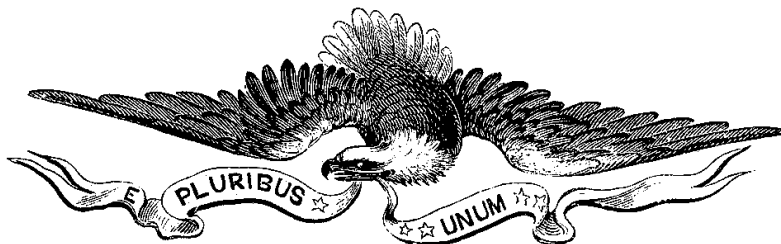


# THE FUGELMAN



## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SECOND WISCONSIN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

THE BLACK HAT BRIGADE---THE IRON BRIGADE

1861-1865

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VOLUME XXVI

ISSUE 8

AUGUST, 2016

**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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## **PASS IN REVIEW**

*From the quill of Lt. Colonel Pete Seielstad*

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**It's official. We will be portraying the 21<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin for the battle of Chaplin Hills Kentucky. Why call it the battle of Chaplin Hills, and not the battle of Perryville? Simply said, because the sixty-five men who were killed or died of wounds are listed in the report as KIA at Chaplin Hills. It must have been a sad day for the 2<sup>1st</sup> Wisconsin families who read the casualty report in the newspaper.**

**To be sure we will be green troops for this portrayal. Having mustered into US service on September 5<sup>th</sup> our Wisconsin boys found themselves in a bad position on October 8<sup>th</sup> 1862. If you have time before the event in Perryville check out the 21<sup>st</sup> Infantry, chapter 29 in E.B. Quiner's Military History of Wisconsin (1866).**

**<http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/quiner/id/16567>**



**This event should prove interesting, as the event organizer is attempting to form full-size Federal regiments. I think it a noble cause although with diminishing numbers of re-enactors over the years, it may be difficult to come to realization. For those of us who have not participated in the Perryville event it is well to note that we will be on the same grounds as the actual battle. With this in mind, we should all be grateful knowing that these are hallowed grounds that we will tread upon.**

**I'd like to give you all a little push if you're on the fence about attending the Perryville event. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin has committed to forming a single company of 40 men. There's room on the bus, its fairly inexpensive and you'll be among your pards for a weekend. To add a bonus, I'll be wearing a private's uniform and carrying a rifle. What can be more fun than poking a few one-liners at the ol' colonel? I can hear them now, " Look the colonel is the only one in step."**

**Your obedient servant,**

**Pvt. (Lt. Col.) Pete Seielstad**

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

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## **AUGUST**

6th & 7th	8th & 15th WI Skirmish (Skirmish Team)	Boscobel, WI.
27th & 28th	Battle of Morseville (Co.K)	Stockton, IL.

## **REGIMENTAL DISPATCHES**

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**THE CORNFIELD  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2016  
2:00PM**

**This scenario simulates the events that took place at approximately 2:00 PM on Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1862. While General Daniel Donelson's brigade was moving forward into attack position, Brigadier General William R. Terrill's Union Brigade was in the process of forming their line on the "Open Knob". Maney's Brigade, assisted by Wharton's Cavalry, attacked with vigor, rolling over Terrill's regiments as they arrived on the field piecemeal. Union Brigadier General James S. Jackson, the Commander of**

**the 10th Division was killed on the open knob. The first Union position on the Open Knob was overrun and the Confederates moved up their artillery as their infantry line moved forward into the cornfield. Here, the Confederates met Colonel John Starkweather's veteran brigade. Starkweather's only new regiment, the 21<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin, was positioned in the cornfield when the Confederates attacked. They were quickly overwhelmed, losing all their field officers. The retreating Confederates were pressed across the Dixville Road and a Hand-to-hand fight erupted on the front slope in front of Starkweather's cannon. The Union forces were driven from the hill, but regained it in a counter-attack. General Terrill was also killed on the reverse slope of "Starkweather Hill". With the deaths of General Jackson, General Terrill, and Colonel Webster, the Union 10th Division lost all its commanders. This was the only time in the Civil War that this happened to a Division in a single battle.**

**The corn planted in the cornfield is an heirloom corn breed, developed in Wisconsin in 1847. This breed of corn, Wisconsin Red Dent, chosen and planted by the Friends of Perryville was done to honor the Wisconsin regiments involved in the Battle of Perryville.**

***Bayonet thrusts and blows from the butts of our guns crashed on all sides. We would drive them back a few yards, then we would in turn be driven. The very leaden hail, like rain-drops, and as thick, was poured into our very faces, fairly hurling us back.***

**- Sam Watkins, 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee Infantry**

***I did not go far, however, before a musket or rifle ball struck me in my left leg just below the calf, breaking it, and passing clear through. I of course fell, and that finished my fighting. Shortly afterward, the rebels passed me by. One of them cut off my cartridge box and took it away from me. The shot and shell flew thick over my head as I lay there, making it very unsafe."***

**- Josiah Ayre, 105<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry**

***The 79<sup>th</sup> [PA] and 24th [IL] were all enveloped in smoke; the 1st Wisconsin I could not see on account of the corn. I looked for the front. All at once I saw a rebel flag, that is, the upper part of it above the cornstalks and not far away either. I sat down on my right knee and said as loud as I could: 'Boys be ready! They are coming!' They got on their knees; some looked forward, some back at me. Instinctively I yelled: 'Why don't we fire?' I looked to the right, [the] Colonel was not there; I looked to the left, [the] Major was not there. I leveled my rifle at some butternut colored jacked which I saw among the stalks.***

***Instantly the Company followed suit. The Rebs staggered a little and in their turn saluted."***

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016**

## **THE FIGHT FOR BOTTOM'S BARN**

**1:00PM**

**This scenario simulates the events that took place at approximately 3:00 PM on Wednesday, October 8th, 1862. Since about 10:00 in the morning, William H. Lytle's brigade had taken up position on the right flank of Union 1st Corps commanded by General Alexander M. McCook. The 3rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, supported by the 15th Kentucky infantry, were positioned in Henry P. Bottom's barn yard overlooking Henry Bottom's House. They were on the extreme right flank of 1st Corps. Although arrayed in battle formation, they didn't expect to do battle that day. They believed that, as had been the case for the last week, the Confederates were retreating to the northeast, towards Harrodsburg. Since there appeared little threat to their front, another regiment, the 42nd Indiana, was sent forward to the semi-dry bed of Doctor's Creek to rest, boil some coffee, and fill their empty canteens in the drought-stricken area. Suddenly, the calm was broken by a fusillade of Confederate artillery shot and shell landing all around. Soon after, two heavily supported Confederate Infantry brigades came out of the woods and attacked towards the 3rd Ohio and the 15th Kentucky, driving the hapless 42nd Indiana in a panic from the creek bed.**

**The Confederates had problems too. Bushrod R. Johnson's Confederate brigade was assigned to attack this area. The Confederates became mixed and disorganized by the cliffs along the creek, just to the north of the road as well as other terrain features. At the same time, another Confederate brigade under the command of Daniel W. Adams was approaching the area from the southeast. When these two brigades collided where the road crosses the creek, there was extra confusion causing them to fire at each other, both brigades thinking the other was the enemy. This was soon worked out and soon both Johnson and Adams began their coordinated attack on the 3rd Ohio and the 15th Kentucky. There were just over 1,000 Union soldiers in the barn yard, being attacked on three sides by almost 3,500 veteran Confederates. As the 3rd Ohio was desperately trying to hold the line, Confederate artillery fire caught Henry Bottom's barn on fire. The strong southerly wind blew the smoke right up the Union battle line. Many wounded from the 3rd Ohio were too weak to pull themselves out of the barn and perished in the flames. Not only was the barn on fire, but the**

**drought-starved vegetation on the whole hillside was also in flames.**

**The battle lines were only 60 yards apart. The Confederates were protected by a stone wall, but the 3rd Ohio was protected only by a post and rail fence. The 3rd Ohio held the line. All the time, messengers from the 15th Kentucky were offering to advance from their reserve position and relieve the 3rd Ohio on the firing line. After about 30 minutes of horrendous fire, the 3rd Ohio then acquiesced to the wishes of the Kentuckians and withdrew. The 15th Kentucky then held the line behind the post and rail fence, the smoke from the burning barn still choked and blinded them. After about another 30 minutes, the 15th Kentucky was forced back when some of Daniel Adam's men, using the creek for cover, positioned themselves behind the Yankees. Bushrod Johnson's supporting brigade, commanded by Patrick Cleburne, at about the same time, broke the Union positions more towards the north, forcing the entire Union line in that area to crumble and fall back. The Confederates forced the Union soldiers back another third of a mile west to the Dixville Crossroads, where darkness ended the battle. The two Union regiments suffered almost 400 casualties (40%).**

***Our line was steadfastly maintained until the barn on our right, was fired by a shell from the enemy's batteries, and in a few minutes the heat became so intense that my right was compelled to fall back. After rallying we were relieved by the Fifteenth Kentucky, Colonel Curran Pope, and our ammunition being nearly exhausted, we retired to the bottom of the hill. Soon after I sent Companies A, D, and F to act in conjunction with two companies of the Fifteenth Kentucky in endeavoring to hold a fence which ran along the side of a field in which we had been fighting and perpendicular to our former line, but the fire of the enemy's battery, combined with that of his infantry, was so deadly that these men were again ordered to retire.***

**- Colonel John Beatty, 3rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry**

***The firing of the regiment was kept up with overwhelming effect, and we had succeeded in driving the enemy entirely behind the stone fence. We saw them beginning to file around our right, but our ammunition was exhausted, and the sun was down, and the enemy had passed to our rear in the fields on our left, so I faced the regiment about and marched it in good order to the foot of the hill where I united with the Third Ohio and filed out into the road and marched back, and coming to the same place I had occupied in the morning, I turned them in there to rest themselves, and was placing them below the hill, for the brow was raked by cannon from both sides, but General Rousseau rode up and desired them to be placed on the brow. I immediately faced the regiment about and marched it to the top of the hill and made it lie down.***

**- Colonel Curran Pope, 15th Kentucky Infantry**

***We were by a small post-and-rail fence which had taken fire from the burning barn. It was falling on our dead, and the kind-hearted rebel captain removed them and put the fire out. I was a prisoner, with my left arm half torn off.***

