimes heavy casualties, he did not do so without regard. While some suggestion that he engaged in excessive alcohol consumption during a brief period in his early military years, there is no evidence that he did so either during the era of the Civil War or in subsequent years. And while his presidential administrations were marked by corruption, this was largely the result of the era in which he served, the Gilded Age, and there is little evidence to suggest that he participated in anything more scandalous than accepting gifts during a period prior to presidential pensions or adequate compensation.

The author develops his story after much research with primary documents, some of them never examined by previous writers about Grant. Mr. White follows Grant through his early years showing him to be a somewhat reluctant entry into the military via education at West Point. Then the early years of service through the Mexican War and posting to the West Coast where he succumbed to loneliness and separation from family, which lead to drinking problems and his eventual resignation. White shows how Grant manages to rise above the problems he faced before the Civil War as he tried to find a niche in civilian life, in which he struggled mightily to find success.

The coming of the war gave Grant a chance to reestablish himself back in the service of the country. After a slow start coming back into the service via Illinois, his leadership qualities began to shine, with perhaps one of his greatest successes the capture of Forts Henry and Donelson and some 14,000 Confederate prisoners – one of the few highlights for the Union in the early part of the war. White shows how Grant managed the highs and lows of his service during the war, eventually earning the promotion of General of the Union Armies and pitting his generalship against that of Robert E. Lee, who he defeated with his relentless Overland Campaign.

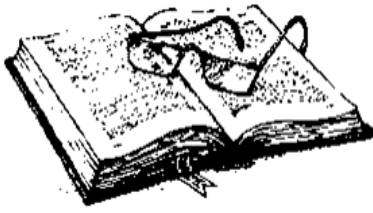
I especially liked the sections that Mr. White wrote on Grant's actions under President Johnson's administration in which he exhibited a true feeling of making sure Emancipation was actually implemented and the freed slaves became part of society. He also exhibited a strong feeling of support for the American Indians contrary to some published works. In another section Mr. White goes into great detail showing that Grant's actions as President were not part of the graft or corruption that occurred in parts of his administration and he was actually working to eliminate it as it happened.

While I have not read Chernow's acclaimed work on Grant, I found White's book to be an excellent and very interesting read. I believe anyone with interest in Ulysses Grant should add this book to their library. The style flowed and was an easy read, one that gives the reader an excellent view into the character of Ulysses S. Grant as a soldier, statesman and family man.

submitted by Bruce Klem

***One cannot and must not try to erase the past merely because  
it does not fit the present.***

***Golda Meir***



## **BETWEEN THE COVERS**

### **CIVIL WAR BARONS: THE TYCOONS, ENTREPRENEURS, INVENTORS, AND VISIONARIES WHO FORGED VICTORY AND SHAPED A NATION.**

by Jeffrey Wert

There were two things that won the Civil War for the North. First was the brave men who fought in the field and secondly, the ingenuity and industrial superiority of the North. What was the Industrial North and who ran it? Those of you who want to know more about the Industrial North and some of the men who contributed to the North's industrial might will want to read *Civil War Barons* by Jeffrey D. Wert. It's the story of the tycoons, entrepreneurs, inventors and visionaries who forged victory and shaped a nation. The book was published by Da Capo Press in November 2018. The book has 275 pages and is amply illustrated. There are eleven chapters and in each chapter the author highlights two individuals of similar talent or contribution. John Deere, whose plow helped feed large armies, Gail Borden Jr. whose condensed milk nourished the Union Army, the Studebaker brothers whose wagons moved large supplies from the home front to the war front, and Robert Parrott whose rifled cannon was deployed on countless battlefields are just a few that are included in the book.

Thomas A. Scott as vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad and brilliant executive was a political and business ally of Simon Cameron, Secretary of War. During the initial year of the war, Cameron appointed Scott Assistant Secretary of War and Scott organized the nation's railroads for the war effort - a big part in winning the war. Jay Cook, a banker and close friend and associate of fellow Ohioan Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase, revolutionized the nation's finances to raise money for the war effort by the sale of bonds.

Christopher Miner Spencer was an inventor whose breech loading repeating rifle and carbine revolutionized American firearms, and was desired by the Union troops.

Edward R. Squibb, a navy doctor, pharmacist, and idealist, conducted experiments on purification of ether and chloroform that saved countless lives of Civil War soldiers.

Cyrus McCormick, a Virginian who settled in Chicago, was the purported inventor of the first successful reaper. Secretary of War Edward Stanton declared, "without McCormick's reaper I fear the North could not win and the Union would be dismembered."

