

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia

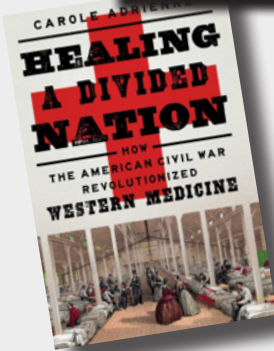
October 12, 2023

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

“Healing a Divided Nation: How the American Civil War Revolutionized Western Medicine”



Carole Adrienne



At the start of the Civil War, the medical field in America was rudimentary, unsanitary, and woefully underprepared to address what would become the bloodiest conflict on U.S. soil. However, in this historic moment of pivotal social and political change, medicine was also fast evolving to meet the needs of the time. Unprecedented strides were made in the science of medicine, and as women and African Americans were admitted into the field for the first time.

The Civil War marked a revolution in healthcare as a whole, laying the foundations for the system we know today. In *Healing a Divided Nation*, Carole Adrienne tracks this remarkable and bloody transformation in its cultural and historical context, illustrating how the advancements made in these four years reverberated throughout the western world for years to come.

Carole Adrienne received her B.F.A. from Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia. She has organized an archive for Old St. Joseph's National Shrine, twice chaired “Archives Week” in Philadelphia, and has served on advisory panels for the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Historical Research Center, The Mutter Museum's “Civil War Medicine” exhibit and its “Spit Spreads Death: The 1918 Flu Epidemic” exhibit. She is working on a documentary film series on Civil War medicine and lives in Philadelphia, PA. This is her first book.

Meeting Notice

Join us at 7:15 PM on Thursday, October 12, at Camden County College William G. Rohrer Center 1889 Marlton Pike East Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

The program will also be simulcast on Zoom for the benefit of those members and friends who are unable to attend. Please email oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net at least 24 hours prior to request Zoom access.

Notes from the President

It is Red October and another run in the playoffs, again. Welcome to **Michael Demofonte** in Saint Charles, MO. In the final quarter of the year, we strive for 100 members, to raise funds through *Bosco's* coupons, plan a trip to Williamsburg, staff our display at Civil War events, honor fallen heroes, and prepare for a great 2024 campaign. Thank you for your support in getting the round table to this point and moving the organization forward. Check out the events of History Month in Camden County by visiting the CCHA website or picking up a brochure at the meeting.

Last month **Brett Gibbons** joined us from central Pennsylvania, with his mother, to enlighten us on “*The Influence of the Crimean War on the American Civil War.*” The informative presentation was enjoyed by all in attendance. Perhaps he will visit again in the future to talk about another



Rich Jankowski
President, OBCWRT

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OBCWRT Awards

The Society For Women
and the Civil War
for Service to the Society
presented to OBCWRT

Civil War Roundtable Congress
The Wallace L. Rueckel
Innovation Award
presented to OBCWRT (2022)

American Battlefield Trust
for 25 Year Service to the Trust
presented to OBCWRT

Civil War Roundtable Congress
Sustainability Challenge
presented to OBCWRT
(2023)

Kevin M. Hale Award
for best Historical
Newsletter in New Jersey
(2017, 2022)

Continued from page 1 - "President's Notes"

topic. This month for CCHA History month we welcome **Carole Adrienne** to share insights of her books "*Healing a Divided Nation: How the American Civil War Revolutionized Western Medicine.*" It will highlight how the period of social and political change led to improvements in medicine with the involvement of women and African Americans. Invite anyone you meet to join us for this for this event.

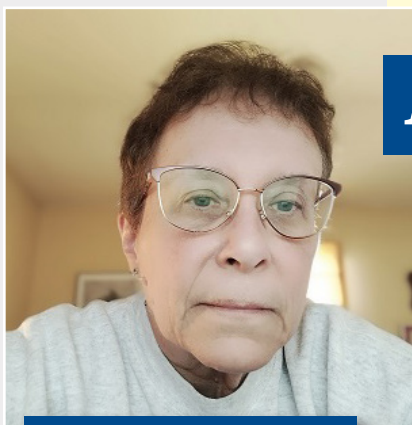
Read a summary of the actions of the Board at the recent meeting. In this newsletter, respond to the recent email about staffing our display at the *Civil War Weekend in Mullica Hill (Oct 14-15)* and at the *Glassboro Train Station Oct (28-29)*. It will be an opportunity to share our message with the public and distribute our updated flyers. **Frank Barletta** has posted in this newsletter and will announce at the meeting information on the trip to Williamsburg for the dedication of our Civil War Trails sign next May. We are 90+ in our membership, the Plan to 100 by the end of the year is on. Invite everyone you know to visit and check us out in the next two months and beyond. We will have some very good programs in the first quarter of next year. Encourage them to purchase a blue Old Baldy CWRT bag to promote the round table.

Flat Old Baldy met **Marty McIntyre** in person at Fort Mott during the Soldiers' Weekend. Look for his picture in a future newsletter. The *Boscov's Friend Helping Friends* event is October 18th. Return the funds you collected to Frank at the meeting. Let us know if you need more coupons. The round table will have a table at each local store on the day of the event. Pick up copies of our recently updated flyers at the meeting to share in your community. Tune into the second of the Grant Series by the North Jersey CWRT on October 26th. **Paul Prentiss** will be sharing information about the opportunities to be involved in our December 14th Social event at our meeting this month. Our secretary **Mike Bassett** will introduce a new version of our traditional book raffle at the October meeting. Best wishes for a speedy recovery to all who are in the sick ward. If you know of a member experiencing an issue let us know.

Stay safe and enjoy the changing leaves and reduced temperatures. Travel safe on any adventures you have planned for the Fall.

Meet us at the Kettle & Grill (Crispin Square Shopping Center) Marlton at 5:30 for a pre-meeting meal.

Rich Jankowski, President



Susan Kovacs

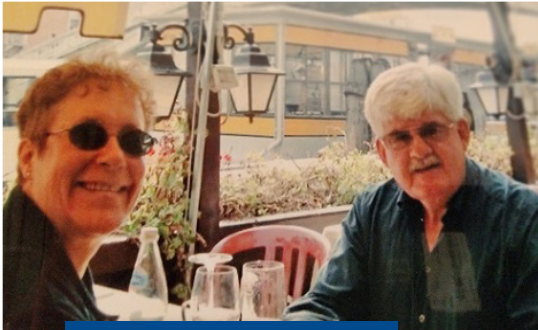
*by Kim Weaver
Member, OBCWRT*

Member Profile - Susan Kovacs

It was 1970, the year before Allentown-born Susan Kovacs would graduate from Mansfield University with a B.S.Ed. in secondary education-social studies, and the U.S. Peace Corps was holding an informational event on campus. Susan went, was encouraged by what she heard, and applied to the volunteer program in her senior year. When the invitation to serve arrived, Susan found out that she was going to be teaching English as a second language (ESL) for two years overseas. Where overseas? Majuro in the Marshall Islands (Federated States of Micronesia). "I said, 'Where in the heck is Micronesia?'" Susan's father, a WWII U.S. Marine veteran, pulled out a map and showed her. He knew, of course, that just after WWII ended the U.S. conducted 67 nuclear tests and detonated the first hydrogen bomb in the Marshall Islands. Still, Susan trained for three months in Hilo, Hawaii, learning a new language and becoming familiar with food options in her host country. One week after training was completed, Susan, now an unofficial U.S. ambassador of goodwill, headed to the Islands. "Having the ability to travel during the summer of 1972 throughout several island groupings of Micronesia, I was able to walk North Field on the island of Tinian. This was the departure point during WWII for the B-29 bombers Enola Gay and Bockscar, which carried the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

After Susan returned to the states in 1973, she held a number of retail management and banking positions, and in 1985 earned a B.A. in business administration-accounting from DeSales University. Across the street from her banking job in downtown Bethlehem was Pentamation Enterprises (now PowerSchool), a provider of cloud-based software in K-12 education. The company hired Susan away from the bank, where she was training tellers, to train school districts on its software. To prove how much she loved her job, Susan stayed on for 35 years. She retired in 2022.

So, why did Susan Kovacs go into the teaching and education field in the first place? "I wanted to be a history teacher. In 7th grade I had Mr. Richard Kantor for American history who made the subject so exciting and fascinating. And throughout high school and college, I never had a history teacher that could match his skills and passion for the subject and I found that disappointing."



