



PVT. LUCIUS L. MITCHELL CAMP 4

March 2016

Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War



A Message From the Commander

Last month I reprinted a letter that had appeared in a Cork, Ireland newspaper shortly after my Great Uncle Mike's death in Cork in September of 1910. It had been written from his home in Washington D.C. a few months earlier. Just a brief bit of general comment about the letter and the man. He was a letter writer as many people of that age were. He seems to have kept in contact with his family. It was not his purpose to talk too much about his public life but more about events that had touched his heart and the things he loved. He was very sentimental about his childhood in Ireland and felt that almost all of his life in the United States had been good. As you think about the times he lived in, he had somehow overcome many traps and snares. Will something of value be learned from talking about his life?

Fond memories of an Irish childhood are mentioned, names are remembered also with fondness. Perhaps old memory is selective but the bad times don't seem to be worthy of being talked about. This Urell family left Ireland in 1853. Education seemed to be encouraged by the family. I believe that the Christian brothers educated him in Ireland and then

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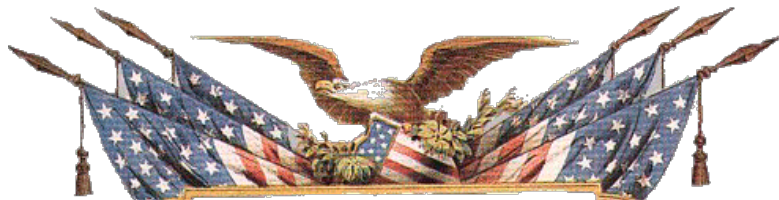
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MARCH CAMP MEETING

SATURDAY March 5, 2016

1 PM

St. Cloud Community Center

716 Indiana Avenue

St. Cloud, FL 34769

Meeting snapshots

Brother officers Commander Urell, Secretary/Treasurer Whitlam, and Chaplain McCracken



Officers 2016 - 2017

Camp Commander : *Michael Urell*

SVC: *Connie Landry*

JVC: *Timothy Wiff*

Secretary : *Claire D. "Skip" Whitlam*

Treasurer : *Claire D. "Skip" Whitlam*

Council 1: *Ronnie G. McCracken*

Council 2: *Roger L. Heiple*

Council 3: *James G. Ward*

Patriotic Instructor : *Roger Heiple*

Chaplain : *Ronnie G. McCracken*

Graves & Memorials : *Ronnie G. McCracken*

Historian: *unseated*

Eagle Scout Coordinator : *Unassigned*

Signals Officer: *Claire D. "Skip" Whitlam*

JROTC contact: *Michael Urell*

Guide: *Pending*

Editor
Steve Williams
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Instructor Heiple showing his copy of the 1892 GAR Encampment program pamphlet. Next page has his collection of ribbons and medals from that encampment.



Book Report

Marching Home-union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War

BY BRIAN MATTHEW JORDAN

I have read about the battles. I have seen many movies and documentaries that have tried to capture the feelings of the common soldier. Letters can be read, terrible maladies described or actors can present the many dramas of living in wartime. Maybe I have some knowledge of the wartime lives of this generation. But I am certain that I have a poor understanding of what the lives of these men were like after the war.

In poetry Walt Whitman described the suffering of the widow, the orphan and the comrade of the soldiers that did not return from the war. It was a time period when early death and mourning were common but still the suffering, the emptiness.

Again poetry, this time Homer in the “Odyssey” talks of the people “thronging and gazing in wonder at the seasoned man of war.” That description could have described the “Grand Review” by the armies of the Union after the Civil War. The throngs were there and so were the seasoned men of war. The author pointed out that the Treasury Department had hung out a large banner with gold letters that said “THE ONLY DEBT WE CAN’T REPAY IS OUR DEBT TO YOU.” One of the main points that the book makes is that while the non-vet admired the bravery and sacrifices, pitied the amputee, but had little understanding of the mental toll of the war. America struggled and often failed to pay this debt.

Many of the amputees felt that their loss had given them cultural and political power. I had read elsewhere of a one-armed veteran who would wave his stump and say “when this stump grows back” if someone spoke of reconciliation with the South. A philanthropist held a handwriting contest for amputees and the fervency of their writings is inspiring.

Still another sub-group of the veterans was the ex-prisoners of war. The professor and writer David Blight stated that that no wartime experience had “caused deeper emotions, recriminations and lasting invective than that of prisons.” Ohioan and St. Cloud, Florida land agent John McElroy felt that the loyal youths who had died in prison camps had been little heard of. Another survivor felt that the people of the North had forgotten all about what the boys suffered during the war.

The soldier’s homes, the ravages of alcohol abuse and the fight for pensions are discussed. I have learned so much about the lives of these veterans. I’ve also been introduced to literature, art and poetry of the period that I will further explore.

