

# THE FUGELMAN

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SECOND  
WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY  
ASSOCIATION**

**THE BLACK HAT BRIGADE---THE IRON BRIGADE  
1861-1865**

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**VOLUME XXVII      ISSUE 8      AUGUST, 2017**

**EDITOR: JAMES H. DUMKE**

**FU-GEL-MAN: A well-drilled soldier placed in front of a military company as a model or  
guide for others.**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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<b>PASS IN REVIEW</b>	<b>pages 2-4</b>
<b>ASSOCIATION CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE</b>	<b>page 4</b>
<b>REGIMENTAL DISPATCHES</b>	<b>pages 4-12</b>
<b>ATTENTION TO ORDERS</b>	<b>pages 12-17</b>
<b>REPORTS FROM THE CAMPS</b>	<b>pages 18-35</b>
<b>INFANTRY</b>	<b>pages 18-26</b>
<b>ARTILLERY</b>	<b>pages 26-29</b>
<b>SKIRMISHERS</b>	<b>pages 29-33</b>
<b>REGIMENTAL FIELD HOSPITAL</b>	<b>pages 33-35</b>
<b>CIVIL WAR MILESTONES</b>	<b>pages 35-36</b>
<b>EDITORIAL--BATTLE OF BRAWNER'S FARM</b>	<b>pages 36-51</b>
<b>FIVE THINGS THAT WILL SURPRISE YOU</b>	<b>pages 52-56</b>
<b>LIFE IN CIVIL WAR CAMP</b>	<b>pages 56-63</b>
<b>KILLED AT GETTYSBURG</b>	<b>pages 63-70</b>

## **PASS IN REVIEW**

*From the quill of Lt. Colonel Pete Seielstad*

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**It the world of re-enacting the American Civil War, there is a realm of factors that produce a good experience for the individual. One is the individual himself who has a deep interest in the time period, the generals, the battles, the weapons, and the whole mind-set of the American soldier and/or civilian.**

**Another factor is the setting for the event scenario. I've seen about all of them. There's the schoolyard for a school presentation as well as the city park where one of your parads is using a Frisbee basket for his shebang. We've camped on the same ground as the Boy's of '61 one hundred & fifty+ years ago and even played out a scenario on Civil War battlefields. We're fortunate in Wisconsin with our rolling hills & valleys that produce wonderful background for event scenarios such as Old Wade House (Greenbush), Heritage Hill (Green Bay) and Norskedalen (Coon Valley).**

**A third component is the individuals who introduce the hobby to a newcomer. Perhaps it is the most important and under rated aspect. I've seen quality people in organizations go about the task of informing, outfitting and training people into our community of re-enactors. On the other hand I've seen the ugly side of it too. The self-serving guy who wants to be general and equips all his people personally and then neglects the aspect of drill and the inherent safety in the drill manual.**

**All this brings me to the topic of bringing individuals to the hobby. I have had the great privilege of being in the middle of an experiment that has been both exciting and exasperating. The poor boys' mess, (spelled in lowercase letters because they have no capital i.e. money) is now running into its 16<sup>th</sup> year. Its focus has been to bring interested young men into the hobby slowly by providing focused drill sessions and procuring uniforms and equipment. Using cast-off uniform parts supplemented by personal purchases the young men become the new recruit for the hobby of American Civil War re-enacting. Some are too young to carry a musket into a battle scenario but that doesn't restrict them from learning the school of the soldier and its manual of arms. Who doesn't like to dig? A supply of entrenching tools creates a cast of pioneers for the regiment.**



**Expanding an individual's knowledge includes school of the piece where members of the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Light**

**Artillery instruct the positions of loading their 6-pounder cannon.**

**The photo provided by Lyle Laufenberg, shows the poor boys' mess at Olmstead County Heritage Center in Rochester, Minnesota (2017).**

**The poor boys' mess is just one aspect of recruiting for the future of our hobby of re-enacting the American Civil War. I am most familiar with this program because I am in the middle of it. There are multiple recruitment tools used by the various companies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin as well as throughout the country. (Too many to name.)**

**Bottom line: To all of you (organizations and individuals) who take time to share your knowledge and share your expertise thank you! To our recruits who share the common passion, thank you for becoming a part of our continuing legacy in educating others about the American Civil War experience.**

**Your obedient servant,**

**Lt. Col. Pete Seielstad**

## **CAMPAIGN SCHEDULES OF THE COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATION**

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5th & 6th	Reliving Our History Timeline (Co.K, 6th WI LA)	Boscobel, WI.
5th & 6th	8th & 15th WI Skirmish (Skirmish Team)	Boscobel, WI.
19th & 20th	Fish Creek Living History (Co.E)	Fish Creek, WI.

## **REGIMENTAL DISPATCHES**

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## MESSAGE FROM OLD FALLS VILLAGE REENACTMENT

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**The Fugelman received the following dispatch from the organization involved in planning the Old Falls Village reenactment. The dispatch was sent to the various unit contacts, but the editor thought it would be appropriate to share with all our members.**

**It is this editor's view that our members should be aware of how your efforts are valued by every organization or group who conducts a civil war event. A great deal of hard work and planning goes into an event. But ultimately, the success or failure of an event depends on your efforts to conduct a campaign that is informative and entertaining for the general public. Your dedication and hard work is appreciated greatly by visitors and organizers alike! Well done men! You deserve a pat on the back for your unrelenting efforts!!**

***Hello,***

***Thank you all for participating in the 18th annual Civil War Encampment at Old Falls Village. The event has really grown in the past years which is wonderful to see. We really utilize every inch of the grounds and I am happy with our schedule and all the presentations. The Battle was outstanding as usual. Thank you for all your hard work that you put into your displays, camps, presentations and characters.***

***It seems like I was planning the event for a very long time. It is hard to believe it is over already. The summer and reenactment season go by so quickly.***

***We hope to see you next year. Please keep in touch and check the Historical Society's website for next year's events.  
[www.OldFallsVillage.com](http://www.OldFallsVillage.com)***

***Recently some photos have been posted on our Old Falls Village Historical Society Facebook page. Please check out the photos and LIKE our page.***

***Nancy G,***

***Menomonee Falls Historical Society***

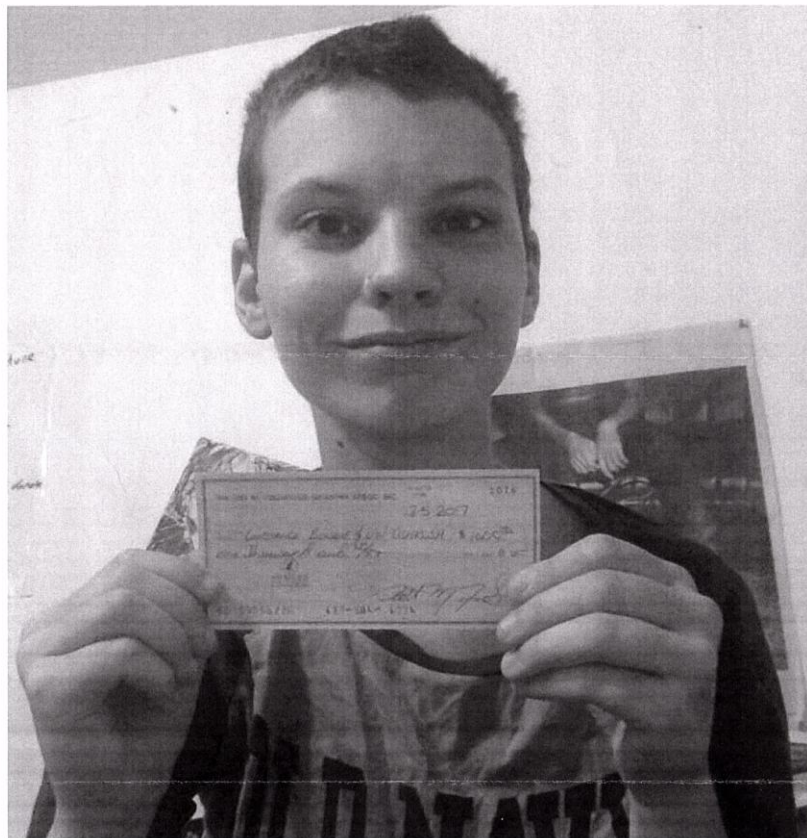
**THE WINNER OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WISCONSIN  
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY ASSOCIATION FOR  
2017 ANNOUNCED**

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**Dave Sielski has announced the name of the winner of the 2017 Association scholarship. The 2017 winner of the scholarship is Constance Bougie. Constance is the daughter of Jeff Bougie, a member of Company E. Constance Bougie is a student at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. It is appropriate for our group that Constance is a history major!**

**Scott Frank sent along the following photo of our scholarship winner. Thank you. Scott!**





***L to R: Curator Kevin Hampton, Ben, Gary, Darlene and Leah Van Kauwenbergh***

***Below is an article submitted to The Fugelman by our own Gary Van Kauwenbergh. The article is a unique piece on a rifle that found its way into the hands of 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin soldiers during the civil war. It is also a story about great generosity by the Van Kauwenberghs. A very special thank you is due to Gary and his family for the donation of the Lorenz to the Veterans' Museum. Well done, Sir! And thank you for the article for our members!!***

## **WISCONSIN VETERAN'S MUSEUM NOW HAS LORENZ M1854 MUSKET**

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**The Wisconsin Veteran's Museum (WVM) has never had a Lorenz musket even though they were the third most commonly used longarm during the Civil War, and issued to Wisconsin's 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments as well as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Regiment.**



**At long last that gap in their holdings is filled thanks to a donation from the Van Kauwenbergh family.**

**This M1854 is in exceptional condition and a quintessential example of the ones used by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment. According to WVM Curator of History and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association President Kevin Hampton , a display case for it is already on order. It would make an excellent companion display next to the WMV's newly acquired LaCrosse Light Guard flag.**

**This particular gun has no provenance, but Donald E. Dixon, an author writing a book on Austro-Hungarian arms, examined all the markings and provided some historical background. Don's opinion is that this gun was assembled from existing parts made by the Vienna Arsenal for the Austrian-Hungarian Army, then held in war reserve stocks until sold to the Federals. Based on the the lack of wear on the wood, I would say the new and used metal parts were assembled onto a brand new stock, and probably never issued by the Federal Army either. It was most likely either purchased when the Union still needed more arms than they could produce, but didn't arrive until ample American-made muskets were available, or just purchased to keep it away from the Confederates. If it were sold to the Confederates, it almost certainly would have been issued, and show more wear. Photographs of all this guns parts can be seen at:**

**<https://www.flickr.com/photos/37462740@N08/albums/72157682344524593>**

#### **MODEL 1854 LORENZ MUSKETS (M1854) IN GENERAL**

**Two types of M1854 muskets were built by both State arsenals and contractors for the Austro-Hungarian Army. Type I had short-range block rear sights, and Type II had flip-up, long-range ladder rear sights. The type of an M1854 is totally determined by the kind of rear sight on the gun and has nothing to do with whether it has a cheek piece.**

**M1854s actually used by the Austro-Hungarian Army usually have more markings than the ones made for export. Army unit markings will be etched on the flats of barrel breech. If a contractor (rather than the arsenal) made the gun, their markings can appear there as well. All M1854s used by the Austro-Hungarian Army will all have cheek pieces, the lock plates all stamped with the Kaisers double-headed eagle, and have a bore size was .547. M1854s made expressly for export may or may not have a cheek piece, and will not have the double-headed eagle on the lock**



**plate. The standard bore size for M1854s was .54 caliber, but some were re-bored to .58 cal. after they were imported by the Federal government.**

**The metric system may be the European standard now, but it didn't exist when M1854s were made. The Austrian-Hungarians were using "Punkts" and "Linen" units for measuring, and while they used the same words "Punkts" and "Linen", the actual distance those units measured varied even within the empire. That's probably why some parts made by contractors are not interchangeable with arsenal made guns. The Vienna Arsenal standardized the measuring system when they took over all M1854 production. Buyer beware: if you're purchasing an original contractor-made M1854 that needs parts, you may have a hard time finding screws that fit.**