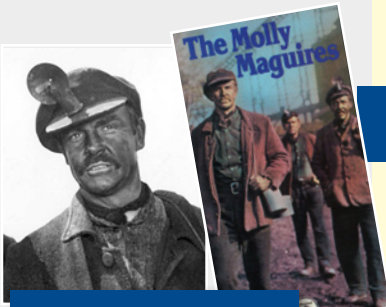
Susan and late husband Michael Cavanaugh

Susan continues to be a student of history. She came to the Old Baldy CWRT in 2008 through her beloved late husband Michael Cavanaugh, a founding member of OB who served over the years as treasurer, program chairman and twice president. They had been married for 14 years when Michael died January 7, 2020. "What a wonderful opportunity it has been to meet individuals, authors and historians with similar interests." Susan is also a member of the Civil War Roundtable of Eastern Pennsylvania. She says she is interested in the American Civil War because it was a changing

moment in the history of our country. "And it is a war that did not create separate countries, as has happened in other parts of the world, but kept the country intact as one nation."

Susan's biggest hobby is reading and that includes various books and biographies related to the Civil War. Her two most favorite books have been *Landscape Turned Red: The Battle of Antietam* by Stephen W. Sears and *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Bethlehem has a very active arts and cultural scene and Susan enjoys being part of it. There are jazz concerts at Lehigh University Zoellner Arts Center as well as classical concerts presented by the Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra and Miller Symphony Hall. "And in the summer you can find me at the Bethlehem Rose Garden listening to Sunday evening local band and jazz groups."



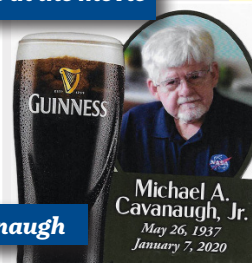
Sean Connery played Jack Kehoe in the movie

Update... "The Molly Maguires... the Old Baldy Connection"

Mike Cavanaugh, was born in the coal country of Schuylkill County, Mike had an avid interest in the history of the Molly Maguires. This group of Irish coal miners had a running battle with the coal companies and the law in the 1860s and 1870s. The so-called "King of the Mollys" Jack Kehoe may be related to Mike. His great-grandmother was from the village of Avoca in County Wicklow, Ireland. Her maiden name was Tracy. Jack Kehoe's mother was a Tracy from the same small village of Avoca.

Jack Kehoe was not a miner, but the owner of a saloon, The Hibernia House. His descendants run it to this day. This may have been the reason for Mike's love of Guinness Beer.

Mike's great grandfather, on his father's side, Pvt. Thomas Holleran, was a member of the 96th PVI (raised in Schuylkill County) and on his mother's side, Cpl. James Lindsey of the 1st New York Mounted Rifles (raised in New York City).



Mike Cavanaugh

Michael A. Cavanaugh, Jr.
May 26, 1937
January 7, 2020

Williamsburg Update

By Frank Barletta,
Treasurer, OBCWRT

The planning for the Dedication Trip to Williamsburg, VA has been underway for some time. I'm excited to announce that they are almost

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completed. We have scheduled an exciting two full days of adventure and education. This will be a memorable trip not to be missed. It will be extremely helpful in finalizing the plan if we can get an estimated count of the number of attendees who our anticipating that they will attend, as seating capacity on the bus is limited. The cost for the weekend will be \$175.00 per person, exclusive of hotel rooms. We have been able to secure with the influence of our Williamsburg Round Table friends and extremely favorable discounted hotel rate of \$90.00, at the Best Western Williamsburg Hotel Historic District. We have an author and expert on The Peninsula Campaign as our speaker at Saturday's dinner. On Sunday, after the dedication ceremony, we will tour the Lee Hall Mansion and Museum, which will be open only to our group, as it is normally closed on Sunday. We would like to finalize the contract with the bus company to secure its availability. We would like to start collecting deposits of \$50.00 to secure your seat on the bus. Checks should be made out to Old Baldy Civil War Round Table and forward to

Frank Barletta, 44 Morning Glory Drive, Marlton, NJ 08053



Williamsburg Dedication Trip

Saturday, May 4, 2024

6:00 Bus Departs From Cherry Hill / Box Lunch to be served on Bus

12:00 Arrive Williamsburg

12:30 – 4:30

**Tours of Williamsburg Battlefield,
Fort Magruder & Redoubt Park**

5:30 Check in Best Western Williamsburg Hotel

6:30 -9:00 Dinner with speaker

Sunday, May 5, 2024

6:30 – 8:30 Breakfast at Hotel Included

8:30 Check-out of Hotel

**9:00 – 10:00 Dedication of Civil War Trail Sign
at Location**

10:00 – 1:00 Tour of Lee Hall Mansion

1:00 Board Bus for return trip

Box Lunch to be served on bus.

7:00 Arrive Cherry Hill

Trent



Today in Civil War History

1861 Saturday, October 12

The Confederacy

Confederate commissioners John Slidell and James Mason begin their journeys to Europe from Charleston aboard the blockade runner Theodora. Their first stop will be in Cuba, from where they will take the British steamer, the Trent, to Europe.

Western Theater

Skirmishes are fought at Bayles Cross Roads, Louisiana, and at Upton Hill, Kentucky.



**John
Slidell**



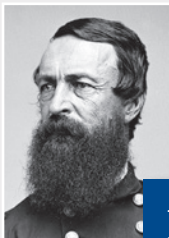
**James
Mason**



CSS Manassas



Major General
James Ewell Brown "Jeb" Stuart
CSA



Rear Admiral, USA
David Dixon Porter

Trans-Mississippi

Missouri continues as dangerous as ever. Frémont's harsh rule has many Southern sympathizers taking active measures, and fighting is reported at Clintonville, Pomme de Terre, Cameron, and Ironton.

Naval Operations

The Confederates attempt to break the blockade of New Orleans. The Union fleet is attacked by the Confederate ironclad ram Manassas, and by fireships. In the darkness and confusion, both the steamer USS Richmond and the sloop of war USS Vincennes run aground, but work free. The long-planned raid does not have the shattering effect expected, however, and the next day the blockade is as tight as ever.

1862 Sunday, October 12

Eastern Theater

Stuart re-crosses the Potomac below the Union Army, having completed his second ride around McClellan, without losing a man.

Trans-Mississippi

A Federal expedition sets off from Ozark, Missouri, in the direction of Yellville, Arkansas.

1863 Monday, October 12

Eastern Theater

The Army of the Potomac continues to retreat as Lee once again advances on Manassas.

1864 Wednesday, October 12

Naval Operations

Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter assumes command of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, relieving Acting Rear Admiral Lee.



Brett Gibbons

By Kathy Clark,
Vice President,
OBCWRT

Old Baldy's September Meeting Review

"The Influence of the Crimean War and the American Civil War"

By Brett Gibbons

The Crimean War was the first major battle since Napoleon was defeated in 1815. The Crimean War was Russia vs the Ottoman Empire starting in October 1853. By the time Russia was in battle at Alma an industrial revolution was underway with rapidly expanding technical change. The invention of the telegraph, steam engines, sanitation were important to help the war and the troops. During the Crimean War the soldiers marched by foot about three miles per hour. One of the biggest technical improvements which helped the troop movements was the railroad. Instead of walking many miles a day to get from one battlefield to another, soldiers could be transported by train to the next battle in less time and less wear and tear on the soldier's body. The winter of 1854-55 was an extremely cold winter. By 1855 the armies were able to move troops and supplies from the port of Balaclava to the siege line at Sevastopol by railroad. This was the first military railroad which allowed quantities of ammunition and material to reach the troops in a much shorter amount of time.

Another improvement was the advance of steam power at sea. Now with the freedom of power and navigation can be achieved regardless of the wind. Heavier cargo, more guns, longer distances, faster voyages and now can get to port faster, outwitting the Russian troops.



The introducing of the Ironclad ship was developed to stop shells from penetrating the outer covering of the ship during the battle. With the Ironclad or Iron cased hull resistant to shells helped save the mast and sails from being destroyed during battle.

