



Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85

January 2018

A Message From the Commander

I ended up confusing some brothers with my listing of 'the next meeting' as the March meeting. What I really meant was that the meeting *after* the January meeting would be the March meeting. Ah, well. As it turned out we needed to postpone the January meeting anyway. The new date is February 15th - barring any issues that jump up and change things between now and then.

What we need to work on in the agenda are several things that can get us starting in the right direction;

- Reminding our brothers that dues will be needed shortly
- Discussing and coming to a consensus on the frequency and schedule of the camp meetings.
- Our event planning for community outreach. Fancy term for getting out in the public so that we are seen.
- Recruitment by all brothers.
- Our camp participation, when possible, in Department

Commander -to Page 5

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Next Camp Meetings

February 15, 2018 - 6 p.m.

Location - 10329 California Road, Bridgman

Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

Lincoln Tomb Ceremony ~ April 2018.

All are invited to participate in the 62nd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS, commemorating the 152nd Anniversary of President Lincoln's death. It will be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 14, 2018.

Headquarters Hotel: President Abraham Lincoln Hotel, 701 E. Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701. The room rate is \$100.00 for single - quad. A 10% dining discount at Lindsay's Restaurant is included. Call 1-866-788-1860 for reservations and mention "Sons of Union Veterans". Reserve your room by March 23, 2018. After this, the remaining blocked rooms will be released.

Wreaths may be ordered from local Springfield florists. Instruct the florist to have the wreath delivered c/o the Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9 AM on Saturday, April 14th.



By David Jones - Own work, CC BY-SA 2.5, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1290007>

Luncheon will be held at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel at 12:30PM. The luncheon program will feature a talk by Robert Amsler, Jr. on "Railroads: Coming of Age in the Civil War". Luncheon cost is \$35.00 per person.

REGISTRATION FORM:
Lincoln Tomb 2018

[<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Annual-Lincoln-Tomb-Ceremony-2018.pdf>]

For event info, go to the SUVCW web site (suvcw.org) or contact Robert Petrovic at: rpetro7776@aol.com or 636-274-4567.



Officers 2017 - 2018

Camp Commander:
Steven Williams

SVC: Richard Gorsk

JVC: Rex Dillman

Secretary : Charles L Pfauth Sr

Treasurer : Charles L Pfauth Sr

Council 1: Charles L Pfauth Jr

Council 2: Ray Truhn

Council 3: Ted Chamberlain

Patriotic Instructor:
Ted Chamberlain

Chaplain : Open

Graves & Memorials:
Rex Dillman

Historian: Rex Dillman

Eagle Scout

Coordinator: Unassigned

Signals Officer: Unassigned

JROTC contact: Unassigned

Guide: Unassigned

Editor
Steve Williams
sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

Berrien County in the American Civil War

OTHER SOLDIERS FROM BERRIEN AND VAN BUREN COUNTIES.

Besides the regiments which have been mentioned earlier, there were many others which contained soldiers from Berrien and Van Buren Counties, whose record is equally bright and honorable, though serving in regiments in which these counties were less numerously represented. Of the men who served in these regiments a list is given below.

Source: *History of Berrien and Van Buren Co's Michigan, D. W. Ensign & Co. 1880*

FIRST INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers.

Asst. Surg. Andrew Hobart, Jr., Niles; com. Aug. 17, 1861; pro. to surg., Dec. 10, 1862; must, out at end of service, Oct. 7, 1864.

Henry Merikee, Co. D; disch. Feb. 7, 1862.

James P. Clary, Co. E; died of wounds, Sept. 12, 1862.

William H. Cash, Co. E; died in action at Jackson, Miss., July 11, 1863.

Otho Cann, Co. E; must, out April 27, 1865

Frank Morehouse, Co. E; disch. for disability.

Ferdinand Marchefke. Co. E; veteran, Dec. 31, 1863; must, out July 25, 1865.

THIRD INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers.

Sergt. James W. Rich, Co. E ; enl. Sept. 24, 1864 ; absent, sick, at time of muster out.

Randon Keyes, Co. E; disch. at end of service, March 2, 1866.

Melvin A. Wells, Co. E; must, out Sept. 2, 1865.

SEVENTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers.

1st Lt. Stephen Patterson, Co. I; com. April 20, 1864; died March 29, 1865, of wounds received at Spottsylvania, May 14, 1864.

EIGHTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers.