**- Private A.J. Hearld, 3d Ohio Volunteer Infantry**

***Three or four times the colors would fall, but were no sooner down than they were raised again, by other hands. Myself and three others were trying to shoot through a hole in the wall, and we were in each other's way. So I told them to do the loading and I would do the shooting, and thus we continued until the enemy fled. I felt quite safe behind that wall.***

**- W.C. Gipson, 17th Tennessee, Johnson's Brigade**

***The enemy's fire upon my regiment was heavy and incessant, but being well protected it suffered but little, while it delivered its fire with coolness and precision. The engagement was thus continued until the enemy abandoned his position and our ammunition was exhausted. By your order I then detached a company and sent it back for ammunition, but before its return I was ordered by a staff officer, unknown to me, to move forward over the hill upon which one of our batteries was afterward placed. I had bayonets fixed and moved forward.***

**- Colonel A.B. Marks, 17th Tennessee Infantry, Johnson's Brigade**

## **COMPANY H REPORT**

**BY 1<sup>ST</sup> SERGEANT TONY VRANICAR**

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**While I must offer apologies for not having submitted a report for our company yet this year, but I am happy to relate that Company H is alive and well. Our reenacting season is nearly over, with only two battle events and three living history events between now and October. Our membership is up this year over last. With the participation of potential new recruits and regular members, we have averaged eight rifles in the field at most events, in support of our West Coast club, the ACWA**



**I usually like to give our compatriots in Wisconsin some flavor of the activities we are involved with out here in California. This time I am highlighting the event at Mariposa, which is held located a little west of Yosemite National Park. *Mariposa* is the Spanish word for butterfly, and the locality was so named for the abundance of monarch butterflies back in the 1800's. Sadly, these days their numbers have seriously declined. This event was held in the spring, while the grass was still knee-high, lush green and not at risk of igniting at the first cap-off before battle. The event site is a wide open expanse of gently rolling hills surrounded by live-oaks and pines, ideal for sweeping infantry movements and cavalry charges. The photos included here were taken by our unit photographer and civilian member, Jan Sparks.**

**I thought it would be interesting to find out if there were any connections between the Mariposa and the Civil War. Highly unlikely, I thought, but with a little digging I was surprised to find several. Certainly there were no battles fought there, nor even a pistol shot exchanged between sympathizers of each side. The connections come through two famous people who resided there at some point in the mid 1800's. The first such notable individual was John C. Fremont, who as we all know, was a major general during the Civil War. In 1849 Fremont authorized his agent to purchase a Mexican land grant near Mission San Jose, within viewing distance of the San Francisco Bay. For some reason, his agent purchased instead some property in the rugged Sierra Nevada foothills, in the area known as *Las Mariposas*. Fremont was not pleased, and demanded his money back. Shortly thereafter, gold was discovered in California, and his "useless" property was suddenly very valuable real estate. That ownership, however, was apparently difficult to protect, given the hordes of gold seekers and mining companies that flooded the area. In spite of the many law suits he pursued over a period of ten years, this venture made him a rich man, for a time. In 1863 he sold his interest to New York banker, and his connection to Mariposa was ended.**

**The other notable connection is Frederick Law Olmstead, who is considered by many to be the father of American landscape architecture. Prior to the Civil War, he worked as journalist for *the New York Daily Times*. He travelled extensively in the South and reported insightfully on the institution of slavery and its impact on Southern society, as the following quote demonstrates:**

***“The citizens of the cotton States, as a whole, are poor. They work little, and that little, badly; they earn little, they sell little; they buy little, and they have little – very little – of the common comforts and consolations of civilized life.”***

**By 1859 he was already well known for having co-designed Central Park in New York and becoming its first director. At the start of the Civil War, he became Executive Secretary of the U.S. Sanitary Commission, and helped organize the care of wounded Union soldiers in Washington.**

**So how on earth did he come to be in Mariposa? Since Yosemite is just a figurative stone’s throw away from Mariposa, there was certainly no need for a park designer there. Well, when General Fremont sold his Mariposa mining company to a New York banker, that banker hired Olmstead to move out to California to manage the property. Either because Olmstead was not a mining engineer, or because the mines just played out, the company went bankrupt by 1865 and was sold off by the sheriff. Olmstead then returned to New York and resumed his career in landscape architecture. One of the many notable urban parks he designed was the Grand Necklace of Parks in Milwaukee. So, not only does our Mariposa site have a connection to the Civil War, but it also has a link to Wisconsin as well.**

**So ends my long winded report, to make up for the Company H telegraph silence hereto for.**

**Respectfully,**

**Tony Vranicar,**

**First Sergeant, Company H**

## **ATTENTION TO ORDERS**

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**From Head Quarters**

**First Federal Division**

**Robert Minton, Commanding**

**8th day of July, Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen**

**General Order No. 2**

- I. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry are as fine a body of Fighting Men as to be found in President Lincoln's Army and have struggled long and hard to end this terrible Rebellion.**
- II. Under normal Circumstance, Condition, and Event they have been Brigaded with the 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Division, of recent fame.**
- III. After much careful Consideration and Thought it has been decided that they will temporarily be transferred to the Command of the Army of the French Broad, under the strong leadership of Colonel Shane Miles—another outstanding unit that has Proven itself time and again to be of the utmost valour and highest Esprit.**
- IV. Therefore, by order of the Commander, the 2<sup>nd</sup> WVI and all such soldiers of the Black Hats who align themselves with the 2<sup>nd</sup> will be placed on temporary duty under the aforementioned Army of the French Broad and reform as the 15<sup>th</sup> Kentucky.**
- V. This entire formation under the grasp of Colonel Miles is also to be temporarily split off from her Mother Division in a Tactical Manoeuvre that is certain to put Braxton Bragg's Rebellious Rabble to Rout!**
- VI. (Put in more succinct terms—the 2<sup>nd</sup> WI and members of the Black Hats will fall in with the AFB, and the AFB and 1FD will be separated for this event.)**
- VII. Finally, the Colonel Commanding reiterates his previous order to the Adjutant viz. confiscating Alcoholic or Spirituous liquids.**

**Sincerely,**

**Y'r Ob'dt S'vt**

**Liet. Mel Glover, Acting Adjutant**

**PERRYVILLE 2016 NATIONAL TRIP**

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***By the time the Fugelman is delivered this will be out of date as far as getting one's payment to Dave Sielski for the National event.***

**General Info: Bus will depart Wisconsin on Thursday morning October 6th returning on Monday October 10<sup>th</sup>. We will stay overnight at a hotel on Thursday evening and again on Sunday night on our way back. Attendees will have the option of a one to 4 person room. Price will include cost of the bus and lodging based on the type of room you select.**

**First Step: A deposit of \$100 per person & this form will need to be received by July 15<sup>th</sup> to reserve a seat on the bus; payments can be made payable to Co. E Second Wisconsin and sent to the address below. \$100 payment will be put towards the cost of your trip. Final payment will be due by September 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Departure times on October 6<sup>th</sup>:**

**Green Bay: 8 A.M., Fond du lac: 9:15 A.M., Madison 10:30 A.M.**

**Please fill out the info below and return with your deposit:**

**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone**\_\_\_\_\_

**Email address**\_\_\_\_\_

**Select Pick Up point:   \_\_\_ Green Bay \_\_\_ Fond Du Lac   \_\_\_ Madison**

**Single: \$390   Double: \$290   Triple: \$270   Quad: \$260**

**Please contact me by phone or email with any questions that you may have at 920-660-2449 or [dsielski@greenbay.gannett.com](mailto:dsielski@greenbay.gannett.com).**

**Send payments made payable to Co.E Second Wisconsin to the following address:**

**Dave Sielski  
2316 Serenade Ln  
Green Bay, WI. 54301**

**You will also need to register on your own for the event, the website address is below, when registering list the following info:**

**<http://www.perryvillebattlefield.org/>**

**Battalion: First Federal Division. Unit name: 2nd Wisconsin.**

# **IMPRESSION GUIDELINES FOR THE PERRYVILLE EVENT—U.S. INFANTRY**

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**The following guidelines have been developed by the organizers of the event to ensure historical accuracy and enhance the quality of the event for reenactors and spectators alike.**

## **MILITARY LIVING HISTORY PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES**

**These guidelines were designed as a typical impression of a private in the Army of the Ohio. The guidelines are typical of soldiers who served in the Western Theater during the war. As living historians it is important to strive for an accurate portrayal of the soldiers and civilians from 1861-1865 for the benefit of visitors and to enhance the reenactor's experience.**

### **PRIMARY IMPRESSION**

**The following infantry regiments will be portrayed during the weekend:**

- **105<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry**
- **21<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry**
- **15<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Volunteer Infantry**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry**
- **42<sup>nd</sup> Indiana Infantry**

### **FEDERAL UNIFORMS AT PERRYVILLE**

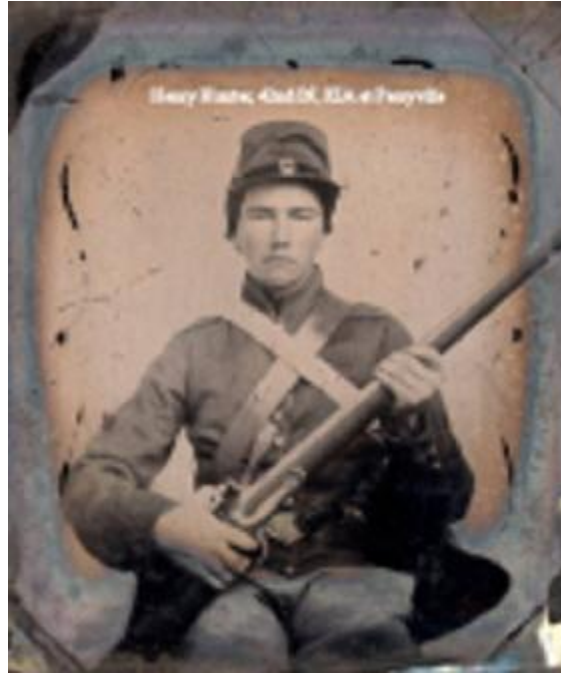
**The frock coat was commonly issued to troops in the fall of 1862. Soldiers also wore sack coats and blouses as well. Another jacket issued to Ohio troops was a state issued short coat.**



**Private Christain Wienman-21<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry**  
**Killed in action-Perryville, Kentucky**