The revolution in the capability and accuracy of infantry weapons was with the smoothbore musket. It was Claude-Entienne Mini' the developer of the mini' ball used in the smoothbore musket. Developing this new bullet allowed the rifle to be loaded much quicker than in the past. This was the standard weapon of the war with linear tactics developed around the limitation of the rifle. The use of the railroad, ironclads, and trench warfare all developed during the Crimean War which then influenced development in the Civil War. There is also a link between the British army and the Civil War African American soldiers.

By 1853 the rifle was developing new features that the soldiers had to learn how to use. The British officers and sergeants received several lectures on how to fire a smoothbore rifle. The school of musketry at Hythe was open in 1854 to learn to set the sites for various distances. The courses were designed to teach proper shooting skills before shooting with live ammunition. The British used the power of the rifle more than the French. It was the British soldier who learned to fight with bullets instead of bayonets. Pattern 1851 rifle was called "the Destroying Angel" for it cut down Russian cavalry and artillery at long ranges. This marked a change in how cavalry and artillery are used in the field. Because of the long-range accuracy of these new and improved rifles forced Russian defenders into deep entrenched positions. This was the start of using trench warfare by the building of earthworks and were continued to be used during the Civil War. The first large scale use of rifled infantry weapons in history was at the battle of Alma. The Russians were an easy shot shattering the troops and falling back completely.

Presenter's Book Winner - Randy Acorcey and John Herr
Raffle Book Winners - Ray Klein, Ken Funkhouser
Lynn Cavill, Bill Sia, Mike DiPaolo, Bob Russo,
Martin Wilensky, Kathy Clark, Robin Vaughn, Gary DeSiver



In Inkerman and Sevastopol was a new kind of battle. In the trenches both sides had rifles and were taught a new military technic: sniping. To "pick off" attempting to shoot Russian gunners while they are in hiding in the trenches can be done at long range with accurate results. At the battle in

Inkerman on November 5, 1854, the Russians attacked the flank of the British line with about 10,000 British troops and a handful of French. This battle was the bloodiest of the war with many Russian casualties. Much of the battle was fought in a dense fog with Russian rifles at a disadvantage against the British.

On April 1855 the US Military Commission with the US Secretary of War Jeff Davis, Alfred Mordecal, George McCellan, and Richard Delefield went to the Crimean Peninsula to find out about how modern military European armies were fighting their war. They went to France to see trench warfare without success. They did not want to go to Russia. The best country would be to go to England first and see British warfare achievements. By the time they decided to go to Britain the war was over.

General McCellan saw the results of war firsthand by seeing the devastation caused by the Crimean War. He saw the building of entrenchments while he was in Europe and then in the Peninsula Campaign during the Civil War. At the battle in Yorktown April 1862 there were amble trenches. McClellan does not want to attack the trenches, so he moves the army around them, but it took a month to get around and by then the Confederate troops had fallen back.

When it comes to the Civil War it is the first war of the industrial age with mass-production in factories, use of telegraph, Railroads, steamships, and ironclads which became part of warfare of the 20th century. At the same time, it was the last major war in which an overwhelming number of soldiers both Union and Confederate soldiers went into combat with very little training in the use of weapons.

The Civil War soldier and officers knew very little about musketry mainly there had been no threat of an invasion by forces like a well-trained European troop experienced. The US army was basically occupied with Native Americans on



Florence Nightingale

the frontier. Almost every soldier that enlisted knew very little about warfare. They were young boys inexperienced in being a soldier, having no training in military weapons. At the same time, they did not know how to use a rifle-musket plus not enough ammunition to fire these muskets and certainly none to use for training.

With the combination of inexperienced soldiers with no training, lack of rifle-muskets, lack of ammunition led to the fact that American Civil War soldier were unable to use the rifle-muskets to the best of his ability. The soldiers used this rifle as a smoothbore musket. They were not able to judge distance or set sights accurately for battle. There was no time to train American soldiers as compared to the accomplishment British soldiers made while attending the Hythe school in Great Britain. The Civil War troops had no rifle practice at all. They learned as they continued to fight during the Civil War. The more training of the rifle-musket's capabilities made the soldier more effective. The training elevated the soldier to develop new ideas and become a skilled rifleman. The rifle-musket was developed as the first "modern infantry weapon" for the private soldier, after training, he becomes a professional.

This was an excellent presentation with so much knowledge about the Crimean War. Many new ideas came from this battle which was then used in our American Civil War. The roundtable learned so much about the Crimean War that many of us had never studied during our school days. Learning many new facts may bring us to the library or Amazon finding a book that may help understand the war. Thank you, Brett, for coming to our meeting and bringing with you so much knowledge about war and weaponry used during this unsettled time in European and American history.

"Father of Modern Battlefield Medicine" Dr. Jonathan Letterman

Excerpts from
Wikipedia and American
Battlefield Trust



Major, USA
Jonathan Letterman

Letterman was born in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania on December 11, 1824. His father was a surgeon, and Letterman followed in his footsteps, graduating from Jefferson Medical College in 1849 and assuming the rank of assistant surgeon in the Army Medical Department that same year. From 1849 until 1861, Letterman served on various military campaigns against Native American tribes in Florida, Minnesota, New Mexico, and California.

At the start of the Civil War, Letterman was Medical Director of the Army of the Potomac. He was named medical director of the Department of West Virginia in May 1862. A month later William A. Hammond, Surgeon General of the U.S. Army appointed him, with the rank of major, as the medical director of the Army of the Potomac itself. Letterman immediately set to reorganizing the Medical Service of the fledgling army, having obtained from army commander Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan a charter to do "whatever necessary" to improve the system. The army reeled from inefficient treatment of casualties in the Seven Days Battles in June, but by the time of the Battle of Antietam in September, Letterman had devised a system of forward first aid stations at the regimental level, where principles of triage were first instituted. In other words, Letterman instituted standing operating procedures for the intake and subsequent treatment of war casualties and was the first person to apply management principles to battlefield medicine.

He established mobile field hospitals to be located at division and corps headquarters. This system was connected by an efficient ambulance corps, established by Letterman in August 1862, under the control of medical staff instead of the Quartermaster Corps. Letterman also arranged an efficient system for the distribution of medical supplies.

Before Letterman's innovations, wounded men were often left to fend for themselves. Unless carried off the field by a comrade, or one of the regimental musicians doubling as a stretcher bearer, a wounded soldier could lie for days suffering from exposure and thirst.

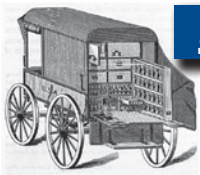


John
Letterman
Grave
Arlington

Ambulance Corp Training



Ambulance Train waiting to be called

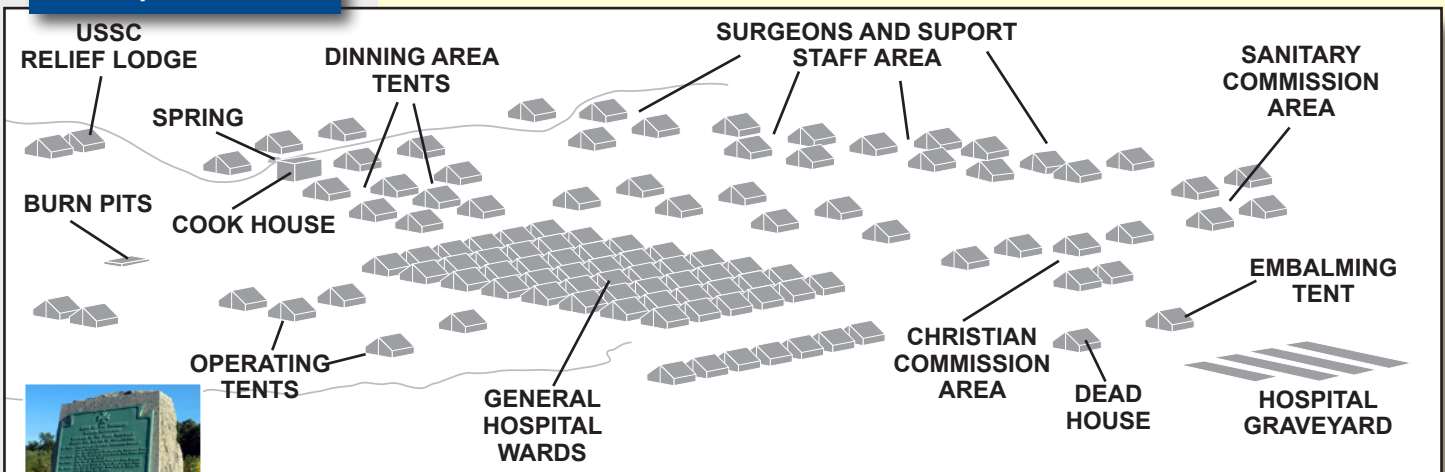


Medical Supply Wagon



Hospital Flag

Camp Letterman



Camp Letterman Monument

Antietam

The success of the Ambulance Corps was proven at the battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. While there were over 23,000 casualties, medical personnel were able to remove all of the wounded from the field in just 24 hours.