Gail Borden Jr. was a leader of the Texas Revolution and inventor before the Civil War. Union soldiers praised his condensed milk for its sweetness with an officer calling it one of the luxuries of the war.

Philip D. Armour, a Milwaukee, Wisconsin, meat packer during the Civil War explained his business model, "Anybody can cut pieces of meat, but it takes brains to make a better article."

Frederick Weyerhaeuser was a German immigrant and business partner in a lumber business in Rockford, Illinois. Wartime demand for lumber brought profits to Weyerhaeuser who began investing money in large tracts of woodland in Michigan and Wisconsin.

Cornelius Vanderbilt was one of the country's wealthiest citizens at age fifty in 1845. When the war came along Vanderbilt sold a fleet of ships to the War Department and invested heavily in railroad companies.

Collis P. Huntington was a member and leader of The Associates, who formed the Central Pacific Railroad Co. Huntington helped secure passage of the 1862 Pacific Railroad Act, which created the transcontinental railroad.

The *Civil War Barons* in my estimation is informative and a very engaging read for Civil War buffs. I gained a better understanding on how the North's superior industrial power was built, how a handful of individuals changed the way wars are fought, how the Union was saved, and how they sparked the industrial might of twentieth-century America.

submitted by Thomas F. Pokrandt





## “Gettysburg College’s Annual Civil War Institute”

Once again this summer, I attended the Civil War Institute’s annual summer conference. It is sponsored by the Gettysburg College at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The conference this year ran from June 14 through June 19 and consisted of presentations, small group discussions, panel debates and battlefield tours.

The conference brings together noted historians and those interested in a deeper exploration of Civil War topics. The focus this year covered a variety of Civil War subjects in the aftermath of previous conferences that had focused on the sesquicentennial. As usual with the conference, there is an opportunity to ask questions after each presentation if not with the whole group then in a more personal one-on-one with each presenter.

Some of this year’s faculty included Peter Carmichael, Ed Ayers, Patrick Breen, Jim Broomall, Joan Cashin, Mark Dunkelman, Andre Fleche, Dennis Frye, Gary Gallagher, Nancie Gudmestad, Earl Hess, Will Kurtz, Greg Mertz, Jennifer Murray, Tim Orr, Jason Phillips, Brian Schoen, Aaron

Sheehan-Dean, Katy Shively, Amy Murrell Taylor, David Thomson, Michael Woods and Colin Woodward.

The topics for this year’s conference are as listed:

- Party Politics Round Table discussions on Political Crisis of 1850 and internationalizing the War
- Nat Turner’s Rebellion
- Private stories of couples and families in the war
- Developing and managing the Making of Gettysburg National Military Park
- Panel discussion on the war from leading historians
- Gary Gallagher on Edward Porter Alexander
- Party politics inside the Army of the Potomac

There were a number of breakout sessions that enabled the individual to pick and choose from topics of personal interest.

These sessions gave the participant a greater opportunity for Q & A than the larger lectures. Those topics were:

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Augusta Powder works               | • John Brown’s Pikes                                    |
| • Catholics in the Civil War         | • Copperhead Movement in the Midwest                    |
| • Civil War Refugee Camps            | • Dred Scott Decision                                   |
| • Jubal Early and the Unionist Cause | • Tactics, Terrain and Trenches in the Atlanta Campaign |
| • Artifacts of the Civil War         | • Emotional Landscapes Gettysburg                       |

Saturday’s conference focused on Nat Turner and a close-up view of an individual soldier’s story as presented by Peter Carmichael. The afternoon with concurrent sessions featured:

- Jubal Early and the Unionist Cause
- Artifacts of the Civil War
- John Brown’s Pikes
- Copperhead Movement in the Midwest
- Dred Scott Decision

My choices for the afternoon were the Jubal Early talk and the Copperhead talk. There were a couple of books I wanted to pick up on the Copperheads and Dred Scott but they sold out quickly, so I’ll have to possibly pick them up at a later time.

The conference also featured battlefield tours to different sites in and around Gettysburg. The tour guides were experts of the sites, so a lot of additional information was provided by the tour guide and Q & A that occurred on the site. It really helps to see the battlefield rather than just read about a particular site and then be able to ask meaningful questions of an expert on the event to clear up any confusion gained through reading about it. This year the tours had a slightly different format in that there were some on Saturday evening. The tours offered were:

- The Brickyard Fight, the Coster Avenue Mural and the Humiston Family Story.
- Barnes Division and the Fight for Rose’s Wheatfield
- The Attack and Defense of Little Round Top: A Military Staff Ride
- The Shriver House Under Siege: Confederate Sharpshooters on S. Baltimore Hill
- Honor, Cowardice, and Lore on Oak Ridge: Iverson’s July 1 Assault
- Youth Tour & Group Discussion: Soldiers’ Letters and the Battlefield

I chose to learn more about the Wheatfield and get a close-up view of that area. I have never spent any time getting into that part of the battlefield and it was a great learning opportunity for me. The tour wrapped up the Saturday sessions.

