

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

March 11, 2021

The Civil War: April 12, 1861 - August 20, 1866



Christopher Klein

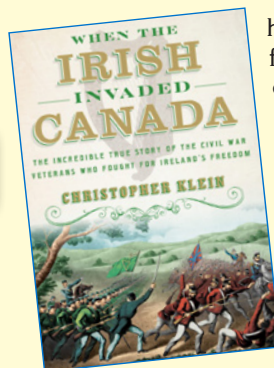
“When The Irish Invaded Canada: The Incredible True Story of the Civil War Veterans Who Fought for Ireland’s Freedom”

Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, March 11, for an online web conference (no physical meeting). Members will receive **ZOOM** dial-in instructions via email. This month’s topic is **Christopher Klein** on **“When The Irish Invaded Canada: The Incredible True Story of the Civil War Veterans Who Fought for Ireland’s Freedom”**

The outlandish, untold story of the Irish American revolutionaries who tried to free Ireland by invading Canada.

Just over a year after Robert E. Lee relinquished his sword, a band of Union and Confederate veterans dusted off their guns. But these former foes had no intention of reigniting the Civil War. Instead, they fought side by side to undertake one of the most fantastical missions in military history: to seize the British province of Canada and to hold it hostage until the independence of Ireland was secured.

By the time that these invasions—known collectively as the Fenian raids—began in 1866, Ireland had been Britain’s unwilling colony for seven hundred years. Thousands of Civil War veterans who had fled to the United States rather than perish in the wake of the Great Hunger still considered themselves Irishmen first, Americans second. With the tacit support of the U.S. government and inspired by a previous generation of successful American revolutionaries, the group that carried out a series of five attacks on Canada between 1866 and 1871—the Fenian Brotherhood—established a state in exile, planned prison breaks, weathered infighting, stockpiled weapons, and assassinated enemies. Defiantly, this motley group, including a one-armed war



hero, an English spy infiltrating rebel forces, and a radical who staged his own funeral, managed to seize a piece of Canada—if only for three days.

Chris is the author of four books, including *When the Irish Invaded Canada* and *Strong Boy: The Life and Times of John L. Sullivan, America’s First Sports Hero*. A frequent contributor to *History.com*, the website of the History Channel, He has also written for *The Boston Globe*, *The New York Times*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Harvard Magazine*, *Smithsonian.com*, and *AmericanHeritage.com*.

He graduated summa cum laude and with honors from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, in 1994, and is a member of the Authors Guild, Biographers International Organization, Boston Authors Club, and Irish American Writers & Artists.

Notes from the President...

March brings us **Woman’s History Month**, baseball and Spring. Our round table continues to expand as we spread our message of education and preservation across the nation. Welcome to our new members who joined us last month. If you have not renewed your membership for 2021, locate the request on page 2 and submit it so you do not miss out on any of the outstanding programs, projects and events we will have this year. The presenter’s book will be raffled off at the end of our meeting each month to a paid member. Those tuned in, could also win a book in our regular raffle. Our clothing store will be opening soon for a short period of time. Watch for the notice so you can stock up on your Old Baldy apparel.

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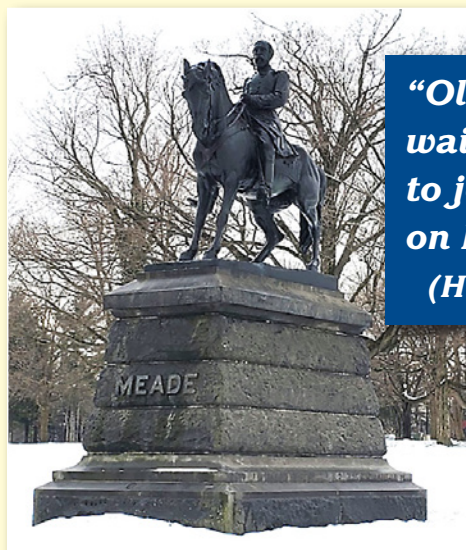
Last month **Dr. Lorien Foote** shared her findings on **“The Yankee Plague”** in the Carolinas with our round table. It was a very interest story of how these escaped prisoners affected the region. If you were unable to join us, read **Kathy Clark’s** article about it on page 10. The link to the presentation is available under the announcement of the February meeting on our website (OldBaldyCWRT.org). This month we will have two Zoom sessions for you to join us. First on the 11th **Christopher Klein** will brief us on the post war action **“When the Irish invaded Canada.”** On the 25th **Paul Prentiss** will lead a discussion on **“Life in Army Camps.”** You can find more information on these programs, including Paul’s suggested reading list, in this newsletter. Be sure to invite a friend or neighbor to join us for these presentations.

Details will be available soon about our gathering at the Old Baldy statue in Fairmont Park on May 15th to celebrate his birthday. We scouted the site last month. We will soon be writing more member profiles for the newsletter as we continue to learn about each other. We are accepting suggestions on how to best celebrate our 45th anniversary in January. We have officially rescheduled our Western Theater Symposium from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022. More updates to follow later in the year.

Thank you to our treasurer, **Frank Barletta**, for the work he did to re-establish our PayPal account to set up the link on our website for payments to the round table such as dues, donations and registrations. Members should have received an email from Frank about our finances for 2020. Let him know if you did not get the message. This spring we will be hosting a fundraiser for maintenance at the Slaughter Pen at Fredericksburg. More information will be presented next month. The opportunity to judge Regional History Day events and the State event still exist. Find the details on page 14. Don’t forget to submit to **Don Wiles** of a write up of what you have been doing to pass the time for the last year. This can include videos, activities, readings, visits or discussions.

For those reveling the Green have a safe and enjoyable Saint Patrick’s Day celebration between our sessions. Keep supporting local businesses and stay vigilant. Join us on the 11th to be part of our record-breaking crowd.

Rich Jankowski, President



**“Old Baldy
waiting for us
to join him
on May 15th”
(His Birthday)**

From the Treasurer’s Quarantine Desk

*Well, it has been a very different kind of year, what can I say? Fortunately, our Round Table has continued to flourish, even though we’ve had our meetings on **Zoom**. In fact, **our membership has grown.***

*A big shout out goes to **Rich, our President and head cheerleader.** Also, thanks to **Dave Gilson** for continuing to bring us great speakers with a very diverse range of topics. And to the rest of us, the Old Baldy Members, congratulations and thank you.*

*It has been through our presentation on **Zoom** that we have not only been able to keep our current members engaged, but have reached new viewers and recruited new members*

*We thank all our great members for your support and continued commitment to our success. Your support has made it possible, not only to permit us to bring these **special speakers**, but to continue giving charitable donations to some very special organizations. Some included are **The Memorial Hall Fund, American Battlefield Trust, Gettysburg Foundation and Civil War Trails Foundation.***

*As the year came to an end, it is time again to show your support with your **2021 Membership Dues.** Though we remain on a strong financial footing, we have been unable to pursue our normal fund- raising activities. Thus, making your dues that much more important this year.*

***On a personal note,** I have always felt that our organization was so much more than just a Round Table. It is a group of people brought together by a common enjoyment of Civil War history, but more importantly, people I love having wonderful conversations with, but also being with them. I miss you all. I await the day when we can meet in person, shake hands, hug and sit down for dinner at the diner .*

Thank you again. Stay safe.

**\$25. regular dues \$35. Family membership
Mail to: Frank Barletta
44 Morning Glory Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053**

Reinstating Book Raffle

In an attempt, to make our Zoom meeting more like our in-person meetings, the board has proposed having a drawing at the end of each Zoom meeting.

The Raffle will be for the book written by our speaker for that night’s meeting. This will also be a thank you to our speaker for making their presentation.