Fredericksburg

Letterman proved the efficiency of his system at the Battle of Fredericksburg, in which the Army of the Potomac suffered 12,000 casualties, yet the command decisions of general officers in preparation for the later Battle of Gettysburg and during the Mine Run Campaign that followed that battle compromised Letterman's supply of medical equipment. His system was, though, adopted by the Army of the Potomac and other Union armies after the Battle of Fredericksburg and was eventually officially established as the procedure for intake and treatment of battlefield casualties for the entirety of the United States' armies by an Act of Congress in March 1864.

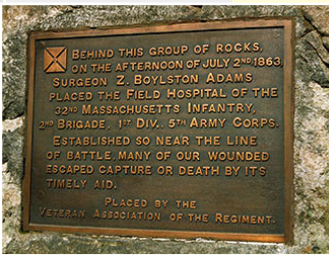
Gettysburg

The greatest casualties for the Army of the Potomac were suffered at the three-day Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, but it also showed the efficiency of Letterman's system, since although the mortality rate of the Army of the Potomac had been 33% during 1862's Peninsular Campaign, the mortality rate after this bloody three-day battle was only 2%. No official report of the battle mentioned Letterman's contribution. To deal with more than 14,000 Union wounded, along with 6,800 Confederate wounded who were left behind, a vast medical encampment was created northeast of Gettysburg off the York Pike on the George Wolf farm, named "Camp Letterman." Of the Battle of Gettysburg and his system for treating casualties, Jonathan Letterman on October 3, 1863, reported to Brig. Gen. S. Williams, A.A.G., Army of the Potomac, "Surgeon John McNulty, medical director of that corps, reports that 'it is with extreme satisfaction that I can assure you that it enabled me to remove the wounded from the field, shelter, feed them, and dress their wounds within six hours after the battle ended, and to have every capital operation performed within twenty-four hours after the injury was received.' I can, I think, safely say that such would have been the result in other corps had the same facilities been allowed—a result not to have been surpassed, if equaled, in any battle of magnitude that has ever taken place.'" Maj. McNulty, the medical director of the XII Corps, either "had not received" or more likely had outright disobeyed orders to leave behind medical baggage wagons and, therefore,

unlike many other Union medical commanders at Gettysburg had sufficient medical equipment and supplies to adequately implement Letterman's systems at Gettysburg for the XII Corps.

A military man, Letterman understood that troop's lives are not saved just by the expedited treatment of their wounds, but, also, by their expedited travel and positioning. "The expediency of the order I, of course, do not pretend to question, but its effect was to deprive this department of the appliances necessary for the proper care of the wounded". He appreciated that command

**Surgeon
Zabdiel Boylston Adams
3rd Massachusetts Infantry**



This may be the only monument to a Medical Field Hospital (Battlefield Triage) in America (Gettysburg)

Behind this group of rocks on the afternoon of July 2nd 1863 Surgeon Z. Boylston Adams placed the Field Hospital of the 32nd Massachusetts Infantry, 2nd Brigade, 1st Div. 5th Army Corps. Established so near the line of battle, many of our wounded escaped capture or death by its timely Aid.

had to make hard decisions when allocating transport vehicles for the best overall benefit of the Army's operations and soldiers. Still, Letterman was somewhat discouraged by command's lack of support for his organization at the Battle of Gettysburg and through the Mine Run Campaign.

Unfortunately for Letterman's career, his mentor and superior officer, William A. Hammond, was undergoing censure as a result of his decision to ban the use of calomel, a mercury derivative, in May 1863. Although the decision was later proved scientifically correct, Hammond was ultimately court-martialed. After a brief period of serving as Inspector of Hospitals in the Department of the Susquehanna, Letterman resigned from the army in December 1864 well before the end of the American Civil War.

He published his memoirs, *Medical Recollections of the Army of the Potomac*, in 1866.

Following the death of his wife in 1872, Letterman struggled with depression and illness. He died that year and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Today, Jonathan Letterman is known as the **"Father of Modern Battlefield Medicine."**

The Letterman System at Gettysburg

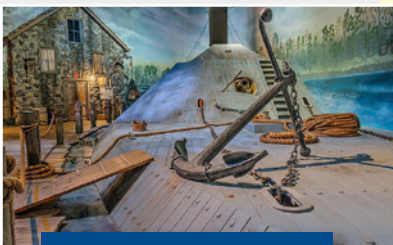
The Regimental Aid Station (on the battlefield, houses in the town), the Division Station (mostly farm houses), the Corps Hospital (again farm houses and barns that were a distant away from the fighting) and the General Hospital (after the battle), the use of non combatants, musicians to remove the injured from the battlefield and to move them in ambulances to the next medical site as required by the extent of their injuries. Trains with special medical cars were also used to transport injured to major hospitals in towns and cities (York, Baltimore, Washington, DC).

As a footnote: Many of us have watched "M*A*S*H" on TV over the years and now you can see where that medical system came from - Jonathan Letterman.

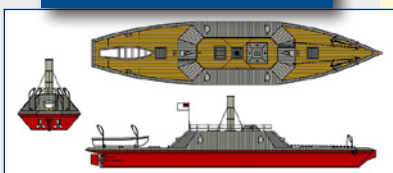
"Construction, Fighting Career and Destruction of the CSS Albemarle"

By Virgil Carrington Jones,
June 1962, CWTI

Built in a Cornfield Under a Teenager's Direction, This Mighty Confederate Ram Threatened Union Control of the North Carolina Sounds Until a Daredevil Naval Officer Found a Way to Destroy Her.



**CSS Albemarle
(Ironclad Ram)**



The Formidable Confederate ironclad Albemarle lay beside a special wharf at Plymouth on the Roanoke River, its anchor down and its armored deck broiling in the hot North Carolina sun. For weeks she had been there, completely idle, her crew camped in tents on shore, waiting for the signal to return to battle against the Union fleet downstream or out in Albemarle Sound. Southerners who strolled near her or walked her deck took great pride in the spectacle she made, and wondered greatly—for she had been built in a cornfield.

Across the river one day, Acting Master's Mate John Woodman of the U.S.S. Commodore Hull parted the bushes and stared. Despite a faint haze over the water in the mid-morning light, he could see the warlike ram clearly, and it was easy enough to understand how mighty she had been on the only two occasions Federal ships had felt her in action.

The more he looked, the more enthralled he became. Since midnight he had struggled upstream and over swampy countryside on a reconnaissance,

his second in a matter of weeks. Other spies had been sent to Plymouth on a similar mission ahead of him, and still others would follow. The C.S.S. Albemarle had driven the invaders out of Plymouth, and now the Union was determined to get rid of her before she shelled and rammed them out of the sounds.

The problem was not one that could be ignored. For months, ever since the ram first appeared in April, the North had been trying to figure how to eliminate her. The most promising suggestion came from the indefatigable soldier and patriot, Lt. William B. Cushing, a 22-year-old Wisconsinite who seemed to take delight in doing the unexpected. It was his idea the vessel could be destroyed by using one of the South's principal defense measures: the torpedo. But the question was how to accomplish this. Spies who looked at her, including Woodman, returned with a report that she was protected by a long boom about 30 feet from her sides.

For Union Navy Secretary Gideon Welles, the Albemarle had become one of the greatest mysteries of the war. As early as the spring of '63 he was supplied with information that the Southerners were building an ironclad ram somewhere up the Roanoke River, but for months that was all the intelligence he could obtain. Rumor said she was to be a formidable vessel much on the order of the C.S.S. Merrimack. This could neither be confirmed nor denied, and it created a disturbing situation. Union ships in service in the sounds along the North Carolina coast were of too deep draft to be taken up the rivers on reconnaissance. This placed the matter squarely in the lap of the army; but the army could never be stirred up sufficiently to do anything about it.