Sunday's topics involved learning about the history of the development of the Gettysburg Battlefield Park, Combat in the Civil War, a view of private letters, the Civil War and Emancipation and concurrent sessions on Tactics, Terrain & Trenches in Atlanta, Emotional Aspects of the Battle, and editing Lee's papers. There was also a panel discussion on the view of historians of the Civil War and Gary Gallagher's discussion on Edward Porter Alexander.

Monday was devoted to a full day of touring with the choices being:

- Gettysburg Intro Tour
- Staff Ride: Gettysburg
- Stonewall Jackson at Fredericksburg & Chancellorsville
- Mosby's Confederacy, Part II
- Voices of Antietam

I checked out the Mosby tour. Even though it was listed as Part II I thought, from my perspective, it would be interesting to learn more about Mosby particularly since Dennis Frye, retired NPS ranger, was the guide. I was not disappointed. While the battle sites were small scale, such is the nature of guerilla warfare, it was new to me and gave me a better feel for this part of the war. One site on our stop was Sky Meadows State Park, Delaplane, Virginia. It was used as a safe house by Mosby on occasion and also served as a rallying point. The view from the house was fantastic and I would recommend a visit there if you are in the area. We had our box lunch and a bit of a respite. It was a steamy day for touring. We finished the tour at the site where Mosby met with Union officers after the surrender of Lee's army and tried to work out some terms of surrender of his force. Eventually nothing was worked out and Mosby melted back into civilian life. We then boarded the bus and returned at about 8:30 that evening.

Tuesday, June 18, was the final day of the conference with the morning devoted to touring either:

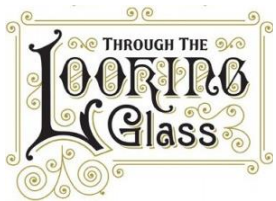
- The 16th Maine and the Battle of Oak Ridge
- Why We Fought: How Union Veterans Remembered Gettysburg
- Treasures of the National Civil War Museum: Behind the Scenes Tour
- Crisis on the Union Right: 137th NY and the Fight for Culp's Hill

I elected the 137th NY and Culp's Hill partly because other than a quick drive around the Hill and climbing the tower located on the Hill I had not checked out much of this area. I had also seen a number of articles recently showing how this fight was equally as important at Little Round Top and the 20th Maine but wasn't highlighted by a movie. As it turns out, this fight during the battle involved a much larger number of Confederate troops fighting against, at least initially, a single Union regiment. In this fight the 6th Wisconsin played a key role in supporting the fight for the Union. I found this tour very interesting and recommend anyone visiting the battlefield to spend some serious time examining this end of the Union line.

The balance of the day after lunch closed out the conference with a discussion of politics within the Army of the Potomac and why the reunions and this battle are still part of our Civil War interest. The evening featured a social event at a local farm where local brews brewed by the owner were served along with snacks and the chance to listen to a period piece band play. It was a very relaxing way to close things out.

I was not the only Round Table member in attendance this year. Jane and Gene Jamrozy and John Petty were also at the conference. Next year's schedule is already out on the website for your viewing pleasure. You can also review previous conferences to get an idea of the scope of the presentations. Costs this year were up a bit but if you are a veteran or a Civil War Round Table member discounts are available. There are a variety of options available for attendance as well as meal plans and lodging options. I encourage you to examine the upcoming event. I don't believe you would be disappointed in attending.

submitted by Bruce Klem



*Through the Looking Glass* features are intended to tell the stories of common folks of the Civil War, whether they are civilians or military personnel. If you have access to the story of an ordinary citizen of this war-torn era and are willing to share it with our Round Table, please consider submitting it to Donna Agnelly, editor of our [General Orders](#). Thank you!

## **“An Iron Brigade of the West”**

One of the interesting side roads in Civil War scholarship is trying to determine how the 2nd, 6th, 7th Wisconsin and 19th Indiana became known as the Iron Brigade.

It may have been the result of the brigade's long climb up South Mountain on September 14, 1862. Afterwards, other soldiers began talking about not “Gibbon's Brigade,” a “Western Brigade” or a “Black Hat Brigade,” but an “Iron Brigade of the West.” It became a mighty war name and Army Commander George B. McClellan claimed to have a role in creating it. The story he told a former Wisconsin officer during a reception at the Continental Hotel in Philadelphia three years after the war included this exchange between himself and Gen. Joseph Hooker:

McClellan: “What troops are those fighting on the pike?”