Rules: The name of each 2020 member will be put in a hat. Additionally, those members attending the Zoom meeting will have their names added to the hat (a second chance).

At the conclusion of the meeting, a winning name will be drawn. **Good Luck**

Today in Civil War History

1862 Tuesday, March 11

The North

President Lincoln issues War Order Number Three, in which he declares the position of general-in-chief in temporary abeyance, General McClellan now having command only of the Army of the Potomac.

The Confederacy

Generals Floyd and Pillow are removed from their commands following the disaster at Fort Donelson.

Eastern Theater

General "Stonewall" Jackson takes 4600 Confederate troops southward from Winchester, Virginia.

Western Theater

There is a skirmish at Paris, Tennessee, in which five Union cavalry troopers are killed.

1863 Wednesday, March 11

The North

Federal authorities in Baltimore continue their campaign against rebel propaganda, banning the sale of pictures of Confederate leaders.

Western Theater

Grant's latest attempt to approach Vicksburg is foiled. Gunboats advancing down the Yalobusha River find their way blocked by a new Confederate position christened Fort Pemberton in honor of the commander of the Vicksburg defenses. The hastily constructed earthwork is reinforced with cotton bales—a simple solution to the problem of digging trenches in such flooded ground.

1864 Thursday, March 11

Western Theater

The expected spring rise in the Red River has not yet begun. Halleck's plan for a major offensive along this waterway will go into action tomorrow, but if the waters do not rise soon, the powerful Union river fleet will be helpless.

1865 Saturday, March 11

Eastern Theater

Sherman's troops enter Fayetteville, North Carolina. Their long train of black refugees follows the Union soldiers into the town. At times, the vast numbers of refugees crowding along the roads has seemed to exceed the number of soldiers. Thousands of families have fled the plantations and farms to follow the Federal Army.

WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>
Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

By Frank Caporusso, Member OBCWRT

I am providing links to several sites where you can sign up for CoVid vaccination.

Please act quickly as appointments at some venues are extended out to June.

The Rowan School of medicine has a rolling signup and you can try that site Daily to check for appointments.

However, as opposed to FEMA sites it is only Registering as CURRENT supplies are available. This site seems to open at 8:30 AM and fills VERY quickly.

1) - Rowanmedicine.com/vaccine/registration

2) - Virtua.org

These 2 sites are "site specific"

You can also see a list of sites throughout NJ and links to each registration site in general at :

Covid19.nj.gov.

If you are over 65, have ANY chronic illness, or work / volunteer in any type of healthcare setting PLEASE note this as it should help you move closer to the top of the list. (My friends are being pushed into June but since I work in health care, I was able to schedule in early February

MOST centers are NOT doing walk-ups contrary to many rumors. If you go to a vaccination center at the end of the day you MAY be given a leftover dose but I wouldn't count on it



Welcome to the new recruits

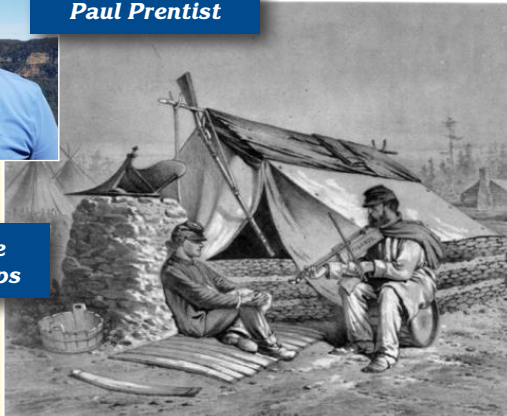
William Buchanan
Sea Isle City, NJ
Michael Donohue
Mount Holly, NJ
Robert Acorcey
Cherry Hill, NJ

"Life in the Army Camps": A Roundtable Discussion Night

Presented by Paul Prentiss, Member OBCWRT



Paul Prentiss



Life in the Army Camps

This is an additional Zoom program for Thursday, March 25, 2021, 7:15pm

Old Baldy members are invited to participate in an all-hands round table meeting to discuss Life in the Army Camps on Thursday March 25th. This is an extremely broad topic with so many aspects that everyone should find something interesting to look up and share.

The American Civil War was not a continuous battle. Instead, the majority of time was spent with long monotonous residency in camps punctuated by short periods of the terror and chaos of combat. Due to the nature of campaign goals, Armies could be in the field for several months, or up to a year. One thing Soldiers could always count on was a long outdoor stay in all types of weather.

What interests you about a soldier's life in camp? Was it the food/diet, medical care, general living conditions, entertainment, camp furniture, animal companions, good order and discipline, recreational activities, spies, illness/disease, ordinary activities, sanitary conditions, visitors, spiritual needs, camp followers, gambling, physical security, available vices, military training, logistics, camp locations or home-front support? Above is a short list of things that may interest you to bring to the round table discussion.

Hop on the internet, grab that book off the shelf, watch that movie again or find that magazine article. Refresh your memory on your favorite camp interest and share with us in March.

A simple search of Civil War Camp Life brings up a host of items;

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/life-civil-war-soldier-camp>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/civil-war-camp-life/>

<https://www.civilwarhome.com/camplife.htm>

<https://civilwar.mrdonn.org/camplife.html>

<https://blog.genealogybank.com/union-soldier-describes-daily-life-in-civil-war-camp.html>

<https://www.civilwaracademy.com/soldier-life>

<https://ahec.armywarcollege.edu/trail/CivilWarCabins/index.cfm>

The Conference on Women and the Civil War Register Now!

Our 21st Conference, The Women of the Shenandoah Valley, will be held July 23 - 25, 2021, in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

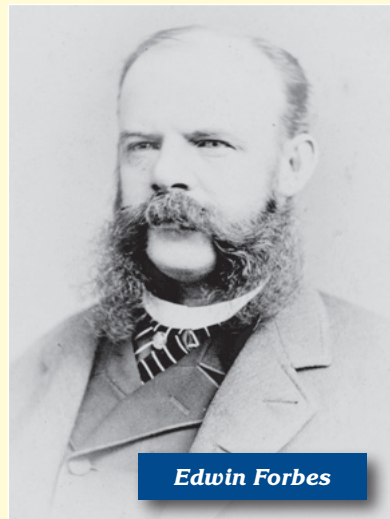
For conference details,
<http://www.swcw.org/2021-conference-details.html>
To register for the conference:
<http://www.swcw.org/2021-conference-details.html>

"The President goes to the Theater"

By CWTI, May 1971

President Lincoln found the theater pleasantly distracting from the monumental cares of his office and, as the war approached its close, he was more able to relax on his outings. With him went Mary, sometimes friends, and often his old companion and bodyguard Ward Hill Lamon.

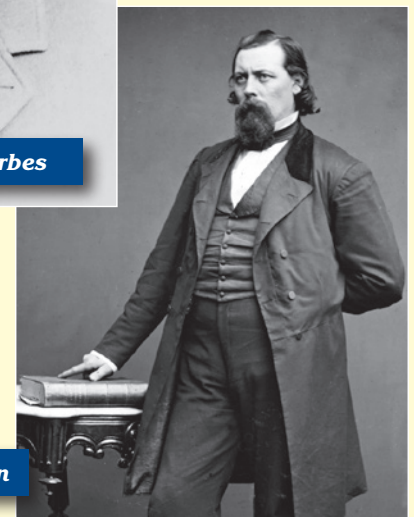
And the President attending the theater was always news. Thus it is no surprise that when Lincoln went to Grover's Theater in Washington on the evening of March 21, 1865, Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper had one of its best artists, Edwin Forbes, there to capture the scene. The Lincolns sat in the front row of the first balcony, almost at the extreme right of the stage, with the President in the aisle seat. Lamon, having perhaps, left his own seat, stood in the aisle beside Lincoln, and with him watched the performance of Boieldieu's "La Dame Blanche."