The Navy finally assigned its share of the responsibility for finding out about the ram to Annapolis-born Charles W. Flusser, an officer still in his twenties. Appointed to the Naval Academy from Kentucky, he had remained true to the old service, even though two of his brothers were fighting for the South. His reputation was established long before his assignment to command the U.S.S. Miami along the Carolina coast, and it stimulated the imagination, for he was such an unwarlike sort of fellow. A little under medium height, he was sparsely built, of light complexion, with a long tan mustache that he sometimes pulled while talking.

One of Flusser's early messages said the ram was under construction up the Roanoke near Edwards Ferry, but that it would not be completed during the year. A little later he got another report that the vessel was far enough along to be plated, that her guns were on hand, and she was nearing the date at which she could go into action. One bit of intelligence sounded as accurate as the other, and he knew not which to credit.

While the Federals wrote back and forth, frantically trying to obtain some definite clue as to what the Southerners were doing, a scene that strained belief was taking place in a cornfield on the bank of the Roanoke at Edwards Ferry, only five miles from Scotland Neck. There scores of men were at work on a huge ship ordinarily found only in a well-equipped shipyard.

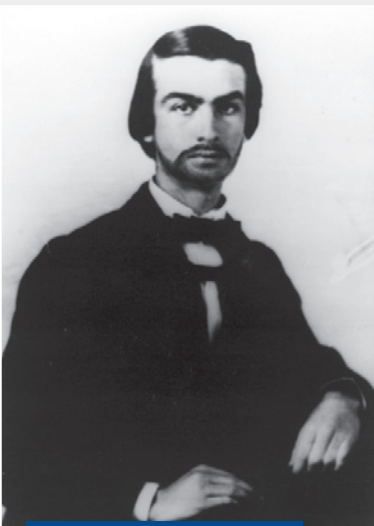
In the months following the success of the Merrimack, the Confederacy had considered ways to get more such craft into the water. At length contracts were let for 20, all to be finished within a year. One of these contracts went to Gilbert Elliott, a North Carolinian still in his teens. Born at Elizabeth City in an atmosphere of naval construction, he had inherited a love of mechanics. His grandfather on his mother's side, Charles Grice, had come as a shipbuilder from Philadelphia to found the town and start a new business in an area of fine timber and favorable waterways. Young Elliott got an early taste of warfare at Hatteras Inlet, in the fall of '61, was captured and, after a few months, exchanged. When the inspiration he had inherited as a naval constructor began to make an impression, he was on duty with the 17th North Carolina Infantry at Drewry's Bluff on the James River. He grew a beard to make him look older, bundled up some boat designs he had sketched while in prison, and headed for Richmond. There he spread them in front of officials at the Navy Department, and did such a good job of explaining them that he got himself detached for special naval service.



**Commander, USA
Charles Williamson Flusser**



USS Miami



Gilbert Elliot, CSA

Elliott started building the ship in the spring of '63. He obtained iron plates from Richmond and propeller shafting from the Confederacy's naval foundry at Charlotte. Plans and specifications were prepared by John L. Porter, the chief naval engineer who had aided with the design of the Merrimack.



Building the Albemarle

The site Elliott had chosen for his shipyard already had been plowed for spring planting. It was on ground owned by William Ruffin Smith, a prosperous farmer and large landowner, whose son, Peter Evans Smith, (an honor graduate of the state university and a master mechanic) was made superintendent of construction.

In this cornfield were assembled a sawmill, blacksmith's forge, and an assortment of tools. Soon massive timbers were hauled in and stacked there, and the saw began working night and day. As weeks passed, the vessel took shape. She was 152 feet long, 45 feet wide, and was designed to have a draft of eight feet. Two propellers, powered by two 200 horsepower engines with 18-inch cylinders, were fitted to her. Her ram was of solid oak. As oakum was scarce, her framework was caulked with cotton. Tar sealed her seams.

When the hull was finished, the skids were knocked from under her, and men and horses pulled her into the river at a time of high water. Then she was taken 25 miles upstream to Halifax, a rail center, where her armor was to be installed. But there the project ran into trouble. Several holes had to be drilled in each plate, a process dependent upon a small engine and drill that required 20 minutes to pierce the iron. At this point Peter Smith's inventive genius stepped forward. He produced the first twist drill, a device that cut the metal out in shavings instead of powder, reducing the time to four minutes.

But these were details the Federal found shut off from them. No matter how frantic their espionage efforts, all they could learn was that the craft was to spearhead a drive to break the blockade along the Carolina coast.

As the Union became more desperate in its efforts in the fall of '63, several old derelict ships were towed up the Roanoke and scuttled at a point above Plymouth. This was an effort to bottle up the powerful ironclad.

Rumors continued to come in throughout the winter months. One day it was said the ironclad was ready; the next, that she had started down the river and grounded; another, that she was of such light draft that more armor had to be placed on her to weight her down; still another, that she could not stand heavy gunfire and would be kept upstream.

On April 10 Lieutenant Commander Flusser reported: "From three distinct sources we have reports today that the Rebel ram is several miles below Rainbow Bluff; that she is accompanied by a land force of 11,000 men, and that an attack will be made during this week on Plymouth." He added that he thought the information false, but would act as though he considered it true.

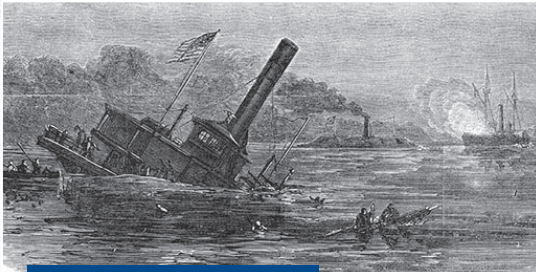
A part of what Flusser had heard was true. The Confederates were planning an offensive with the Albemarle, an effort aimed at driving the Federals out of Plymouth and eventually out of the North Carolina sounds. In charge of the ironclad was Cmdr. James W. Cooke, a native son who had resigned from the U. S. Navy at the beginning of hostilities, served for a time with Virginia's naval forces, and then been transferred back home. There in the fighting around Roanoke Island in '62 he had been twice wounded and captured.

On April 17 a battery commanded by some of the land troops Flusser had heard would cooperate with the iron-clad opened on Federal vessels from the river bank a mile or two above Plymouth. These Confederate troops were under command of Brig. Gen. Robert F. Hoke, and they created considerable surprise, for the Federals were observing upstream, expecting the Southerners to come by water.

Higher up the Roanoke at Hamilton the Albemarle was at last on her way down. Mechanics still worked at various points about her, some fastening on additional armor, some adjusting her machinery. Portable forges followed



**Commander, CSA
James Wallace Cooke
(First Captain
of the Albemarle)**



**Southfield Sinking
(First encounter with
the Union Fleet)**

in a barge. The river was at a level residents said was the highest in their recollection. But her progress was slow, and because of the numerous bends in the stream she was forced to move stern foremost, a long chain trailing from her bow to aid with her steering.

At Plymouth, Charles Flusser, suspecting the ram was coming, prepared for action. He expected the Confederate attack to be launched at dawn on the 18th. He had little confidence in the vessels under his command: the

Whitehead, a "tinclad," and the Ceres, Miami, and Southfield, all wooden. The last two of these he lashed together, to make them more formidable. If one was seriously damaged, the other would keep her afloat.

But no heavy assault came at daybreak. After sunrise a desultory picket fire broke out and was kept up through out most of the day. Late in the afternoon it grew hotter and continued until the Southern soldiers withdrew about nine o'clock that night. In order to cooperate in the land fighting, the Miami and Southfield were separated and taken to points where they could shell Hoke's troops, the former below

town and the latter above.

It was nearly four o'clock on the morning of the 19th before the Albemarle finally was seen coming down along the far bank of the river, in the shadow of the trees. She had managed to make her way through the old hulks the Federals had sunk, without so much as a scrape of her keel.

Flusser lashed the Miami and Southfield together again and gave them orders to attack the ram. Starboard chains were slipped and bells rung to go ahead fast. The waters churned as the chained vessels swung into action.