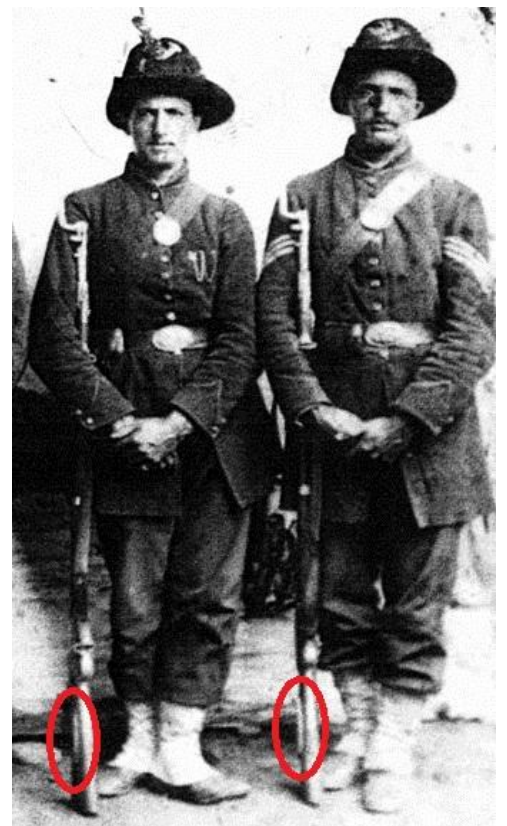
**An English translation of "Das kaiserlich - königliche österreichische Infanterie - Feuergewehr. Auf die hohen Vorschriften basirt und zum Gebrauche für den Officier", or in English: "The Imperial Royal Austrian Infantry - Rifled Musket Standard Operating Procedures for Officers" for the Model 1854 Lorenz rifled musket is available at: <http://acwsa.org/Documents/LorenzManualTranslation.pdf> . It contains a detailed description of M1854 muskets, along with how to use and maintain them.**

## **THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WISCONSIN'S LORENZ MUSKETS IN PARTICULAR**

**The Second Wisconsin soldiers were initially issued Model 1816 Harpers Ferry smoothbore muskets that were converted from flintlock to percussion ignition using the Belgian 'cone in barrel' technique. In January of 1862 those arms were replaced by Model 1854 Lorenz muskets. They were all .54 caliber.**

**There are only three pictures of 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Infantry soldiers where the rear sights are visible, and they all show the Type II ladder sights. The photos are of Ernst Schuckart (Co K), the Color Guard near Fredericksburg, and an unknown soldier widely presumed to be 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin member. I do not know of any pictures of 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Infantry soldiers holding a M1854 Lorenz muskets with Type I block sights. The written records are at odds with the pictorial evidence though. Donald E. Dixon, the arms expert, researched the Quartermaster Ordinance Reports, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin is listed having Type I Austrians on their 1862 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 1863 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, and 1864 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 1863, that reports lists them as having "Jägers". None of those reports showed any Type II Lorenz muskets, even though a separate column on the report**

**was available to list them. The Quartermaster Ordinance Reports for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin are obviously flawed, because Type II were definitely present, but with only three pictures of 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin soldiers holding Type II Lorenz muskets, I'm not ready to say Type I Lorenz muskets were not present at all.**



**The Booth brother and Color Guard photos show the presence of cheek pieces on the stocks. I have**

not found any photos of 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Lorenz muskets without cheek pieces.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE WMV MODEL 1854 TYPE II LORENZ MUSKET

This M1854 is in its original .54 Caliber, and the lockplate is stamped '860' indicating the plate was manufactured in 1860. The stock has a cheek piece. The stock and the inside of the lock show almost no wear, though some of its other metal component parts do. The bore is original, but shows some minor pitting. No contractor maker marks nor Austrian-Hungarian military unit marks appear on top of the barrel breech

Austrian gunsmiths made these guns in batches of 100, and stamped the parts with two-digit numbers starting with 00 and ending with 99, so they could keep all the hand-fitted parts together. When new, all the numbers on a gun would match, but they do not on this gun. It was put together from parts from four or five different guns. Photographs of all this guns parts can be seen at:



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/37462740@N08/albums/72157682344524593> The following is a list of the parts numbers from the different parts on this piece:

Number	Part
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<b>1</b>	<b>Hammer</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Sear</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Bridle</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Side Plate</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Lock Plate Screw ( one is unnumbered)</b>
<b>66</b>	<b>Upper Barrel Band Spring</b>
<b>88</b>	<b>Middle Barrel Band Spring</b>
<b>88</b>	<b>Lower Barrel Band Spring</b>
<b>88</b>	<b>Trigger Plate</b>
<b>274</b>	<b>Barrel and Tang</b>

## **SUMMARY**

**I've only seen one Lorenz with a pedigree going back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin. At a 1994 Company K living history event in Dodgeville, one of the crowd (I think from Mineral Point) claimed her ancestor was a member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin, and showed me the Lorenz he'd brought home with him. It was in rough shape. The forearm wood had been cut down, its bore reamed out to making it into a shotgun, and probably hadn't been oiled in 140 years. But it was a still a thrill to hold it because of its providence. I wish I'd taken pictures and made notes on it, but didn't.**

**Unaltered Lorenz muskets are rare. This is one I've seen after over a decade of actively looking for them. I may never see another, but you'll be able to see this one at our Wisconsin Veterans Museum as soon as they get it on display.**

## **ATTENTION TO ORDERS**

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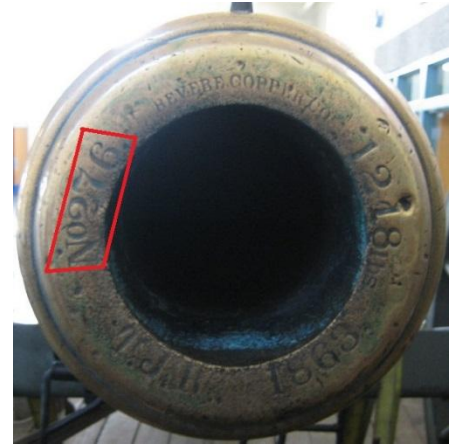
**THE BATTERY B CANNON**

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**The following article was submitted by Gary Van Kauwenbergh. It is useful to inform our members as to the status of efforts to restore the cannon used by Battery B over the years. Many of our members know the story of the tube and some may be aware of the situation that arose last year over possession of the cannon. Gary's article provides some background and the status of efforts to resolve the dispute over the gun. Many of us are not familiar with the status of the gun and the efforts being made to find a resolution of the impasse. Thank you Gary for your efforts to keep us informed on an issue of importance to all members of the Association.**

**In early April 2017, shortly after Wally Hlaban picked up the cannon from the armory to ready it for the upcoming season, he received a phone call Wisconsin National Guard (WIARNG) demanding he bring it back. After repeated attempts to check out the cannon, the WIARNG removed the tube from its carriage and locked it away at Camp Douglas. The bottom line is, that after 22 years of conscientious care, a substantial investment, and developing a heartfelt affection for the gun used by our modern day Battery B, it is no longer available to our association. This article covers the cannon and our efforts to keep it.**

**The cannon used by our modern day Battery was a Model 1857 12 Lb. Bronze Field Gun manufactured in 1863 by the Revere Copper Company. The registry number on its muzzle is 276, and foundry number near the trunnion is 278. It weighs 1218 lbs., and bears the inspectors Mark 'T.J.R.' for Thomas J. Rodman. The occasional speculation that the gun was actually used by Battery B, 4th US Artillery is pure fancy, but it was same model they used during the Civil War.**



DATE OF RECEIPT AT ORDNANCE OFFICE.	REGISTER.			LETTER OF COMPANY.	REGIMENT.	STATION.	CLASS I.—ORDNANCE.							
							FIELD GUNS AND HOWITZERS.							
							SMOOTH-BORER.							
							BRONZE.							
1867.	Book.	Letter.	Number.				6-pounder gun, model 1840-'41, 3" 62 bore.	12-pounder gun, light, model 1857, 4" 62 bore.	12-pounder gun, heavy, model 1840, 4" 62 bore.	12-pounder mountain howitzer, 4" 62 bore.	12-pdr. field howitzer, 4" 62 bore.	24-pdr. field howitzer, 3" 55 bore.	32-pdr. field howitzer, 6" 4 bore.	
47														
48	August 7	5	H	184	A	Fourth Artillery	Washington Junction Va.							
49	Sept 19	5	H	217	B		Bella Plaine Va.	6						
50	March 27	5	H	107	C		Richmond Va.	6						
51														



**Wally and Brant Doty met with WIARNG US Property Book Officer (USPFO) COL Daniel Pulvermacher the second week of April. The WIARNG took the position that the agreement between the association and the WISARNG Battalion Commander signed in 1994 was invalid because that commander did not have authority to enter into such a contract. At that meeting, COL Pulvermacher stated that if we could prove the barrel was State property rather than Federal, he might have some leeway in making a new agreement. After consulting with the Associations' leadership, we decided to go for sole possession of the tube so we wouldn't have to go through this again. That started an intense research effort trying to find who really owned the cannon, and its history.**

**In early May, Wally called a meeting at his house with Kevin Klandrud, Wally & Shelly Hlaban, Tom Trimble, Brant Doty, and Gary Van Kauwenbergh to figure out how regain the use of the cannon. With Kevin Klandruds' insight, we surmised this turmoil began when the WIARNG switched to a new automated inventory system. This cannon was never on their old property books, and when they added it into the new inventory system, it was categorized as some sort of sensitive item requiring frequent physical inspections.**



**The first place we checked was with Jim Bender, who keeps a National Registry of Known Surviving Civil War Artillery. That registry is a compiled inventory of research from numerous cannon historians and is the best source available - but this cannon wasn't listed.**

**War Department records for donated cannons are now managed by the US Army's Tank and Armament Command (TACOM). TACOM records are incomplete, and even when they exist lack much detail. We directly contacted Audrey J. Clarke, TACOM's Chief of the Army Donations Program, who connected us with their Lead Donations Officer, Terry Gavliniski. Initially he could not find any record of the gun.**

**We then guessed the WIARNG got the cannon from a local GAR post after it went defunct. We started looking for all the GAR Halls that were near Whitefish Bay, WI.**

**Thomas McCrory's book "Grand Army of the Republic - Department of Wisconsin", didn't list any GARs close to Whitefish Bay, so we called the author. Mr. McCrory said all the Wisconsin posts were listed there, but our best chance of finding anything useful would be in the minutes of each individual post. Not knowing which post to look for, and tracking down**



**where the minutes went, was an insurmountable task. So we started looking though digitized copies of US Congressional records, where the representatives 'donated condemned bronze or brass' cannons to municipalities and veterans organizations. We started locating, downloading, converting image files into files that could digitally scanned. In about a dozen years' worth of Congressional records, we found well over a hundred such cannons given to various Wisconsin organizations.**

**In between Congressional Record scans, numerous calls were made. Erik Peterson, leader of our associations Battery B at the time of the agreement, said the WIARNG Headquarters were fully aware of the agreement. Peter B. Kelly, who is a lawyer, and adjutant of our association at the time was also called. In 1994, Peter was instrumental in our association obtaining 501(c) (3) status, and had made a number amendments our 1962 corporate charter to accomplish that. No one had any record of the amendments, but I suspected one of them was verbiage on the distribution of property upon dissolution, which we thought could be an issue for the cannon. Scott Frank obtained copies of the amendments from the WI Department of Financial Institutions, and what we were looking for was there.**

**US Property and Fiscal Officer (USPFO) for the WIARNG, COL Daniel L. Pulvermacher contacted retired LTC James Schiller, then commander of the 1-121 Field Artillery Battalion, who signed the agreement on behalf of the WIARNG.**

**Then we got an e-mail from TACOM letting me know they'd searched again, and found a record for a cannon matching our numbers - but it was sent to a GAR Post in Illinois. (Read: we were looking for the wrong State.) Once we had the correct State and date, the Congressional Record was found fairly quickly. The TACOM records show that in 1912, a cannon bearing Registry Number 276 was loaned, and delivered to Chicago, IL destined for the William A. Smith GAR Post 167, in Dolton, IL (a suburb of Chicago).**

**The William A. Smith, GAR Post 167, in Patoka, IL (Marion County) was chartered in January, 1883. In 1911, just seven years before that post closed, they requested two cannons through their State Representative. The 1911, Congressional Records show H.R. Bill 5952 authorizing the Secretary of War to 'furnish two condemned bronze or brass cannon...to the...Grand Army of the Republic, city of Dolton, State of Illinois; to the Committee on Military Affairs'.**

**How the cannon got from Dolton, IL to Whitefish Bay, WI is anyone's guess, but as Civil War Veterans died, many GAR Posts closed and their assets were consolidated, distributed or lost. Answers to how it got to**



**Whitefish Bay may possibly be in the GAR posts minutes, now in the holdings of the Lincoln Library in Springfield, IL. With no possibility of regaining the cannon, those records were not researched.**



**The first mention of the cannon at the Wisconsin Army National Guard (WIARNG) armory in Whitefish Bay comes from an April 30, 1987 Whitefish Bay Herald article saying it was placed there about 1928 shortly after a new brick armory was built. The cannon would have still been on loan to the GAR in 1928.**

**In 1994, a legal agreement was made between the 1-121 Artillery Battalion Commander of the WIARNG and the Second Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association, Inc. The assumption was that because the WIARNG had physical possession of the piece, they owned it. That incorrect assumption was the basis for the agreement that basically said the WIARNG retained ownership of the tube, but our association could use it if they put it back on a carriage and maintained it. Since neither the WIARNG nor the Second Wisconsin Infantry Association, Inc. actually had any legal ownership of the barrel, that agreement was invalid.**

**July 21, 1994, Eric Peterson nominated the piece for listing on the State and National Register of Historic Places. That application was denied on October 26 of that year, because the registry does not contain this type of property.**