Hooker: “General Gibbon's Brigade of Western men.”

McClellan: “They must be made of iron.”

Hooker: “By the Eternal, they are iron! If you had seen them at Bull Run as I did, you would know them to be iron.”

McClellan: “Why, General Hooker, they fight equal to the best troops in the world.”

The general said it was sometime after the fighting that Hooker rode up to headquarters and called out, “General McClellan, what do you think now of my Iron Brigade?” It was an exchange that could have happened. John Gibbon in his memoir said: “How or where the name of the ‘Iron Brigade’ was first given I do not know, but soon after the battle of Antietam the name was started and ever after was applied to the brigade.” His use of Antietam as a starting point for the name “Iron Brigade” is of some interest, although the fighting at Sharpsburg, Md., occurred three days after South Mountain. Rufus Dawes in his brilliant history of his 6th Wisconsin never identified the origin of the name.

Other evidence provides a more acceptable explanation. The slope of South Mountain was less cluttered in September 1862, with clumps of woods, some large clusters of boulders, and stone fences marking the open fields. From the viewing platform built by his engineers on a rise of ground near his headquarters well back from South Mountain, Little Mac had a clear view of the advance. In his report of the battle, McClellan wrote a glowing description: “The [Gibbon's] brigade advanced steadily, driving the enemy from positions in the woods and behind stone walls, until they reached a point well up towards the top of the pass, when the enemy, having been reinforced by three regiments, opened heavy fire on the front and on both flanks...Gen. Gibbon, in this delicate movement, handled his brigade with as much precision and coolness as if upon parade, and the bravery of his troops could not be excelled.”

It was a display of brave fighting that was remembered because it occurred in full view. At Gainesville, in the fighting the day before Second Bull Run, the four regiments fought almost alone in the gathering darkness against elements of the Stonewall Brigade of the Confederate Army, another fighting organization with a storied battle name. But it was still then an unknown brigade of soldiers in big hats against a “Stonewall Brigade.” The Westerners also covered the retreat at Second Bull Run, but won little fame. At South Mountain, however, the general commanding the Army of the Potomac and others watched as Gibbon's Brigade fought its way up to Turner's Gap, and perhaps, just perhaps, Little Mac did ask what brigade was moving up the hill, and when told, perhaps, just perhaps, did make a clever remark about “iron men.”

A newspaper reporter standing nearby overheard something along those lines from McClellan and his officers and noted it long before McClellan's memory was romanced a bit. The correspondent worked for the Cincinnati *Daily Commercial*. He wrote a report that was printed September 22, 1862, just eight days after South Mountain and five days after Antietam. In it he said of Gibbon's men: “The last terrible battle has reduced this brigade to a mere skeleton; there being scarcely enough members to form half a regiment. The 2nd Wisconsin, which but a few weeks since, numbered over nine hundred men, can now muster but fifty nine. This brigade has done some of the hardest and best fighting in the service. It has been justly termed the Iron Brigade of the West.”

**continued**

The name was linked to McClellan in letters home. Capt. Aleck Gordon Jr., of the 7th Wisconsin wrote September 21 that "Gen. McClellan has given us the name of the Iron Brigade." Even Dawes as early as September 18 used the word "iron" to describe the men of his regiment. "I have come safely through two more terrible engagements with the enemy, that at South Mountain and the great battle of yesterday [Antietam]," he wrote his mother. "The men have stood like iron..."

Jerome Watrous of the 6th Wisconsin, one of the newspaper "prints" himself, first told the correct version of how the name was first mentioned by a newspaper man who was at McClellan's headquarters during South Mountain. Then the editor of his own newspaper, Watrous had been asked about the famous name in an interview with the *Chicago Chronicle* before the 1898 Iron Brigade Association reunion at Baraboo, Wis. When it was published by the Chicago newspaper, Watrous ran the story in the columns of his own *Milwaukee Sunday Telegraph* September 12, 1898.

Wisconsin and Indiana men always believed that it was McClellan who singled them out as an "Iron Brigade of the West." From the first they were careful to include the reference to their Western roots and said it was a name won by hard fighting and not "stolen" from an early war brigade of two-year New York regiments singled out as a "cast-iron" brigade by an officer for a day of hard marching.

submitted by: Lance Herdegen

### JIM LIGHTHIZER PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT

On November 4, 2019, O. James Lighthizer announced his retirement.