Col. Frank Grav Niles; com. May 1, 1803; lieut.-col. Aug. 19, 1801 ; killed in battle at Wilderness, Va., May 11, 1861

George Brown, Co. G; disch. by order, June 10, 1805.

George W. Brown, Co. H; disch. by order, Sept. 14, 1805

William T. Davis, Co. K ; must, out July .30, 1805.

TENTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers

Charles Quigley, Co. G; disch. for disability, Dec. 6, 1862.

FOURTEENTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers

Asst. Surg. Alfred Wyker, Niles: com. Nov. 1802; resigned June 1, 1863.

SIXTEENTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers.

Edward Barnard, 1st Independent Co.; must, out by order, Jan. 18, 1865.

Horace Garrison, Co. H.; must. out July 8, 1865.

John W. Redding, Co. H ; disch. by order. May 12, 1865.

Joseph White, Co. H ; must, out July 8, 1805.

M. E. Laughlin, Co. I; disch. for disability.

Alfred I. Conklin, Co. K; must, out July 8, 1805.

William H. Doane, Co. K ; must, out July 8, 1805.

DYGERT'S SHARPSHOOTERS (Attached to Sixteenth Michigan Infantry). Berrien Soldiers

Hoel C. Wright, disch. for disability, Oct. 9, 1862.

TWENTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers

William W. Chaddore, Co. D ; must, out July 26, 1805.

Cephas Earl, Co. D ; died of disease at Annapolis, Md., April 7, 1865.

David Ostrander, Co. D; trans, to Vet. Res. Corps, Jan. 15, 1864.

Elias H. Rood, Co. D ; died in action Before Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1804.

TWENTY-NINTH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers

Jesse Olmstead, Co. H ; must, out Sept. 6, 1866.

Charles Smith, Co. H ; must, out Sept. 6, 1805.

THIRTIETH INFANTRY. Berrien Soldiers

1st Lieut, and Adj. Stephen H. Babcock, Niles ; com. April 7, 1865; 2nd Lieut., Co. A, March 16, 1866; sergt. maj., Nov. 23, 1864 ; must, out June 10, 1865.

Capt. Henry T. Kimmel, Niles; com. Nov. 28, 1804; 1st lieut, Co. H, 12th Inf ; must, out June 30, 1865.

John Campbell, Co. B ; must, out June 30, 1866.

Matthias Hunner, Co. B; died of disease at Detroit, Jan. 4, 1865.

John H. Wilson, Co. B ; must, out June 30, 1806.

Civil War Time line

February in the Civil War

1861 - Feb 1 Texas Convention votes for Secession. Feb 4 Convention of Seceded states meets in Montgomery Alabama. Electoral vote for President was: Abraham Lincoln - 180, John C Breckinridge - 72, John Bell - 39, Stephen A Douglas - 12. Feb 8 Confederate Constitution Adopted. Feb 9 Jefferson Davis elected as Provisional President of the Confederacy, Alexander Stephens named Vice-President. Feb 13 Results of election made official - Lincoln elected. Feb 18 Jefferson Davis Inaugurated President of Confederacy. Feb 23 President-elect Lincoln arrives in Washington.



War Elephants

1862 - Various Skirmishes throughout the month Feb 3. President Lincoln declined the offer of War Elephants from the King of Siam. Feb 6 Surrender of Ft Henry, Tennessee. Feb 8 Battle of Roanoke Isl., NC. Feb 13-16 Attack on eventual surrender of Ft Donelson on Tennessee river. Victory by US Grant. Feb 20 Willie Lincoln Dies. Feb 21 Engagement at Valverde, NM. Feb 22 Jefferson Davis Inaugurated President of Confederate States of America. Feb 25 Union troops under Gen Don Carlos Buell occupy Nashville.

1863 - **Feb 2-13** Union gunboats prepare for Vicksburg campaign. **Feb 16** U.S. Senate passed the Conscription Act. **Feb 22** At Sacramento CA Ground broken for Central Pacific railroad. **Feb 24** Arizona Territory organized out of New Mexico Territory. **Feb 26** The Cherokee Indian National Council repealed its ordinance of secession, abolished slavery, and vigorously proclaimed for the Union.