The Albemarle came down, turned, and headed for the Union vessels. She struck the Miami on the port bow near the water line, gouging two planks nearly through for 10 feet, and bounced off, striking the Southfield slantwise, her sharp prow ramming the victim's side clear through to her forward room and into her fire room.

Almost at the moment of contact the two Federal vessels opened with their guns. Solid shot fired at the ram at close range bounced harmlessly off her sides. Flusser ran forward to aid with a nine-inch Dahlgren in the bow of the Miami. From this he sent one shell, then another. A third had a two-second fuse. It struck the Albemarls heavy armor and shattered, and pieces of it flew back into the crew around the gun from which it had come. Flusser fell dead, his heart virtually shot out of him.

The Southfield began to sink. The 117 men on her decks made a mad scramble to get into small boats or to leap across to the Miami. The forward lashings were parted by the force of the collision; those aft were quickly cut.

Cooke, too, was having serious trouble. He had begun backing the engines of the Albemarle in an attempt to extricate her prow from the sinking vessel. Before he succeeded, the weight of the Southfield depressed the forward deck of the ram to such a degree that water ran into the forward port. His crew was almost suffocated from heat inside the iron covering of the vessel.

In a few minutes the Southfield went down, taking her six guns with her. Her crew had fled from her decks. The Miami hurried off downstream.

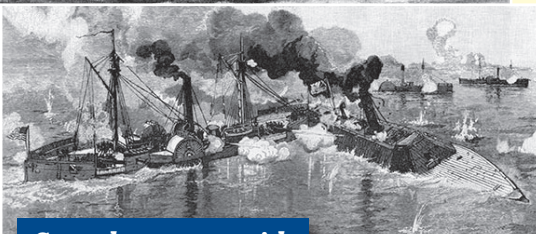
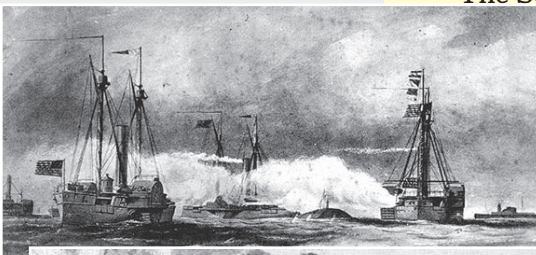
It was a Southern victory. On the 20th Plymouth was surrendered unconditionally.

Days passed. In Albemarle Sound at the mouth of the Roanoke, a Union fleet waited.

Early in May the Albemarle could be seen on her way down for another attack. The fleet she must face was composed of the Sassacus, Wyalusing,



**Albemarle going down
the river**



**Second encounter with
Union Fleet**

Mattabesett, Whitehead, Trumpeter, Miami, Ceres and Commodore Hull.

The ironclad fired the first gun, sending a shell that destroyed the Mattabesett's launch and wounded several men around the forward rifle. A few minutes later the Mattabesett let loose a broadside at a distance of 150 yards. Its chief damage was to the after gun of the ram, one of two Brooke 100-pounder rifles, each on a pivot so it could be fired out of three different ports. The Sassacus drew off to gain headway and came steaming against the Confederate vessel, just as a shot from the Southerners ripped through her, striking the starboard boiler. Steam blinded the Union sailors, killing some instantly, fatally wounding others.

For three hours and 50 minutes the battle raged. At times the Federal vessels found themselves in the line of fire from one another's guns and were forced to change direction. The Wyalusing was struck several times and damaged so seriously she mistakenly signaled she was sinking. The Miami, carrying a torpedo, got so confused she never succeeded in exploding it. A shell tore through the Mattabesett, winding up in the small arms locker and so severely wounding two men en route that they died soon afterward.

Darkness put an end to the battle. In the gloom the Albemarle steamed away and headed back up the Roanoke. Each of the seven vessels that had engaged her bore evidence of her power. All were damaged, the Miami to such an extent that she was taking on five inches of water per hour. The ironclad's smokestack was so badly riddled that its drawing power was seriously reduced. The ship could leave the scene only by burning nearly all the bacon, lard, and butter on board, to produce quickly a hotter fire. She had been struck by 44 solid shot, but they had left no more than glancing scars.

In the following weeks the Federals kept close watch on the Confederate ram. This was accomplished by sending parties on reconnaissance up the Middle River to a point where they could land and steal through swamps to the bank of the Roanoke opposite Plymouth, there to stare from the bushes as John Woodman had done.

The Albemarle's end might have come a few weeks after her battle in the sound. One night five volunteers from the U.S.S. Wyalusing—Coxswain John W. Lloyd, Firemen Allen Crawford and John Laverty, and Coal Heavers Charles Baldwin and Benjamin Lloyd—followed the route taken by Woodman. During the afternoon they had left their ship and ascended Middle River in a boat, taking with them two torpedoes, each filled with 100 pounds of powder. These explosives they carried through the swamps on a stretcher, arriving on the bank of the Roanoke opposite Plymouth at 11 o'clock at night. There John Lloyd and Baldwin stripped off their clothes and swam out into the river, drawing the torpedoes after them. At a point above the town, they fastened the torpedoes together with a bridle, after which Baldwin began guiding them downstream. It was his intention to place them across the bow of the ironclad and then signal to Crawford, who would explode them with a battery from the swamps across the river. A few yards away from the ram, the line by which they were pulled fouled a schooner. The scraping noise drew the attention of a sentry, who fired his gun and gave an alarm that brought a volley of musketry. It was two days later before all of the five had returned to their ship.

The Destruction to be continued in the next Issue (November)

The Heroine Of Shetek Lake... A Story Of Border Suffering.

*By Frank Moore,
Women of the War,
1867*

The indirect and remote sufferings occasioned by the great civil war in America have been almost as great as the direct miseries produced by battles. The greater part of our standing army is, in time of peace, stationed along the western frontier, and in a long series of outposts that extend from the cool and lonely lakes of "Western Minnesota on the north to the haunts of the savage Camanches on the Mexican border.

Continued on page 14

When the great demands of the crisis fell upon the country in the spring of 1861, the first and most obvious result was the calling eastward of all, or nearly all, the regiments of the regular army who had been for the long years of peace interposed as a barrier of steel between the painted and treacherous barbarians of the mountain and the prairie and the ever-advancing line of industrious civilization.

Lyon and Sedgwick, the heroic Lander, and the indomitable Colonel Cross, with some who enlisted on the southern side, and the rank and file, making an aggregate of nearly thirteen thousand troops, were suddenly withdrawn from the frontier; and this left a long line of pioneer settlement wholly unprotected from the treacherous and savage foe. The result might easily be imagined, if it were not a part of our national history.

Naked Camanches were creeping through the high grass of "Western Texas, and shooting ploughmen and shepherd boys almost within sight of the state capital. The western settlements of Arkansas and Kansas were unsafe ; and farther north, on the western line of Iowa and Minnesota, the Sioux, friendly and peaceable only when utterly crushed, were raising their heads, and perpetrating a series of atrocities and murders which recall the old story of Wyoming, and the early settlement of Kentucky. About the 17th of August a party of two hundred and fifty or three hundred Indians proceeded to the agency at Yellow Medicine, and commenced an indiscriminate slaughter of all the whites, young and old, male and female. Then the marauders, flushed with success, pressed on with their work of death, murdering, with the most atrocious brutalities, the settlers in their isolated farm houses, violating and then killing women, beating out the brains of infants, or nailing them to the doors of houses, and practising every species of atrocity which their fiendish natures prompted.

The following account of the sufferings of Mrs. Hurd and her children was elicited from her in an examination before the United States commissioners at Davenport, in Iowa; and during the recital of her story the audience were many times melted to tears, and for a little while business was suspended, and the hall of justice turned into a house of mourning. The narrative is somewhat condensed, but the simple words in which Mrs. Hurd told it are retained as far as possible.

"I was born in the western part of the State of New York, and removed with my parents to Steuben County, in Iowa, where I passed my childhood. I was married, in 1857, to Phineas B. Hurd, and we went to live in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and remained there about two years ; and then we started west, and settled, with a few others, on Shetek Lake, in Murray County, about a hundred miles west of Mankato, on the Minnesota River. It was a beautiful lake, and the lands around were excellent for grass and wheat. There were not many of us ; but we were contented, and thought we had a permanent and happy home. The Indians hung around the lake, as it was an old hunting-ground of theirs ; but they had sold out their title, and appeared to be very friendly. I knew a good many of them, for they would often come in and ask for something to eat, and I always treated them well. Some time in June, Mr. Hurd and another man left home on a trip to Dacotah, taking a span of horses and a wagon, expecting to be gone about a month. We had two children, and Mr. Voight was living with us, and had charge of the farm.