Edwin Forbes

Standing in the alcove behind them, Forbes carefully sketched the whole scene. He caught the crowded balconies; the wide stage, empty but for a single ballerina dancing to the music of the orchestra below; and the Lincolns

quietly watching, Mary wrapped in her shawl, and the President perhaps listening as Lamon bent over him to whisper a few words. Forbes worked with a

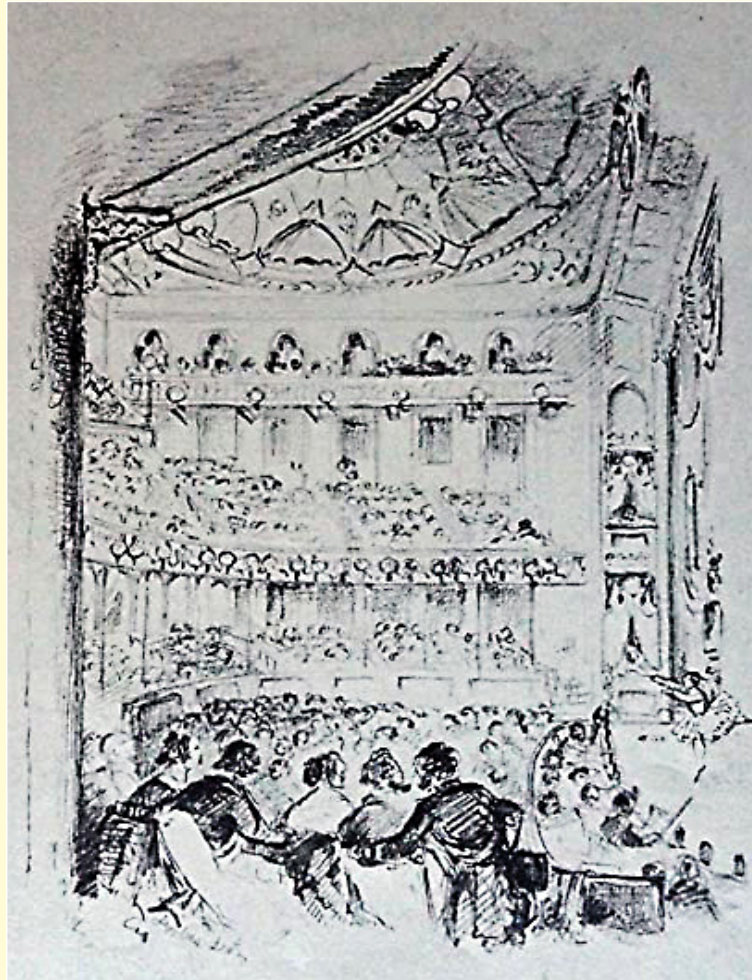


Ward Hill Lamon

Continued on page 5

pencil and charcoal mostly, later added a few strokes in a white wash for contrast, signed the sketch "Forbes Del (ineator)," and sent it in to his editors.

But his drawing never appeared in Frank Leslie's, nor was it ever subsequently published until now. Because of the time involved in cutting the wood blocks from which such illustrations were printed, the sketch was not scheduled to appear until the April 22 issue but, by then, something had happened, and there would soon be another picture to run instead. The President had gone to another theater and another play. But this time there was no Lamon; and the man who stood briefly behind the President had no words to whisper, but only a small pistol and a fanatical dream.



And another drawing by another artist which did appear in Frank Leslie's on April 29, 1865. Lincoln is not at Grover's, but at Ford's Theatre; the play is not "La Dame Blanche," but "Our American Cousin"; and for the President it is the last act.

The Edwin Forbes drawing of Lincoln at Grover's Theatre, March 21, 1865. The President is seated in the bottom center of the picture, with Mary to his left, and Ward Hill Lamon standing on his right, apparently leaning over to say something. This previously unpublished sketch is in the Kean Archives, Philadelphia, and is here reproduced by special arrangement.

"The Destruction Of The Susquehanna Bridge The Fight At Wrightsville Columbia, June 29, 11 A.M.

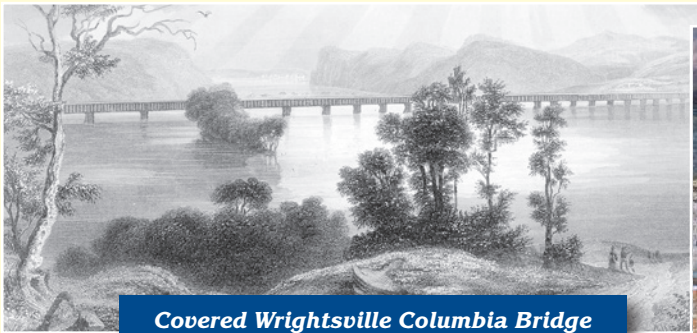
**Lancaster Examiner and Herald
Wednesday, July 1, 1863**

The Destruction Of The Susquehanna Bridge The Fight At Wrightsville Columbia, June 29, 11 A.M.

The grand bridge over the Susquehanna which was destroyed last night, was constructed in 1834 and cost \$157,000. It was 5,629 feet long, fourteen feet above high water, built of all wood, and about forty feet wide; had two

tracks, also, used for vehicles and foot passengers, and tow paths, the latter for the Susquehanna and Tide Water Canal.

The configuration was a sublime sight, the entire length being on fire at once, with the buildings at Wrightsville and floating blasting timbers in the stream. The rebels were on the other bank and the adjacent hills, and crowds of males and females on this side glaring at the sight. The fire department here was in service constantly to save the eastern end of the bridge, but it was useless. Soldiers, citizens,



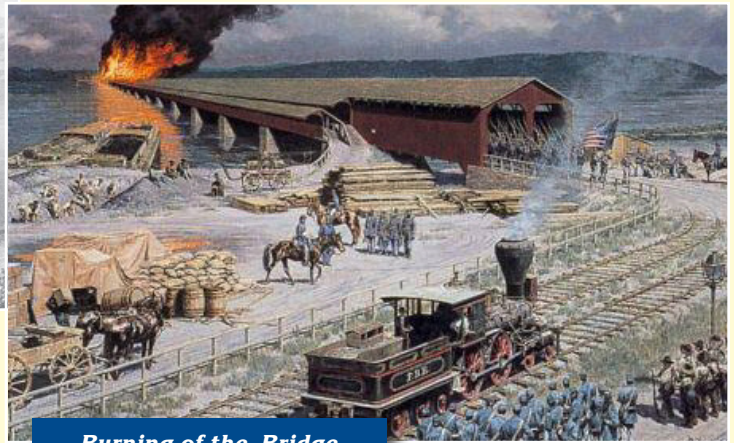
Covered Wrightsville Columbia Bridge

and freeman labored together, also the Philadelphia City Troop. The troop acted splendidly in the fight. The only Columbia volunteers in the fight were fifty-three negroes, who after making entrenchments with the soldiers, took muskets and fought bravely.

The retreat of the troops, the firing of the bridge, and the shell and shot falling into the river, created a panic here, and the skeddaddle continued during the night as the shelling of the town was anticipated.

Colonel Frick and Major Haller had artillery posted at different points on the bank, under Lieutenant Ridgeway, to use a necessary. Major Haldman, of Columbia, as a volunteer aid, acted nobly. We had no artillery in the entrenchments. Before the fight piles of lumber and empty freight cars were placed in Wrightsville to check the enemy, and were successful. The rebel force was about eight thousand, consisting of infantry, artillery, and a regiment of cavalry. They played upon us with six pieces of artillery. Companies A, G, E, C, and L, of Colonel Thomas' Regiment are missing and beleaved to be captured. Compines B, F, and H, were in the fight but safe. D, I, K, and M, are with the Colonel at Bainbridge. The quartermaster, with about two hundred men, is in Lancaster; among them Sergeant Evans and seven of Company C. Caption March was wounded in the leg and arm slightly. Lieutenant Colonel Sickles and one Lieutenant are reported captured.