Ft Donelson



Federal Gunboat

1864 - **Feb 1** President Lincoln under the conscription act ordered the draft of 500,000 men on March 10 for 3 years or duration of war. **Feb 3** Sherman's Meridian MS campaign begins. **Feb 7** Jacksonville FL occupied by Maj Gen Gilmore. **Feb 9** The largest escape of the war was accomplished by 109 Federal Officers (59 reached Federal lines, 48 recaptured and 2 drowned) from Libby Prison in Richmond VA.

Led by Col Thomas E Rose of PA. **Feb 14** Federals capture Meridian MS. **Feb 17** Confederate Submarine sinks *U.S.S. Housatonic* off Charleston SC. **Feb 20** Battle of Olustee or Ocean Pond FL. **Feb 22** Federals defeated by Forrest at Okolona MS. **Feb 24** Gen Braxton Bragg named chief of staff for Armies of the Confederacy despite his conflicts with other generals. **Feb 27** Federal prisoners begin arriving at camp near Americus GA - Later



Meeting Schedule

Our meeting schedule is Alternate months between September through April meeting on the 2nd Thursday of every month except as noted. At 6:00 PM.

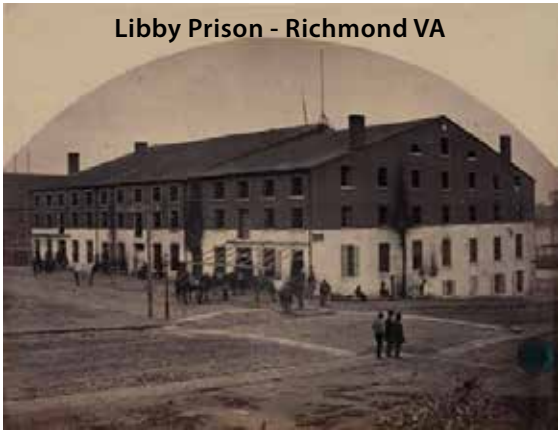
Location -

Currently

10329 California Road, Bridgman



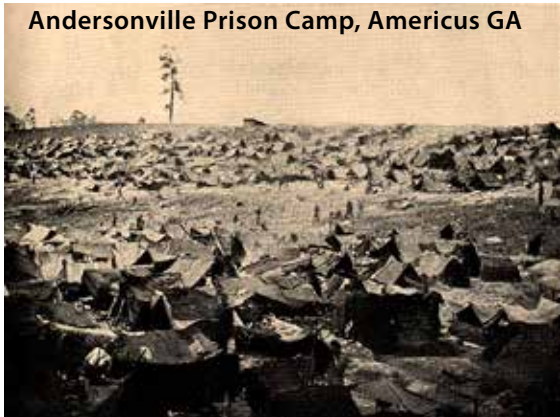
7th corps Kepi patch



Libby Prison - Richmond VA



Battle for Olustee



Andersonville Prison Camp, Americus GA

known as Andersonville. **Feb 29** Lincoln approved the congressional act reviving the grade of Lt. General - With



Hatcher's Run - Confederate Battery

Grant in mind.

1865 - **Feb 1** Carolina Campaign in full Operation/Sherman begins march into SC. **Feb 3** Hampton Roads Conference between Lincoln and Seward/Alexander Stephens,



Columbia SC - February 15-17, 1865

John Campbell, R M Hunter. **Feb 5 - 7** Battle of Hatcher's Run VA. **Feb 6** Lee named Commander of Confederate Armies. **Feb 17** Federals capture Columbia SC, city in Flames, Charleston SC evacuated by Confederates. **Feb 22** Fall of Wilmington NC; Joseph Johnston restored to command. **Feb 27** Sheridan begins Shenandoah Valley campaign.

Source: *The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865*, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday.

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Commander - From Page 1

- and national events.
- Encouraging our brothers to develop , to some degree, an outfit such that when in public events they are recognized as representing the SUVCW.
- Developing contacts in the media, mostly local newspapers (weekly and daily) to submit meeting notices and/or information for joining. This would include the SUVCW mission/goals and a camp contact for further information.
- Working with or brothers tat may have a difficult time in attending our meetings. Can we carpool? Rotate meetings to somewhere else?
- Develop goals for the coming year regarding
 - 1.a speakers bureau of our brothers willing/able to meet other groups for Civil War presentations;
 - 2.Eagle scout certificate presentations
 - 3.Grave markings within Berrien County for known CW veterans. This can and should include any known family members that can be traced. This is another opportunity to get publicity.