Lighthizer's announcement came in an email letter and video to supporters. "My two decades of service as president of this organization have been the best of my career," Lighthizer told supporters in his email, "primarily because I get to work with passionate and generous people like you who care so much about saving our country's incomparable history."

Lighthizer took the helm of what was then the Civil War Preservation Trust in 1999. At that point, the organization had preserved 7,000 acres. "Since then – thanks to generous patriots like you, our partners and the amazing team here at the Trust – we've grown our membership, broadened our mission and forever preserved nearly 52,000 acres of hallowed battlefield land," he said in his letter.

The Trust's Board of Directors will conduct a national search to find Lighthizer's successor, and Lighthizer will stay on as president until the search has concluded. He will then remain on the board as president emeritus. "I will also be available to help and advise the new CEO upon request and participate in the Trust's advocacy efforts with lawmakers and in major preservation efforts," he explained.

Near Catlett's Station

November 1st, 1863

This is a beautiful Sabbath day. I have been riding on my horse. Twenty months ago we came here, the advance of the army, and more pleasant homes are seldom found, than we carefully guarded and protected then, under General McDowell. Now nothing but charred ruins and ghostly looking chimneys mark the places of those pretty cottages. Not a fence, barn, nor scarce a vestige of timber remains to identify the spot. In place, the country is covered with the bones of dead horses and mules, and the debris of abandoned camps. Unsightly stumps mark the places of the pleasant groves. It is hard for one who has not seen, to imagine the horrid desolation wrought by war.



Rufus Dawes to his "best girl," Mary Beman Gates Dawes

from our good friends at  
**Savas Beatie**  
[www.savasbeatie.com](http://www.savasbeatie.com)

## The Contrabands of Harpers Ferry New Blog by Author Alexander Rossino

*Savas Beatie has kindly shared with us a blog they posted from Alexander Rossino  
on September 3, 2019*

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Every so often something in Civil War history hits you like a punch in the gut. Whether it is a particularly visceral description of combat, or a moving letter from a soldiers' loved one at home, the information in a source can affect you deeply; so deeply that it colors your perspective from that point onward.

I had an experience like this while researching my next book, *The Guns of September: A Novel of McClellan's Army in Maryland, 1862*. Reading through a copy of the Richmond *Dispatch* from September 18, 1862, I came across the following passage: "Although official confirmation of the reported capture of the Federal garrison at Harpers Ferry reached this city yesterday, no one doubts for a moment its reliability...The whole garrison, some eight thousand in number, surrendered on Sunday morning, besides which our forces captured about one thousand negroes."

***Captured one thousand negroes?*** Wait! Did I just read that?

Back I pored through my stack of books on the Maryland Campaign looking for some reference to the capture of contrabands by Stonewall Jackson's men. Did I overlook it in James Murfin's classic, *The Gleam of Bayonets*? Nope, not mentioned. Stephen Sears's *Landscape Turned Red*? Not there. Surely it would be in Joseph Harsh's *Taken at the Flood*. It wasn't, and no sign of it in his Confederate companion volume, *Sounding the Shallows*, either. I searched without success through Ezra Carmen's history of the Maryland Campaign, Douglas Southall Freeman's massive biography of Robert E. Lee and G.F.R. Henderson's biography of Stonewall Jackson until I finally located a brief mention of captured contrabands in Dr. Scott Hartwig's voluminous *To Antietam Creek*. Then I found another more detailed treatment in a slim volume called *Harpers Ferry Under Fire* by Dennis Frye.

At last, I had found other researchers who noticed this sad historical episode. Frye's account even cited the letters of a woman named Abba Goddard who witnessed Ambrose Powell Hill's men scouring Harpers Ferry for black folks – men, women and children alike. Hill's men seized not only the military spoils of war, they also swept up any and all blacks they found in town after the Federal surrender, no matter where those people came from, or if they were freemen or not. They even tried to seize free blacks serving on the staff of Captain William Trimble, a captured Federal officer.

I left this episode alone for a long time, even though it continued to nag at me like an itch I couldn't scratch. Then Robert Wynstra's *At the Forefront of Lee's Invasion* called attention to the Army of Northern Virginia's rounding-up of blacks in Pennsylvania during the Gettysburg Campaign in 1863 and immediately I recalled the events at Harpers Ferry in September, 1862. No one had exposed that earlier incident in nearly as public a light as the events Wynstra recounted.