The engagement commenced by skirmishing on the left, on the railroad, between a small squad and fifty rebel dismounted cavalry. Major Knox was there and narrowly escaped being hit. Our squad fell back to the entrenchments fighting. Half an hour afterwards the pickets on the turnpike, a mile from the entrenchments, were attacked and retired, followed by the enemy.



Burning of the Bridge

In a few moments three pieces of artillery were planted on the pike, about five hundred yards from the entrenchments, and three in a feild to the right. At the same time it was discovered that we were flanked on both sides. Our forces engaged comprized the 27th Regiment, three companies of the 20th, an independent Maryland company, detachments of convaleecents, Caption Walker's company of the 26th, and a nergo company. The rebel artillery fire was continuous, the shells bursting within the entrenchments. After a gallent defence without artillery, the order fir retreat was given, and and in good order, we retired, the enemy's cavalry followong to the bridge entrance, and shells bursting all around. the colors fonnerly of the 129th Pennsylvania waved during the fight, and small flags were waving here and there along the lines. Nothing was lost except a few tents, rations, and entrenching tools.

The order from Harrisburg to prevent the rebals from crossing was imperative, and the destruction of the bridge was absolutely necessary.

The first toll-home on the York turnpike was within the centre of the entrenchments. Caption Smith, Company A, 27th Regiment, narrowly escaped a shell, and and Company E, covered the retreat magnificently. Serg't Steadman was surrounded, but escaped. The rebel loss is unknown, but several were seen to fall.

At noon on Saturday, Colonel Jennings's regiment was at York Springs, Fourteen miles north of Hanover, retreating towards Harrisburg. The rebals were close on eight abreast with a large wagon train. General Ewell knows the country, having formerly visited here.

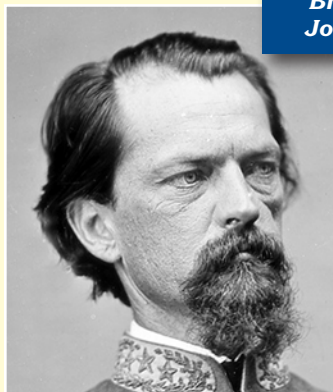
On Saturday four companies of Thomas' regiment were attacked by two hundred mounted iifliemen at a bridge eight

below York but they drove the enemy back. Subsequently, however, they were reported captured.

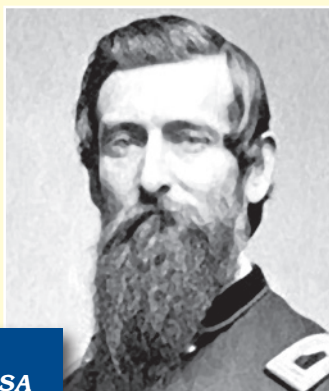
Since the above was in type three companies have arrived in Lancaster, and will report to Col. Thom-as at Bainbridge.



Original Bridge Support



Brigadier General John Gordon, CSA



Colonel Jacob Frick, USA

“Those White Roses”

Amazing Mary

By Martha Thomas, CWTI, March 1984

Continued from Last Issue (February)

But for reasons unknown, they stopped in Syracuse. Ten years later, just three months before Mary Walker was born on November 26, 1832, the family moved to an undeveloped farm on the fringes of Oswego, then a boom town because of its good Lake Ontario harbor and the new Oswego Canal that linked this harbor with the Erie Canal.

Doctor Walker was the sixth of seven children—five girls and two boys. One son, the eldest died at birth; the other, the youngest, could not provide much support for this large pioneer family in early years. But the daughters, urged on by their father's admonitions, developed independence and self-reliance. Along with hard physical work, he advocated comfortable clothing, health food, education, and professional careers. He was interested in science, especially medicine. He supported human rights and championed the Abolitionist movement. It is not surprising that a girl growing up in this environment chose a medical career and persevered in both obtaining training and launching a practice. Nor is it unusual that when the Civil War broke out and the army clamored for medical personnel, Doctor Walker decided to take advantage of the opportunity. Right after the First Battle of Bull Run, she closed her Rome office and went to Washington, petitioning Surgeon General Clement A. Finley for an appointment as an army surgeon.

While she waited for an answer to her petition, she volunteered to work with Dr. J.N. Green in a make-shift hospital set up in the United States Patent Office. Her duties were varied, ranging from hospital administration to nursing to counseling, and set the unconventional model for her work during the rest of the war. When Finley rejected her application, she tried to have his decision overturned, continuing her volunteer work.

As a volunteer, she was free to take on additional duties. She escorted wounded soldiers from Washington hospitals to their homes and delivered benefit lectures for soldiers' aid societies. She organized a drive to provide check-boards for every Union Army hospital, believing that recreation was important in the recovery of wounded men. In one case, she found work for the destitute mother of a young amputee who died. When she discovered that mothers and sisters arriving in over-crowded wartime Washing-

ton to visit their sons and brothers were without housing and food, she established the Women's Relief Association.

In addition to the Patent Office hospital, she served at the Forest Hall Prison, Georgetown, and in tent hospitals at Warrenton, Fredericksburg, and Chattanooga. She had no official status, but since there were never enough doctors, her assistance was always accepted. She often did more than treat injuries, as for example, at Warrenton. She thought the wounded soldiers would be better off in Washington. She managed to persuade Major General Ambrose Burnside that she was right, but before he could execute a formal order, he had to move his army out to skirmish with Rebels. Undaunted, Doctor Walker commandeered a train and conducted the soldiers safely to Washington. Under her care, only two of the men died during the trip.

Her persistence in seeking official recognition of her abilities finally paid off. In September 1863, when an assistant surgeon of the 52d Ohio Infantry stationed at Lee and Gordon's Mills on the Tennessee-Georgia line died, she was appointed to the post by Major General George H. Thomas, who had heard about her work with the casualties at Chickamauga.

Colonel Dan McCook, the commanding officer of the regiment, accepted her appointment gladly, but the medical staff of the Army of Cumberland did not. They examined her, found her incompetent, and advised her dismissal. In spite of this, she stayed on and began treating civilians in the area, who by this time were poverty stricken and without doctors and medical supplies.

One contemporary account by the Reverend Nixon B. Stewart, the regimental historian of the 52d Ohio, hinted that she might be a spy, hiding her espionage activities behind her mercy calls. One official message to General Thomas, dated August 21, 1864, asked whether there was "anything due the woman Mary Walker, and if so, what amount for secret service or other services?" Moreover, the presidential citation that accompanied her Medal of Honor ambiguously mentions "valuable service to the Government," and says "her efforts have been earnest and untiring in a variety of ways."

She continued her medical rounds in the countryside for nine months until she was taken prisoner and shipped to Castle Thunder, Richmond's political prison, a former tobacco warehouse. Here she spent four long, hot summer months until on August 12, 1864 she was exchanged as a surgeon for a Southern major. After her release, she was sent to the Women's Prison Hospital in Louisville,



Dr. Mary Edward Walker

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Kentucky, where she spent six miserable months as a surgeon. The routine of caring for incarcerated women was dull compared to her past adventures. She applied for a transfer, requesting field service, but was sent instead to a Rebel orphanage in Clarksville, Tennessee. There she sat out the closing months of the war, ministering to refugees. She was discharged in June 1865.