We all need to put out thinking caps on to start getting our camp more and better recognition for the gaols of the SUVCW and to continue honoring our ancestors efforts in preserving the Union.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty
Steve Williams, Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85 Commander



Upcoming Events

National

Lincoln Tomb Observance: April 13 - 14, 2018. President Abraham Lincoln Hotel & Conference Center

Department

October 2017

14 October - Michigan Commandery MOLLUS Meeting - Michigan's GAR Hall and Museum, Eaton Rapids.

November 2017

09 November - Wa-Bu-No Camp No. 250 Officer Installations.
13 November - Austin Blair Camp No. 7 Officer Installations.
14 November - Sgt. John Cosbey Camp No. 427 Officer Installations.
18 November - Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremony - Gettysburg.
20 November - Alexander French Camp No. 28 Officer Installations.
23 November - Thanksgiving.

December 2017

01 December - Deadline for submissions to Michigan's Messenger. Articles should be forwarded by email to editor@suvcwmi.org.
02 December - Albert and James Lyons Camp No. 266 Officer Installations.
07 December - Colegrove-Woodruff Camp No. 22 Officer Installations.
11 December - LeValley-Heusted Camp No. 255 Officer Installations.

January 2018

09 January - March-to-the-Sea Camp No. 135 Officer Installations.
13 January - Robert Finch Camp No. 14 Officer Installations.
13 January - Gen. Benj. Pritchard Camp No. 20 Officer Installations.
13 January - Gov. Crapo Camp No. 145 Officer Installations.
17 January - U.S. Grant Camp No. 67 Officer Installations.
18 January - Nash-Hodges Camp No. 43 Officer Installations.
22 January - Carpenter-Welch Camp No. 180 Officer Installations.
25 January - Gen. Israel B. Richardson Camp No. 2 Officer Installations.
30 January - Curtenius Guard Camp No. 17 Officer Installations.

February 2018

12 February - Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
22 February - George Washington's Birthday

March 2018

1 March - Deadline for submissions to Michigan's Messenger. Articles should be forwarded by email to editor@suvcwmi.org.

April 2018

6 April - Founding of the Grand Army of the Republic 1866
15 April - Lincoln Death Day

May 2018

27 May - Memorial Sunday
28 May - Federal Holiday - Memorial Day
30 May - Memorial Day



The SVR roots date back to 1881 with the "Cadet Corps" of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – the largest Union Veterans organization which formed in 1866 after the Civil War. The members of the GAR encouraged the formation of their sons as the SUVCW in 1881. These units eventually became known as the Sons of Veterans Reserve, when the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War moved toward a more patriotic and educational organization in design.

Many of the Sons of Union Veterans Camps (local organizations) formed reserve military units which volunteered their services during the Spanish – American War, World War I, and with the National Guard. Just prior to World War I, over 5,000 men wore the blue uniform of the SVR. As late as the 1930's, several states regarded their local SVR units as a military training component. Since World War II, the SVR has evolved into a ceremonial and commemorative organization. In 1962, the National Military Department was created by the SUVCW and consolidated the SVR units under national regulations and command. Since 1962, there have been five SUVCW Brothers that have held the SVR rank of Brigadier General and have had the honor to serve as the Commanding Officer of the SVR.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the members of Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85 of activities and events related to the mission of the SUVCW and its interests.

If you wish to place a civil war article or SUVCW item please submit to the Editor at sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to censor and/or edit all material submitted for publication to the Camp Communicator newsletter without notice to the submitter.

Camp Website

Be sure and visit our Camp Website at <http://www.suvcwmi.org/camps/camp85.php>.



Sutler Links

Link to list of vendors for any items to fill out your uniform and re-enactor accessories.

<http://www.fighting69th.org/sutler.html>

<http://www.ccsutlery.com/>

<http://www.crescentcitysutler.com/index.html>

Department of Michigan Officers

Commander -	David S. Smith, PCC
Senior VC -	Robert Griggs, PCC
Junior VC -	Robert R. Payne, CC
Members of the Council -	
	Charles Worley, PDC
	Kevin Lindsey, PCC
	Michael Maillard, PCC
Secretary -	Dick Denney, CC
Treasurer -	Bruce S.A. Gosling
Counselor -	Nathan Smith, CC
Chaplain -	Rev. Charles Buckhahn, PCC
Patriotic Instructor -	Robert Boquette
Color Bearer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
Signals Officer -	David F. Wallace, PDC
Editor, "Michigan's Messenger" -	
	Richard E. Danes, PCC
Historian -	John R. Keith, CC
Guide -	Nathan Tingley
Guard -	Theodore Mattis, CC
Graves Registration Officer-	Richard E. Danes, PCC
GAR Records Officer-	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Civil War Memorials Officer-	John H. McGill
Eagle Scout Coordinator -	Nathan Tingley
Camp-At-Large Coordinator -	George L. Boller
Aide de Camp -	Paul T. Davis, PDC