Until I read that entry in the Richmond *Dispatch* I had always studied the Confederate capture of Harpers Ferry in strictly military terms. It was one of Stonewall Jackson's crowning achievements, a victory that forced the surrender of more Federal troops than at any time until the capitulation of 12,000 U.S. soldiers to Japanese forces in the Philippines at the outset of the Second World War. Yet here in A.P. Hill's actions was evidence of something more than a battlefield triumph. Here was a disturbing example of chattel slavery in operation during wartime. Here I found the seizure and imprisonment by Confederate troops of human beings defined as mere objects, as property, as non-persons; a status that even the Federal term "contrabands" reinforced.

The story of Harpers Ferry's contrabands told in the *Dispatch*, and augmented with a couple of details from Frye's book, goes as follows. A. P. Hill detailed 1,000 or so men to collect and ship south the supplies captured at the Ferry. This included as many as 2,000 blacks, no small number of whom "belonged to citizens of Jefferson and adjoining counties...one gentleman from Clarke [County], who had lost 31 negroes [and] found 28 of them in this lot." Two train car loads of these people, "whom the Yankees had stolen," claimed the *Dispatch*, then arrived in Richmond on September 23, "by the Central Railroad, direct from Harpers Ferry... Their masters propose to offer them for sale in Richmond, not deeming them desirable servants after having associated with the Yankees." From here the contrabands sent to Richmond vanish from history, presumably auctioned off to distant locations in the Deep South.



Reflecting on this event made me uneasy, which is perhaps understandable given my past career studying German deportation operations involving human beings and rail cars during World War Two. That coincidence aside, reading about the events at Harpers Ferry forced me to realize that I had never considered seriously enough the meaning of the American Civil War from millions of enslaved people in the South. I had viewed their fate more as a distant intellectual notion generally separate from the war's military operations, except on certain occasions like the incident of Ebenezer Creek when Sherman's army left thousands of black refugees trailing his army to be captured by pursuing Rebel cavalry. Now, though, reading about rail cars of captured contrabands arriving in Richmond for the slave pens exposed the glaring hole in my thinking.

Don't take me wrong here. I am in no way saying that the Harpers Ferry contraband round-up and Nazi depopulation actions are the same thing. They are not. Not by a long shot. I am also not pontificating on the American Civil War being caused by or fought for the eradication of slavery in the United States. That is an issue for others more versed in the sources to argue over. I also know for a fact that racism was widespread in Northern ranks and that the Army of the Potomac nearly revolted after Abraham Lincoln's announcement of the preliminary proclamation of emancipation on September 22, 1862. Few Union troops or officers would claim in 1862 that their army was a liberating force bent on destroying slavery. They would argue that their twin purposes were to restore the Union and to put down rebellion.

I get it.

And yet despite these facts students of the war must recognize that the Confederate and Union armies operated in fundamentally different ways. The Harpers Ferry contraband incident illustrates this beyond a doubt. None of us anywhere would ever read that a Union army seized blacks upon capturing a location, searched the place for every last one of them, placed them in chains, and shipped them off to be sold in Philadelphia!

Here in the Richmond *Dispatch* I encountered a different situation altogether, a situation when ordinary Southern soldiers, men who undoubtedly considered themselves patriots doing their duty, acted as centurions enforcing the utterly despicable practice of enslaving innocent people just because the law and local custom defined them as less than human. What does one do with the fact that while devoted Southern men fought to protect their homeland from invasion, they were also defending an economic system that degraded both slaves and their owners? What does the blood sacrifice of Confederate troops during the war mean when their struggle for independence denied liberty, and even basic human dignity, to millions of people? Where is the glory in the pursuit of that objective?

These questions bother me to this day. I study and admire the fighting men of both the North and the South for persevering through the hardships they endured and yet when it comes to the cause for which Southern troops struggled, I can only shake my head. Defenders of Southern heritage might argue that one fight – the fight for Confederate independence – was not connected to slavery in the minds of most Southern soldiers. After all, the research seems to show that most ordinary Southern troops never owned slaves. This is a fair enough claim, I guess, but then how does one explain the actions of A. P. Hill's men at Harpers Ferry? If those men were not enforcing the customs of Southern society at the time, customs that called for the rounding-up and re-enslavement of thousands of innocent people, some of whom were freedmen, what were they doing?

The only logical conclusion I've been able to reach is that fighting to secure Southern independence also meant fighting to defend slavery. The two things cannot be separated. Ordinary Southern troops in A. P. Hill's command clearly seem to have understood this and they did their duty accordingly. It is we in the present who seem to have forgotten it and I can only wonder why on earth that is.