That fall, President Andrew Johnson awarded her the Congressional Medal of Honor for Meritorious Service. He explained that, since she was not a commissioned military officer, he could not confer a brevet. In 1907, the Medal of Honor Board redesigned the medal, sending her a replacement.

Fifty-two years after the war, in 1917, the Medal of Honor Board struck Dr. Walker's name from the list of recipients when they stipulated that the citation should go only to a member of the armed services who "in action involving actual combat with an enemy, distinguished himself conspicuously, at the risk of life, by gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty."

According to her biographer Charles McCool Snyder, Walker cherished her medal and always wore both the original and the redesigned replacement. Infuriated by the board's citation, she petitioned the board to reconsider. They refused, demanding the return of the medals. Defiantly, she wore them until her death.

Following the war, Doctor Walker did not resume her medical practice because she was interested in writing. She recorded her wartime adventures in *Notes Connected with the Army*. Then, she contributed articles to *Sibyl*, the dress reform journal of the day, a publication for which she began to write in 1857 not too long after she first adopted "bloomers." She also turned to lobbying and lecturing on women's rights. Out of this came two books, both with enigmatic titles. One, *Hit*, published in 1871, was a rambling autobiography. The other, *Unmasked; or The Science of Immorality*, published in 1878, was a treatise on ethics and sex for men, written in an amazingly straight forward and terse style for the 19th Century.

"Knowledge must ever be the basic principle upon which purist morals are founded," she told the reader, and then provided sex information couched in a weird combination of folk medicine, old wives' tales, and women's rights. Among the topics she discussed were hermaphrodites, kissing, hymens, seminal weakness, barrenness, and "social evil" (her euphemism for venereal disease).

Her ideas about male-female relationships as revealed through her writing give some clues to the failure of her own marriage to Albert Miller. Her ideal man was



one "who truly respected his wife, and treated her with the same deference as his honored mother or sister." She noted "this type was quite uncommon." With this attitude it is easy to see why she felt divorce was the only solution when she discovered Miller was involved with another woman. Such behavior by men could be traced back to the sex education of the day, she thought. In peer education, older boys shared mysteries with younger boys, teaching them by both word and deed to denigrate women. She concluded this word-of-mouth training resulted in adult males who claimed as a right "the seduction of women in or out of wedlock."

Today Doctor Walker's prejudices seem laughable—that kissing was "reprehensible," that masturbation was "a crime" and that orgasms destroyed "the ability to think deeply, logically, gradually, and connectedly."

She believed women's dress reform would solve innumerable problems—everything from increasing fertility in women to preventing rape by men. Barrenness in women was caused by tight waistlines that injured fallopian tubes, ovaries, and uterus, she said. Treatment was as simple as changing dress styles. "Immoral clothes," worn by fashionable women led to seduction and rape. Dress reform would end this violent crime. But in spite of the part she felt women played in the crime, she condemned the rapist as a beast whose punishment should be castration because "no prison term will make him respectable."

The book had little impact when it was published. No reviews or circulation figures exist to document any reader excitement. Anyone who did read it in those Victorian times must have done so behind closed doors. However, it does demonstrate the nerve it must have taken to write on such a subject in a closed society.



Walker was as forthright in the lectures she gave following the war. At first, she was successful, especially in England. Her wartime experiences made good listening, and she could hold audiences with her peppery presentations on women's rights and women's dress reform. The leaders of the women's movement recognized her talent and recruited her as a lobbyist. She worked with Susan B. Anthony, Mary Livermore,

Belva Lockwood, Lucy Stone, and other "sisters," crusading for dress reform and for women's suffrage, mainly through the Central Women's Suffrage Bureau in Washington. She wrote press releases and pamphlets, testified at congressional hearings, attended conventions, and maintained a busy lecture schedule.

The main thrust of the movement for a time was to obtain the ballot through mass registrations and through petitioning Congress to pass a declaratory law, which would give women as well as blacks the right to vote under the Fifteenth Amendment. Doctor Walker and other activists collected petitions from all over the country—35,000 to be exact— and pasted them together to create a scroll 250 feet long. They presented this to Congress. It

Continued from page 8 - "Amazing Mary"

was referred to the Judiciary Committee, where it was conveniently buried.

With this defeat, the Woman Suffrage Association took another tack, deciding that they would achieve the right to vote only through an amendment to the Constitution. Doctor Walker disagreed with this stand and argued that mass registration and the declaratory law was the best approach. She was so obnoxious in her public opposition to the "party line" that she was dropped from the decision-making committees. Her break with the mainstream of the women's suffrage movement did not stop her from waging her own crusade. Though an outsider, she turned up at convention after convention for more than 40 years.

Another problem was her stubborn attachment to the dress reform issue. Most women dropped it, feeling other points were more important in the overall fight for women's rights. She would not deviate from what many viewed as extremism. Again, she was ignored, or even banned from participation in leadership and meetings.

One major effect on Walker's life as a result of the rift with the suffragettes was that her income from lecturing dried up. About the same time the public grew tired of Civil War reminiscences. She had let her medical practice lapse in her enthusiasm for crusading. To earn money, she turned to Kohl and Middleton, a professional booking agency. They suggested a tour of sideshows in dime museums in Chicago, Cincinnati, Buffalo, Detroit, and other midwestern cities. She enjoyed the tour enormously, loving the "hype." She even wrote her own publicity material. She continued these tours from 1887 to 1893, never seeming to understand the negative public reaction to them. They did little to help her declining reputation.

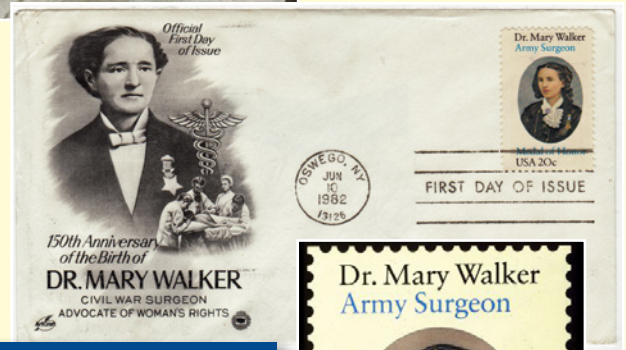
To ease her economic plight, Doctor Walker spent several years trying to get a government job and a Civil War pension, and she was ultimately successful in both campaigns. She worked briefly in the mail room of the Pension Office, but was dismissed because of her inability



Walker's Medal of Honor

to adjust to routine and to taking orders. In 1898, at the age of 66, when she finally received a pension of \$20 a month, she retired to the Oswego farm on which she had grown up. There she lived until her death in 1919 at the age of 87, constantly involved in schemes that alienated her friends, family, and neighbors. For example: She tried to implicate her hired man in a New Hampshire murder, apparently in an effort to collect the \$5,000 reward. Another time, she had a vague plan to turn her farm into a training school for young women. At the end of World War 1, she sent a long telegram to Kaiser Wilhelm offering her farm as a peace conference site. Behavior like this, coupled with her general irascibility and tactlessness, only intensified her growing reputation as an eccentric. She did not live to vote; the Nineteenth Amendment was passed the year she died. She did not live to see pants become the common costume of women; that did not happen for another 50 years. In the end, people forgot her early, outstanding achievements. If they remembered Doctor Mary Edwards Walker at all, it was as "some kind of quack."

Monument to Mary Walker in Oswego, New York



First Day of Issue of a Stamp to honor Dr Mary Walker



Criticized by Major General William Sherman as "neither one thing nor the other," the mode of dress she assumed had far more practical value than then popular hoop skirts and the wearing of corsets so tight they caused internal injury.