**Before we realized the cannon was merely a 'loan', we discovered the last surviving member of the GAR, Albert Woolson, deeded all GAR property to the Sons of the Union Veterans (SUV) in 1954. We tried to contact the SUV to reach some sort of deal with them. However, after discovering the cannon was on 'loan' from the Federal Government, and its ownership would not have passed to the SUV, we quit trying to work with them.**

**After discovering the WIARNG really didn't own the piece either, USPF0 COL Pulvermacher was ready to relinquish custody of the piece to our association and even offered to endorse our request that TACOM deed it directly to our association. A request was sent to TACOM, with all our articles of incorporation, 501(3) (c) status, etc. attached.**

**On June 21, 2017, Audrey J. Clarke, Chief of the Army Donations Program replied to our request saying 2nd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Association, Inc. did not qualify to receive/retain an Army asset. Under Title 10 United States Code 2572, only Veteran service organizations, municipalities, museums, and Veteran memorials are eligible. In addition, “assets conditionally issued under the program are not permitted for trailering to public events or for public display at different sites. The piece of equipment is placed on a concrete pad and not moved around. Consequently, this office would not enter into an agreement using a deed.”**

**Not being a ‘brick and mortar’ museum or veterans memorial, we anticipated our organization may not qualify for a direct loan, but we thought we could get around that by partnering with another group, like the Wisconsin Veteran’s Museum, or the Jung Carriage Museum at the Wade House. We also anticipated there could be a problem with ‘consumptive use’ restrictions, but thought we could get around that by having it loaned as a ‘salute’ cannon. The one restriction we did not anticipate, and the one that stopped our efforts cold, was the one barring us from trailering the cannon to events. There’s no getting around that restriction. It ended our quest to get our cannon back.**

**This is certainly not the outcome we wanted. While losing the cannon is heartbreaking, the carriage, trailer, and all the equipment still belongs to the association, and Wally Hlaban is in the midst of trying to replace the tube so we can maintain a two-gun battery.**

**After doing all this research, I’ve come to wonder about any of the original cannons we see at our reenactments and skirmishes. I suspect many of their histories are similar to the one we used, and probably a piece of loaned War Department property that was improperly transferred by a veterans group or municipality. If I were in the market for an original cannon barrel today, I wouldn’t touch one whose lineage couldn’t be documented all the way back to the War Department actually donating it to a private concern or selling it as scrap. While TACOM is not actively chasing lost cannons, I don’t doubt they might take action to repossess one if they were made aware of one.**

**Humbly submitted, by  
Your Obedient Servant,  
Gary Van Kauwenbergh**

# **FROM THE CAMPS OF THE COMPANIES OF THE SECOND WISCONSIN**

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## **INFANTRY**

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### **COMPANY B**

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#### **AFTER ACTION REPORT FROM OLMSTEAD, MINNESOTA**

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**Our comrade, John Dudkiewicz, sent the following dispatch to *The Fugelman* regarding the recent event in Olmstead, Minnesota. John reported that an “impressive” 12 Association members attended the event. Seven of those men were also members of the “Poor Boys Mess”. The members of Company B who attended the event were Pete Seielstad, Paul Seielstad, John Dudkiewicz, Jared Alexander, Bill Wojahn, Scott Hiser, Matt Gausmann, and Josh Studinger. Some friends of Company B also fell in with our comrades from Company B. They were: Phil Humfeld, Kevin Adams, Danny Skifton, Jason Drake Field, and Lucas Studinger. Jake Kroll from Company E also joined the ranks. The 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Light Artillery had two representatives at this event. They were Wally Hlaban and Ugi Pirocanac**

**John also sent along some photos from the event for us to enjoy. They follow this article. It needs not be said that the Fugelman greatly appreciates John’s submission to the newsletter! Articles such as this allows us to learn about events and share the aspects of the event with our comrades. Again Thank you John for sharing this with us!**









**FLOODING AND RECOVERY AT  
NORSKEDALEN**

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**Where there is a need you will find a response from the men who compose a reenacting unit. *The Fugelman* received the following dispatch from John Dudkiewicz. All of us express our sincere gratitude and admiration for the efforts of these men to correct the damages caused by flooding at a sight where we reenact in October.**

**On July 20, Norskedalen was hit with a significant flash flood, the worst seen at the site in recent memory. Four members of Co B and the Poor Boys (John D, Josh, Nick and Lukas Studinger) volunteered Saturday for three hours of cleaning up a portion of the site. Below you will also find a photo that illustrates the flood damage.**

**The debris field sizes are staggering. There are large logs, stones, and items washed from areas of the site as much as 150 feet from the creek. The normal 6-12 inch depth of Poplar Creek increased to between 8 and 12 feet, with the fast flow anywhere from 20-60 feet wide, sweeping everything down stream. We discovered some items from the Holte Cabin area, as far as ½ mile away, in our cleanup area.**

**The event is on, and the work being done by volunteers at the site is amazing. I cannot find any photos that do justice to how much the site was affected. Please read the information below from the staff at Norskedalen.**

**Your humble servant,  
John S Dudkiewicz**





## COMPANY E

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### LETTER HOME FROM BROTHER STEPHAN

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***The following letters home were written by Steve Peterson and were copied from the Company E newsletter. There are two letters included here. Both are unique and witty. The editor believes you will enjoy them and get a laugh as well!***

*Return to Newton*

*Dearest Sally,*

*It is due only to kind providence and the mercy of the Almighty that I am able to rit you. After a long winter quarters at Ft Howard endurn bouts of the flux it was Doc Jameson's extra strength laudanum that sustaind me.*

*The company was marchd south to again visit the wee hamlet of Newton. We arriud likend the opium peddler on the sly. Even our passage frontn the Public Brothel and Dentistry house elistd no French daintys wavn from the upper bed chambers. We set up camp near a church cemetery as quiet as the dead.*

*With the evenin' ascendn, the town folk began gather at the Public house of dentistry. Sounds of reverie filld the air as a lively Irish band serenaded the folks with the old tunes of Erin. As the nyt got along and the libashuns aflown, some of the croonin sounded much like a dental procedure without the fortificashuns of ether. There was a raisn of the rafters you may say!*

*The follown morn we rec'd the wonderful news of pay call. The merchants of Newton likewise caut wind and made ready the comin jubilee! As we assembld at the bank for our greenbacks, the 1st Sgt hissself postd guard outsyd the pub to deter any such commerce. The precaushuns were of course warrantd with the number of Scot-Irish lads in the company. Of course Put Maclaren was bound and determined to test the resolve of the 1st Sgt, but quickly reconsiderd the rash decision at the point of the bayonet. No stout is worth a belly full of steel!*

*Along about noon a squad of cavalry arriud heraldn reports of rebs on a hill with cannon. Our captn was eager for trophys, the cavalry captn..... not so much! They declind the offer and cytd the gathern storm clouds and the disturbn thawt of chargin canister with ther prizd horse flesh. It made tactical sense and besides, no one wants to see those dandys soiln ther saddles on show ponys!*

*As the cavalry departd a leader of the local militia of one stepd forward to offer his scoutn services. He told the captn that he knew a path thru a valley that allowd us a hidden approach. He askd only to join the assault and to be armd with a '61 Springfield. Bejabbers you had to admire his courage. The odds of surviwn with a '61 in hand was slytly better than slingin a zulu spear! The captn consentd but regretd he had neither a surplus musket or zulu spear to offer. We workd our way down an old goat path into a vale as the rains commened. The gathern storm clouds added to the gloom of the impendn doom. The captn got his ire up whick is always unnerwn to the rank n file. At the edge of a clearing we could spy the reb posishun atop the hill. They were lookn rit cozy behind ther rail fencn and those two 12 pounders starn down at us.*

*With nothn but knee-high hay and our frocks protect us the 1st Sgt led our squad forward as skirmishers. Good to the scouts word, we were able to get half way up that hill without truble. As we crestd a rise in full vew of the rebs we deliverd a valley at 'em. It did nothn more than a child hittn a hornets nest with a stick. As the rebels showerd us with lead we clng to mother earth more ferwently than the worm its hole!*

*The militia scout, now brandishn a blade, came up with the 2nd squad to support us. Our combind fire-power had little effect and simply provided a target rich environment for the rebs. The 2nd*

*squad then swung left and tryd advancn up a draw. It was like wheat beneath the grist stone – not a lad returnd whole!*

*The rebel yell soon echoed from above and as we peerd over the rise the rebs were acomin! We fired a few partn shots and made our way back to the vale. My hip gout flared up and I went down as if shot – my left leg was on fire! Captn darlin' tryd to help me along, but we were soon encompassd round about by rebs and takn prisoners.*

*The two of us were led back up the hill to the rebs headquarters. One very distinguishd esquire with his pipe in hand, lookn more the professor than an officer rec'd us. I recognizd him rit off as Captn Fallinbrook. "Well, well private", he chuckld, "so we meet again!" "Yes sir, you seem to be fairn well frum the Old Falls skirmish." "I am indeed private and I must thank you again for helpn me to that yankee field hospital. Union laudanum is magical!" I replyd; "it is indeed sir, it is indeed!"*

*Lookn at my captn he said; "Captn, you were most unwise in sendn your boys against my works. I will have my aide make out a parole pass for you so you may tend to your falln." My captn replied; "Thank you sir, and what of my private?" "All in good time captn, all in good time. You sir are free to go, the confederacy need more union officers like yourself to lead many more Yankees in forlorn hopes."*

*After my captn was escortd away I was invitd for a sit and a touch of the Irish. The honorable Captn Fallinbrook and I chattd of our homes and families. As he offerd me a parole pass he said; "godspeed private, may we meet again during happier times." I was escortd back to my company pondern how strange it was for someone so gracious and kind to be countd as an enemy. The company has since returnd to Ft Howard for rest and refit.*

*Still this syd of the sod.....barely*

*Your Brother, Stephan*

*Pugilism within the palisades  
Early June, Ft Howard*

*Dearest Sally,*

*I cling tytly to me charmd life as I again have bin gracd with the tym to rit you after yet another donny-brook. This battle you will not be readn in any newspaper, for the pugilism was rather within the palisades of Ft Howard. Garrison life here oft calld feather beddn, can be dull and can lend itself to many taken to the drink or findn solace thru medicinal compounds. One such incident I humbly share.*

*Doc Maclaren had bin away for a spell doin whatever docs do to keep the hospital supplyd. In other words, keepn pa and the good doctor's laudanum enterprise solvent. In his stead the alchemy was left in the hands of a new steward – Ebenezor! Yes Sally, the one and only! I guess ole Eb had bin an apprentice for Doc for just such an occashun!*

*One particular private (R.M) was malingerin and complainin of assortd ailments to get out of duties and to fortify hisself with laudanum, or as pa would call it – Caledonia cocktails! It was a good thing Ebenezor kept an account of R.M's visits cuz when Doc returnd and made the discovery – there was hell to pay!*

*Well ole Doc marchd into camp and made a bee-line for R.M. He then conductd an exam in front of all and proclaimd the private fit as a fiddle. Doc then questiond R.M about his frekwent visits to the hospital and all his alleged ailments. R.M claimd all the steward's records to be truthful. However, when Doc cytd an entry statn "menstrual cramps", the private knew his goose was cookd. It is for sure and for certain at that point R.M felt discomforture in his nether regions!*

*The Doc's ire was risn and when he accused R.M of shown the white feather, R.M landed a rit to Doc's jaw. Before Doc could brandish his scalpel, both were restraind. The private was hawld off to the stockade for strikn an officer. None the worse for wear, Doc exclaimd: "pray private you're never afflictid with a case of the piles for you'll feel the sting of my gelding knife!"*

*Oh my Sally, all's fair in love and war! A court case is pendn!*

*Your Brother the Bystander  
Stephan*

## COMPANY K

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**REV. PETER P. COONEY, C.S.C. (1822 - 1905),  
CHAPLAIN, 35TH INDIANA INFANTRY  
REGIMENT**

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***Stan Graiewski sent the following information in honor of Father Bruce, Chaplain for Company K. It recognizes the contributions and efforts of civil war chaplains as they served their commands and their God. The newsletter extends it's gratitude to Captain and surgeon Stan Graiewski for the submission!***

**Born in Ireland and raised in Michigan, before the war Cooney was a Catholic priest and member of the religious order known as the Congregation of the Holy Cross at Notre Dame University in Indiana. Receiving permission from his superiors, at the age of 39 he became the chaplain to the 35th Indiana, nicknamed the First Indiana Irish, in**