**Private William Howard**  
**105<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry**  
**Killed in action-Perryville**



**Private Henry Hunter**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> Indiana Infantry**  
**Killed in action-Perryville**



**Private Reuben Hunter**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> Indiana Infantry**

## **MINIMUM STANDARDS & GUIDELINES**

### **JACKETS**

- **Enlisted mens frock coat**
- **State issue jackets (Ohio, Illinois, New York, Indiana)**
- **Federal issue campaign blouse**

### **BUTTONS**

- **Federal eagle buttons**
- **State buttons**

### **TROUSERS**

- **Federal issue sky blue**
- **Federal issue dark blue**
- **Suspenders of civilian pattern, cotton webbing, canvas or ticking with either button holes or leather tips with tin or brass buckles**

### **SHIRTS**

- **Federal issue—domet—flannel shirt**
- **Civilian woven checks or strips, period prints**

### **DRAWERS**

**Military issue or civilian style in cotton or wool flannel if worn**

### **HEAD GEAR**

- **Forage cap**
- **Hardee hat**
- **Slouch hat**

### **FOOTWEAR**

- **Brogans**
- **Military or civilian pattern boot**
- **Wool or cotton socks, white or natural color**

### **EYEWEAR OR GLASSES**

**Spectacles were not common among the soldiers. If one can avoid wearing glasses they should do so. Contact lenses would also be appropriate. Of you**



**must wear glasses they must be 19<sup>th</sup> century pattern glasses. No modern glasses may be worn during living history events.**

### **CIVILIAN ATTIRE**

**Civilian attire should be extremely limited. Some soldiers (very few) might have worn civilian clothing such as shirts and under clothing, but most clothing would have been military issued items.**

### **PERSONAL EFFECTS**

**Personal items are an excellent way to enhance one's impression. Whatever items one may select remember you have to carry them!**

- **Comb**
- **Toothbrush**
- **Pocket knife**
- **Housewife**
- **Wallet**
- **Handkerchief**
- **Vests**
- **Paper**
- **Writing instruments**
- **Playing cards**
- **Game pieces**
- **Books or newspapers**
- **Mirror**

**During the Perryville campaign many of the troops were new to the military. A “fresh fish” look would be appropriate for reenactors.**

### **APPEARANCE**

**In addition to the appropriate Living History equipment and material, it must be used and worn correctly. Pants and waist belts were worn at the real waist (i.e. the naval) and not at the hips; clothes were not form fitting; haversack and canteen straps were adjusted so that those items did not slap the soldier on the back of the legs or buttocks on the march; haversacks carried food and individual mess equipment (including the tin cup if there was room) and not personal items; personal items were carried in pockets and knapsacks; hats and coats were worn whenever in public; pants were**

**rarely worn tucked into socks. By adopting the appropriate 19<sup>th</sup> century use and appearance, the Living history impression is remarkably improved.**

**Kentucky was enduring a major drought during the fall of 1862. Federals and Confederates were on lengthy marches on incredibly dusty roads. They would be extremely dirty. Their uniforms were brand new, but dust and dirt would be abundantly obvious on their person and clothing.**

## **TENTAGE AND CAMPS**

**There is no documentation of soldiers either Confederate or Union camping with “canvas” at Perryville. Tents are documented for higher ranking officers only. (majors, colonels, and generals)**

**“. . . we have just received orders to be ready to march at any moment with two days rations in our knapsacks. Our tents to be left behind all but three in a regiment.” -Pvt. Jon Morse, 105<sup>th</sup> OVI**

**Shelter halves do not appear in the Western Theater until the end of December, 1862.**

***This does not mean you can't have a tent! You can have a tent. This is just historical information . . .***

**Recommended: Federal “rubber blankets” or “gum blankets”**

**If you use a tent the organizers encourage the use of an A-frame or Sibley tent.**

**The use of modern inappropriate material (cigarettes-modern eyeglasses—watches—modern food containers—soda cans or plastic bottles—sleeping bags—coolers—absolutely no cell phones are to be visible at any time). All Kentucky State Park rules and regulations must be followed.**

**Military camps are for military personnel only—the only acceptable civilians are laundresses, contract cooks and refugees. If a civilian wants to be in the military camp it is necessary to get the permission of military commanders.**

***It is the responsibility for all military participants to attend required drill and be aware of the military schedule.***

## **CAMP EQUIPAGE**

**Each soldier should carry a period tin cup, knife, fork, spoon and tin plate. More extensive cooking items such as period individual frying pans (even**

**improvised ones from old canteens) are not necessary and should be very limited. Cooking during the Kentucky Campaign was done in messes (four or five to fifteen men) sharing the cooking duties and using large cooking utensils such as kettles, camp kettles, frying pans, coffee pots, dutch ovens, large spoons and forks, butcher knives, mess pans, wooden water buckets, axes, etc. These large items were carried in the regimental baggage wagons which accompanied the troops except in the presence of the enemy. They were often packed in wooden boxes serving as mess chests. When the soldiers were issued rations (normally in three to five day increments), the baggage wagons with the cooking utensils were present except on rare occasions. In some units, the soldiers assigned to the wagon trains did the cooking and the rations were delivered cooked to the troops in the ranks.**

### **FLAGS**

**All flags shown on the field must be pre-approved at least one month in advance by Park Management.**

### **ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES**

**M1855 or M1861 "Springfield" pattern .58 caliber rifle-musket**

**M1853 Type III (.58) caliber Enfield 3 band rifle musket**

**Side-arms only for officers and cavalry impressions.**

### **ACCOUTREMENTS**

**Cartridge box and cartridge box belt**

**M1855/61 box and tins**

**Enfield box and tins**

**M1842 box and tins**

### **CAP BOX**

**M1845/50 pattern Enfield style**

### **WAIST BELT AND WAIST BELT PLATE**

**State buckles**

**U.S.**

**Waist belt should be appropriate Federal issue and appropriate to the buckle.**

## **BAYONET AND SCABBARD**

**Appropriate for the weapon and bayonet being carried.**

## **KNAPSACKS**

**No knapsack**

**“We only took our blankets with us in the clothing lone leaving our knapsacks in our tents a guard left of those who were not able to march. . . .” Pvt. Josiah Ayres—105<sup>th</sup> OVI, Co. E**

- **Double bag pattern**

**Other Common period patterns.**

**Numerous primary resources cite that knapsacks were dropped by many Union regiments before entering battle. It would be reasonable to see several soldiers without knapsacks. An accurate impression would be to leave knapsacks in camp under guard before assembling for the battle.**

## **CANTEENS**

**Federal pattern—smooth side**

**Other common period pattern**

**“Bullseye” canteens are post Perryville and not appropriate for the impression.**

**Straps should be cotton, cotton webbing, or leather sown together or with buckle or button. As few as two-thirds or one half of the men need to carry canteens**

## **HAVERSACKS**

**Appropriate black Federal pattern**

## **BLANKETS**

**Union issue blanket**

**Blanket made from period pattern wool**

***The amount of civilian blankets should be extremely minimal. The Federal Army as it marched toward Perryville discarded blankets all the way. The 24<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin left Louisville with red wool blankets, but tossed them into the ditch along the march. These blankets were quickly picked up by veteran infantrymen who then discarded their old Federal issue “ratty” blankets.***

#### **GUM BLANKETS/GROUND CLOTH**

**Any appropriate Federal issue gum blanket**

#### **NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS**

**Noncommissioned officers were important to the functioning of the line of battle in combat. The ratio of sergeants to privates was about one to seven or eight and the ratio for corporals was about one to nine. Living History companies should manifest about the same ratio. Noncommissioned officers should know the drill and duties expected of them.**

#### **OFFICERS**

**The general ratio of commissioned officers to noncommissioned officers and enlisted men in the campaign averaged one to ten. Companies typically had three, sometimes two, of their four authorized officers. Therefore, if there are ten or more soldiers, it would be appropriate to have an officer represented, probably a second lieutenant. With twenty or more soldiers, there should be one or two officers. A first or second lieutenant. Thirty to forty soldiers should have a captain and two lieutenants.**

#### **COMMAND STRUCTURE AND COMPANY/BATTALION SIZE**

**Park staff will designate an overall command structure who will portray field grade officers. Other field grade officers will be acceptable if the minimum amount of participants is reached to constitute a battalion.**

**The average size of a Union infantry regiment at Perryville was 559 men each. The smallest was the 44<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry with 290 men. The largest Union regiment was the 24<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry with 1,024 men. Thus, companies should have a captain and 1 or two lieutenants.**

**In order to adequately represent the Union Army in the field—organizations portraying a company must contain a minimum of 20 men. Battalions must consist of at least three companies.**

**Individuals and unattached messes are welcome and invited to participate.**  
**We will work with you to find an appropriate regiment/battalion.**

**Confederate to Federal ratios will be 5 CSA to 3 USA men. This means that for every 5 Confederate participants there must be 3 Federal participants. Registration for CSA participants will be capped at 500 until Federal registration reaches 300. At that time we will allow participants to register as long as the 5 to 3 ratio is maintained.**

**MINIMUM AGE TO PARTICIPATE—TO CARRY A WEAPON AT THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

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

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### **INFANTRY**

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#### **COMPANY E**

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*Winchester Whirlwind*

*Dear Sally,*

*This war will go on and on! I have lost faith in our leadership as we have bin ingloriously run out of yet another small town. These esquires seem more concern'd about puttn on airs, polishn brass and self promoshun. As the papers have ritn, Pres. Lincoln says; "the bottom is out of the tub!"*

*Our company again was orderd to quell some renegade band of hooligans near the small town of Winchester. At first our stay seemd peaceful enuf as the*

*town folk were a charitable and gracious host. They had falln on some hard times as the reb bushwackers had recently carryd off most of their belongns.*

*When not patrolln the nearby countryside we were allowd to visit the town. On one such jawnt I watchd a church aucshun of what appeard army blankets and other such government issue. A federal captn seemd to be doin the peddln. When I askd a fine young lass the nature of the gathern, she statd that the yankee officer was a Captn Angus Riley who had recently arrivd to see to the welfare of the citizens of Winchester. He had donatd many items to the First Congregational Church which in turn held many such aucshuns to raise money for the poor and destitute. She pointd out a very distinguishd lady standn near the captn as one Ms Carla Blood who was a prominent member of the church. She spokd of the Lady Blood with reverence and awe. All seemd ryt in the world until a squad of soldiers led by a provost Lt, broke up the gathern and arrestd Captn Riley. Protests and chants of "Free Riley, Free Riley" soon echoed thru the village square. Good will and harmony was torn asunder by the hevvy hand of the federal leadership. Such acshun makes me feel poorly about our worthy cause, for if it is not to at leest help the oppressd, is such blood shed just!*