## *Vicksburg is the Key*



**Civil War Time Travelers - October 24-30, 2020**

**Ft. Donelson – Shiloh – Corinth – Vicksburg**

**Please see the Registration Table for more information or check Facebook.**

# FROM THE FILES OF PETER JACOBSON

## Exchange Plans for Prisoners

GENERAL ORDERS.}  
No. 142 }

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Adjutant General's Office,  
Washington, September 25, 1862

The following is the cartel under which prisoners are exchanged in the existing war with the Southern States:

HAXALL'S LANDING ON JAMES RIVER, VA.,  
*July 22, 1862.*

The undersigned, having been commissioned by the authorities they respectively represent to make arrangements for a general exchange of prisoners of war, have agreed to the following articles:

*Article 1.* It is hereby agreed and stipulated that all prisoners of war held by either party, including those taken on private armed vessels known as privateers, shall be discharged upon the conditions and terms following:

Prisoners to be exchanged man for man and officer for officer; privateers to be placed upon the footing of officers and men of the Navy.

Men and officers of lower grades may be exchanged for officers of a higher grade, and men and officers of different services may be exchanged according to the following scale of equivalents:

A General commanding in chief or an Admiral shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or for forty privates or common seamen.

A Commodore in the Navy or a Colonel shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or for fifteen privates or common seamen.

A Captain in the Navy or a Colonel shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or for fifteen privates or common seamen.

A Lieutenant Colonel or a Commander in the Navy shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or for ten privates or common seamen.

A Lieutenant Commander or a Major shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or eight privates or common seamen.

A Lieutenant or a Master in the Navy or a Captain in the Army or Marines shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or six privates or common seamen.

Master's Mates in the Navy or Lieutenants and Ensigns in the Army shall be exchanged for officers of equal rank or four privates or common seamen.

Midshipmen, Warrant Officers in the Navy, Masters of merchant vessels, and Commanders of privateers shall be exchanged for Officers of equal rank or three privates or common seamen.

Second Captains, Lieutenants, or Mates, of merchant vessels or privateers, and all petty officers in the Navy and all non-commissioned officers in the Army or Marines, shall be severally exchanged for persons of equal rank or for two privates or common seamen; and private soldiers or common seamen shall be exchanged for each other man for man.

*Article 2.* Local, State, civil, and militia rank held by persons not in actual military service will not be recognized, the basis of exchange being the grade actually held in the naval and military services of the respective parties.

*Article 3.* If citizens held by either party on charges of disloyalty or any alleged civil offence are exchanged, it shall only be for citizens. Captured sutlers, teamsters, and all civilians in the actual service of either party, to be exchanged for persons in similar position.

*Article 4.* All prisoners of war to be discharged on parole in ten days after their capture, and the prisoners now held and those hereafter taken to be transported to the points mutually agreed upon, at the expense of the capturing party. The surplus prisoners not exchanged shall not be permitted to take up arms again, nor to serve as military police or constabulary force in any fort, garrison, or field work help by either of the respective parties, not as guards of prisons, depots, or stores, nor to discharge any duty usually performed by soldiers, until exchanged under the provisions of this cartel. The exchange is not to be considered complete until the officer or soldier exchanged for has been actually restored to the lines to which he belongs.

*Article 5.* Each party, upon the discharge of prisoners of the other party, is authorized to discharge an equal number of their own officers or men from parole, furnishing at the same time to the other party a list of their prisoners discharged and their own officers and men relieved from parole; thus enabling each party to relieve from parole such of their own officers and men as the party may choose. The lists thus mutually furnished will keep both parties advised of the true condition of the exchange of prisoners.

*Article 6.* The stipulations and provisions above mentioned to be of binding obligation during the continuance of the war, it matters not which party may have the surplus of prisoners, the great principles involved being – 1st. An equitable exchange of prisoners, man for man, officer for officer, or officers of higher grade exchanged for officers of lower grade, or for privates according to the scale of equivalents; 2d. That privateers and officers and men of different services may be exchanged according to the same scale of equivalents; 3d. That all prisoners, of whatever arm of service, are to be exchanged or paroled in ten days from the time of their capture, if it be practicable to transfer them to their own lines in that time; if not, as soon thereafter as practicable; 4th. That no officer, soldier, or employee in the service of either party is to be considered as exchanged and absolved from his parole until his equivalent has actually reached the lines of his friends; 5th. That the parole forbids the performance of field, garrison, police, or guard, or constabulary duty.