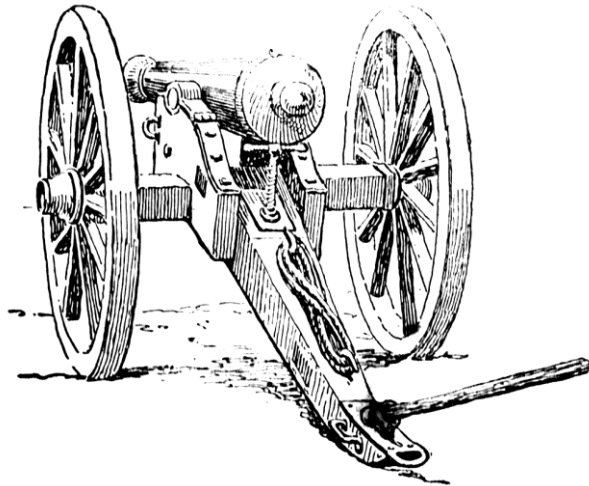
**December 1861. He was with the 35th at Perryville, Stones River, Chickamuaga/Chattanooga, the Atlanta Campaign, and Franklin/Nashville. Fr. Cooney was the longest serving Catholic chaplain in the Union Army, 44 months, until the regiment was mustered out in October 1865. After the war he served as a priest in Indiana, Wisconsin and Louisiana, and was briefly the Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Holy Cross.**



**ARTILLERY**

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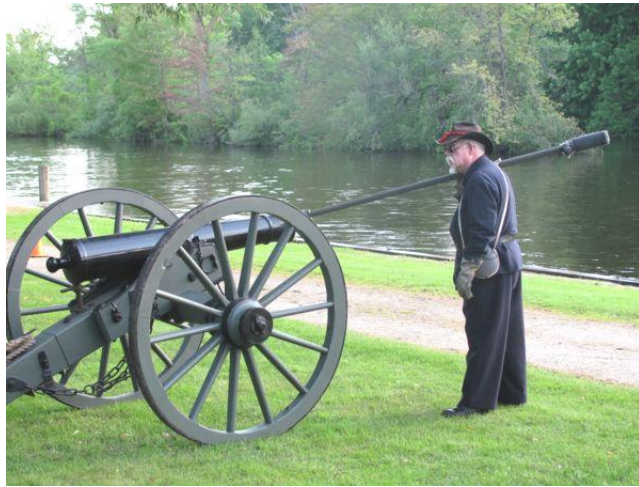


## PHOTOS FROM THE BERLIN EVENT OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> WISCONSIN LIGHT ARTILLERY UNIT

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**The following photo array comes from the battery's event in Berlin, Wisconsin. The photographer is unknown, but to the photographer and Lyle Laufenberg who sent the pictures the newsletter expresses its sincere gratitude!**









## **SKIRMISHERS**

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## **SKIRMISHERS AT BOSCOBEL**

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**The annual Boscobel skirmish event occurs over the weekend of August 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup>. Below you will find the schedule of events for the weekend and a map to the site of the event.**

**August 4-6, 2017**

**The Boscobel Sportsmen Club,**

**The American Civil War Shooting Association (ACWSA) 4982 State Road 133, Boscobel WI. 53895,(608) 375-2779 In association with present an ACWSA Skirmish**

**Hosted by: 8th Wisconsin, "Eagle Regiment",**

**Dick Tessmann, Commander 1st U.S. Sharpshooters, Co. G. "Badger Scouts", Rick Reiner, Commander 15th Wisconsin, Co. C. "Norwegian Bear Hunters" Stephen Sherry, Commander Schedule of Events Friday, August 4th, 2017 5:00 Mortar and Mini-Cannon**

**Saturday, August 5th 2017**

**8:45 Revolver and Smoothbore Team Commander Meeting**

**9:00 -10:00 Individuals (only 4 relays) Individuals will continue until noon concurrent with team events. Hands on History- Public invited to fire Civil War era firearms until noon (fee).**

**10:00 Revolver Team (3 Person- 3 Events)**

**11:00 Smoothbore Team (3 Person-3 Events)**

**Lunch break immediately after Smoothbore Team competition.**

**12:30 Breechloader and Carbine Commanders meeting.**

**1:00 Breechloader Team (3 Person-3 Events) NOTE: Repeating firearms have double targeting)**

**2:30 Carbine Team (5 Person - 5 Events)**

**Sunday, August 6th, 2017**

**9:00 Musket team Commander Meeting. 9:45 Opening ceremonies**

**10:00 Musket Team (5 Person- 5 Events) Clean up and Awards after Musket Competition Please Note:**

- 1. The club will only be providing lunch on Saturday. No Breakfasts. No lunch on Sunday!**
- 2. Please remove your own trash. NO DUMPSTER will be available.**
- 3. Bring your own shelter, if one is desired.**
- 4. If you wish color in your water bottles, you must provide it yourself.**
- 5. Times, events and targets are subject to change.**
- 6. Targets will be prorated, if necessary.**

**7. Every ACWSA member, who wants to shoot will be accommodated.**

**Team Targeting Revolver 15 yd. Pigeon board**

**15 yd. 4" Ceramic Tiles**

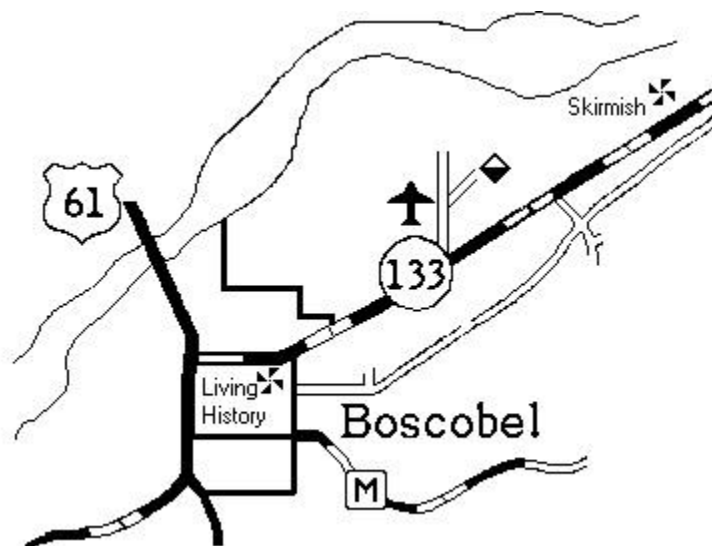
**25 yd. 6" Ceramic Tiles Breechloader 50 yd. Pigeon board**

**50 yd. 4" Metal Tiles 100 yd. 6" Metal Tiles Smoothbore**

**25 yd. Pigeon board 25 yd. 4" Ceramic Tiles**

**50 yd. 6" Ceramic Tiles Carbine / Musket 50 yd. Pigeon board**

**50 yd. 4" Metal Tiles 50 yd. Metal Pigeons 50 yd. Surprise!!!!!! 100 yd. Rapid Fire**



## **46<sup>TH</sup> ILLINOIS SKIRMISH EVENT IN STREATOR, ILLINOIS**

**The 46<sup>th</sup> Illinois skirmishers will host an event in Streator, Illinois, from August 18<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The editor was unable to locate a schedule of events. Below you will find maps to the site of the event.**





## 2<sup>nd</sup> WISCONSIN REGIMENTAL FIELD HOSPITAL



## **CIVIL WAR AMPUTEE**

### **REVOLUTIONIZED FIELD OF PROSTHETICS**

**Civil War amputees dealt with mixed feelings.**

**For some, amputation served as double loss: one of limbs and the other of manhood.**

**How could amputees plow fields or perform industrial work?**

**Who would willingly marry someone who was less than whole?**

**Others rationalized wounds as symbols of courage and personal sacrifices. General Sickles personified this group. After losing his leg at Gettysburg, he donated it to the Army Museum with this note: "Compliments of Major General DES." During frequent visits, Sickles visited his leg and proudly shared his wartime experiences.**

**An estimated 50,000-60,000 amputations occurred during the war.**

**It took only one amputee to revolutionize the prosthetic field.**

**James Edward Hanger, an 18 years old former engineering student and private with the Army of Virginia, was wounded at the Battle of Philippi. A Union Surgeon, Dr James D Robinson 16<sup>th</sup> Ohio, saved the young Confederate by amputating his leg below the hip joint. After recuperating at a Union hospital, he was sent home where he isolated himself in an upstairs bedroom. Family and friends thought he would die a broken man. However, Hanger was designing a new and practical prosthetic: one that bent at the knee and ankle.**



**Existing prosthetics were stiff peg legs: no joints and no bending. His invention helped amputees maneuver stairs and walking.**

**A Virginia State contract assisted with the war effort, beginning with the Army of Virginia's amputees.**

**His business continued through the war years. A US patent was awarded in 1871. In 1888, corporate offices were relocated from Staunton, Virginia to Washington DC. Manufacturing centers were located in St Louis, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Atlanta. JE Hanger company was incorporated in 1906.**

**His Civil War experiences and foresight prompted Hanger to open an office in Europe in 1912 where he could serve wounded WWI soldiers.**

**Hanger passed away in 1919.**

**His legacy had an indelible impact upon the growth of the prosthetic industry. Thanks to his tenacity, leadership and concern, Hanger remains at the forefront of the prosthetic and orthotic industry today.**

## **CIVIL WAR MILESTONES**

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### **AUGUST**

<b>Aug. 5, 1864</b>	<b>Battle of Mobile Bay</b>
<b>Aug. 9, 1862</b>	<b>Battle of Cedar Mountain</b>
<b>Aug. 10, 1861</b>	<b>Battle of Wilson's Creek</b>
<b>Aug. 17, 1862</b>	<b>Uprising of Sioux Indians in Minnesota</b>
<b>Aug. 21, 1821</b>	<b>Gen. William Barksdale, CSA, born</b>

**Aug. 28, 1861**

**Fort Hatteras falls**

**Aug. 28, 1862**

**BATTLE OF BRAWNERS FARM. . . the men forming the Black Hat Brigade and Battery B engage in their first engagement as a unit. Col. Edgar O'Connor mortally wounded.**

**Aug. 29, 1833**

**Col. Edgar O'Connor, USA, born**

**Aug. 29, 1862**

**The Battle of Second Bull Run begins**

**Aug. 30, 1862**

**Maj. Gen. John Pope is defeated as the Battle of Second Bull Run concludes**

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## **EDITORIAL**

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# **THE BATTLE OF BRAWNER'S FARM—AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup>, 1862**

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**EDITORIAL BY JAMES H. DUMKE**

**It has been a hot day. We have been on the march for much of the day, directed by the general commanding to march on to Centreville. It is hot and humid. The sky is a cloudless blue and the verdant green surroundings are beautiful. A cloud of dust rises from the Warrenton Turnpike on which we travel, coating our men with a layer of dust that streaks our faces as we sweat under the hot sun, which is beginning to set. The march has been difficult as we start and stop due to entanglements with the wagons of Hatch's Brigade and his troops ahead of us on the pike. Hatch's brigade leads the column on the road, as the division of General King wearily marches in the direction of Centreville.**

**We march at the route step in a column of fours, as is our custom on long marches. One can hear laughter rising from the boys in the ranks as they swap stories and share jokes with their comrades. At times we will break into song with the music from our band as they play trying to lighten the dreariness of the march.**

**Ahead of us lays the village of Gainesville, which was our original destination at the beginning of our march. At around 4:15 p.m. General Gibbon, our brigade commander, received orders from Major General John Pope to march towards Centreville rather than Gainesville with all possible speed.**

**For the last few days we have been marching and countermarching under General Pope's orders. We are all aware that we are seeking the rebel corps commanded by General Thomas J. Jackson. Rumors suggest that Jackson is in retreat, heading towards Centreville, moving towards Thoroughfare Gap. General Pope apparently wants to cut Jackson off and bring him to battle. We believe Pope wants to defeat and destroy Jackson before he can affect a junction with General James Longstreet's corps of the Army of Northern Virginia, who was reportedly heading to Thoroughfare Gap himself.**

**Before relating the experience of battle with Jackson's troops, it might be appropriate to discuss the strategic circumstances that led the "Black Hats" to Gainesville and the fight at Brawner's farm. Of course our men in the army knew little or nothing about these matters.**

**In early June of 1862, General John Pope, commander of the Army of the Mississippi in the Western theater, was summoned by Secretary of War Stanton to Washington City. President Lincoln proposed to create an army out of disparate commands and place General Pope in command. This army would be composed of the Third Corps under Irwin McDowell, and the armies under Fremont and Banks. This army would be named the Army of Virginia, and would be tasked with screening Washington and trying to provide relief to McClellan's army on the Peninsula.**

**Pope objected to the proposal for essentially three reasons. First, he had been successful in the West and had a strong attachment to his command. Pope's troops admired their commander and fought well under his command. Pope's second objection was that the troops forming this new army were eastern men used to eastern commanders, were loyal to those officers, and that they would resent serving under an officer coming from**

**the western theater. The final, and most significant concern was that General Pope was junior to McDowell, Banks, and Fremont. General Pope was worried that these officers would demonstrate jealousy and resentment at being placed in a subordinate position to a junior officer. Ultimately, Banks and McDowell would work well with Pope, but Fremont resigned in a pique of anger at being placed in a subordinate position to a junior officer. Franz Sigel would assume command of Fremont's troops for the upcoming campaign.**