In the last chapter of the book the inevitable decline in numbers and the final death in 1956 unfolds. As the final few paraded parents would hold their children up and tell them they were seeing something special and they should remember these old veterans.

Good advice.



Minutes of Camp No. Camp Meeting January 09, 2016

St. Cloud, Community Building
701 Indiana Ave.
St. Cloud, FL 34769

OPENING CEREMONIES: At 1:10 pm Commander Urell opened the meeting with the Recitals and asked Chaplain McCracken to give the opening prayer.

Chaplain McCracken, read from the bible and, gave the opening prayer.

Cmdr Urell asked camp to stand for the reciting of the American Creed, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cmdr. Urell asked the Junior Vice Cmdr with assistance to drape the Camp's Charter in mourning for Brother Charles Custer who was called to final muster December 17th 2015.

Cmdr. Urell asked Secretary Whitlam to review the Record of Brother Custer and the offices he held while a member of our Order. The camp held a thirty seconds of silence in his memory.

Chaplain McCracken informed the camp of Brother Custer's good wife Bonnie, who is still in the rehab facility and his contact person was going to provide him with the address of the facility should any camp member wish to visit and comfort her.

Cmdr. Urell asked Dept. Cmdr. Reeves to rise and be welcomed by the Camp and so done.

Roll call of the Officers, all were present with the exception of SVCmdr Connie Landry.

Cmdr. Urell call for a reading of the minutes of the December Meeting.

Brother McCracken called for a correction on the minutes regarding the color of the camp meeting attire it should read blue, not black or blue, the minutes will be so amended. Chaplain McCracken also asked that we amend the minutes that not reflect anything regarding mention of Brother Creswell's health being a factor as to when we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of L. L. Mitchell Camp. So amended.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes and accepted unanimously.

Cmdr. Urell call for the Treasurers report:

Treasurer Whitlam gave the report.

Cmdr. Urell commented that his donation in December was encouraged by the late Brothers donation the previous month and if possible for other members on occasion to make some charitable donation to supplement fund raising. He also stated that he was reaching out to the "Wreaths Across America" to determine how we could participate in that endeavor and raise some funds. A motion was made and seconded the report was accepted unanimously.

Commander Urell, then gave me his check for annual dues and Brother McCracken paid his in cash.

Commander Urell, expressed the conditions of paying your dues prior to May, if not you would be required to paying a re-instatement fee in addition to the annual dues.

Cmdr. Urell called for Chaplain's report of members in need.

Chaplain McCracken restated late Brother Custer's wife Bonnie and her condition and Brother Criswell's breathing problem has prevented him from being there today. He also stated that he was not aware of the particulars regarding Brother Humker. Council Ward added that he had seen him and he is recovering.

Cmdr. Urell commented on the fact that he had ordered three of the GAR t-shirts.

Council Ward commented regarding his experience when wearing a shirt which had SUVCW printed on it that he had been given, and a member at National question him regarding where he purchased it from. National Officers are concerned when items referring to the Son's are produced by outside concerns. The SUVCW is the heir apparent to the GAR and caution should be observed.

Cmdr. Urell reported that he would be attending a meeting on the 18th of January in Sorrento regarding the tomb stone for Anthony Frazier.

He also reported on the Event at Mt. Peace Cemetery for "Wreaths Across America", as one of the best proceeding he had ever seen. Crediting, Cyndi Hoover, with the American Legion.

Cmdr also exhorted members to be more involved with ROTC and Eagle Scout awards. Council Ward noted that ROTC Award are now free of charge.

Cmdr. Also reported on his determination to work on just what we present in public meetings and report on GAR and the Sons and what we are all about.



Meeting Schedule

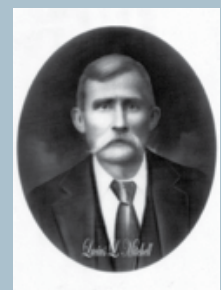
March 5, 2016
at 1 p.m.

April 2, 2016
at 1 p.m.

July 9, 2016
at 1 p.m.

Our meeting schedule is six consecutive months between November through April meeting on the first Saturday of every month except in January, then we will meet on the second Saturday. At 1:00 PM.

Community Center - 702 Indiana Ave in St. Cloud.



Wreaths Across America

Their mission, Remember, Honor, Teach, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath laying ceremonies on a specified Saturday in December at Arlington, as well as veterans cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond. They also organize a week of events including international veteran's tributes, ceremonies at State Houses and a week-long "Veteran's Parade" between Maine and Virginia where we stop along the way to spread a message about the importance of remembering our fallen heroes, honoring those who serve, and teaching our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms.