*A Sabbath morn tempest arose and stole away many a slumber keepng. Sally I have had my share of nytmare since joinin the Legions of Lincoln, but none so as starrn up at me pard Jubal Moody's whiskered features as he shivered me timbers. We made our way to a nearby cottage to take refuge in the cellar. The whirlwind subsided soon after and we returnd to our tents of which bore the onslawt stoutly.*

*Later that Sabbath the sound of thunder, not of nature's rendng, but of cannon, soon rolld into Winchester. The rebs we had bin seekn, soon was speekn! We were postd along a split rail fence just outside of town as we exchangd musket fire with the rebs who was in a nearby woods. The cannon barrage was countr battery so we were spard such inferno for a spell.*

*It was tolerable until the reb cannons took out ours. They soon redeployd ther big guns and we was soon rec'n ther bloody Sabbath offersns. A direct hit on our ryt flank breechd our lines thru which the rebs attackd mytly. It was the start of the camptown races once again. With all lost, many of us chose flyt to fyt. I am still fleet a foot, pa – not so much! He was soon cradled in the arms of the confederacy.*

*Our company has since returned to Ft Howard to refit for another go which we are certain will happen sooner than later. Kind providence still smiles upon me as I still stride atop the sod!*

*Your Brother,*

*Stephan*

*Ps - Pa was not long in the custody of the rebs as he has returned. He says his incessant requests of laudanum and whiskey found him bound and gaged on the roadside. A nearby farmer freed him and carted his haggard arse back to us, praise be!*

## COMPANY H

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**Below you will find an excellent photo essay submitted with the report from our comrades in Company H. The written report by 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Vranicar was brilliantly written. We at the Fugelman are grateful for both the written report and the photos from our Western most comrades!**

**Thank you Tony Vranicar for your work on behalf of your company and sharing it with your Wisconsin brothers and sisters!**











## COMPANY K

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### THE BATTLE OF MORSEVILLE, STOCKTON. ILLINOIS

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**On the weekend of August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016, the members of Company K will be on campaign in Stockton, Illinois. This year will mark the 18<sup>th</sup> annual event. The event which has been traditionally held in October has been moved to August this year with the demise of the Boscobel event. The event is held on a farm near Stockton, Illinois, and there are very few modern distractions at the event location. Stockton is located between Rockford and Galena in Northwest Illinois.**

**The address for the event is 11303 E. Schuller Road, Stockton, Illinois. If you are traveling South take US20 one mile east of Stockton, turn south on Curtiss Road and then west (right) on E. Schuller Road. The organizers report that there will an abundance of signage to guide you to the event.**

**Registration for reenactors for the event can be found at <http://www.stocktoncivilwar.com/reenactors/>**

**The organizers highly suggest that reenactors bring a lantern, candles or some other light source since the event takes place on a 40 acre farm and there are no other sources of light on the grounds. When darkness falls, it can be very dark indeed. A trip to the port-a-potties could be challenging in the night!**

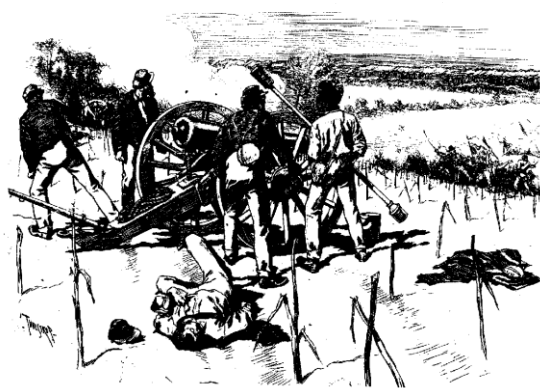
**There will be two battles during the weekend and so one should carry 40 rounds to get through the weekend.**

**Below you will find the schedule for the event.**

<b>SATURDAY - AUGUST 27, 2016</b>		
<b>9 am</b>	<b>Grounds Open</b>	<b>Everywhere!</b>
<b>All Day</b>	<b>Farmer's Market</b>	<b>Sutler's Row</b>
<b>All Day</b>	<b>Civil War Merchants</b>	<b>Sutler's Row</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Drills</b>	<b>Union Camp &amp; Confederate Camp</b>
<b>11:15 am</b>	<b>First Person Contest</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Barb Sorenson Singing</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>12:30 pm</b>	<b>Pie Auction</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>General Grant Presents</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Skillet Toss (50/50)</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>
<b>2:15 pm</b>	<b>Artillery Dress Parade</b>	
<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>
<b>5 - 7 pm</b>	<b>Gates Closed</b>	
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Dance</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>8:30 pm</b>	<b>Night Fire</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>

<b>Sunday - August 28, 2016</b>		
<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Coffee, Juice &amp; Rolls for Reenactors</b>	<b>Entrance Tent</b>
<b>9 am</b>	<b>Grounds Open</b>	<b>Everywhere!</b>
<b>All Day</b>	<b>Farmer's Market</b>	<b>Sutler's Row</b>
<b>All Day</b>	<b>Civil War Merchants</b>	<b>Sutler's Row</b>
<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Church Service</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>10:15 am</b>	<b>Baseball Game</b>	<b>Confederate Camp</b>
<b>11 am</b>	<b>Bob Sorenson Singing</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>Noon</b>	<b>General Grant Presents</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>1:30 pm</b>	<b>Battle</b>	<b>Battlefield</b>
<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Raffle Drawings</b>	<b>Stage</b>
<b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Camp Closes</b>	

## ARTILLERY



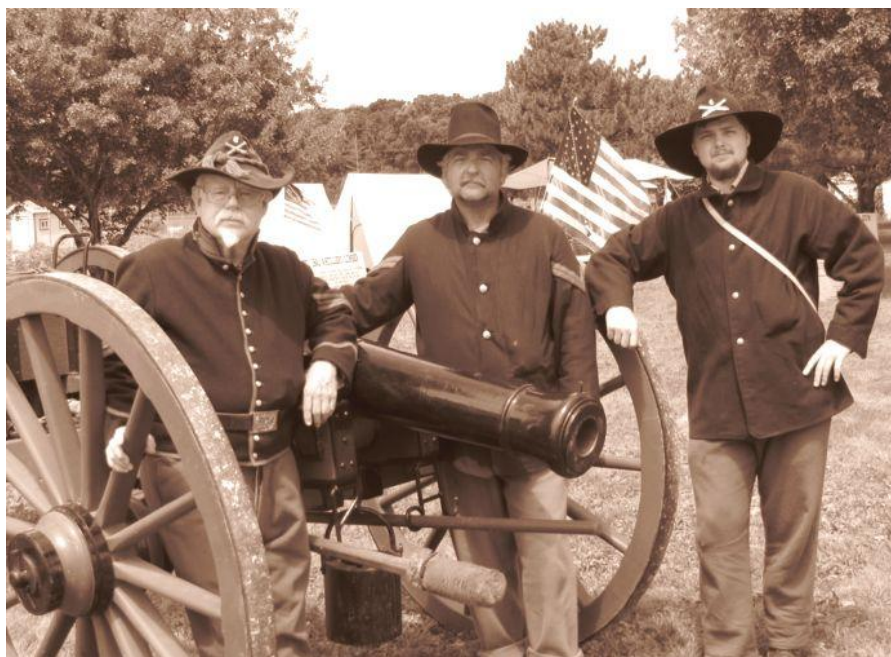


## A PHOTO ESSAY FROM THE WESTERN DIVISION OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> WISCONSIN LIGHT ARTILLERY

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**The following photo essay from the Rochester, Minnesota civil war event was provided by Lyle Laufenberg, a member of the battery. Thank you Lyle for sharing with all our readers!**







## **SECOND WISCONSIN REGIMENTAL FIELD HOSPITAL**

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b0010282 www.fotosearch.com

## **MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CARE**



## **1861-1865**

**Politifact proved false Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clark's claim that 250,000 die annually from surgical mistakes.**

**9.5% of all deaths in the United States or approximately 251,454 result from medical errors.**

**The Johns Hopkins University study observed medical errors as a third leading cause of death. Heart disease and cancer were predominant.**

**The study did not count deaths caused by medical errors. Death rates and hospitalizations were projections.**

**The 250,000 estimate included a plethora of medical errors, ranging from incompetency, communication breakdowns, medicine dosage mistakes and diagnostic errors. Care was determined a major contributing factor.**

**Criticizing surgeons hasn't changed much since the Civil War.**

### **BACKGROUND**

**This article details medical and surgical care during the American Civil War.**

**Aesthesia was used extensively by both Union and Confederate surgeons. Amputations were a necessary surgical procedure in most cases. Medical care was state of the art for its time. Most physicians cared deeply for their patients.**

**Germ theory was in its infancy. Sterile techniques and antisepsis were unknown. Louis Pasteur began his ground breaking work on the theory that germs caused disease between 1860 and 1864.**

**Few effective medications existed. Surgeons often worked 48-72 hours without rest. Both sides were woefully unprepared for the**



**horrors of war. Many medical advances and discoveries resulted from the work of these surgeons. One significant factor was the collection of reports from field and general hospital doctors in Washington. These reports led to changes in care that proved effective.**

**The Civil War was fought in over 10,000 locations. It was the bloodiest war in US history. 2% of the population (approximately 620,000) died. More Americans died in the Civil War than all other wars combined. Casualty estimates, based on comparative census data, reflect 752,000 deaths. Disabled estimates are unknown. Official CSA records were destroyed during burning of Richmond April 2, 1865. In 1866 the State of Mississippi budgeted 20% of its annual budget on artificial limbs for veterans.**

**Twice as many soldiers died from disease than combat related wounds. On a good note, this statistic noted an improvement from 7-10 deaths during the Mexican War 1846-1848. It was not until WWII when combat related injuries killed more soldiers than disease. 1 in 10 able bodied Union soldiers died in combat as contrasted with 1 in 4 for Confederate soldiers.**

### **WHY SO MANY DEATHS?**

**Battlefield injuries and disease decimated both sides.**

**Inexperienced surgeons, uncoordinated efforts removing injured quickly from battlefields, infections and archaic military tactics contributed to combat related deaths. As the war progressed vast improvements were made in regards to providing immediate aid and removal of the wounded from the field, even while the battle continued around the aid workers.**