**At the same time that Pope was organizing his new army McClellan was having a difficult time on the Peninsula. McClellan's Peninsula Campaign had ground to a halt following the Seven Days battles just outside of Richmond. Shaken by these fights and the losses that accompanied them, McClellan retreated to the shelter of Union gunboats and Fortress Monroe to lick his wounds and decide what to do next. Lincoln and Stanton were convinced that McClellan would accomplish nothing further in his position at the tip of the peninsula, issued orders to McClellan to withdraw his troops and return to Alexandria. McClellan was angry at being ordered away from the peninsula, as well as the fact that there was a question as to who would command the troops once they returned to the north. McClellan could not accept the fact that Pope might be put in command of his troops and moved very slowly in transferring his men back to Alexandria.**

**General Lee faced a dilemma when he determined that McClellan might be withdrawing from his position on the Peninsula. The issue was who posed the greater threat to the Southern cause.**

**Although McClellan's withdrawing forces were still perceived to be a threat to Richmond, General Robert E. Lee felt that Pope now represented the more immediate threat and sent reinforcements to Jackson with orders to counter Pope's forces and suppress the new Union army. (Walker, p. 74)**

**Lee came to a decision to ignore McClellan, figuring he did not constitute a significant threat any longer to Richmond. This was particularly true if indeed McClellan was being recalled. Thus Lee determined to turn on Pope and in Lee's words "suppress" his force.**

**Lee's aim was for Jackson to take his corps around Pope's flank, cutting off his supply lines, at which point Longstreet's corps would rejoin him to defeat Pope before the rest of McClellan's slow moving reinforcements could combine with Pope. (Walker, p. 74)**

**Jackson energetically set out to carry out Lee's strategic plan. The rebel troops using speed and mobility, for which Jackson was famous, conducted a series of marches that confused General Pope as to the goals and destination of Jackson.**

**Lincoln and Stanton watched with frustration as McClellan made little progress in following orders to withdraw from the Peninsula. At the same time, the administration followed the progress of Pope. Stanton sent the following telegram to Pope on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1862, setting out a strategic plan to ensnare Jackson and his corps.**

**U.S. MILITARY TELEGRAPH**

**(Received Aug. 26<sup>th</sup>, 1862, from War Dep't, 11:45 A.M.)**

**MAJOR GENERAL POPE: ---**

**Not the slightest dissatisfaction has been felt in regards to your operations on the Rappahannock. The main object has been accomplished in getting up troops from the Peninsula, although they have been greatly delayed by storms. Moreover, the telegraph has been interrupted, leaving us for a time ignorant of the progress of the evacuation. . . . If possible to attack the enemy in flank, do so, but the main object now is to ascertain his position. Make cavalry excursions for that purpose, especially toward Front Royal. If possible to get in his rear; pursue with vigor.**

**H. W. HALLECK**

**General-in-chief (Pope, p. 464)**

**Jackson worked his way to the rear of Pope's army and on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August moved into Manassas Junction, a huge supply depot used by Pope. His troops feasted on supplies at the Junction. What they could not eat or carry away was burned by Jackson's soldiers.**

**With Jackson in his rear, Pope knew he had to fall back from his Rappahannock line. In his post war writings on the Battle of Second Bull Run, Pope would write:**

**The movement of the enemy toward my right forced me either to abandon the line of the Rappahannock and the communications with Fredericksburg, or to risk the loss of my army and the almost certain loss of Washington. Of course between the two alternatives I could not hesitate in a choice. I considered it my duty, at whatever sacrifice to my army and myself, to retard as far as I could, the movement of**



**the enemy toward Washington, until I was certain that the Army of the Potomac reached Alexandria. (Pope, p. 464)**

**General Pope would begin a series of marches and countermarches in an effort to locate and bring Jackson to battle. Pope was wearing out his army trying to locate Jackson and his rebel force.**

**For two days Pope exhausted his combined force in a massive, futile search for Jackson, first ordering his units to converge on Manassas Junction. When Pope arrived there in person at noon on the 28<sup>th</sup> to find his antagonist gone, he concluded wrongly that the Confederate divisions had moved east to Centreville, and he rerouted his scattered units there. Repeated marches and countermarches in the Virginia heat took a heavy toll on officers, enlisted men, and horses. (Walker, pps. 75-76)**

**This brings us to August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1862. Jackson was preparing to make his position known by attacking an isolated Union force. Longstreet's Corps was nearing the old Bun Run battlefield and it was time to make his presence known. Selecting a site between two ridges on the Brawner farm in an unfinished railroad cut Jackson awaited his opportunity.**

**Meanwhile, Jackson had actually moved his men in the opposite direction. After ransacking the massive supply base at Manassas Junction and putting the torch to whatever his men could not consume or carry away, Jackson consolidated his three divisions several miles to the northwest along Stony Ridge north of the tiny hamlet of Groveton, not far from the old Manassas battlefield. Jackson had chosen a superb defensive position a few hundred yards up the hill from the strategic Warrenton Turnpike. Hidden in the fields and woods behind the embankment of an unfinished railroad, he could monitor Union movement on the turnpike while awaiting the arrival of Longstreet's wing of the Army of Northern Virginia. The Confederates had an excellent view of the turnpike to their front and could easily launch a strike against an isolated unit of Pope's army moving along the pike. (Walker, pps. 75-76)**

**The following two selections set out Pope's thinking and actions that encompassed the fight at Brawner's Farm and puts the fight into his campaign's context. Many historians give Bruce Catton credit for creating the image and honor of the Iron Brigade in his writings. However, both Ropes and Pope reflect on the courage and pluck of the brigade in the 1880's, twenty years after the battle but half a century before Catton set pen to paper. It might be truthfully said that Catton restored the honor of the Iron Brigade, but clearly their efforts were recognized by their commanders long before Catton came on the scene. But now let us see how General John**

**Pope viewed the actions of Gibbon's and Doubleday's troops during the Second Bull Run Campaign.**

**. . . . I also wrote McDowell the situation and directed him to call back to Gainesville any part of his force which had moved in the direction of Manassas Junction, and march upon Centreville along the Warrenton pike with the whole force under his command to intercept the retreat of Jackson toward Thoroughfare Gap. With King's division in advance, McDowell, marching toward Centreville, encountered late in the afternoon the advance of Jackson's corps retreating toward Thoroughfare Gap.\* Late in the afternoon, also, Kearney drove the rear-guard of Jackson out of Centreville and occupied that place with his advance beyond it toward Gainesville. A very severe engagement occurred between King's division and Jackson's forces near the village of Groveton on the Warrenton pike, which was terminated by the darkness, both parties maintaining their ground.\*\* The conduct of this division in this severe engagement was admirable, and reflects the utmost credit both upon its commanders and the men under their command. That this division was not reinforced by Reynolds and Sigel seems unaccountable. The reason given, though it is not satisfactory, was the fact that General McDowell had left the command just before it encountered the enemy, and had gone toward Manassas Junction, where he supposed me to be, in order to give me some information about the immediate country in which we were operating, and with which, of course, he was much more familiar from former experience than I could be. I had left Manassas Junction, however, for Centreville. Hearing the sound of the guns indicating King's engagement with the enemy, McDowell set off to rejoin his command, but lost his way, and I first heard of him next morning at Manassas Junction. As his troops did not know of his absence, there was no one to give orders to Sigel and Reynolds. I had left Manassas Junction, however, for Centreville. Hearing the sound of the guns indicating King's engagement with the enemy, McDowell set off to rejoin his command, but lost his way, and I first heard of him next morning at Manassas Junction. As his troops did not know of his absence, there was no one to give orders to Sigel and Reynolds.**

**The engagement of King's division was reported to me about 10 o'clock at night near Centreville. I felt sure then, and so stated, that there was no escape for Jackson. On the west of him were McDowell's corps (I did not then know that he had detached Ricketts), Sigel's**

**corps, and Reynold's division, all under the command of McDowell. On the east of him, and with the advance of Kearny nearly in contact with him on the Warrenton pike, were the corps of Reno and Heintzelman. Porter was supposed to be at Manassas Junction, where he ought to have been on that afternoon.**

**I sent orders to McDowell (supposing him to be with his command), and also direct to King, several times during that night and once by his own staff-officer, to hold his ground at all hazards, to prevent the retreat of Jackson toward Lee, and that at daylight our whole force from Centreville and Manassas would assail him from the east, and he would be crushed between us. I sent orders also to General Kearny at Centreville to move forward cautiously that night along the Warrenton pike; and to keep as closely as possible in contact with him during the night, resting his left on the Warrenton pike and throwing his right to the north, if practical, as far as the Little River pike, and at daylight next morning to assault vigorously with his right advance, and that Hooker and Reno would certainly be with him shortly after daylight. I sent orders to General Porter, who I supposed was at Manassas Junction, to move upon Centreville at dawn, stating to him the position of our forces, and that a severe battle would be fought that morning (the 29<sup>th</sup>). (Pope, pps. 468-470)**

**The author, Ropes, in his book on the Battle of Second Bull Run, also discussed the Battle of Brawner's Farm in the context of the Second Bull Run campaign. He also specifically writes about the battle and claims by the rebels that they were the victors in the fight. If anything can be described as a drawn battle the epic fight at Brawner's Farm was clearly such a fight. Strategically the battle probably worked in the rebels' favor, but tactically the victor had to be the Federals! When six regiments carry the fight to an entire division and hold their ground the tactical advantage falls to the six regiments.**

**King, it will be remembered, had brought up the rear of McDowell's column in the march of the morning, and had not in the afternoon got very far beyond Gainesville on his road to Manassas. He therefore had only a short distance to make before again finding himself on the pike, and he accordingly complied with the order to march on the pike to Centreville, at once. By five o'clock or thereabouts he was marching along the turnpike eastwardly toward Centreville, perfectly unaware of there being any force of the enemy upon his left flank.**

**Our movement this day had completely puzzled General Jackson. When he saw our troops march off in the forenoon toward Manassas, he thought we were in "full retreat," and sent word to A. P. Hill, who was at Centreville, to "move down to the fords [of Bull Run] and intercept us." Hill, however, having captured some of our dispatches, knew that Pope had no thought of retreating, but only of attacking Jackson, and he proceeded to rejoin his corps with all speed on the Bull Run battlefield. Informed by General Bradley T. Johnson of our movements toward Manassas, and yet seeing that large bodies of our troops were still coming on the pike from Gainesville, in their march from Buckland Mills, Jackson made his dispositions to attack us, as he says, "on the idea that we should continue to press forward on the turnpike toward Alexandria." But, fearing that King's division was intending to leave the road and incline toward Manassas, he advanced the divisions of Ewell and Taliaferro, and attacked with his customary impetuosity. But he was soon undeceived if he thought that this column was intending to escape. Our men turned savagely upon their assailants. Their batteries were at once enfiladed and compelled to change their position. Our skirmishers were immediately advanced and supported by the infantry in line, and our troops crossed the road and fiercely advanced upon the enemy. On their side their troops pushed forward with their customary hardihood to close quarters, and there ensued, says Taliaferro, "one of the most terrific conflicts that can be conceived . . . . For two hours and a half, without an instant's cessation of the most deadly discharges of musketry, round shot and shell, both lines stood unmoved, neither advancing, and neither broken or yielding, until at last, about nine o'clock at night, the enemy slowly and sullenly fell back and yielded the field to our victorious troops.**

**As to our having had the worst of it, however, General Taliaferro is in error. He is doubtless misled by the fact that when General King withdrew to Manassas, as we shall see that he did, about one o'clock in the morning, he simply abandoned the field of battle. But there was no falling back for hours after the engagement had ceased. On the contrary, our troops held all the ground north of the turnpike, to which they had advanced in the beginning of the action, until they took up their line of march in the middle of the night for Manassas Junction.**

**General Taliaferro was wounded in the action himself, and may not have known the result from personal observation. General Stafford, whose brigade seems to have been transferred from A. P. Hill's to Taliaferro's division, says, "the battle commenced at five o'clock P.M., and lasted till nine o'clock P.M., resulting in the repulse of the enemy, we holding the battle-ground." Major Pelham, too,**

**whose battery was engaged, says, "we drove the enemy back." All that the Federal authorities. It was in fact, a drawn battle. The attack made by us was repulsed, but that was all.**

**These officers claim is that they held their own, which is admitted by Our forces engaged consisted only of the brigades of Gibbon and Doubleday, but these were strong brigades and among the best in the army and admirably commanded. The whole division of Taliaferro and two brigades of Ewell's division, at least, those of Lawton and Trimble, constituted the force of the enemy. We were no doubt considerably outnumbered. Why was this so, with the brigade of Hatch in front and that of Patrick in the rear, is, perhaps, remarkable. Doubtless the darkness of the night prevented these troops from participating in the action. (Ropes, pps. 75-78)**

**The editors for Pope's article added the following from Jackson's after action report. It clearly denotes Jackson's determination to attack the Union troops passing by on the Warrenton Turnpike.**

**Jackson says: "Dispositions were promptly made to attack the enemy, based upon the idea that he would continue to press forward upon the turnpike toward Alexandria; but as he did not appear to advance in force, and there was reason to believe that his main body was leaving the road and inclining toward Manassas Junction, my command was advanced through the woods, leaving Groveton on the left, until it reached a commanding position near Brawner's house. By this time it was sunset; but as his column appeared to be moving by, with its flank exposed, I determined to attack at once, which was vigorously done by the divisions of Taliaferro and Ewell." [--Editors] (Pope, pps. 468-470)**