What is Wreaths Across America?

501(c)3 non-profit organization formed in 2007 as an extension of The Arlington Wreath Project, with over 700 participating locations in all 50 states, and 24 national veteran cemeteries on foreign soil.

What began in 1992 with a trailer load of wreaths, decorated by volunteers and laid at the graves of fallen soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery has now become a national organization with over 900 participating locations - all focused on the mission to Remember - Honor - and Teach.

Wreaths Across America™ wreath sponsorships are \$15 per wreath. Funds are collected by each participating group. \$5 of each \$15 will be returned to the registered fundraising group on a 30 day reimbursement cycle.

Our Camp is registered for the Mt Peace Cemetery.



Chaplain McCracken, reported of his work on graves registration and encourage camp member to assist him in the tasks that Dept. Cmdr. Reeves has call us to answer to. He hopes to add the 35 new members and review information on the tombstones to get deeper into research. He will be working with Larissa Roderick and also Kissimmee, Rose Hill cemetery also has seventeen Union Soldiers there. He would also work on the Orange County Cemetery. DC Reeves advised according to his list Camp 1 is the only camp that does not have a graves registration officer.

Council Ward asked to be recognized. Regarding the changes in the Department By-Laws, he would prefer that all of the Camps review the changes and be prepared to simply report when the subject comes up at the Department meeting a call to accept the by-laws changes as written and not try to re-write the bylaws and the Encampment. He made a motion that be it resolved that Camp L. L. Mitchell accept the revision of the Dept. By-Law dated January 6th, 2016. Cmdr. Urell asked for discussion. No discussion. A vote was called and for and passed unanimously.

Under New business:

Cmdr. Urell requests that Brother Iliff has access to the webpage to make changes in taking over as Camp Webmaster.

Also the Daughter of Union Veterans are meeting at the Fisk Room in the St. Cloud, Public Library on the 16th and we are invited to attended there meeting.

Aric Buggerworth has agreed to add the Sons to his face book page.

Roger Heiple asked to be recognized: Roger reports on the 16th, the Woman's Club is going to have a collectors Day, for various collectors in the City and he agreed to have a display from 11 to 3 PM. In the city building, adjacent to the Museum. Roger added that there were some 4,000 veterans living in St. Cloud, but 80 to 90 percent of them when they passed away their bodies were sent back to the state of origin.

Brother Ward, mentioned regarding the collectors, that there is a Brother in Camp 3, who has quite a collection of Civil War items and he realizes that his children do not have the interest in them and he is wondering what to do with his collection. Brother Heiple said he would be glad to contact him.

Cmdr. Urell called for the installation of officers for 2015-2016 and summoned Dept. Cmdr. Reeves to take over the meeting, and yielded the podium to Cmdr. Reeves.

Cmdr. Reeves asked Secretary Whitlam to call to the front Officers to be installed: so done.

Dept. Cmdr. Reeves asked for the Chaplin's prayer and assistance in the installation.

Dept. Cmdr. Reeves read the charges to Camp Cmdr. Elect Urell. Cmdr. Reeves then proceed with the Installation ceremony.

Dept. Cmdr. Reeves, returned the meeting to Camp Cmdr. Urell.

Patriotic Instructor Heiple gave a presentation on B. F. Stephenson's GAR memorabilia, and the establishment of the GAR and its development in the early years.

Chaplin McCracken spoke of Lucius L. Mitchell Camp 4, and it's 20 years of existence and over the years he has collected many pictures of events and developments of our presence in St. Cloud, he invited everyone to come and have a look see. He gave a progression of our membership and dealings with our members.

Cmdr. Urell asked Chaplain McCracken to deliver the closing prayer.

The meeting was declared closed.

The next meeting will be February 6th.

Members were invited to have some cake and soda and socialize.

Submitted by:

Clair D. Whitlam, Sec. Camp 4 Lucius L. Mitchell

Attested to by:

Michael E. Urell, Commander

March in the Civil War

1861 - Throughout much of March forts on Texas were either abandoned by Federal forces or were seized by Texas troops. **March 2** Texas admitted to the Confederacy. **March 4** Lincoln Inaugurated; new cabinet decided upon; Confederate Committee On The Confederate Flag reported to their congress and the first Stars and Bars flown over the Montgomery AL state Capitol. **March 11** Confederate Congress unanimously adopted the Constitution of the Confederacy. **March 18** Sam Houston Governor of Texas refused to take oath of allegiance to the Confederacy and left office. **March 18 - 29** Discussions continued between the Federal government and South Carolina pertaining to the disposition of Ft Sumter.