"He had been gone over two months, and I began to grow very anxious about him. One morning, the 20th of August [1862], —it was about five o'clock in the morning, —and I had just gone out to milking, and left my two children asleep in the house, when about twenty Indians rode up and jumped off their horses. I saw that one of the horses was in the span that Mr. Hurd had when he started on his trip. As soon as I got to the house, the Indians went in, and commenced to light their pipes and smoke. Pretty soon my youngest child woke up, and was frightened at seeing so many Indians, and began to cry. Mr. Voight took him up and carried him out into the front yard, "when one of the Indians stepped to the door, and shot him through the body, so he fell dead, with the child in his arms. As soon as this shot was heard, ten or fifteen more Indians and squaws rushed into the house, and began to destroy everything they could lay their hands on. "We had a good stock of cows, and



Alomina Hurd



Indian Raid



I had worked hard, and had on hand about two hundred pounds of butter and twenty-three cheeses. All this the Indians destroyed ; and while it was going on, some of them told me they would not kill me and the children if I would not give any allann, but go east, by a very blind road, to the nearest settlment. They started me off just as I was, without even a sun-bonnet on, and would not let me dress either of the children.

"They went out with me about three miles. I took the youngest in my arms, and led the other, a little boy, between three and four years old. There were seven of them who started with me ; and I took just one look at what had been our prosperous and happy home, now full of naked and painted savages.

"Before they left mo they repeated the condition on which they would spare me and the children : that we were to keep straight east, across the open prairie; that all the whites were to be killed, but I might go to my mother. I was bareheaded, the children almost naked, and we had not a mouthful of food, nor a blanket to shelter us in the cool nights or in a storm. We took the unfrequented road into which the Indians had conducted us. It was clear, and the sun shone uncommonly bright ; but the dew on the grass sick was cold and heavy. William Henry was barefoot, and dressed very thin, and he clung close to me, and begged me to go back to the house. He did not know of the death of Mr. Voight, as I kept him from seeing the body; and he cried piteously at first, but, after a while, pressed my hand, and trudged manfully along by my side. The little one was asleep in my arms, unconscious of our situation. About ten o'clock in the forenoon a thunder-storm came on, and the rain and wind were violent for about three hours. I heard two guns fied, and I knew that my neighbor, Mr. Cook, was killed.

"During the storm I lost the trail, and all that afternoon walked on, not knowing whether I was right or wrong. Water stood on all the lower parts of the prairie, and I kept looking for a dry place where we could spend the night. At last I came to a sand hill, and sat down on the top of it, to rest for the night. I laid my children down, and leaned over them, to keep the rain off their faces and protect them from the cold wind. Hungry, and tired, and wet as he was, William fell asleep, and slept nearly all night ; but the little one worried a good deal, and the night wore away slowly. As soon as I could see, I took up the little ones, and moved on. About seven o'clock I heard guns, and then I knew I had lost my way, and was still in the vicinity of the lake. I changed my course, and went away from the direction in which the guns were heard. But no trail was visible. I was not conscious of hunger myself, but it was so distressing to hear my precious little boy crying for his bread and milk, and moaning with hunger and weakness ! It was wet and misty all that day. Towards night William grew sick and vomited, and it seemed impossible for him to keep up any longer. The youngest still nursed, and did not seem to suffer materially.

"About dark, the second day, I struck a road, and saw, to my sorrow, that I was only four miles from what had been my home, and had not yet commenced my terrible journey across the prairie.

"Then, for a little while, my heart sank in me, and I thought it would be some satisfaction to die right there, and end our weary journey on this travelled road, over which I had passed with my husband in happier days. But this feeling was but for a moment. I took courage, and started on the road to New Ulm. "When it was quite dark I stopped, and passed the night as I had the former, without sleep. In the morning I started on. It was foggy, and the grass wet ; the road, being but little travelled, was grown up with grass. William was so faint and sick that he could not walk much of the time ; so I was obliged t carry both. I was now much reduced in strength, and felt very hungry. My boy no longer asked for food, but was thirsty, and drank frequently from pools by the road-side.

I was too weak to carry both my children at the same time, but took one a distance of a quarter or half a mile, laid it in the grass, and went back for the other. In this way I travelled twelve miles, to a place called Dutch Charlie's, sixteen miles from Lake Shetek. I arrived there about sunset, having been sustained in my weary journey by the sweet hope of relief. What was my consternation and despair when I found it deserted and perfectly empty! The house had not been plundered by the Indians, but abandoned by the owner.



Monument to the Killed



Little Crow

My heart died "within me, and I sank down in despair. But the crying of my boy aroused me. I had promised him food when we got there ; and when none could be found, he cried bitterly. But I could not shed a tear. I found some green corn, which I tried to eat ; but my stomach rejected it. I found some carrots and onions growing in the garden, which I ate raw. My oldest child continued to vomit. I offered him some carrot, but he could not eat it. That night I staid in a cornfield, and in the morning, at daylight, continued my search for food.

" To my great delight, I found the remains of a spoiled ham. Here I may say my good fortune began. There was no more than a pound of it, and that much

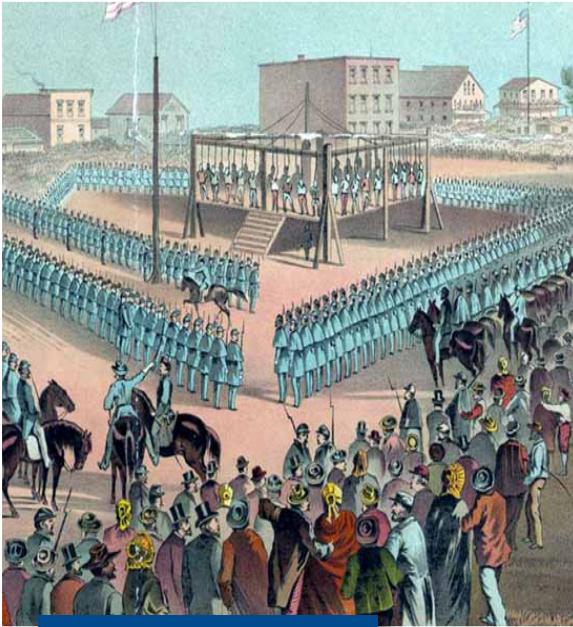
decayed; and I saved this for my boy, feeding it to him in very small quantities. His vomiting ceased, and he revived rapidly. I gathered more carrots and onions ; and with this store of provisions, about eight o'clock on the morning of the third day, I again set forth on my weary road for the residence of Mr. Brown, twenty-five miles distant, and reached it in two days. Under the effects of the food I was able to give my boy, he gained strength, and was able to walk all the last day. When within two or three miles of Mr. Brown's house, two of our old neighbors from Lake Shetek settlement overtook us, under the escort of the mail carrier. Both of them had been wounded by the Indians, and left for dead. Thomas Ireland had been hit with eight balls, and, strange to say, was still able to walk, and had done so most of the way. Mrs. Estleck was utterly unable to walk, having been shot in the foot, in the side, and through the arm.

The mail-carrier had given her his seat in the buggy, and was walking beside the horse. At first I thought they were the Indians, and that I and my little ones, after five days of such fearful suffering and hunger, must die by the hands of the savages. I did not dare to look around, but kept on my way till overtaken; and then my joy was so great at seeing my friends alive, that I sank to the earth insensible. We staid at Mr. Brown's house ten days,

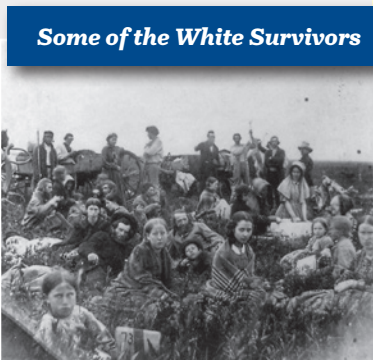
living on potatoes and green corn. Mr. Ireland and the carrier went on to New Ulm, and found the settlement in ashes, the Indians having burned nearly two hundred houses. A party of twelve men, with a wagon, was sent to our relief, and we were made comfortable ; but the sad and sickening thought was now fully confinned in my mind that my husband had been killed in the general massacre of all the remote settlements, and my fatherless children and myself left beggars."