Berrien from Page 5

Company if.—George O. Bates, Christopher Deltman, Bernard V. Forshee, Theodore Metzger, Roland Tripp, Isaac Welsh, Louis C. Wolfe, must. out June 30, 1865.

FIFTH CAVALRY. Berrien Soldiers

Corp. Allen P. Huggins, Niles; enl. Aug. 14, 1862; disch. for promotion, Dec. 16, 1862

SIXTH CAVALRY. Berrien Soldiers

Geo. Cornelia, Co. A ; trans, to 1st Cav. ; must. out March 10, 1866.

Theophile Gebeau, Co. A; must, out Dec. 8, 1865.

Scofield Ferrier, Co. 11 ; trans, to 1st Cav. ; must, out March 10, 1866.

James Mott, Co. G ; must, out June 17, 1865.

Geo. W. Collins, Co. H ; trans, to 1st Cav. ; must, out March 10, 1866.

Albert H. Waters, Co. L; trans, to 1st Cav. ; must, out March 10, 1866.

EIGHTH CAVALRY. Berrien Soldiers

Sergt. Maj. Horace E. Woodbridge, Buchanan; enl. July 20, 1865; pro. to 2nd lieut.; must, out as sergt., Co. M, June 10, 1865.

Com. Sergt. Allen P. Huggins, Niles; pro. to 1st lieut, Co. C, May 15, 1864; trans, as 1st lieut. to Co. D, July 20, 1865; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

2nd Lieut. Joseph T. Goodwin, Nile, com. July 20, 1855; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

John C. Horn, Co. F ; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

John Philips, Co. F; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

Richard Powers, Co. H ; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

Joseph Pulaski, Co. H; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

Gottlieb Schroeder, Co. H; must, out Sept. 22, 1866

James Price, Co. I; must, out Sept. 22, 1865.

Joseph C. Garrison, Co. K; died of disease in Tennessee June 29, 1865

TENTH CAVALRY. Berrien Soldiers

Theo. F. Brown, Co. B; must, out Nov. 9, 1865.

Alonzo Burnett, Co. B ; must, out Nov. 9, 1865.

Chas. C. Burnett, Co. B ; must, out Nov. 9, 1865.

John Kelly, Co. B; must, out Nov. 9, 1865.

Lawrence Larkins, Co. B; must, out Nov. 9, 1865.

David McKain, Co. B; must, out Aug. 28, 1865.

Daniel Redmond, Co. B; must, out Aug. 28, 1865.

Addison E. Storrs, Co. B; must, out Nov. 20, 1865.

Libby Prison Escape

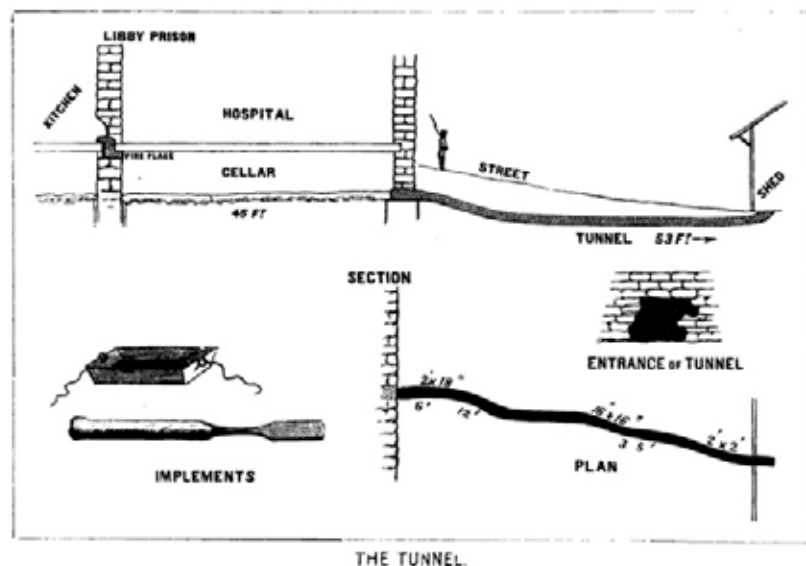
The Libby Prison Escape at Richmond, Virginia in February 1864 saw over 100 Union prisoners-of-war escape from captivity. It was one of the most successful prison breaks of the American Civil War.