**King's division of McDowell's Corps (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps) had been directed to march on Manassas. At 4:15 P.M. orders came from Pope to redirect their march to Centreville. There is a question as to whether this information was ever passed along to King or his subordinates.**

**King's division (which had not been at Gainesville on the night of the 27<sup>th</sup>, but near Buckland Mills, was consequently near the Warrenton pike instead of at Manassas, when, by General Pope's 4:15 P.M. order, the army was directed upon Centreville instead of Manassas) encountered Jackson's forces in position as stated in the preceding note about 5:30 P.M. Gibbon's brigade, with two regiments of Doubleday's (The 56<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania and 76<sup>th</sup> New York), contended**



**against Taliaferro's division and two brigades (Lawton's and Trimble's) of Ewell's division. General Jackson says:**

**"The batteries of Wooding, Poague, and Carpenter were placed in position in front of Starke's brigade, and above the village of Groveton, and, firing over the heads of our skirmishers, poured a heavy fire of shot and shell upon the enemy. This was responded to by a very heavy fire from the enemy, forcing our batteries to select another position. By this time Taliaferro's command, with Lawton's and Trimble's brigades on his left, was advanced from the woods to the open field, and was now moving in gallant style until it reached an orchard on the right of our line and was less than 100 yards from a large force of the enemy. The conflict here was fierce and sanguinary. Although largely reinforced, the Federals did not attempt to advance, but maintained their ground with obstinate determination. Both lines stood exposed to the discharges of musketry and artillery until about 9 o'clock, when the enemy slowly fell back, yielding the field to our troops. The loss on both sides was heavy, and among our wounded were Major-General Ewell and Brigadier-General Taliaferro.**

**Gibbon's brigade lost 133 killed, 519 wounded, 70 missing, total, 751, "or considerably over one-third of the command." King held his ground until 1 A.M. on the 29<sup>th</sup>, when, being without support, without communication with either of the generals in command over him, and without orders since those of 4:15 P.M., he marched to Manassas Junction.—Editors**

**This brings us back to the fight at Brawner's Farm. The Black Hats, as we were known, were marching along the Warrenton Turnpike. It was nearing 5:00 P.M. and the sun was starting to set.**

**From our place in the line of march we could not see our commander, General Gibbon ride up on a knoll near a thick woodlot. Gibbon did not see any troops. Jackson had assembled two divisions and formed them into battle lines in a swale between two gentle ridges. These troops were invisible to Gibbon as he visually searched the area. As he sat on his horse scanning the horizon, he was taken by surprise when he observed a battery ride out on the ridge immediately to his front. Being an old artillery officer he recognized that the rebel guns were swinging into battery. Within minutes these guns were lobbing shot and shell onto the troops on the Warrenton pike. The men in the brigade scattered to the north side of the**

**pike and sheltered themselves as best they could. Our wagons and ambulances, in panic, arrived on the south side of the road and began setting up their field hospital.**

**As shells screamed overhead and exploded around them, some of the Union column quickly scattered, their ambulances and wagons careening panic-stricken off the road into the fields and forests south of the pike. The New York regiments in Patrick's brigade, now about 1,000 yards behind Gibbon, immediately broke up and headed for the trees—they would not participate in the fight to come despite Gibbon's repeated pleas for help. It would be hours before Patrick could regain control of his troops, leaving Gibbon and Doubleday to contend with the Confederates by themselves. (Walker, p. 77)**

**Our Colonel, Col. Edgar O'Connor, sat mounted on his horse on the road and we saw General Gibbon gallop up to O'Connor. There was a brief conversation between the two officers. Gibbon told O'Connor he wanted his battle-tested Second Wisconsin boys to capture what Gibbon thought was Jeb Stuart's horse artillery. Colonel O'Connor formed us into a battle line. Given our position in the line of march we had to march obliquely behind the preceding regiments of the brigade to the left towards a rectangular woods. Moving through the woods we approached the position of the rebel guns. As the boys of the Second Wisconsin cleared the woods and moved into an open field. None of us expected the storm that was about to envelop us! Colonel Blackford, from Jackson's staff, would describe those moments just before the awful engagement erupted on the slope and fields of the Brawner farm.**

**"Sometimes he [Jackson] would halt, then trot on rapidly, halt again, wheel his horse and pass again along the front of the marching column, or rather along its flank. About a quarter of a mile off, troops were now opposite us. All felt sure Jackson could never resist the temptation to attack would come soon . . . .**

**Presently General Jackson pulled up suddenly, wheeled and galloped toward us. 'Here he comes by God,' said several, and Jackson rode up to the assembled group as calm as a May morning and, touching his hat in military salute, said in as soft a voice as if he had been talking to a friend in ordinary conversation. 'Bring out your men, gentlemen!' Every officer whirled around and scurried back to the woods at full gallop . . . .**

**As the officers entered the woods, sharp, quick orders to fall in rang from rank to rank, followed by the din of clashing arms and accoutrements as the troops rapidly got under arms, and in an**

**incredibly short time long columns of glittering brigades, like huge serpents, glided out upon the open field, to be as quickly deployed into lines of battle. Then all advanced in as perfect order as if they had been on parade, their bayonets sparkling in the light of the setting sun and their red battle flags dancing gaily in the breeze. Then came trotting out the rumbling artillery . . . they quickly unlimbered and prepared for action.” (Nolan, p. 85)**

**The artillery described by Blackford were the guns observed by Gibbon. As the Black Hats marched down the Warrenton pike Jackson was busy organizing a division to attack the column passing by on the pike. Jackson would put 5,200 troops into line and ready to attack the Federals.**

**As Gibbon’s soldiers proceeded on their way through the peaceful countryside, their decidedly unpeaceful adversaries behind the railroad embankment on wooded Stony Ridge were preparing to strike. General William B. Taliaferro’s Stonewall Division was ordered to deploy. Baylor’s Stonewall Brigade, almost 700 strong, was on the right.. Next to Baylor’s was Starke’s Brigade of 1,200 officers and men, which was to form directly north of the Brawner farmhouse and orchard. Johnson’s Brigade, also 1,200 strong, and the division’s remaining brigade, commanded by the general’s brother, Colonel A. G. Taliaferro, and including another 1,200 officers and men, were to be in reserve behind Baylor’s and Starke’s. To the left of the Stonewall Division were the brigades of Ewell’s Division. Trimble’s 1,200 men were to form on the left of Starke’s, directly north of the rectangular wood. Lawton’s brigade, still further to the left and 2,100 strong, comprised the left flank of the Confederate front line and extended to the east of the eastern edge of the rectangular wood. Early’s and Hayes’ brigades, 3,900 more officers and men and assigned by Ewell to Early’s command, were behind Lawton’s and within supporting distance. Although not immediately available, the six brigades of A. P. Hill’s Division were in support, resting to the left and rear of Ewell’s brigades. (Nolan, pps. 83-84)**

**General Gibbon quickly sent for his old command, Battery B, 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Artillery to come forward and respond to the rebel guns. Although outnumbered by rebel cannon the battery did good service. General Taliaferro noted their effectiveness on the field when he wrote: “Gibbon’s one battery was no match numerically for the Southern guns, but General Taliaferro later recalled the terrible effectiveness of Battery B. “The Federal artillery was admirably served, and at one time the annihilation of our batteries seemed inevitable, so destructive was the fire.” (Nolan, p. 88)**

**Our battle line moved from the covering woods and began ascending a gentle slope towards the top of the ridge where the battery had unlimbered. As we approached the battery suddenly we saw first the bayonets, then the**

**heads and finally the forms of a large body of troops rise over the top of the ridge. As the rebels came into view they unleashed a volley that staggered our men. The rebel battle line was much larger than our own and soon overlapped both our right and left flanks. Both lines were now about 75 yards apart and we stood and exchanged volley after volley with deadly results. Early in the fighting our Colonel, O'Connor, was mortally wounded. Our fellows were dropping all around. Some died as they stood their ground while others began pouring to the rear with wounds.**

**General Gibbon saw that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin was in trouble and he ordered the 19<sup>th</sup> Indiana to move up on the left flank of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin. The 19<sup>th</sup> Indiana joined the fight and helped stabilize the Union battle line, but Jackson sent in more troops and quickly the rebels still flanked the Union line on both the right and left. Gibbon next ordered the 7<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin into the fight extending his line to the right. Lastly, Gibbon committed his last regiment, the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin, to extend his line to the right. When the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin entered the fray Gibbon saw a 250 yards gap between the 7<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin and the 6<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin. Gibbon then sent pleas for assistance to both Patrick and Doubleday.**

**Gibbon found himself without available reserves to match the increasing Confederate threat. His repeated calls for help to King and Patrick were fruitless, the latter's brigade moving up the pike to the field too late to participate. But as a result of the direct appeal from Gibbon, and without an order from King, Doubleday did pitch in to the fray. Shortly after the action commenced, the Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania and Seventy-sixth New York marched along the pike under the fire of the guns of Wooding, Poague, and Carpenter, and reached the rear of Gibbon's line at the Brawner farm. They then advanced through the Brawner fields and the rectangular wood between the Seventh and Sixth Wisconsin and went into action, filling the gap in Gibbon's line along the edge of the wood and increasing Gibbon's infantry force to 2,900 officers and men. (Nolan, p. 89)**

**For two long hours the troops of Gibbon and Jackson slugged it out. Casualties continued to rise at an alarming rate. It was a stand up fight with neither side resorting to cover of any kind. The sun was setting and darkness descended on the battlefield. Both sides held essentially the same ground they held at the outset of the battle.**

**Gibbon, who was to be in many battles, later said it was "the most terrific musketry fire I . . . ever listened to." General Taliaferro reported the fight as "one of the most terrific conflicts that can be conceived of." Another Confederate participant wrote that in the gathering darkness "everything around was lighted up by the blaze of musketry and explosion of balls like a continuous bright flash of lightning." The power of Gibbon's fire is attested by the Confederate**

**reports. General Taliaferro referred to Gibbon's numbers as "greatly superior" to those of the Confederates. The southerners also were frankly admiring of the resistance they met. Jackson reported that the Federals "maintained their ground with obstinate determination," and General Taliaferro said that the enemy "withstood with great determination the terrible fire which our lines poured upon them."**

**What a participant called the "sheet of fire" that extended from each line to the other had its devastating effect on both sides. In their exposed and stationary positions officers and men were cut down in terrifying numbers. (Nolan, p. 90)**

**Around 9:00 P.M. Gibbon joined King, Hatch, Doubleday, and Patrick on the roadside of the Warrenton Pike. They discussed the situation and came to the conclusion that the division should move on to Manassas as they had been previously ordered to do. Gibbon withdrew his men from their positions on the fields of the Brawner farm. We filed onto the Warrenton pike and marched towards Manassas.**

**It had been a terrible fight. Casualties were high, especially in our own 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin. Many of our comrades now lay dead on the field or in makeshift field hospitals.**

**As field hospitals quickly filled and surgeons began their grim work, the dreadful losses on both sides became apparent. The first units to enter the fray suffered terribly: the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin went into battle with 430 men and counted 376 casualties, including 83 men killed outright, while the Stonewall Brigade suffered 300 casualties, almost 40 percent of its strength. The 19<sup>th</sup> Indiana suffered heavy losses as well, around 60 percent, with 260 casualties out of 423 men. Lawton's Confederate brigade lost more than 300 men killed, wounded, and missing, while in little more than an hour of fighting, Trimble's brigade suffered some 350 casualties, almost a third of its strength. Trimble's 21<sup>st</sup> Georgia lost 184 men out of 242, the second worst Confederate regimental loss in the entire war, second only to the 1<sup>st</sup> Texas at the Battle of Antietam. (Walker, pps. 80-81)**

**The Battle of Brawner's Farm is sadly overlooked. Our sacrifices in those fields were lost in the events of the next two days of fighting known as the Battle of Second Bull Run. It was not our first experience in battle, but it was the first of many battles engaged in by our brigade. There was much glory and honor to come for the Black Hats, or as we also became known, the Iron Brigade. But our men would never forget the slugfest that was the Battle of Brawner's Farm.**



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# FIVE THINGS THAT WILL SURPRISE YOU ABOUT CIVIL WAR MEDICINE

*By Margaret Humphreys*

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**I once heard historian Drew Gilpin Faust tell an audience at the National Humanities Center that at least one book about the Civil War had appeared for every day since Lee surrendered at Appomattox. That's a major challenge for the historian who seeks to say something new about the topic. So, in the spirit of the common blog theme . . .**

## HERE'S FIVE THINGS THAT WILL SURPRISE YOU ABOUT CIVIL WAR MEDICINE!

### **1. SURGERY WAS HUMANE AND, OFTEN, SUCCESSFUL.**



**Surgeons used both ether and chloroform during the war, performing all of those amputations that are emblematic of their craft. The Mutter Museum recently surveyed visitors to a Civil War medicine exhibit and found that 89% thought these operations were done without anesthesia. Perhaps the scene in *Gone with the Wind* in which Scarlet hears a man screaming off stage has created this impression, and indeed the peculiar circumstances of the Atlanta siege may have led to such medical horrors, but most men were asleep as they lost limbs to the surgeon's saw. And around 75% of major**