It is some gratification to know that the government has been very kind to these unhappy border sufferers, restoring to them the value of their property destroyed. Governor Eamsay considers that not less than five hundred persons were murdered by the savages, and that between twenty thousand and thirty thousand persons fled for their lives, leaving everything behind them. For some months between seven thousand and eight thousand persons, mostly in the sad condition of Mrs. Hurd, were dependent upon the charity of their friends. The property thus lost and destroyed was between two and three millions, most of which was restored by confiscating the annuity paid these Minnesota Sioux. It is also a satisfaction to know that in about a month after the date of these atrocious harbarities, the whole of these Indians were met by our troops in a battle at Wood Lake, on the 22d of September, and utterly defeated. Five hundred Avere taken prisoners, of whom three hundred were sentenced to be hanged ; but the sentence was finally executed on thirty-eight only of the ringleaders. Little Crow, the chief who instigated the whole insurrection, succeeded in making his escape into the wilds of Dacotah.

Mrs. Hurd now finds a home with her brother, in La Crosse, Wisconsin ; and though the government has dealt generously with her, and abundant sympathy has been manifested in her sufferings, nothing can bring back to her the murdered husband, the beauty, the loveliness, and the sunny future opening before her on that pleasant August morning, when, like the leap of a tiger, that storm of savage desolation swept upon her, and in a brief half hour left her to the awful consciousness of being a widow, houseless, and without food, with two almost naked children in an open prairie.



**Hangings of the Indians -
Largest Mass Execution in
American History**



Some of the White Survivors

The great Latin poet has touched a chord of universal sympathy in his elegant description of the flight of his hero from burning Troy, bearing his aged father on his shoulders, and leading his little boy, who trotted along beside him, his little steps all unequal to the warrior's stride.

Our heroine bore her two children during a part of her fearful flight, but having been without food for nearly sixty hours, and all the time sustaining the little one on her arm by food from her bosom, was compelled to deposit half her precious cargo in the grass, and return for the other; thus, on the two days when she travelled, advancing twelve miles each day, herself walking thirty-six. Could the force of nature go farther? Do our annals anywhere contain a more remarkable instance of the wonderful sustaining power which maternal Love can inspire in the delicate frame of woman?

A Civil War Road Trip of a Lifetime

**Virtual
Presentation:
A Civil War Roundtrip
of a Lifetime**

**Public Event by
Springfield Armory
National Historic Site**

**Wednesday
October 18, 2023
at
7 PM**

What to expect

***For more than a year,
author John Banks
crisscrossed the country,
exploring battlefields,
historic houses, forts and
more,
Join him via Zoom as he
discusses his
Civil War adventures that
inspired his latest book,***

***"A Civil War Road Trip
of a Lifetime: Antietam,
Gettysburg & Beyond".***

**Email:
Ranger Susan
to register at
susan_ashman@nps.gov**

"Highlights of the recent Board Meeting."

The process and procedures documents will be available soon for members to review and volunteer to complete the tasks. The Williamsburg Civil War Trails sign dedication trip will be a worthwhile event. Details will be in the newsletter and announced at the meeting. The round table is still seeking a member to serve as a coordinator for our display team. Spending: the round table will have a quarter page ad in the next CCHA magazine, purchased ten wreaths for Wreaths Across America at Beverly Cemetery on December 16th, ordered a wreath to be placed on the grave of General George Gordon Meade at the celebration of his birthday on December 31st, and printed our updated flyers for distribution at the upcoming public events. Pick up copies of the flyers at the meeting to distribute. We are working to locate an individual to edit and post the recordings of our meeting presentations. The Plan to 100 members by the end of the year will be released soon. We will be conducting a social event in place of our December meeting. The details will be announced at the next meeting. Based on the objectives gathered our new marketing plan will be completed soon. We will resume the practice of visiting other CW round tables soon. These visits were made in the years before the pandemic shutdown. If you are interested in joining the visits, please contact Vice-president Kathy Clark.

NORTH JERSEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
Announces

**The Autumn of General Grant
Lecture Series**

The 4th Thursday of October, 2023
Ulysses Grant at Shiloh hi-res stock photography and images

October 26, 2023 6:54 PM EST
Gen. Grant's Concepts of Leadership in Taking Tennessee:
The Strategic Operations that Secured Shiloh
Presented by Author and Historian
Dr. Heidi Amelia-Anne Weber

Zoom presentations Please request link at NJCivilWarRT@aol.com
This program is co-sponsored by the Bucks County Civil War Round Table
If any CWRT would like to be a co-sponsor for any of our programs, (there is no cost) please reply Rich Rosenthal President, NJCWRT



ONE DAY ONLY - OCTOBER 19, 2022
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

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- REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD
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Save the Date!



The 24th Conference on Women and the Civil War
will be held July 26 - 28, 2024
in Atlanta, Georgia

Call for Presentations

The Society invites proposals for presentations examining the lives and contributions of Civil War-era women at local, regional and national levels. Proposals for presentations regarding all relevant topics which further our knowledge and understanding of these women, to include the life-styles, milieu, material culture, arts and skills of the mid-nineteenth century, will be welcomed for consideration. Topics which address the lives of women - Confederate, Unionist and/or neutral - in the Atlanta area and the South are particularly welcome for this conference.

A synopsis of the presentation, of at least one (1) page, but not more than three (3) pages. The synopsis must indicate why the presentation is relevant to the conference. It must also include a description of visual and physical aids used to illustrate and highlight the presentation, and specify the technology required to use the aids.

A bibliography of the sources used, with an emphasis on the primary sources.

A personal biography of not more than two (2) pages, including a listing of credentials, prior presentations (if any), publications (if any), and contact information. Links to online presentations made previously are considered quite useful. This should not be construed to discourage amateur historians or first-time presenters.

Please send submissions, and any questions or inquiries, to:

swcw1865@gmail.com
ATTN: 2024 Conference Speaker Proposals

All submissions must be RECEIVED
by November 1, 2023

GLASSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

CIVIL WAR HISTORY
Weekend

At the Historic West Jersey Depot- 354 Oakwood Avenue-
Glassboro, NJ 08028



- ★ Experience a living history encampment with the 12th NJ Volunteer Regiment and the 3rd Infantry United States Colored Troops Reenactors. Black powder musket drills and inspirational speeches, along with guest appearances by historical figures from the era.
- ★ Enjoy authentic Civil War era music performed by Becks Civil War Band.
★ Step back in time and dress up with Aunt Corrine!
- ★ Visit the Old Baldy Civil War Roundtable and converse with their members.
- ★ Join us for an authentic Civil War Ball on Saturday evening with the Civil War Dance Troop and Becks Band, learn the reels and steps!
- ★ Sunday morning flap jack breakfast and a moving Camp Service with a pastor from the 12th NJ.

★ FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US AT INFO@GLASSBOROHISTORY.ORG

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
OCT 28TH AND 29TH
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

This program is made possible in part by funding from The Gloucester County Cultural and Heritage Commission at Rowan College at Gloucester County, a partner of the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of the State.



New Members and Awards

New Members
Michael Demofonte
Saint Charles, MO

Members with Old Baldy



FOB and
Mike Hoover



FOB and
Mary Ann Hartner

Help Wanted:

Volunteer to edit Zoom mp4 recordings. Edit for duration, add Intro and Outro text. 1 hour per month. Must have access to video editing software (Adobe Premiere or similar). Please contact Dave Gilson if interested. dgilson404@gmail.com

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers and Activities for 2023/2024

November 9, 2023 - Thursday
Chuck Veit

**“Monitor’s Unknown Mission:
The Navy Raid on the Petersburg Bridges”**

December 14, 2023 - Thursday
“General Business Meeting and Social Night”

January 11, 2024 - Thursday
Michael Kirschner
“The 2nd Wisconsin at Gettysburg”

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

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia
Camden County College
William G. Rohrer Center
1889 Marlton Pike East
Cherry Hill, NJ
oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Founded January 1977

President: Richard Jankowski
Vice President: Kathy Clark
Treasurer: Frank Barletta
Secretary: Mike Bassett
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