**Poor sanitation, overcrowded camps, improper sanitation, inadequate pre-enlistment screening, poor diets, lack of immunity from childhood diseases and inadequate disease treatments contributed to disease related deaths.**

**US Army Regulation 1297 established criteria for pre-induction physical examinations. Physical examinations early in the war were lax. Governors wanted to fill quotas. Examining physicians were paid per recruit. Anyone who could walk, carry a gun, had four front teeth and trigger finger were mustered into service. Four front teeth were needed to rip open cartridges containing black powder and for holding Minie balls. Dental care was lacking. The term 4F originated from lack of four front teeth (4F). Poor physical exams permitted 250 women to enter the US Army. Quality of physical examinations improved with enforcement of the 1863 Civil War**

**Draft Act. Fines and prison sentences faced physicians who were derelict. Enlistments dropped. Recruits were rejected for service.**

**A previous article discussed training and qualifications for physicians. Standardized medication did not exist. Physicians prescribed, compounded and dispensed their own concoctions.**

**Germ theory of disease was introduced in 1870 and Koch's Postulates in 1890. Disease was considered to have resulted from either direct or indirect inflammation. Indirect inflammation was thought to have been caused by excess blood flow to tissues. This theory supported bloodletting. By the time of the Civil War, bloodletting had fallen from grace. I should mention that 90 years later, Hitler still practiced bloodletting.**

**From the US peacetime army of 16,000 with 113 physicians, 24 joined the CSA and 3 were dismissed for disloyalty. By 1865, the North had 12,000 physicians and the South had slightly over 3,000. Fort Leavenworth was the North's largest hospital with 40 beds. The only hospital in Washington DC was a two story six room structure dedicated for isolating smallpox patients. Both North and South were totally unprepared.**

**The first major conflict, Bull Run-Manassas July 21, 1861 was a drop in the bucket compared with the deluge that followed. The North had 481 killed and 1,011 wounded while the South had 387 killed and 1,582 wounded at First Bull Run. Neither side had military ambulance wagons. Ambulances were driven by civilians who fled when shots were fired. Not one wounded soldier was returned by wagon to Washington DC. Wounded remained on the battlefield for days: the first two days in the rain. Surgeon General Finley did not order medical supplies until after the battle. This certainly doesn't sound like satisfactory preparation or organization.**

### **BATTLEFIELD MEDICAL CARE**

**Battlefield medical care changed from practically nothing at the onset of the Civil War to practically everything by war's end.**

**Stretcher bearers were originally regimental band members who fled when shots were fired. Soldiers became stretcher bearers. As war progressed, stretcher bearers were incorporated into the medical corps.**

**Ambulance wagons were originally designed to transport wounded to field hospitals. We have previously discussed their total ineffectiveness.**

**Wounded were transported by trains or ships to larger hospitals located in**

**major urban areas. The North did not have official Ambulance Corps until August 1862. The Ambulance Corps were initially assigned to the Quartermaster Corps. The Quartermaster Corps was primarily responsible for delivering supplies and ammunition. Hence, ambulance wagons were commandeered for military purposes. General McClellan allowed Jonathon Letterman to establish an official ambulance corp. Ambulances were then solely responsible for removing wounded from battlefields. Medical directors chose soldiers for the medical corps. Letterman was responsible for organizational improvements within the Army of the Potomac. McClellan gave Letterman a free hand. As a result of Letterman's efforts there was a massive improvement in the overall operation and care by the Medical Service.**

**Large general hospitals, created by September 1862, were located in major urban areas. By war's end, the North had 400 hospitals with 400,000 beds. These hospitals recorded two million admissions with a mortality rate of 8%. Chimborazo, located in Richmond, Virginia, was built from tobacco crates on 40 acres. Chimborazo had five separate hospitals, each having 30 buildings, 150 wards with 40-60 patients per ward. Chimborazo treated an estimated 76,000 patients with a 9% mortality rate.**

### **COMBAT RELATED INJURIES**

**In order to properly discuss battlefield injuries, one must first recognize reporting limitations. Official reports included injured who were treated in field hospitals. This limitation definitely caused under-reporting of injuries and deaths.**

**Most injuries were caused by Minie balls. Minie balls were soft lead. They were slow moving. They flattened upon impact, causing serious wounds deeper within tissues. Bones were shattered above and below impact. Minie balls did not usually exit bodies. Clothing fragments, skin, dirt, grime and bacteria entered wounds. The majority of wounds were upper and lower extremities. Fatality rates for said wounds were low. Approximately 18% of wounds were to the abdomen. Fatalities resulted from intestinal perforation of the pre-antibiotic era.**

**Commanders rarely conducted tactics reflecting modern weaponry. Revolutionary War smooth bore muskets were accurate for 50 yards. Quick reloading and rapid firing were impossible. Newer rifled Civil War muskets were accurate up to 500 yards. They fired quickly at rates of up to three times per minute. Revolutionary War troops could charge fixed**

**entrenchments successfully. As evidenced by Picket's Charge at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Hood's Charge at Franklin, Tennessee; and Spotsylvania Court House, identical tactics during the Civil War were disastrous.**

### **SURGICAL PROCEDURES**

**Seventy-five percent of surgical procedures were amputations. An amputation took about 10-15 minutes. Of the 175,000 extremity wounds to Union soldiers, 30,000 were amputations with a 26.3% mortality rate. The further from the torso the amputation was carried out, the greater the chance for survival. As the war progressed, it was observed that mortality rates were lower for amputations completed within 24 hours than those done after 48 hours. Only one in 15 physicians was allowed to amputate. During the war, only most senior and experienced surgeons performed amputations in response to public's perception that too many amputations were being performed. Sterile techniques were not used. Lister's classic paper on antisepsis did not appear until 1867.**

**Anesthesia was introduced in the United States during the 1840s. During the Civil War, anesthesia was used over 80,000 times. Chloroform was preferred because it had quicker onset of action, light and non-flammable. Lightness led to the misconception of chloroform not being used. Only 43 anesthesia deaths were recorded.**

**Postoperative wound infections were serious problems in the pre-antibiotic era.**

**Laudable pus was thick and creamy (thought to be caused by staphylococcal infections) and associated with a better prognosis than malignant pus which was thin and bloody (thought to be caused by Group B streptococcal infection). Hospital gangrene was a peculiar type of necrotizing fasciitis first seen in larger general hospitals. It was probably caused by Group A streptococcal infection. The exact organism was unknown. Many patients with it died (45%). Treatment was to dissect away dead tissue while injecting wound margins with bromine. The treatment was done with anesthesia. The wound was packed with a bromine soaked dressing. Patients were isolated in separate tents. Separate bandage supplies were available. Nurses dressed these patients after treating others. Hands were washed in chlorinated soda between patients.**

### **NONCOMBAT RELATED DISEASES AND DEATHS**

**Overcrowded and filthy camps contributed to non-combat related deaths and illnesses. Latrines were used infrequently or were drained into drinking water supplies or not covered. Food was poorly stored, poorly cooked and lacked sufficient vitamin c to prevent scurvy. The Army of the Potomac eventually created a number of rules. Camps had to be pitched on new ground, drained with 18" deep ditches. Tents had to be struck twice weekly for drying floors. Cooking had to be done by company cooks. Refuse had to be burned daily. Soldiers had to bathe twice weekly or change clothes once a week. Latrines had to be 8' deep and covered with dirt daily**

**Few useful medications existed. Two thirds were botanicals.**

**Helpful medications included quinine for malaria, morphine, chloroform, ether and paregoric.**

**Harmful medications included Fowler's solution, containing arsenic for treating fevers and calomel (mercuric chloride) for treating diarrhea. Highly concentrated levels of mercury were excreted in saliva. The excretion led to excessive salivation, loss of teeth and gangrene in mouth and cheeks.**

**A soldier's diet consisted of fresh or pickled beef heavily salted and requiring considerable soaking prior to cooking. It was often spoiled. Salted cured pork was rancid and fatty. Coffee and hardtack were staples. Fresh fruits and vegetables were non-existent. Desiccated vegetables were available. Lack of fresh fruits and vegetables led to loss of biologic activity of vitamin c thereby causing preventable cases of scurvy. Malnutrition and dietary deficiencies led to numerous fatalities.**

**Gastrointestinal disorders were devastating. An average of 711 cases per 1,000 soldiers was recorded. This rate was considered higher in the West where sanitation was lacking. The annual mortality rate from acute diarrhea and dysentery was 3-17 per 1,000 while chronic diarrhea and dysentery was 126-162 per 1,000. Cholera outbreaks were non-existent.**

**Malaria affected 224 of 1,000 Union soldiers. Malaria was common in Arkansas and Mississippi. Quinine, as a cure, was discovered in 1861. Southern States did not have adequate quinine supplies. While the cause of malaria was unknown, it was known it could be controlled by locating camps away from stagnant water, sleeping in closed rooms or on higher ground or upper floors in buildings. Digging ditches or canals and sleeping outdoors were considered risky**

**Yellow fever was a major problem in the South, killing over 10,000 soldiers. Texas had more outbreaks than other States. Epidemics occurred during summer and autumn.**

**The Union Army experienced over 75,000 cases of typhoid fever. Typhoid fever was caused by exposure to contaminated fecal particles from flies, food and water. Typhoid fever killed 17% of affected soldiers in 1861 and 56% in 1865. Typhoid fever was common in Washington DC.**

**At least 67,000 Union soldiers contracted measles resulting in 4,000 deaths. Of 1,299 soldiers with the 12<sup>th</sup> North Carolina, 800 contracted measles. Farmers amounted to 48% of the Union Army. Rural populations had minimal immunity to childhood diseases. Epidemics plagued armies with the influx of new troops. Death rates among Blacks were almost twice that of Whites (11%-6%).**

**Even though smallpox vaccine was discovered 70 years prior to the Civil War, a large percentage of the population was not vaccinated. Smallpox affected 5.2 cases per 1,000 Whites and 35.1 per 1,000 Blacks. Cases were quarantined. A vaccine shortage caused material being aspirated from pustules of vaccinated individuals. This procedure contributed to transmission of syphilis.**