Led by Colonel Thomas E. Rose of the 77th Pennsylvania Infantry, the prisoners started tunnelling in a rat-infested zone which the Confederate guards were reluctant to enter. The tunnel emerged in a vacant lot beside a warehouse, from where the escapees could walk out through the gate without arousing suspicion. Since the prison was believed to be escape-proof, there was less vigilance by the authorities than in other camps, and the alarm was not raised for nearly twelve hours. Over half the prisoners were able to reach Union lines, helped by their familiarity with the terrain after serving in McClellan's Peninsular Campaign of 1862.



Libby Prison encompassed an entire city block in Richmond. To the north lay Cary Street, connecting the prison area to the rest of the city. On the south side ran the James River. The prison itself stood three stories above ground with a basement exposed on the river side. Confederate soldiers whitewashed the outer walls to make lurking prisoners instantly recognizable.

The first floor of Libby Prison housed the various offices of the Confederate guard unit; the second and third floors were partitioned as inmate holding areas. The basement of the prison was divided into three sections. The western end was a storage cellar, the middle section was



a carpenter's shop used by civilians, and the eastern end was an abandoned kitchen. This kitchen in the eastern section was once used by Union inmates, but an infestation of rats and constant flooding compelled the Confederates to close it off. The abandoned area became known as "Rat Hell."

officers schemed to break in. By removing a stove on the first floor and chipping their way into the adjoining chimney, the officers constructed a cramped but effective passage for access to the eastern basement. Once access between the two floors was established, the officers set about plans to tunnel their way out.

The floor of Rat Hell was covered in two feet of straw. This straw was a bane and a blessing for the officers. On one hand, it provided a perfect hiding place for the dirt excavated from the tunnel. Captain I. N. Johnston, who spent more time in Rat Hell than any other Union officer, commented, "I have been asked a thousand times how we contrived to hide such a quantity of earth as the digging of a tunnel of that size would dislodge. [On the floor] we made a wide and deep opening...in this the loose dirt was closely packed, and then nicely covered with straw." By such means, the Union officers were able to conceal all signs of the tunnel that might tip off civilians and wandering sentries. The straw in Rat Hell also provided a convenient hiding place for workers during the day.



Military Order of
the Loyal Legion
of the
United States

Hereditary membership in the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) is open to men who are descendants (e.g., great great grandson, great grand nephew, etc.) of commissioned officers of the Union forces during the Civil War. Web site - <http://suvew.org/mollus/mbrfrm.htm>

Please Note: Non-hereditary membership (Associate Companion) may be available in some (but not all) of the Commanderies. Associate affiliation is based on a percentage of the number of hereditary members in each Commandery. Consequently, movement to elect Associates may be delayed until such time as there are enough hereditary Companions present in the particular Commandery.



Libby to Page 10

Book Report

Veterans in Politics- The Story of the G.A.R. By Mary Dearing

As a member of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I have some knowledge of the Grand Army of the Republic. It greatly interests me and one can readily find material reminders of this wonderful old organization. I have visited the Civil War Museum in Rockville, Connecticut and have entered a meeting hall that has been beautifully preserved. In Peekskill, New York there is a statue of a lone "boy in blue" overlooking the town saying: "I was here." At Mount Peace Cemetery in St. Cloud, Florida I can visit over 400 saviors of our Union in their silent rows. All this stirs my soul and sometimes I salute with a feeling of loss.

Roger Heiple, my Sons guru, recommended I read Mary Dearing's 1952 book about the old G.A.R. "Veterans in Politics, the Story of the G.A.R.". At the time of her writing there were only a few of the old veterans left and their great influence was gone.

At the time of her writing there were only a few of the old veterans left and their great influence was gone. Mary Dearing relied heavily on the Manuscript Department of the Library of Congress as well as State Libraries and files of Washington's National Tribune Newspaper.

The book highlights the veterans great effect on the course of American history during and after the Civil War. Elections of Presidents, starting pre-G.A.R. in the election of 1864 and through the rest of the 19th century, were greatly influenced by the veteran's vote.