**arm and leg amputations healed, leading to a brisk business in prosthetics after the war.**

## **2. CIVIL WAR HOSPITALS WERE ACTUALLY HOUSES OF HEALING.**



**Around 95% of most sick and injured men who arrived at the general hospitals of the war survived. General hospitals were the big institutions far from the lines of battle, where thousands of men were housed and treated. However, as Cold Mountain illustrated, toward the end of the war Southern hospitals were very short on food, and patients had to escape to avoid starvation.**

## **3. WOMEN HAD A MAJOR ROLE TO PLAY IN CIVIL WAR HOSPITALS.**



**Before and after the war, most medical care happened in the home; in an era when professional nursing was in its infancy, women had caregiving skills learned in the home and transferred to soldiers in the hospital. They knew, for example, the simple importance of food, water, cleanliness, and distraction. Women were the backbone of the United States Sanitary Commission, a Red-Cross like entity that supplied northern hospitals with clothing, bedding, and nutritious food supplements. Lemons, oranges, and even the lowly potato made a huge difference in healing for wounded and ill men.**

#### **4. THE WAR CHANGED THE COURSE OF AMERICAN MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH.**



**One major lesson was the ability of disinfectants to limit disease, even before a clear understanding of the relationship between microbes and infection was known. The widespread dissemination of their power paved the way for ideas about antiseptic surgery and public health measures dependent upon disinfection. The war, in general, was a vast educational enterprise for spreading modern medical knowledge to every corner of the American medical world.**

**5. TITLES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOU MIGHT THINK.**





**The phrase "*Marrow of Tragedy*," suggested by my Johns Hopkins editor Jacqueline Wehmüller, comes from a quotation in the introduction by Walt Whitman. Amazon picked up on that phrase and recommended Marrobone dog biscuits to those who liked the book!**

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## **LIFE IN THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER IN CAMP: DISEASE, HUNGER, DEATH AND BOREDOM**

***BY GARY HELM, HALLOWED GROUND MAGAZINE, WINTER 2013 ISSUE***



*Ryan Walker, historical interpreter at Pamplin Historical Park, Va.  
(Photography by James Salzano)*

**Only a tiny fraction of any soldier's time was spent in front line combat. Instead, the vast majority of his existence revolved around the monotonous routines of camp life, which presented its own set of struggles and hardships.**

**Once in the ranks, military life turned out to be far different than what the majority of Civil War soldiers had expected. Patriotic zeal blinded most of these volunteers to the realities and hardships they were signing up to experience. The passage of several generations had muted the country's memory of the deprivations of the American Revolution. Few had participated in the war with Mexico, which left a popular legacy of glorious victory. Certainly, argued the conventional wisdom, this sectional crisis would be resolved in a few short, painless months.**

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## **HALLOWED GROUND WINTER 2013 ISSUE**

**Volunteers viewed the battlefield as a great stage upon which they would either "secure their liberty" or "save the Union." While they acknowledged that losses would occur, no one envisioned their potential demise in any but heroic circumstances, but four years of the daily struggle to survive in military camps would prove otherwise. Twice as many Civil War soldiers**

**succumbed to death from disease as from bullets, shells and bayonets. By varying estimates, between 400,000 and 500,000 soldiers lost their lives on this less gallant of stages. What was the basis of this noncombat struggle, and how did the common soldier cope?**

**During the fair-weather campaign season, soldiers could expect to be engaged in battle one day out of 30. Their remaining days were filled with almost interminable drilling, punctuated with spells of entertainment in the form of music, cards and other forms of gambling. The arrival of newspapers or mail from home — whether letters or a care package — in camp was always cause for celebration. Despite such diversions, much time was still left for exposure to the noncombatant foes of poor shelter, unhealthy food, and a lack of hygiene, resulting in waves of sickness and disease.**

**After the first months of the war, the shelter half, or “dog tent,” became the most practical means of overnight shelter. While portable and lightweight, shelter halves provided minimal protection for their two inhabitants. Sgt. Austin C. Stearns of the 13th Massachusetts described his shelter as “simply a piece of cloth about six feet square with a row of buttons and button holes on three sides; two men pitched together by buttoning their pieces together and getting two sticks with a crotch at one end and one to go across at the top and then placing their cloth over it and pinning it down tight.” To protect the soldier from the damp ground, a tarred or rubberized blanket could be used. A stout wool blanket kept the chill off. Unfortunately, many soldiers discarded these heavy items on a long march or when entering combat, and lived (or died) to regret it when the weather changed. As the war moved forward, an exhausted soldier often merely lay on his blanket at night in an effort to simplify his life and maximize periods of rest. Such protracted exposure to the elements boded ill for his life expectancy.**

**Rations on the march varied from plentiful to scarce. On paper, the Union army enjoyed the best rations of any army in history up to that time, but logistical difficulties inherent in feeding armies of tens of thousands resulted in occasional shortages. The Confederacy, while fighting on predominately “home turf,” often found it difficult to consistently deliver full rations to its troops on the march, largely due to procurement and transportation problems.**



***The basics for every soldier, shown here, including hard tack.  
(Photography by James Salzano)***



***What a camp cabin might have looked like (Photography by James Salzano)***



***Pork or hardtack was the standard fare of a soldier (Photography by James Salzano)***



*Grease was poured onto cornmeal to make a "skillygalle."  
(Photography by James Salzano)*

**The full Union marching ration consisted of one pound of hard bread (the infamous hardtack), three-quarters of a pound of salted pork or one-and-a-quarter pound of fresh meat, along with coffee, sugar and salt allotments. At the beginning of the war, the Confederacy adopted the Union ration, but reduced it by 1862. Fresh meat and coffee became increasingly scarce. As fresh fruits and vegetables disappeared from military diets, soldiers' immune systems deteriorated and vitamin deficiency diseases such as scurvy proliferated. The Union army responded by issuing desiccated vegetables. As described by Corp. Joseph Van Nest of the 101st Ohio, these delicacies consisted of "a combination of corn husks, tomato skins, carrots and other kinds of vegetables too numerous to mention." This bounty had been dried and compressed into a sheet or block and, when boiled, expanded to many times its previous size. While denigrated as "desecrated vegetables" by the boys in blue, they consumed them with alacrity as a variation in an otherwise bland diet. Unfortunately, unbeknownst to the culinary science of the era, most of the needed vitamins disappeared during processing.**

**Confederate soldiers usually had to forage for fresh vegetables. During the deprivations of the 1864 Atlanta Campaign, one Johnny Reb wrote, "Our men get a vegetable diet by cooking up polk, potato tops, May pop vines, kurlip weed, lambs quarter, thistle and a hundred kind of weeds I always thought poison. I thought it trash...but the boys call it 'long forage'..." On the march, "foraging" — a convenient euphemism for theft — would be employed by both sides in an attempt to improve the daily diet. Despite orders to the contrary, some Confederates liberally practiced this thievery during their forays into the North and even when marching and camping in friendly territory.**

**The commissary took a back seat on the march to the needs of the ordinance department, but still trumped the quartermaster, whose top priority was to provide forage for draft animals, not replacing uniform components. Threadbare patriots consequently appeared, particularly in the Confederate**



armies, and the “battlefield requisition” became a prime means of supply for the South. As Sgt. John Worsham noted at the end of the war:

*“Nearly all equipment in the Army of Northern Virginia were articles captured from the Yankees.... Most of the blankets were those marked ‘US,’ and also the rubber blankets or cloths. The very clothing that the men wore was mostly captured, for we were allowed to wear their pants, underclothing and overcoats. As for myself, I purchased only one hat, one pair of shoes, and one jacket after 1861.”*



*Brandy Station, Va. Note the barrels used to collect rain water (Library of Congress)*

**Soldiers North and South also shared in the infestation of body lice in their clothing and bedding. Due to constant outdoor living, often under poor sanitary conditions, the “grey back vermin” became a visible manifestation of all of the invisible bacteria and germs whose presence was unknown to mid-19th-century science.**

**The seasonal movement to permanent winter camps would simultaneously improve and harm the physical condition of the Civil War soldier. While the men remained in one place, the supply chain of wagons and railroads caught up to their daily needs. Union logisticians employed their superior resources in overcoming commissary and quartermaster problems, but the Confederates also managed to supply their men in winter camp under more challenging conditions.**

**Periodic shortages did exist, but were vividly remembered by the Southerners. Both sides shared the difficulties that emerged from remaining in one place for an extended period of time. The majority of soldiers, being from rural backgrounds, had not been exposed to such a wide cross section of the human population and its communicable diseases. When**



**accumulated in camps of tens of thousands, soldiers without natural immunities would succumb to the likes of measles and chickenpox. Those same large numbers, residing in one spot for more than a month, caused horrendous situations in relation to sanitation. The use of "sink pits" as latrine mechanisms ultimately led to the presence of human fecal bacteria in the water supply. That water supply, in many instances, did not need much help in the area of contamination. Swift running, clear water would be the exception more often than the rule. These conditions created the greatest killer of the war: amoebic and bacterial dysentery.**



***In some cases, women accompanied the army to do their laundry. (Photography by James Salzano)***

**Whimsically called a case of the “quickstep,” dysentery did more damage than the infernal killing creations of man. The creation of penicillin and other antibiotics was still decades away, leaving medical staffs of the Civil War few tools to combat the war’s greatest killer. By the end of the war, the Union Sanitary and Christian Commissions made great strides in improving camp hygiene and clean water. The Confederacy had nothing on such a scale, although experience also improved camp conditions for the boys in gray.**

**After four long years of war, the military encampments had taken their toll. Although the 2:1 rate of death from disease over combat may seem alarming to us today, it represented a significant improvement from earlier conflicts, like the American Revolution and Napoleonic Wars, when that number was closer to 5:1. Not until World War II did the number of battle casualties approach the losses from disease.**

#### ***ABOUT THE AUTHOR***

***This "Life of the Civil War Soldier" series was contributed by Pamplin Historical Park and The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier in Virginia. The park uses hands-on activities and narrative-based***

*programs to draw students into the thoughts and emotions of the time, as well as the stark tangible aspects of everyday soldier life.*

<http://www.civilwar.org/hallowed-ground-magazine/winter-2013/life-of-the-civil-war-soldier-camp.html?referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F?referrer=https://www.facebook.com/>



## **KILLED AT GETTYSBURG**

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BY JEFFREY STOCKER

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### **LETTERS REVEAL PAIN OF THOSE LEFT BEHIND**

**I**n the weeks following the July 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, tens of thousands of families waited anxiously for word of the fate of their loved ones and friends serving in the contending armies. Had they been killed in the fighting? Had they survived only to suffer from agonizing wounds in crude, makeshift hospitals? The vivid contemporary evidence, found in the pension files for two Pennsylvania soldiers who fell at Gettysburg, sheds light on two different families' ordeals in the aftermath of the Civil War's largest battle.

**In July 1862, the U.S. Congress passed the Pension Act, which provided a monthly stipend to former soldiers who had suffered service-related disabilities. In addition, if a soldier was killed in action, died of wounds, or had succumbed to a disease determined to have been incurred as a result of his military service, a monthly sum would be paid to the descendant's widow and minor children, or orphan, as applicable. If the deceased had no spouse or children, the survivor's pension would be issued to another family member, such as parents or siblings.**

**The National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C., holds thousands of these pension files. The documents there provide a brief glimpse into the lives of the men who fought for the Union and their families. Many files include poignant letters of condolence sent to a soldier's next of kin, give details of a loved one's passing, and sometimes even his place of burial. Following are two such letters, found in the mother's/widow's pension files, concerning two men who served in the 68th and 69th Pennsylvania Infantries, and fell fighting at Gettysburg. These letters are presented unedited with the original documents' grammar and spelling.**

**Private Peter Hilt**

**68th Pennsylvania, 1st Brigade,  
1st Division, 3rd Corps**

**Before enlisting as a private in Company G of the 68th Pennsylvania in August 1862, 23-year-old Peter Hilt (or "Hill," according to some records) worked as a moulder in Albany, N.Y., where he lived with his widowed mother, Sibylla, age 55. Unmarried, and the only one of Sibylla's five children still residing at home, Peter contributed his \$10 weekly earnings to the household, which his mother used for rent and necessities. While serving in the Union Army, Hilt sent most of his pay home to Sibylla, who, despite her age and physical infirmities, supplemented her son's contributions by cleaning several neighbors' homes.**

**Late on the afternoon of July 2, 1863, the 68th—part of Maj. Gen. Daniel Sickles' 3rd Corps, recognizable by the diamond patches (left) soldiers wore on their uniforms—was posted just south of Gettysburg in the Peach Orchard, where they would face the onslaught of Brig. Gen. William Barksdale's Mississippi Brigade. During the fierce fighting, one of Hilt's thighs was shattered by a gunshot wound. Several comrades carried the suffering private to the nearby Jacob Schwartz Farm and left him in a barn before returning to duty.**

Several days later, volunteer nurse Mary Morris Husband discovered Hilt in the barn and, as she later wrote to his mother, took an “interest” in him. The 42-year-old Husband—a Philadelphia native and granddaughter of Declaration of Independence signer Robert Morris—had worked as a volunteer nurse for the Army of the Potomac at Harrison’s Landing, Va., in the summer of 1862, following the Peninsula Campaign—and after the subsequent battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. On July 3, upon hearing of the fighting at Gettysburg, Husband again left her Philadelphia home to tend to the needs of “her boys.” She arrived on the field the following day and began working at the Schwartz Farm, which served as the hospital for the 1st Division of the 3rd Corps.