**Court martial records list over 100,000 sexual misconduct incidents. The US Surgeon General documented 183,000 cases of venereal disease. The Union Army tried a novel approach with governmental approved prostitution. Prostitution was permitted in Nashville and Memphis from 1863-1865. Expelled women with vile character were sent up river to Cincinnati only to be turned away. A post war report claimed success for sanctioned prostitution.**

**Surgeons documented problems with alcohol and sexually transmitted diseases. Both spiked when soldiers were mustered into service and again at end of the war. Blacks were drunk less than Whites: 1 in 4,500 Blacks required medical attention vs 1 in 200 for Whites. Surgeons treated approximately 73,000 Whites for venereal disease and 109,000 for gonorrhea. Statistics for Blacks were less than half than Whites. Military leadership considered prostitutes and camp followers primary reasons for alarming levels of venereal disease and as threats against military preparedness.**

## **SUMMARY**

**Civil War surgeons worked in conditions that, according to today's standards, were completely unthinkable. Doors were often used as operating tables. A lack of water, basic supplies, drugs and time plagued medical personnel. The battle of Gettysburg is a primary example. Approximately 50,000 casualties marred three days of fierce combat. Sickening results fell upon the hands of surgeons. Surgeons met their challenges. Many worked until exhaustion. With a lack of time, knowledge and basic supplies, the best bet for saving lives was dreaded amputation.**

**Civil War surgeons were not butchers, saw bones or quacks. Civil War surgeons were hard working, competent and compassionate. They became hardened by sights, sounds and smells of war. They did what was considered practical. Given medical knowledge of the time and hideous destructiveness of the Minie ball, amputation was the only resort.**

**21<sup>st</sup> century surgeons have been blessed with nuclear medicine, modern sterilized operating rooms, procedures, instruments and efficient lighting. 19<sup>th</sup> century surgeons had little with which to work. Lanterns provided lighting. Farms, school houses, homes, churches and public buildings became hospitals and operating rooms. Operating tables were flat solid surfaces such as doors, tables, pews and benches. Instruments consisted of two or three surgical saws, a curved probe, retractor, cutting pliers, clamps, brushes and trepanning instruments. Surgeons were wounded and killed. Hospital sites were located near front lines, water and wood. Surgeons quickly learned to improvise by using: pliant barks of trees as tourniquets, persimmon juice as a styptic, tenaculums made from knitting needles with sharply bent points, pen knives became scalpels and bistoury and forks with a one broken prong and one bent into a point elevated bones in depressed skull fractures**

**The Civil War brought an end to Medical Middle Ages. Bacteriology was in its infancy. Surgery was septic. Labeling Civil War surgeons in derisive terms was insulting. Surgeons were wounded and sacrificed their lives while saving lives.**

**The following sources were reviewed for this article.**

**<http://www.politifact.com/wisconsin/statements/2016/jun/29/david-clarke-jr/do-250000-americans-die-every-year-because-mistake/>**

**<http://ehistory.osu.edu/exhibitions/cwsurgeon/cwsurgeon/opinion>**



[www.CivilWarx.com](http://www.CivilWarx.com)

<http://case.edu/affil/skuyhistcontraception/online-2012/Civil-War.html>

[http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/08/17/the-minister-of-death/?\\_r=0](http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/08/17/the-minister-of-death/?_r=0)

<http://www.civilwaracademy.com/civil-war-diseases.html>

<http://ehistory.osu.edu/exhibitions/cwsurgeon/cwsurgeon/introduction>

## **CIVIL WAR MILESTONES**

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### **AUGUST**

**Aug. 5, 1864            Battle of Mobile Bay**

**Aug. 9, 1862            Battle of Cedar Mountain**

**Aug. 10, 1861            Battle of Wilson's Creek**

**Aug. 17, 1862            Uprising of Sioux Indians in Minnesota**

**Aug. 21, 1821            Gen. William Barksdale, CSA, born**

**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**

## **SHOULD CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTMENTS BE ABANDONED?**

**BY DONALD GILLILAND**

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**[http://blog.pennlive.com/gettysburg-150/2013/07/should\\_civil\\_war\\_re-enactments.html](http://blog.pennlive.com/gettysburg-150/2013/07/should_civil_war_re-enactments.html)**

***Pablo Sanchez suggested the editor use this in an issue of the Fugelman. It is an issue the editor imagines has been a topic of discussion in some locations. An editorial follows the article to add to consideration of the issues raised by this article.***

**Civil War commemorations and re-enactors are practically synonymous, but as the Gettysburg hoopla began last week, the Director of the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College said very publicly the commemoration would be better without all the men in blue and gray pretending to be soldiers.**

**On June 29, the Wall Street Journal ran a story that said, "Peter Carmichael, a professor of history at Gettysburg College, calls re-enactments an 'unfortunate distraction' from a deeper understanding of the Civil War, including the motivations of those who fought and its legacy."**

**Later that same night, Carmichael quoted himself to me at the media reception in Gettysburg sponsored by the college: "unfortunate distraction."**

**Across town, in a field of canvas dog tents next to the Pennsylvania Monument, Tom Downes told me, "A lot of guys in this camp have probably done more research than a lot of academics - they just haven't written a book: they wanted to know what kind of cartridge box was used in 1862 in Virginia."**

**Downes, 63, has been re-enacting for 33 years. He's the founder of the 8th Ohio re-enactment group and leader of the National Regiment, one of the two re-enactment organizations the National Park Service asked to do Living History demonstrations on the battlefield during the July 1-3 commemoration.**

**There's a mutual simmering resentment between historians and re-enactors. It's not a war or a battle - the hackneyed terms used for any controversy in Gettysburg - but it is a tension over who should tell the story of the war and how.**

**Call it the eggheads versus the interlopers.**

**Like any good American feud, it includes perceived differences in class, propriety, work ethic and honor.**

**The professional historians are clearly the establishment, and the re-enactors the literally unwashed masses.**

**But it's not a black and white, blue and gray kind of spat. It gets complicated.**



**Peter Carmichael, Director of the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College**

**When I spoke with Carmichael, he was particularly interested, it seemed, after I mentioned that I was embedded with re-enactors camped on the battlefield and had participated in re-enactments during the preceding year in preparation for Gettysburg.**

**Carmichael told me he had once been a re-enactor himself.**

**I didn't ask if he grew out of it or followed a 12-step program; his question to me - didn't I find most of the re-enactors to be blue collar? - suggested other factors were at play.**

**I told him in my year of re-enacting the thing that has struck me most was the variety of people involved in the hobby: I have met architects, insurance adjusters, congressional staffers, delivery men, computer specialists, members of the military (both active and retired), professional artists, college librarians, retired coal miners, law clerks, engineers, high school teachers, a state government cabinet secretary and the Policy Director for NASA.**



**[After Gettysburg, is there a future for Civil War re-enacting?](#)**

**Everyone knew someone, it seemed, for whom Gettysburg would be the last re-enactment.**

**I asked Downes. He told me that in the 8th Ohio, he has had "two multi-millionaires as members of the unit and five military officers in various branches. One today is a retired judge, and was an active judge when he**

**joined. I've got truck drivers and loading dock supervisors. A rarity are teachers: I've got one. There are three PhDs in my company."**

**Two of the PhDs were there doing Living History: an economist and an historian.**

**The historian was Bradley Keefer, a tenured professor at Kent State, who said, "re-enactors are generally looked down on and not taken seriously" - except when it comes to battlefield preservation.**

**But Carmichael's condemnation was not universal: he told both the Wall Street Journal reporter and me that living history encampments, like the one Downes was leading on the battlefield, were preferable to re-enactments. "They do a good job," he said.**

**But better yet, the best thing people can do - "All you need to do," he said - is spend the day on the battlefield with a certified guide.**

**That's the hierarchy of respectability outside the lecture hall.**

**But the National Park Service invites re-enactors to the battlefield regularly to present Living History demonstrations; it's something of a badge of honor among re-enactment groups that they are "good enough" to be invited.**

**Re-enactors clearly have value of some sort. A Park Ranger told members of the National Regiment the 150th commemoration couldn't have been done without them.**

**After I participated in the National Regiment's appearance at the commemoration of Pickett's charge on Tuesday and as I was walking to my truck in full uniform with my musket, a gray-haired man came up to me and said "Thank You" in the earnest tone I've heard people use with active duty servicemen. It unsettled and embarrassed me because there's not even a remote equivalence. Perhaps - I hope - he didn't intend one. But the earnestness of that "Thank You" was more than the proof I needed that visitors to the battlefield like to see re-enactors.**

**And that's really the rub.**

**The spectator stands for the battle re-enactment that continues today and tomorrow came to Gettysburg straight from the U.S. Open. They're massive. They have to be. Roughly 40,000 people are expected to visit the re-enactment over its four-day schedule. That's as many people as visited the battlefield for the official commemoration of Pickett's charge on Tuesday.**



**Gettysburg is a character issue for black re-enactor**

**No black units fought at Gettysburg, but thousands of blacks on both sides shared their armies' hardships during the battle.**

**From Carmichael's perspective, big battle re-enactments like this weekend's attract people who would be better served, he thinks, learning real history on the battlefield itself, spending the money they'd otherwise drop at the re-enactment on a licensed battlefield guide to be properly instructed in history.**

**I'm not sure the two are exclusive, but the historians sense there's a competition for people's time and minds.**

**If there were no re-enactments, people would have to go to the battlefield and do it the right way.**



**Tom Downes, right, has been re-enacting for 33 years and leads the National Regiment.**

**But even Downes is uneasy with at least one aspect of re-enactments: the media coverage which creates the image of re-enactors.**

**"The media always focuses on the yahoos and goons - the ones with crossed bandoleros and feathers in their hat," he said.**

**Or the many Robert E. Lees.**

**One doesn't join a re-enactment group and decide he's going to be a general. Those people - the impersonators - tend to operate alone, or soon find themselves alone.**

**Most serious re-enactors start as simple common soldiers, and many never do anything but.**

**Downes described his "meteoric 25 year rise" to the rank of colonel. "Our philosophy has always been: Are you a good private? That's what we judge you by."**

**It's not about glory and attention, but something much different.**

**Carmichael questions the propriety - when the country is in the midst of war - of turning war into "a spectator sport."**

**War as entertainment may be distasteful to many, but given the fact the "Call of Duty" video game - just one of many featuring explicit and realistic World War II shooting scenarios - sold 6 million units in one month after its release in 2009, Civil War re-enactment is a small drop in that bucket.**