“The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners and the Collapse of the Confederacy”

Presentation by Lorien Foote

February 11 Meeting

By Kathy Clark, Member OBCWRT

By September 1864 Yankee prisoners were swarming all over North and South Carolina’s countryside digging up sweet potatoes from farmer’s land, breaking into their barns, and sleeping in their hayloft. Sometimes the farmer will enter his cabin and find a soldier sleeping in his bed. The Yankee prisoners just wanted food and a guide to get them back to their Union lines and away from the Confederates. A South Carolina newspaper explained, “They actually cover the land like the locusts of Egypt.” The residents of South Carolina were scared but tried to defend their land with everything they had. The collapse of the Confederacy was slowly happening as this story is being told. The ending point was the battle and capture of the southern states as Sherman and his Union troops reached Savannah.

Major General Samuel Jones, Commander of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida was informed that prisoners were coming to Charleston after Sherman captured Atlanta on September 2, 1864. By September 5, 1864 Samuel Cooper, Confederate Adjutant and Inspector General decided to remove most Federal prisoners from Georgia. The Yankee prisoners of Andersonville and Macon were evacuated hungry and with little clothes on their back. The problem became when the Confederate prison system wondered what they would do with all these released prisoners. Where were they going to put all these men? It was decided to send them to Savannah and Charleston but, again these cities did not know what to do with them either. There were no men to guard them, no place for a stockade or fenced area where they could be kept. No running water! Using slave labor and working through the night they constructed a three-sided fence leaving one side open for more prisoners to arrive.

Jones needed to find guards. On September 12th there were more than 1400 Union officers and 6000 enlisted men in Charleston. A yellow fever epidemic was reported so Jones removed the Federal prisoners from Charleston sending the men to Florence. They were put in open fields with a small group of reserves to watch over the men. With a desperate attempt to escape more than 400 men overpowered the guards and went to the citizens in the area to find food and clothing so they could get back to their Union troops. Some men ran into the woods. In Florence, the officers used the local population to restore order and help guard the prisoners. Finally, a stockade was built, and the prisoners went from an open field into a stockade where they would be guarded to avoid prisoners escaping. For a time, order was restored. Jones still had about 1500 Federal officers who were sent to Columbia via the railroad. As the train made several stops the Federal officers escaped the train and were helped by slaves, free blacks, white Unionists, and Irish and German immigrants. They were protected for weeks at a time until they could leave the city. Some prisoners ended up on wharves with slave pilots who



Dr. Lorien Foote

took them, under darkness, to the Union lines on Hilton Head.

The train was also used to get prisoners to Columbia and again prisoners jumped off and ran into the woods near the railroad tracks and then into the swamps.

The prisoners who were left on the train went onto Florence with no place to put all the men. Again, they were left in open fields with inadequate shelter or guards. Some prisoners just walked out or used the guards to escape. All but 15 Union officers who jumped off the train on October 5 and 6 were recaptured while 14 of the successful prisoners got to Knoxville. Some fugitives headed west to hook up with Sherman’s army in Georgia. These fugitives became a part of the invading army, weak and unarmed with no battle experience. But they did help to cause the collapse of the Confederate States of America.

In the coastal areas of South Carolina slavery was beginning to destabilize but inland they seemed more stable. Slaves joined military companies and helped Federal prisoners to get to Knoxville. Aid given by slaves became, like the underground railroad, a plan to find ways for prisoners to escape. For example, Hannibal Johnson, 3rd Maine, in late November organized 8 nights with 13 prearranged guards and stations to help the prisoners make a safe escape. As slave behavior was changing, the slave population included stealing and hiding prisoners in buildings that were part of the plantation. Violence was starting to be part of slave behavior.

J. Madison Drake and Mary Estes, escapees from the train, were protected by slaves and got to Knoxville safely. They were not the only prisoners who hated the Confederates. Charles Porter Matlock and his family provided food and used their children as guides to help the prisoners. Melvina Stevens guided soldiers to freedom. The state was unable to provide local security, so it was up to the citizens to provide their own security to protect themselves. North Carolina General Assembly authorized the state as a para-military organization. If more than 10 persons “associated themselves as a military company”, the main goal was to defend the state and consider the group as part of the state troops. This plan was never followed through for by December 1864 only 1300 men mobilized. Confederate men needed to step up as citizens to defend their family and their property. Even before Sherman’s army entered the state the citizens main goal was to save the Confederacy.

Another aspect of the decline of North Carolina was the collapse of the prison system. The Confederate and state

officers were able to move large bodies of prisoners. South Carolina's residents were left to defend themselves if a prisoner escaped. By February 1865, 1700 escapees were enlisted men walking to Charlotte and officers escaping to Knoxville. Even before the end of the war the prison system and law and order were collapsing. The collapse of the south became more inevitable as the war was ending. Eventually prisoners of war were released as the Union authorities found the prisons, both large and small, in the states of the Confederacy.

As prisoners came home, recuperated, treating their bodies with food and water they had many stories to tell. As the stories were told to family and friends a new realization of what happened in the prisons and the war, was on everyone's mind. The Confederate soldiers and prisoners felt it had been their duty to fight and gave their mental and physical body for the cause.

Thank you so much, Dr. Foote, for the eye-opening subject that is not talked about or explained in any kind of detail. What an important topic about the prisoners of war and how they got released from prison. The collapse of the Confederacy was explained in detail and the prisoner's story helps us understand how the war was finally coming to an end. If you get a chance to read Dr. Foote's book it will better explain how conditions were right for the collapse of the Confederacy and the end of the war.

Herb Kaufman (Huntington Valley, PA) won a copy of "The Yankee Plague" by Dr. Lorien Foote at the February meeting.

A paid member will earn a copy of the presenter's book at the end of the meeting.

"The Invalid Corps"

by Byron Stinson, CWTI, May 1971

This patchwork body of amputees and walking wounded did yeoman service, including some real action. When asked if the Invalids would fight, their commander could only answer, "General, they can't run!"

In the spring of 1862 the Union Army staggered under the demands of total war. No experience had forewarned of the masses of sick, wounded, and demoralized men who would shred off in the wake of the citizen armies. Captain James W. DeForest (12th Connecticut Infantry), A Volunteer's Adventures, observed:

There is a constant drain on troops in the field, much heavier than a civilian would suppose. Something like a fifth of the men who enlist are not tough enough nor brave enough to be soldiers. A regiment reaches its station a thousand strong; but in six months it can muster only six or seven hundred men for marching and fighting; the rest have vanished in various ways. Some have died of hardship, or disease, or nostalgia; as many more have been discharged for physical disability; others are absent sick, or have gotten furloughs by shamming sickness; others are on special duty as bakers, hospital nurses, wagoners, quartermaster's drudges, etc.; a few are working out sentences of courtmartial. Thus your division of fifteen thousand men has dropped to ten thousand or perhaps eight thousand effectives.

Bedeveled with the problem of "getting there first with the most," field officers grasped for explanations and scapegoats. The groping, confused Medical Department provid-

ed a convenient target. It was accused of withholding the physically fit and of coddling the almost fit. In a moment of pique, DeForest wrote:

Large as our column is, it ought to be much larger. The number of men left behind in hospital and convalescent camp is amazing. When a surgeon in the rear gets hold of a man who is handy at blacking his boots or making his coffee nice, he is very unwilling to let him go back to field duty. One of my "absent sick" has lately rejoined me by running away from "convalescent camp," and footing it along through sixty miles of unknown country. He says that many others would be glad to come if they could get away from their keepers.