(Signed) JOHN A. DIX,  
*Major General*

(Signed) D. H. Hill,  
*Major General, C.S.A.*

#### SUPPLEMENTARY ARTICLES

*Article 7.* All prisoners of war now held on either side, and all prisoners hereafter taken, shall be sent with all reasonable dispatch to A. M. Aikens', below Dutch Gap, on the James river, Virginia, or to Vicksburg, on the Mississippi river, in the State of Mississippi, and then exchanged or paroled until such exchange can be effected, notice being previously given by each party of the number of prisoners it will send, and the time when they will be delivered at those points respectively; and in case the vicissitudes of war shall change the military relations of the places designated in this article to the contending parties so as to render the same inconvenient for the delivery and exchange of prisoners, other places, bearing as nearly as may be the present local relations of said places to the lines of said parties, shall be by mutual agreement substituted. But nothing in this article contained shall prevent the commanders of two opposing armies from exchanging prisoners or releasing them on parole at other points mutually agreed on by said commanders.

*Article 8.* For the purposes of carrying into effect the foregoing articles of agreement, each party will appoint two agents, to be called Agents for the exchange of prisoners of war, whose duty it shall be to communicate with each other, by correspondence and otherwise, to prepare the lists of prisoners, to attend to the delivery of the prisoners at the places agreed on, and to carry out promptly, effectually, and in good faith, all the details and provisions of the said articles of agreement.

*Article 9.* And in case any misunderstanding shall arise in regard to any clause or stipulation in the foregoing articles, it is mutually agreed that such misunderstanding shall not interrupt the release of prisoners on parole, as herein provided, but shall be made the subject of friendly explanations, in order that the object of this agreement may neither be defeated nor postponed.

(Signed) JOHN A. DIX,  
*Major General.*

(Signed) D. H. Hill,  
*Major General C.S.A.*

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

L. THOMAS,  
*Adjutant General.*

OFFICIAL:

*Assistant Adjutant General.*



Who of us connects Christmas to sadness and melancholy? As the Christmas of 1861 neared Confederate soldier Nathaniel Dawson and his best girl Elodie Todd wrote to one another confessing fidelity and an increasing angst. They were separated by too many miles. Their letters were often interrupted by delays and disruptions caused by war. The life they once knew was disappearing, seemingly forever.

"I wish I could be with you at Christmas, the festal season, where age is rejuvenated and lives again in the merry carols of youth," Dawson wrote to Miss Todd (sister of Mary Todd Lincoln) on December 22. On Christmas Day, he decried his regiment's rowdy celebrations. "Bad whiskey is abundant and pleasure and sorrow drowned in large potations."

The couple's lives changed dramatically during the war, as the Confederacy crumbled and their personal lives endured change and hardship. But they weren't alone in wishing they could celebrate Christmas together. As the fractured United States fought, the holiday took on a new aura. It was no longer an unimportant, personal holiday. By war's end Christmas had become an idealized portrait of home, heart, and hearth. Across a broken land, Christmas came to symbolize what had been, and what could possibly be again.

**In the spirit of the season, Merry Christmas to the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table family.**

## More Events at the Museum

### Victorian Christmas/Harbor Holiday

**Saturday, December 7, 2019 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Step back in time to discover the holiday traditions of the Civil War and Victorian periods. Families will delight in games, crafts, ornament making, and storytelling. Visit soldier and civilian living history presenters inside the main gallery. (Free admission all day!) Plus enjoy these special performances:

- 11 am – Holiday favorites by Ed Pierce and the Palmyra Eagle Band
- 12 pm – Meet President Abraham Lincoln at a holiday reception
- 2 pm – Storytelling with Laura Marsh: The Night Before Christmas and The Christmas Tree Ship
- 3 pm – Maritime Archaeologist Tamara Thomsen presents the true story of the Christmas Tree Ship

**Sunday, December 8, 2019 1:30 pm**

### RG Radio Productions Presents: A Christmas Carol

Victorian Christmas is held in conjunction with Kenosha Harbor Holiday, and indoor/outdoor international market and festival at the museums' campus. Celebrate different holidays and cultures at the Kenosha Public Museum International Holiday Faire. Then visit with 60 food and gift vendors under two heated tents. Listen to festive musical performances all day. Enjoy family activities, streetcar rides with storytellers, and a local artist ornament auction and sale.

For more information go to the Kenosha Harbor Holiday website:

[www.visitkenosha.com/Events/KenoshaHarborHoliday](http://www.visitkenosha.com/Events/KenoshaHarborHoliday)

**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 submission to **Donna Agnelly, Editor**, 420 Racine St. Unit 110, Waterford, WI 53185 or email [dagnelly@tds.net](mailto:dagnelly@tds.net) or [donnaagnelly@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## 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 log, along with your name or initials.

ITEM	COST
Hooded Sweatshirt in Northern Blue.....	\$35.00
Baseball Hat.....	\$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](mailto:dbcpmilw@execpc.com)

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