**While battle re-enactments may be of limited value to the spectators, they are important to re-enactors and sustain the Living History demonstrations valued by the Park Service and its visitors.**

**Generally, those who are good enough to do Living History for the National Park Service got that way by going to lots of battle re-enactments.**

**One of the reasons Downes group was invited to do Living History is they are very good at Civil War military drill - how the groups of soldiers moved from point A to point B.**

**Downes likes drill; he learned it not only from books but from doing it with older re-enactors who had become really good at it.**

**They practiced at re-enactments.**

**Downes said the experience of re-enacting colors and enlivens his reading of history and vice-versa. He has read letters and accounts written by men who served and sometimes could immediately relate to what they were describing, and at other times, he'd be on a re-enactment field and see something happen and realize that's what he'd read about.**

**Re-enactors generally have a deep interest in the history of the Civil War, read extensively about it, often do original research and enjoy re-enacting because it helps them better understand the reality of the common soldier.**

**Re-enactors don't pretend to be professional historians, and don't try to compete with them, but they do bridle at the condescension they sometimes receive from the Ivory Tower. Some of the professional historians, they suspect, wouldn't know Left Wheel from Shoulder-Arms.**

**In my experience, most enjoy sharing what they know with others, and they don't hesitate to acknowledge when they don't know.**



**And part of their appeal to the public, I think, is the fact they aren't professors and are both more accessible and approachable.**

**Downes said he believes there are three dimensions to popular history: reading a book, going to battlefields and museums; and re-enacting.**

**"What brings history into third dimension is re-enacting," he said: "wear the clothes, eat the food, experience the conditions."**

**I've experienced the conditions, and they are anything but comfortable. I've nearly frozen at Antietam in mid-September, laying on the cold, hard ground under the stars in nothing but my uniform and a wool blanket. I've marched in uncomfortable shoes until my feet were numb. I've mucked about through mud the color and consistency of pig excrement at Shiloh. I've drank bad coffee, eaten hardtack and gone hungry.**

**As I lay in my tent on the battlefield at Gettysburg earlier this week, damp and back aching, I wondered why these men do it. Really.**

**I watched several of them crawl from their tents at Chancellorsville, gripping their backs and groaning in pain. I saw a guy whack his hand with an axe, and come back from the hospital and continue re-enacting with a bandaged hand. I saw a man who has to sleep with an air pump and mask for his sleep apnea bring it to camp camouflaged in a period-appropriate wooden ammunition crate.**

**And they aren't crazy, most of them.**

**Ask them why they do it, and most say it's for the fun.**

**Even Downes says, "I take the hobby seriously, but not too seriously."**

**There is a campfire camaraderie among men - and women - who share a deep interest in history, a sometimes silly hobby and an agreement not to discuss politics or religion. They share war stories - both real and re-enacted.**

**And yet they suffer doing it.**

**And that suffering was perhaps the key, I thought, as I lay there in the tent.**

**It reminded me of the hermit saints of the middle ages who deprived themselves to step closer to and honor God.**

**In some odd, unspoken way, it seemed like the re-enactors' suffering - though not religious - was an homage to the men who fought and died in the Civil War.**

**So I asked Downes if there was something to that or if I was just a nutter.**

**There's something to it, he agreed.**

**"It's the old boys we do this for, and it's the old boys who were here."**

**That kind of participatory history simply can't be found with a licensed guide on the battlefield.**



### **After Gettysburg, is there a future for Civil War re-enacting?**

**Everyone knew someone, it seemed, for whom Gettysburg would be the last re-enactment.**

## **EDITORIAL**

**This is a question that deserves some consideration. In the Editor's view it really is a question of one's perspective and not a legitimate challenge to reenactors. Dr. Carmichael is an academic who has written extensively on the Civil War. As an academic myself, the editor knows that academicians bring an expertise to the history of whatever**

**period they focus on. Their job is to ferret out sources and bring perspective to analysis of what the sources may suggest. Historians write books that delve into all aspects of the civil war era. They (if they are lucky) go into the classroom to teach budding historians about the people and times of the civil war and the process for those who will write and teach the history of this era. Over and above those elements they will inform those who have a passionate relationship with the civil war. The general public will read the books professional historians write and they will learn from them.**

**Professional historians write books on personalities, battles, politics and social mores of the time. This is an important role. This editor reads a civil war book every two weeks. The editor has his favorite writers. Harold Holzer, James McPherson, Gary Gallagher, Stephen Sears, are among the very best. These writers inform my views and provide new perspectives on this period of history. This experience surely reflects your own journeys. Surely everyone can agree this is an important and necessary role. But it is also a limited role. The audience for professional historians is really somewhat limited. This editor doesn't want to get ahead of himself here, but the audience for these books and lectures grows when folks come into contact with reenactors and discover their interest in the civil war.**

**There was also a discussion of the role of battlefield guides. Here I want to use some care. I have never used a battlefield guide although I have watched video of these folks at work. They are a remarkable asset on the battlefields of the civil war. Their knowledge of the fields of glory and the units that fought on them is second to none! These men and women are a cross breed, however. They are professional historians with the knowledge and experiences gained from years of study and research. But they are also somewhat akin to reenactors who have a first-hand knowledge developed over the years. Some of that knowledge comes from interactions with reenactors. But their field of endeavor is also limited. They deal very effectively with guests who travel to these battlefields, but that is also a limited audience.**

**As the editor turns his attention to reenactors, it is important to state that all these various parts are important to the advancement of the study of the civil war and expanding the audience for this period of history. Each part fills a unique niche in civil war education and experiences.**

**Reenactors have a special status and role in this whole debate. The editor feels it is necessary to note that at events in the past he has heard a great deal of misinformation shared during interaction with the public. Facts concerning battles, the causes of the war, people and leaders, and**

**other details are wrongly shared. Everyone has heard some rebel reenactor tell spectators that slavery had no role in causing the war or that thousands of black troops fought for the rebellion. These are not matters of perspective or analysis. They are just wrong. Documentary evidence is clear on these points! The editor has heard people misrepresent the facts about McClellan, Grant, Lincoln and Sherman, among others. We do need to do a better job of developing our own expertise and one must say we all learn and get better at this as time passes. It is also important to work on our personal impressions at events to maintain as much accuracy as possible. This is the real import of what we do as reenactors!**

**The editor can't speak for our civilian contingents as he has little contact with them. I am sure they too struggle to make sure the information they pass on to visitors is accurate and that their impressions are as close to reality and accuracy as possible.**

**With that said, there is much to recommend the roles played by reenactors in communicating the history of the civil war era. This is not to say they replace professional historians. The information developed by experienced researchers informs us in important ways. However, nothing expands the reach of creating interest in the civil war like the experiences for people who attend a civil war event. Reenactors and their camps are in effect museums on the hoof! The weapons, the gear, the uniforms, the accoutrements, the tentage, the foods, and the conduct of the troops in the field are the same things one might see in a museum. But one can touch these items and see them in use. This is something one misses in a museum setting. Reenactors should provide the smells and sounds of authentic soldiers on campaign. That is our task and our goal at events. This is missing from museums and books.**

**The men (especially those of the Second Wisconsin) perform drills. Some do so with great precision and expertise. Battles are conducted with the sound and fury of combat demonstrated to members of the public in a way that a book can't convey. As a young man the editor read battle studies but was unsure of what a wheel was or a march by the right flank. The biggest thrill for this editor when he became a reenactor was to learn what a wheel was and how one should be executed. That same knowledge is something the reenactors convey to their audiences. This enhances the work of the professional historian and battlefield interpreter as nothing else can!**

**It is a fact that reenactors provide context to those who are interested in the civil war. One can see, hear and smell the war. If a visitor has little, or no, understanding or concern about the history of the period events like those we attend can spark that interest or build on an existing**

**foundation. Some folks who attend civil war events are knowledgeable about the history, others may have a passing knowledge of the war and its history, while others know very little about the period when America was locked in a life and death struggle to maintain itself. Before anyone buys a civil war book or travels to a civil war battlefield they have to have been introduced to the story of the war. Many experience that for the first time at a civil war event.**

**The editor will make one last point. As reenactors we tell people about the life of the soldier on campaign and in the camps. But the civilian soldiers of the period from 1861 to 1865 (especially in the North) were well educated and literate. They understood the issues of their day and discussed them openly among themselves and in letters home. We need to educate ourselves on much more than what we eat, how we dress, how we drill, and how we fight. Issues such as emancipation, voting for soldiers far from home, issues of peace, questions about political and military leaders, and the reasons why a soldier shouldered a rifled musket were and are important. We need to make sure we represent the entire soldier of the period and that means we need to understand what they believed and fought for. We must convey those ideas to those who visit our camps.**

**Reenactors are a remarkable group of men and women! The dedication and time devoted to this hobby is unbelievable. Everyone does an incredible job and you should take enormous pride in your achievements. We are like a huge family with a common interest. And finally, despite some tension among professional historians, they rely on the interest we create. There are three ways people become aware of civil war history. First and most effective are movies. Second is attendance at civil war reenactments. Finally there are presentations by reenactors in the public arena. Let us determine to continue to grow in the hobby and to keep alive the soldiers we admire and represent in the field!**



**FIFTEEN MONTHS IN DIXIE,**

**OR**

**MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE  
IN REBEL PRISONS.**

**BY W. W. DAY.**

**CHAPTER VII.**

## **WINDER AND WIRZ.**

**"Lady Anne. Foul devil, for God's sake hence, and trouble us not;  
For thou hast made the happy earth thy hell,  
Filled it with cursing cries, and deep exclaims.  
If thou delight to view thy heinous deeds,  
Behold this pattern of thy butcheries."**

**—King Richard, III.**

**Shakspeare.**

**The man who had charge of the prison at Andersonville, and who was responsible for the barbarities practiced there, more than any other man, was Gen. John H. Winder.**

**I had not the honor(?) of a personal acquaintance with that fiend in human shape, but Comrade John McElroy of the 16 Illinois Cavalry, the author of "Andersonville," gives his readers a description of the man. I quote from that work.**

**"There rode in among us, a few days after our arrival, an old man whose collar bore the wreathed stars of a Major General. Heavy white locks fell from beneath his slouched hat, nearly to shoulders. Sunken**