In April 1862, Secretary of War Stanton compounded the problem he was trying to solve, that of shoring up the fighting regiments. To provide beds for the acutely ill, with an anticipated early return to duty, he determined to pry loose the hospital flotsam with a stroke of the pen. He ordered every soldier to be discharged who would not be fit for duty within twenty days. In an era when every illness was attended by

hideous complications—malnutrition, malaria, dysentery—twenty days was trifling. Primary healing was unknown; copiously draining pus was "laudable." A soldier with a shattered bone, if he lived, was reduced to a pallid, putrifying scarecrow dragging around the hospital for a year. The attrition of men noted by DeForest increased to a flood.

In the chaos, the problem of finding enough bodies to do the work and get on with the fighting was being partially solved. Unsung, almost unnoticed, the contraband Negro began to plug the holes in the infrastructure of the

MEN WANTED FOR THE INVALID CORPS.

Only those faithful soldiers who, from wounds or the hardships of war, are no longer fit for active field duty will be received in this Corps of Honor. Enlistments will be for three years, unless sooner discharged. Pay and allowances same as for officers and men of the United States Infantry; except that no premiums or bounties for enlistment will be allowed. This will not invalidate any pensions or bounties which may be due for previous services.

The following UNIFORM has been adopted for Officers and Men of the Invalid Corps:

FOR OFFICERS. JACK COAT, of sky-blue cloth, with dark-blue velvet collar and cuffs; in all other respects, according to the dress prescribed for active soldiers. **FOR ENLISTED MEN.** JACK COAT, of sky-blue kersey, with dark-blue trimmings, as like the cavalry jacket, to come well down to the elbows. **TRICORN HAT**, of sky-blue cloth. **SHOES**, of black leather.

Men who are still in service and unable to perform effective field duty, may be transferred to this Corps.

Medical Inspectors, Surgeons in charge of Hospitals, Military Commissioners, and all others having authority to discharge, under existing laws and regulations, are hereby directed to send to the Board of Enrollment, in the city of New York, the names of all soldiers who are unable to perform active field duty, and who are entitled to be received in this Corps.

For the convenience of service, these men will be accepted with such medical reports as may be required. Cases of the most severe degree of disability (including those who are blind or deaf) and the least effecting of service, from the loss of a hand or leg, in the opinion of the Board of Medical Examiners, may be received with honor.

The duties will be chiefly to act as guard and protection for military grounds for hospitals and other public buildings; and as other duties, etc. If found necessary, they may be assigned to any work.

Adjutant-General (Provisional) is authorized to appoint Officers of the Regular Service, or of the Invalid Corps, to administer the oath of enlistment to those men who have completely fulfilled the prescribed conditions of admission to the Invalid Corps, etc. That the applicant will be notified in the field, if that be the case, or else at some military station. That if at any time he is discharged, he shall be notified and directed.

For enrollment or further information, apply to the Board of Enrollment for the District, in which the applicant is a resident.

Disabled Soldiers who are residents of the Seventh Congressional District, who desire admission into the Invalid Corps, are requested to present themselves to the Board of Enrollment.

ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY AFTERNOONS.

From 2 to 3 o'clock, on which days the Board will be in session for the purpose of examining applicants, and granting certificates to those who have fulfilled the prescribed conditions of admission.

S. BENTON THOMPSON, Captain and Provost-Marshal.
ADDISON G. FAY, Commissioner of Enrollment.
DAVID S. FOGG, Surgeon.

CONCORD, June 15, 1863.

FROM WRIGHT & POTTER'S MONTHLY PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT, 26 & 28 NORTH LANE, CORNER OF DEPOSITARY STREET.



army. The 12th Connecticut itself had absorbed sixty Negroes as nurses, laborers, officers' servants, and company cooks—ten percent of the regiment was contraband. The muster roles of the other regiments, too, are sprinkled with revealing entries: "George Dana, age 23, for three years, Colored undercook," (Company D, 92d Ohio Infantry), "Frank Grant, age 30, for three years, Colored under-cook," (Company H, 71st Ohio Infantry), etc.

Despite assistance from the contrabands, the Medical Department was short of help even as it was deluged with disabled men from the front. The Nursing Service was so hobbled by the puritanical restrictions of its director, Dorothea Dix, as to contribute little to the total effort. The kindest thing said about Miss Dix was that she "placed too much emphasis on the moral background of the applicants [women 30 years of age, plain looking, unadorned by hoopskirts or jewelry] and too little on their efficiency." Civilian corpsmen, hired at \$20.50 per month, could be partially depended upon until payday and then were never seen again.

The use of convalescent soldiers was unsatisfactory and dependent upon the sympathy, understanding, and cooperation of the field officers—a tenuous thread as shown by DeForest. However, the hospital at Point Pleasant, West Virginia, seemed to patch together a cadre from regiments operating in the vicinity. Private Joel S. Blankenship (Company B, 91st Ohio) and Joel E. Scott (Company E, 92d Ohio) were carried on their company muster rolls as "on detached duty as nurse in hospital at Point Pleasant, W. Va."—Blankenship from October 4, 1862, until he was discharged in 1865. For the most part those who were willing to give the surgeons a hand were bootlegged on the "absent sick" list and the surgeons remained unendeared to the line officers. This encouragement of indefinite, unauthorized absence served to undermine the morale of the corpsmen and caused bad feeling when trust was imperative.

If troubles come in crops, '63 was a vintage year. The Federal Government turned to the draft for men. Angry citizens rioted and murdered Federal agents. Simply to enforce the Conscription Act regiments of men were needed. The demand for soldiers was endless.

Secretary Stanton rescinded the twenty-day discharge order and appointed commissions to examine every patient

in every hospital for return to duty. This backlash reaction was almost as destructive as his original order had been. One commission, chaired by a crusty line officer, took a dim view of "coddling" and returned 97 percent of the men examined to the field. Predictably, the Soldiers' Rests and regimental hospitals were clogged with convalescent soldiers with soaring fevers and disrupted wounds. In general, however, the boards were a step in the right direction and when the medics and line officers began to work together the return to duty rate dropped to 73 percent. The lapse rate then remained within the limits imposed by the collecting system. But the jig was up with bootlegged corpsmen; such nurses could no longer be hidden in the "absent sick."

Such were the problems. In an age when soldiers enlisted to fight and rallying to the colors was the ultimate in glory, it was difficult for the authorities to see that times had changed and there was now a lot more to soldiering than fighting. And it took a surprisingly long time for the War Department to discover its problem wasn't unique. Indeed, there was a historical precedent in the United States Army for a limited duty organization—The Invalid Corps!

On April 22, 1777, the Board of War of the Continental Congress established a "Corps of Invalids" of eight companies for garrison and recruiting duty. Each company was organized as an infantry company of the line. In June 1777, Colonel Lewis Nicola was appointed corps commander. Among the duties charged to him were: to collect all disabled men fit for garrison duty (men with but a single amputation were considered fit), to employ the corps as guards at magazines and arsenals, to serve as "a military school for young gentlemen," and to be continuously active in recruiting for the army.

As early as November 1862, General Order Number 36 authorized the chief medical officer of each city "to employ as cooks, nurses, and attendants, any convalescent, wounded or feeble men who can perform such duties instead of giving the discharges," General Order 69 (March 20, 1863), expanded these instructions and imposed a definite organization:

At every U. S. General Hospital, the feeble and wounded men, unfit for field duty, but not entirely disabled, instead of being discharged, will be organized into detachments, under the charge of the officers acting as military commanders, who will assign men to them from time to

time, on the reports of the surgeons in charge of the hospitals. From these invalid detachments the military commanders will make details for provost, hospital, and other necessary guards; for clerks, hospital attendants, nurses, cooks, and other extra duty men.

The soldier was carried on his regimental muster as "on detached service" and should he become fit at some future date he was to be returned to his regiment. Such was the plan; actually the Invalid Corps was a one-way SIFCCI.