During most of this time period the G.A.R. would not associate itself with a political party but made its wishes known and the Republicans, more often than not, supported them.

The G.A.R. had many wishes. What seemed to be an organization based on fond memories and a desire for comradeship, from the beginning it had its eyes on the give and take of politics. Those who excelled at this soon gained control.

And what did the veterans petition for? At first, preference in job hiring, pensions that became more, and more inclusive and overall a national consciousness that, because much had been given, much was deserved. Memorial Day's introduction gave America a celebration of Civil War bravery and also reminded America of a debt. Of course we are familiar with Grant but what about Sickles, Sherman, Hancock and McClellan. Their later lives and the lives of other Civil War notables after the war are given light. Other fascinating personalities are introduced including John Tanner, George Lemon, and Lucius Fairchild.

As the G.A.R. veterans got older they became concerned with the education of the youth. They started a program to be sure the American flag flew over schools and they tried to ensure that textbooks reflected the righteousness of the Union cause. Also, they encouraged military training in schools and they continued to make youth a big part of the yearly Memorial Day services.

I'll let you discover other facets of this study of the Grand Army of the Republic. For example, relations with the ex-Confederates. What about the return of the captured flags? Were blue and grey reunions looked on in favour? Were Confederate battle flags allowed at the 75th anniversary of Gettysburg?

I hope this brief report will make you consider learning more about the grand men of the G.A.R.

Book Report

The Quartermaster Montgomery Meigs Lincoln's General Master Builder of the Union Army

Robert O'Harrow, Jr.

Reviewed by Michael Urell

The lifetime accomplishments of Montgomery Meigs (1816-1892) make this 2016 book by Washington Post reporter Robert O'Harrow, Jr. a great read. Secretary of War Edwin Stanton stated that without the efforts of Quartermaster General Meigs the Civil War may have been lost or at least greatly imperiled. This was a great accomplishment for anyone's lifetime but there were so many more.

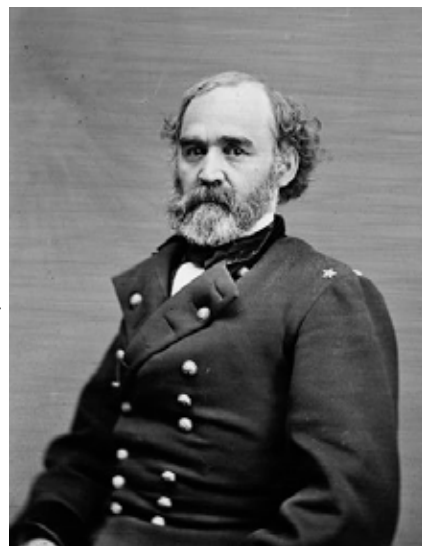
The Meigs family way back was Puritans who settled in the New Haven, Connecticut area in the 1630's. Many members of the family were high achievers and attended the best universities. The family had close ties with the military and Montgomery, with a keen interest in engineering, entered West Point at age 16. He graduated 5th out of an 1836 class of 49. He soon began to work on Army Corps of Engineers projects including helping build Fort Mifflin on the Delaware River and Fort Wayne on the Detroit River. It is interesting to note that

he also worked with then Lieutenant Robert E. Lee on improving navigation on the Mississippi River.

His favorite pre-war project was helping build the Washington Aqueduct which brought water into Washington D. C. From the Potomac River. He was particularly proud of the Union Arch Bridge which was a clever engineering feat that spanned the Cabin John Creek. From 1853 to 1859 he was involved in the building of the wings and the dome of the Capitol building.

All of this working around Washington D. C. And being dependent on monies and support from Congress led him to have contact with many characters of the day. Senator Jefferson Davis was generally a supporter of him. Secretary of War Floyd under James Buchanan was not. Floyd and Meigs area of conflict was that Meigs was very honest and

Floyd was not. At one point just before the war this conflict led to Meigs being given orders to be sent to the Tortugas for a



few months until the resignation of Floyd for corruption and a new administration under Lincoln came in.

Lincoln and Secretary of State Seward sent Meigs and Lieutenant David D Porter to Fort Pickens in Florida to fortify the Fort and as a result it remained in Union hands throughout the war. Returning from that mission Meigs was promoted to Quartermaster General of the Union Army.