**gray eyes too dull and cold to light up, marked a hard, stony face, the salient features of which was a thin lipped, compressed mouth, with corners drawn down deeply—the mouth which seems the world over to be the index of selfish, cruel, sulky malignance. It is such a mouth as has the school boy—the coward of the play ground, who delights in pulling off the wings of flies. It is such a mouth as we can imagine some remorseless inquisitor to have had—that is, not an inquisitor filled with holy zeal for what he mistakenly thought the cause of Christ demanded, but a spleeny, envious, rancorous shaveling, who tortured men from hatred of their superiority to him, and sheer love of inflicting pain.**

**The rider was John H. Winder, Commissary General of Prisoners, Baltimorean renegade and the malign genius to whose account should be charged the deaths of more gallant men than the inquisitors of the world ever slew by the less dreadful rack and wheel. It was he who in August could point to three thousand and eighty-one new made graves for that month, and exultingly tell his hearer that he was “doing more for the Confederacy than twenty regiments.”**

**His lineage was in accordance with his character. His father was that General William H. Winder, whose poltroonery at Bladensburg, in 1814 nullified the resistance of the gallant Commodore Barney, and gave Washington to the British.**



**The father was a coward and incompetent; the son, always cautiously distant from the scene of hostilities, was the tormentor of those whom fortunes of war and the arms of brave men threw into his hands.”**

**Of his personal appearance I have no recollection, but the above is a true picture of his character. He filled a place in the Confederacy which no brave officer of equal rank would have accepted. Hill, Longstreet, Early, Polk, Hardee, even Forrest and Mosby would have spurned with contempt an offer of assignment to the position occupied by the cowardly John H. Winder.**

**Of Captain Henry Wirz I can write of my own knowledge. In personal appearance he was about five feet nine or ten inches in height, slightly built with stooping shoulders. He had a small peaked head, small twinkling eyes, grisly, frowsy whiskers, and the general contour of his features and expression of eyes reminded one of a rodent.**

**In character he was pusillanimous, vindictive, mean and irritable to those beneath him, or who had the misfortune to be in his power; while to his superiors he was humble and cringing, an Uriah Heep; a person who would “Crook the pregnant hinges of his knee, that thrift might follow fawning.”**

**As a specimen of the contemptible meanness of these two persons, I was told by a prisoner who attempted to escape, but was recaptured and put**

**in the stocks, that while at their head-quarters he saw a large dry-goods box nearly full of letters written by prisoners to their friends; and by friends to them, which had accumulated, and which they had neglected to forward or distribute. The paper upon which some of these letters was written, and the envelope in which it was enclosed had cost the prisoner, perhaps, his last cent of money, or mouthful of food. The failure to receive those letters had deprived many a mother or wife of the last chance to hear from a loved one, or a prisoner of his last chance to hear from those he loved more than life itself.**

**Wirz was Commandant of the inner prison and in this capacity, had charge of calling the roll, organization of prisoners, issuing rations, the sanitary condition of the prison, the punishment of prisoners; in fact the complete control of the inner prison.**

**Winder had control of all the guards, could control the amount of rations to be issued, make the rules and regulations of the prison, and had, in fact, complete control of the whole economy of the prison; all men and officers connected therewith being subordinate to him.**

**Wirz' favorite punishment for infringement of prison rules, was the chain-gang, and stocks. Sometimes twelve or fifteen men were fastened together by shackles attached to a long chain. These unfortunate men were left to broil in a semi-tropical sun, or left to shiver in the dews and pelting rains, without shelter as long as Wirz' caprice or malignity**

**lasted. The stocks were usually for punishment of the more flagrant offenses, or when Wirz was in his worst humor.**

**Just below my tent, two members of a New York regiment put up a little shelter. They always lay in their tent during the day, but at night one might see a few men marching away from their “shack” carrying haversacks full of dirt, and emptying them along the edge of the swamp. One morning the tent was gone, and a hole in the ground marked the spot, and told the tale of their route, which was underground through a tunnel. About 8 o’clock in the morning Wirz came in accompanied by a squad of soldiers, and a gang of negroes armed with shovels, who began to dig up the tunnel. I went to Wirz and asked him what was up. He was always ready to “blow” when he thought he could scare anybody, so he replied, “By Gott, tem tanned Yanks has got oudt alrety, but nefer mints, I prings tem pack all derights; I haf sent te ploothounts after dem. I tell you vat I does, I gifs any Yank swoluf hours de shtart, undt oaf he gits away, all deright; put oaf I catches him I gif him hell.” Some one offered to take the chances. “Allderights.” said he, “you come to de nort cate in der mornick undt I lets you co.”**

**The next day we heard that the blood-hounds had found the trail of the escaped prisoners, but that all but one had been foiled by cayenne pepper, and that one, was found dead with a bullet hole in his head. We never heard from our New York friends and infer that that they got to “God’s Country.”**

**Many attempts were made to tunnel out that summer, but so far as I know that was the only successful one. All sorts of ways were resorted to, the favorite way being to start a well and dig down ten or twelve feet, then start a tunnel in it near the surface of the ground. By this means the fresh dirt would be accounted for, as well digging was within the limits of the prison rules. But before the "gopher-hole," as the tunnels were called by the western boys, was far advanced, a gang of negroes appeared upon the scene and dug it up. We always believed there were spies among us. Some thought the spies were some of our own men who were playing traitor to curry favor with Wirz. Others believed Wirz kept rebel spies among us. I incline to the former opinion.**

**Among those who were suspected was a one-legged soldier named Hubbard. He hailed from Chicago and was a perfect pest. He was quarrelsome and impudent and would say things that a sound man would have got a broken head for saying. His squawking querulous tones, and hooked nose secured for him the name of "Poll Parrott." He was a sort of privileged character, being allowed to go outside, which caused many to believe he was in league with Wirz, though I believe there was no direct proof of it. One day he came to where I was cooking my grub and wanted me to take him in. He said all his comrades were down on him and called him a spy, and he could not stand it with them. As a further inducement he said he could go out when he had a mind, and get wood and extra rations, which**

he would divide with me. I consulted my “pard” and we agreed to take him in. He then asked me to cook him some dinner, and gave me his frying-pan and some meat. While I was cooking his dinner he commenced finding fault with me, upon which I suggested that he had better do his own cooking. He then showered upon my devoted head some of the choicest epithets found in the Billingsgate dialect, he raved and swore like a mad-man. I was pretty good natured naturally, and besides I pitied the poor unfortunate fellow, but this presuming on my good nature a little too much, I fired his frying-pan at his head and told him to “get”; and he “got.”

Two days afterwards he went under the Dead-line and began to abuse the guard, a member of an Alabama regiment, who ordered him to go back, or he would shoot him. “Poll” then opened on the guard in about the same style as he had on me, winding up by daring the guard to fire. This was too much and the guard fired a plunging shot, the ball striking him in the chin and passing down into his body, killing him instantly.

A few days before this, a “fresh fish,” or “tender foot,” as the cow boys would call him nowadays, started to cross the swamp south of my tent. In one place in the softest part of the swamp the railing which composed the Dead-line was gone, this man stepped over where the line should have been, and the guard fired at him but he fired too high and missed his mark, but the bullet struck an Ohio man who was sitting in front of a tent near mine. He was badly, but not fatally wounded, but

**died in a few days from the effects of gangrene in his wound.**

**The author of "Andersonville" makes a wide distinction between the members of the 29th Alabama and the 55th Georgia regiments, which guarded us, in relation to treatment of prisoners, claiming that Alabama troops were more humane than the Georgia "crackers." This was undoubtedly true in this instance, but I am of the opinion that state lines had nothing to do with the matter.**

**The 29th Alabama was an old regiment and had been to the front and seen war, had fired at Yankees, and had been fired at by Yankees in return; they had no need to shoot defenseless prisoners in order to establish the enviable reputation of having killed a "damned Yank;" while the 55th Georgia was a new regiment, or at least one which had not faced the music of bullets and shells on the field of battle, they had a reputation to make yet, and they made one as guards at Andersonville, but the devil himself would not be proud of it, while the 5th Georgia Home Guards, another regiment of guards, was worse than the 55th.**

**In making up the 5th Geo. H. G. the officers had "robbed the cradle and the grave," as one of my comrades facetiously remarked.**

**Old men with long white locks and beards, with palsied, trembling limbs, vied with boys, who could not look into the muzzles of their guns when they stood on the ground, who were just out of the sugar pap and**

**swaddling clothes period of their existence, in killing a Yank. It was currently reported that they received a thirty days furlough for every prisoner they shot; besides the distinguished "honah."**

**In marked contrast with these two Georgia regiments was the 5th Georgia regulars. This regiment guarded us at Charleston, S. C., the following September, and during our three weeks stay at that place I have no recollection of the guards firing on us, although we were camped in an open field with nothing to prevent our escape but sickness, starvation, and a thin line of guards of the 5th Ga. regulars. But this regiment too had seen service at the front. They had been on the Perryville Campaign, had stood opposed to my regiment at the battle of Perryville and had received the concentrated volleys of Simonson's battery and the 10th Wisconsin Infantry, and in return had placed 146 of my comrades HORSE**

**COMBAT. They had fought at Murfreesboro and Chickamauga, at Lookout and**

**Missionary Ridge and had seen grim visaged war in front of Sherman's steadily advancing columns in the Atlanta campaign. Surely they had secured a record without needlessly shooting helpless prisoners.**

**I believe all ex-prisoners will agree with me, that FIGHTING regiments furnished humane guards.**

**For the purpose of tracking escaped prisoners, an aggregate of seventy blood-hounds were kept at Andersonville. They were run in packs of five**

**or six, unless a number of prisoners had escaped, in which case a larger number were used. They were in charge of a genuine “nigger driver” whose delight it was to follow their loud baying, as they tracked fugitive negroes, or escaped Yanks through the forests and swamps of southern Georgia.**

**These blood-hounds were trained to track human beings, and with their keen scent they held to the track as steadily, relentlessly as death itself; and woe betide the fugitive when overtaken, they tore and lacerated him with the blood-thirsty fierceness of a Numidian lion.**

**These willing beasts and more willing guards were efficient factors in the hands of Winder and Wirz in keeping in subjection the prisoners entrusted to their care. But these are outside forces. Within the wooden walls of that prison were more subtle and enervating forces at work than Georgia militia or fierce blood-hound.**

**Diarrhea, scurvy and its concomitant, gangrene, the result of insufficient and unsuitable food and the crowded and filthy state of the prison, were doing their deadly work, swiftly, surely and relentlessly.**