The first commander of the Corps was Colonel Richard H. Rush (West Point, 1846) of the 6th Pennsylvania Lancers. Rush was also the grandson of Dr. Benjamin Rush, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and the foremost physician of the Colonies. Unable to join Stoneman's Raid (April 30, 1863), Rush was retired from active service because of "chronic diarrhea," a complaint dating from his Mexican War days. By June he had recovered sufficiently to provide the War Department with a "name" commander for its brain child.

Bell I. Wiley, *The Life of Billy Yank*, charges the Corps with two glaring weaknesses: "It naturally became a refuge for some able-bodied shirks, a circumstance, which, along with its unfortunate name, made the organization the butt of many jokes." They were even immortalized in song. "The Favorite Comic Vocalist," Matt Gebler, wrote and presented "The Invalid Corps." Unblessed by merit, part of the first stanza goes:

*My wife in love with a soldier fell,
The reason I'm sure I cannot tell;
She goes with a corporal every night,
She laughs and says it serves me right;
So I got drunk like many more,
Next morning I joined the Invalid Corps.*

Dressed in sky-blue kersey and carrying small swords they appeared to be toy soldiers to members and detractors alike. Sardonic Rebel prisoners called them "condemned Yankees." Many a haggard veteran condemned to its ranks begged to be sent to the front.

Of "able-bodied shirks" there was a sufficiency, but for the most part, beyond the obviously disabled, the Corps was shored-up with "those men not tough enough nor brave enough to be soldiers." Medical officers like Acting Surgeon DaCosta absolved some of them from the odium of not measuring up by accepting symptoms of rapid pulse, sweating, and weakness as evidence of "irritable heart disease." With sympathy and reassurance he was able to return 38 percent of such patients to full duty. The remainder he recommended for transfer to the Invalid Corps—in fact, sixty-nine men per thousand of those enrolled in the Invalid Corps suffered from such "heart disease." DaCosta writes, "By transference to lighter and less exposed duties in the Invalid Corps, the disease undergoes a decided modification in severity, and the soldier is able to perform all duties pertaining to his position."

DeForest, keenly aware of the depletion of his company during the siege of Port Hudson (May-June 1863), describes the circumstances which wore down the brave as well: "We grew weak and nervous under the influence of summer heat, confinement, bad food, and



**Colonel
Richard H. Rush**

constant exposure to danger. Men who had done well enough in battle broke down under the monotonous worry, and went to the rear invalided."

An awkward early innovation was to provide two separate battalions for each regiment of the Corps. The "First Battalion" (Companies A to F)

was composed of men fit for armed service, guard and garrison duty. The "Second Battalion" (Companies G, H, and I) was composed of men with greater 'disability but capable of serving as nurses, cooks, and clerks. Originally a "Third Battalion" was proposed—fit for Heaven knows what—but the idea died quickly. A complete regiment, in theory, could assume all the duties of a hospital cadre.

To make the Corps "a truly Federal force" men from the various states were scattered randomly among its regiments. In an era when a man went to war with his neighbors this gambit alone could seal the Corps from the hearts of its members and insure it a miserable, glamorless future. Surely something was wrong with an outfit which mustered 60,000 men and merited scarcely a kind word outside of the Official Records, and the record written by its last commander.

Events conspired to make the history of the Corps even blacker than the banner under which it was born. As the first regiments were armed, the draft, enforced by the Federal authority, began. Rioting from New York to Chicago precipitated hasty calls for troops. In June 1863, the Union was crucially engaged on several fronts: the Army of the Potomac dogged the Rebels into Pennsylvania, Grant gnawed at Vicksburg, and the Army of the Cumberland tramped the dusty roads through East Tennessee. Confused discharge policies were dumping 103,772 desperately needed men back into civilian life. There were no replacements but the invalids.

Provost Marshal General James B. Fry ordered regiments of the First Battalion to Montpelier, Vermont, to be ready "to arrest the Rutland men" who opposed the draft. Other regiments were sent to New York and Detroit. This early demand for troops shattered the First and Second Battalion regiment concept but imposed an order of necessity on the Invalid Corps. The hastily organized First Battalion regiments were placed under the command of the Provost Marshal.

With a bit more leisure, the Second Battalion men were collected into serially numbered companies. These companies reported to the senior medical officer of the hospital to which they were attached. (The number designation of the companies served to widen further the gap between the unfortunate corpsmen and their fellow soldiers since all

other companies were designated by letters of the alphabet.) When the senior surgeon was made commander of the Second Battalion companies, the company officers, in effect, became the first Medical Service Corps officers:

The Senior Officer of the Invalid Corps, under the direction of the Surgeon-in-Charge, shall have the immediate supervision of all matters connected with police and discipline of the hospital. He will keep records of clothing, equipment, pay, muster, death and interment. He will reside within the hospital precincts, and visit every part of it daily.

Out of the dust, confusion, and summer heat, the Invalid Corps had found direction and purpose even if dignity and glory were denied it.

Ninety-Eight of General Fry's marshals had been murdered in trying to enforce the draft law. To him the First Battalion regiments were a rare bounty. With a flare for ringing, martial commands, he ordered on July 14, 1863, "hold the companies for the Invalid Corps ready to move to any point where they may be needed." In Detroit they grandly "manned and mounted a section of Parrott guns." Colonel Rush wired, "only infantry is authorized," and was ignored in the rushing to and fro. Companies were sent to Louisville, Elmira, Albany, New York City, and Philadelphia. Former officers applied for duty in large numbers, former enlisted men were less enthusiastic. General Fry noted that much of the hubbub was hysterical and settled down with the Surgeon General to beat some discipline into their foundling.

Field commanders posed a pressing problem by dumping their losers, especially officers, onto the Corps. The an-

swer to this maneuver, as it had been in purging the Medical Corps earlier, was to establish examining boards for officers.

To be Continued in Next Issue (April)



New Jersey History Day Judges

Our competitions are fast approaching and we need you to volunteer to help us make these contests a positive and worthwhile experience for students. Last year, over 1,300 students competed at the regional level. If you are interested in judging please click on the link below with the instructions in how to register.

Judge Registration Instructions:

https://mcusercontent.com/46568611a9fcba4fa5bef0e35/files/0b0166fd-7899-40e9-a5d3-2dad49541256/judging_with_images_final_edit_PDF.pdf

The three regional dates for this year are listed below, along with the state contest at William Paterson:

Rutgers University - Camden, Saturday, March 6th <https://nj-rcrc.nhd.org>

Monmouth University, Saturday, March 13th <https://nj-mrc.nhd.org>

Kean University, Saturday, March 20th <https://nj-ku.nhd.org>

William Paterson University, Saturday, May 1st <https://nj.nhd.org>

If you can judge more than one competition, special thanks in advance!

There will be workshops on new NHD rules and rubrics, which will take place throughout the month of February prior to the regional competition dates.

More information regarding the webinars will be sent soon!

**Kevin M. Hale Award
for
best Historical Newsletter
in New Jersey**

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2021

March 25, 2021 – Thursday
Paul Prentiss
"Discussion Night"

April 8, 2021 – Thursday
Walt Lafty
"The 9th New Jersey
and the Bermuda Hundred Campaign"

April 22, 2021 – Thursday
Member Sharing night
**Dr. Ray Klein: Flat Old Baldy Travels Cambodia - One
Thousand Years of War, Massive Construction and
Destruction, Five Years of Civil War...What Next??**
Dave Gilson: A Walking Tour of Civil War London

May 13, 2021 – Thursday
David T. Dixon
"Radical Warrior: August Willich's Journey from
German Revolutionary to Union General"

Questions to
Dave Gilson - 856-323-6484 - dgilson404@gmail.com.

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Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table**

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