So the table is set for you and I hope I have whetted your appetite. You will be amazed at the materials and logistics necessary to supply the Union Army. A smart, honest and able man was necessary and Montgomery Meigs was that man.

And, oh yes, Meigs always had an eye for new weaponry. The building of Arlington National Cemetery was largely his doing and his loathing of the traitor Robert E. Lee is made clear. Visit section one at the cemetery and that will be more clearly spelled out for you.

The book is well written and many parts of Meig's life and the history of our country are covered. His further accomplishments went into the 1890s. You will want to read more about Himalayas the events of those days.

Washington Aqueduct

The Washington Aqueduct is an aqueduct that provides the public water supply system serving Washington, D.C., and parts of its suburbs. One of the first major aqueduct projects in the United States, the Aqueduct was commissioned by Congress in 1852, and construction began in 1853 under the supervision of Montgomery C. Meigs and the US Army Corps of Engineers (which still owns and operates the system). Portions of the Aqueduct went online on January 3, 1859, and the full pipeline began operating in 1864. The system has been in continuous use ever since. It is listed as a National Historic Landmark, and the Union Arch Bridge within the system is listed as a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

Libby from Page 8

One man was chosen to secrete all signs of the tunnel while the digging party scrambled up to the first floor. He would then remain buried in the straw for the remainder of the day until the next relief arrived at dusk. Johnston wrote, "...There was a large quantity [of straw] there, and but for which our undertaking must have been discovered nearly as soon as begun." As helpful as the straw might have been, it was nevertheless the main reason for the nickname, Rat Hell. Lt. Charles H. Moran, a recaptured officer from Libby, wrote, "No tongue can tell...how the poor fellow[s] passed among the squealing rats,—enduring the sickening air, the deathly chill, the horrible interminable darkness."

Major A. G. Hamilton, a leading founder of the escape party, pointed to the dilemma of the rats: "The only difficulties experienced [were lack of proper tools] and the unpleas-

ant feature of having to hear hundreds of rats squeal all the time, while they ran over the diggers almost without a sign of fear." Colonel Thomas E. Rose, the leader of the escape, addressed the double-edged lack of light in Rat Hell: "The profound darkness caused some...to become bewildered when they attempted to move about. I sometimes had to feel all over the cellar to gather up the men that were lost." Despite the difficulties, the dark repugnant atmosphere of Rat Hell offered the most effective cover. "On rare occasions, guards entered the large basement rooms. 'This was, however, so uninviting a place, that the Confederates made this visit as brief as nominal compliance with their orders permitted.'"

Colonel Rose and Major Hamilton led the escape efforts. Rose, wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga, arrived at the prison on October 1, 1863. From the moment he stepped in the door, he was bent on escape. While exploring the darker regions of Rat Hell, he happened upon Hamilton, who was also searching for a proper tunneling point. Soon fast friends, the two worked toward the successful escape in February. Contemporarily, Libby prisoners showered Rose with admiration and credit for the escape's success.

Rose and Hamilton worked tirelessly together to bring about the escape. Rose thought of breaking into the basement from the chimney, while Hamilton engineered the passage. Rose toiled feverishly in the tunnel and organized digging teams while Hamilton worked out the logistics and invented contraptions for removing dirt and supplying oxygen to the tunnel. Various setbacks plagued the tunneling effort but as Lieutenant Moran recorded, "the undaunted Rose, aided by Hamilton, [always] persuaded the men to another effort, and soon the knives and toy saws were at work again with vigor." Lieutenant Colonel Federico Fernández Cavada, a prisoner at Libby, wrote, "To Colonel Rose is chiefly due the credit [for the escape]... Animated by an unflinching earnestness of purpose, unwearied perseverance, and no ordinary engineering abilities, he organized ... working parties [which] he conducted every night [in] the cellars of the prison." "[Rose] was the acknowledged leader of the tunnel party, the acknowledged projector of the tunnel," maintained Hamilton, "and it was through his good sense, energy, and management ... that the escape was a success."

Despite his work in planning the escape, Rose was captured before reaching Federal lines. Minutes from an advancing Union front at Williamsburg, he was ambushed by Confederate pickets and wrestled back to Libby Prison. Though placed in solitary confinement, the Confederates felt Rose's presence at Libby now presented a danger. Given the chance, they gladly traded the famed escapist for a Confederate colonel on April 30, 1864. Rose returned to his unit, the 77th Pennsylvania Infantry, and fought through to the end of the war.