On July 17, Peter Hilt died of his wounds. One month later, Husband, by now back in Philadelphia and herself suffering from a fever that she had contracted in the fetid atmosphere of the Schwartz Farm, sent the following letter to Sibylla.

*Phila. Aug. 18th [1863]*

*Mrs. Hill [sic];*

*My dear friend*

I call you so because I was attached to your son. I have nothing of his but some hair, he probably lost everything on the battlefield. I took charge of some 300 wounded, principally Rebels, in a barn out houses, etc. and the under part of the barn. I spoke to your boy thinking him a confederate but one of the rebels said “do try & get that fellow out of this place, he is very badly wounded & one of your men,” so I at once went & got some boys to help me & carefully moved him to the piazza of a house nearby. He told me about you & said he “was anxious to get well on your account,” so I became much interested in him & urged the surgeons to examine the wound, but they pronounced it hopeless.



**Volunteer Angel: Philadelphia matron Mary Morris Husband cared for the wounded on a number of battlefields. She wrote Peter Hilt's mother of his fate. (Woman's Work in the Civil War: A Record of Heroism, Patriotism, and Patience)**

**I was not satisfied however, and the following day, Dr. Hays, Surg. In Charge of 1st Div. Hosp. came over & I got him to examine he said there was a hope, if he could get him over to the Hosp. to operate on him. I got my boys to carry him on a stretcher, & Dr. H. operated himself, laying open the leg & removing the crushed pieces of bone (the leg was fractured too high up for amputation.) I went to see him the next day & he was doing nicely, everything favorable, & was very grateful to me for accomplishing what I did, as well as getting him in more comfortable quarters. I promised to come & see him as often as possible, but was half a mile from him with a creek between that rose rapidly & cut me off whenever it rained, so I did not see him but once afterward, still doing well, but the weather became warmer & mortification set in, he died very easily, I heard for I knew nothing of it, until all was over, when one of the boys came to tell me & I sent for some of his hair not even having time to go & see him. You have no idea how hard we have to work, after a battle. There are so many who need help & so few to give it, that those who go as I do [volunteer nurse] have scarce time to attend to individual cases or to remember them-but your son particularly interested me & therefore I saved his hair for you & knowing a Mothers feelings knew that you would like to have as much of an account as I can give you it is not much but shews he did not die without an effort to save him, as alas! many of our brave boys do.**

**He had comfortable food & good nursing during his last days & you may yet obtain more particulars about him, as there were some of his own Regt. in the same ward.**

**God bless & comfort you  
Yours truly  
Mary M. Husband**

**On September 22, 1863, Sibylla Hilt filed for a pension with the federal government, using as part of her evidence the above letter from Mary Husband. In March 1864, her pension request was granted and she began receiving \$8 a month, the maximum amount then allowed under the law. Today, the remains of Peter Hilt, the sole support of his widowed mother, lie in Grave B-48 of the Pennsylvania section of the Gettysburg National Cemetery. Sibylla died in early 1894; by that time, her monthly government stipend had increased to \$12.**

**Husband managed to recover from her illness and returned to nursing with the army in the winter of 1863, serving in assorted military hospitals for the rest of the war. She died in Philadelphia on March 3, 1894.**

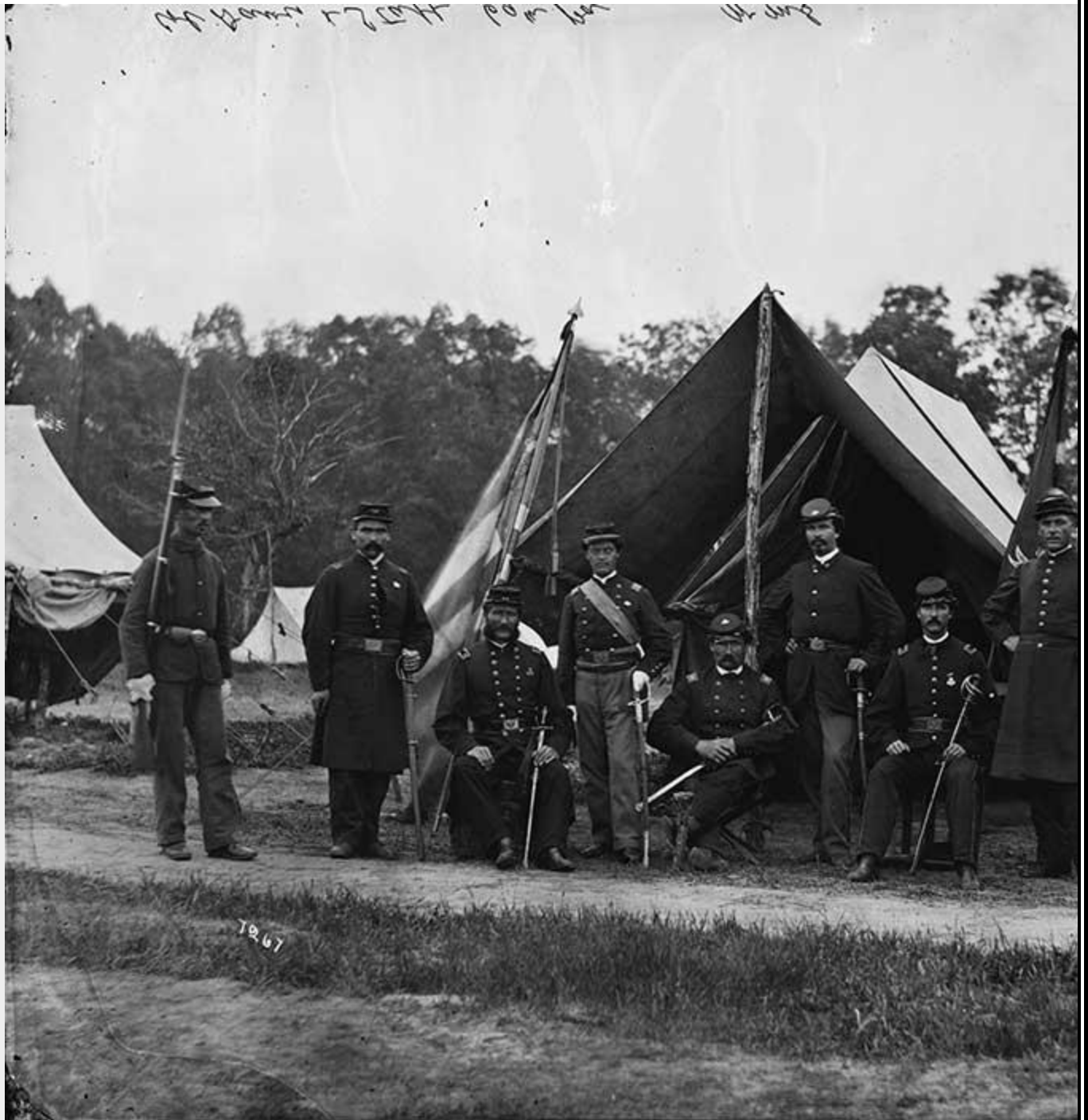
#### **Serving With Honor**

**Charles McAnally, who was born May 12, 1836, in Ireland and came to the United States in 1852, served with the 69th Pennsylvania Infantry until the end of the war, eventually rising to the rank of captain.**

**He incurred cuts and gunshot wounds to his left shoulder, head, and face at the May 1864 Battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Va., early in Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's Overland Campaign. McAnally suffered additional wounds to his leg at the horrific Battle of Cold Harbor less than a month later. McAnally's Medal of Honor citation for the Spotsylvania fighting reads: "In a hand-to-hand encounter with the enemy captured a flag, was wounded in the act, but continued on duty until he received a second wound."**

**On July 28, 1897, McAnally received notification that President William McKinley had approved him for the Medal of Honor. Charles McAnally, aged 69, died on August 8, 1905. -J.S.**





**Ireland's Own: An Irish immigrant, Lieutenant Charles McNally (circled) helped the 69th Pennsylvania stop a Confederate attack during Pickett's Charge, when Private James Hand was mortally wounded. McNally received a Medal of Honor for his contributions at Spotsylvania Court House. (Library of Congress)**

**Sergeant James Hand**  
**69th Pennsylvania**  
**2nd Brigade ("Philadelphia Brigade")**  
**2nd Division, 2nd Corps**

**In July 1860, a federal census taker visited a dwelling at 1319 N. 16th St. in Philadelphia and recorded that a married immigrant couple from Ireland—James and Jane Hand, ages 25 and 24, respectively—resided there with their two daughters, 3-year-old Lucy and a newborn named Mary Jane. James, who worked as a printer, had only \$100 of personal property. A little more than a year later, he left behind his wife and young children and enlisted in Company D of the 69th Pennsylvania to fight for his new country.**

**On July 3, 1863, Company D was posted in the right-center of the 69th's line of battle on Cemetery Ridge at Gettysburg, located just in front of a small cluster of oak trees—the now-famous "Copse of Trees." Hand, by then a sergeant, was killed instantly during the brutal combat that raged that afternoon at the height of Pickett's Charge. Initially interred on the G. Herting (or Herling) Farm, the present resting place of Hand's remains is unknown.**

**Two days after the battle, Lieutenant Charles McAnally, a fellow Irish immigrant, company-mate, and close friend, wrote the following letter to Hand's wife:**

***Camp of 69th Regt. P.V.***  
***near Gettysburg Pa.***

***July 5, 1863***

***Mrs. Jane Hand***

**It is a painful task for me to Communicate the sad fate of your husband (my own Comrade) he was killed on the 3rd inst he received a ball through the breast & one through the heart & never spoke after. I was in Command of the Skremeshers about one mile to the front & every inch of ground was well contested untill I reached our Regt. the rebels made the attack in 3 lines of Battle as soon as I reached our line I met James he ran & met me with a canteen of watter I was near palayed he said I was foolish didnt let them come at once that the ol 69th was waiting for them I threw off my Coat & in 2 minutes we were at it hand to hand they charged us twice & we repulsed them they then tried the Regt on our Right & drove them which caused us to Swing back our right then charged them on their left flank & in the charge James fell may the Lord have mercy on his Soul he never flinched**

from his post & was loved by all who knew him he was interred along side of Sergt James McCabe Sergt Jeremiah Gallagher of our Co & 5 others of our Co that you are not acquainted with our Co lost in killed wounded & missing Twenty as follows killed 8 wounded 10 & missing 2 although we fought the Rebels 10 to one on the 2nd & killed or captured a whol Corps our Co had only one man wounded that day the loss in the battle of the 3rd was heavy but all did not discourage the boys we were determined that as long as a man lived he would stand to be killed too rather than have it said that we left on the battle field in Pennsylvania the Laurels that we so dearly won in Strange States the loss in the Regt killed wounded & missing was one hundred & fifty eight & our Colonell & Lieut Colonell & 2 Capts Duffy & Thompson killed & Lieut Kelly & 6 officers wounded we killed 6 Rebel Generals & nearly all the line officers & killed or captured every man that attacked us & both days fighting there was never a battle fought with more determination in the first days fight the Rebels had our battery on the first charge & we retook it again Mrs Hand please excuse this letter as I am confused & I hope you will take your trouble with patience you know that God is mercifull & good to his own no one living this day was more attached than Jas & my self when I was engaged in front he wanted to get out to my assistance I lost a loyal comrade in him no more at present from your Sorrowing friend

**Chas McAnally  
Lieut Co D 69th  
Regt P.V.**

**P.S. this letter will answer for Sergt McCabe he was shot through the head he died in 2 minutes after McCabe had 35 cents of money & \$20 he lent to Lieut Fay of our Co. C. M. A. we got no mail since the 19th until the rebs retreated last night**

**Jane Hand filed for a survivor's pension with the federal government on July 18, 1863. A week later, the new widow gave birth to her third child, a son she named James Charles. It took six months for her pension request to be granted. She then began receiving the sum of \$8 per month, plus an additional \$2 each per month for her three children, backdated to the date of her husband's death.**

**Heartbreak continued to stalk the family, however, as the infant died from unknown causes in February 1864, and the Hand family pension was reduced by \$2 per month. The records in the Hand pension file end with that tragedy.**

***Jeffrey Stocker, a retired attorney, is the author of three books on the Civil War. His most recent is "We Fought Desperate": A History of the 153rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment.***