1862 - **Mar 1.** Gen'l Grant ordered up Tennessee River to Ft Henry. President Davis ordered Martial Law in Richmond to arrest northern sympathizers. **March 2** Confederates invade NM. **March 6** Action begins at Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern)AR. USS Monitor leaves NY for Ft Monroe VA to confront the CSS Merrimack (Virginia). **March 7** Battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern). **March 8** CSS Merrimack (Virginia) destroys Federal Vessels; Battle of Pea Ridge concludes. **March 9** Battle of the Monitor ad Merrimack. **March 11** Major changes in Federal command structure: Lincoln removed McClelland as Command-in-Chief of Federal forces; Gen'l Halleck given command of reorganized western forces - Department of the Mississippi; Gen'l Fremont given command of the Mountain Department (western VA and VA). **March 14** Federals capture New Madrid, MO and New Berne NC. **March 15** Gen'l W T Sherman & Hurlbut came to Pittsburg Landing TN. Gen'l Halleck restored Gen'l Grant to command. **March 17** Gen'l McClelland begins moving troops to James/York rivers for the Peninsula Campaign. **March 23** First Battle of Kernstown, VA (Shenandoah Campaign). **March 26** Engagement at Apache Canyon, NM. **March 28** Engagement at Glo-



The Battle of Pea Ridge (also known as the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern) was a land battle of the American Civil War. It was fought March 6–8, 1862, at Pea Ridge in north-west Arkansas, near Leetown. United States forces, led by Brig. Gen. Samuel Curtis, moved south from central Missouri, driving Confederate forces into northwestern Arkansas. Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn launched a Confederate counteroffensive, hoping to recapture northern Arkansas and Missouri. Curtis held off the Confederate attack on the first day and drove Van Dorn's force off the field on the second. The battle, one of the few in which a Confederate army outnumbered its opponent, essentially established Federal control of Missouri and northern Arkansas.



Gen E Van Dorn - CSA



Gen S Curtis - USA

rieta Pass NM drove the Confederates out of the SW



1863 - **Mar 2-** Federal Congress confirmed the appointment of 4 Major Generals, 9 Brigadier Generals for the Regular Army, 40 Major and 200 Brigadier Generals of Volunteers. Thirty Three U. S. Army officers were found guilty by court martial of various charges and dismissed from the service. **March 3** Federal Draft Act approved for all male citizens between 20 and 45 with certain exemptions. Other acts signed by Lincoln: Loans of \$300 M for 1863 and \$600M for 1864; act fixing Supreme Court to 10 justices; measure making Idaho a territory. **March 9** James Louis Petigru, a staunchly loyal unionist died at 74 - Respected by and friends of Charlestonians despite his political views. **March 10** Federal troops, mostly Negroes, reoccupied Jacksonville FL. **March 11** Fort Pemberton (MS) Blocks Yankees. **March 14** Passage of Port Hudson (LA) by Adm Farragut. **March 17** Battle of Kelly's Ford (VA).. **March 19 - 30** Federal efforts to surround Vicksburg continue with ultimate cessation of attempts to use backwater rivers. **March 30** Lincoln set aside April 30 as national fast and prayer day.

1864 - **Mar 1.** Raid on Richmond VA



fails. Lincoln nominates U S Grant for newly created rank of Lieutenant General. **March 2** U S Senate confirms appointment of Grant. **March 4** U S Senate confirmed Andrew Johnson as Federal Military Governor of Tennessee. **March 7** Lincoln issued an order designating the starting point of the Union Pacific Railroad on the western border of Iowa. **March 9** General Grant commissioned Lieutenant General. **March 12** Red River Campaign (LA) under way. **March 17** Lt Gen Grant formally assumed command of the armies of the United States

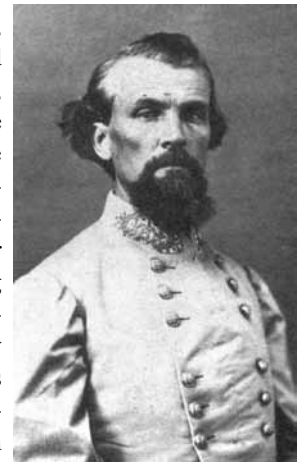
with headquarters to be 'in the field.' **March 18** Arkansas voters ratified a pro-Union constitution which ended slavery in that state. **March 21** Lincoln approved an act of the Federal Congress enabling the territories of Nevada and Colorado to become states. **March 24** Nathan Bedford Forrest on move to western Tennessee. **March 26** Confederate forces on Ohio River - Advance by Forrest unsuccessful. **March 28** 100 Copperheads (southern sympathizers) attacked Federal troops in Charleston IL **March 29** Lincoln dissuaded Gen'l Meade from requesting a formal court of inquiry in regard to Gettysburg.



1865 - The end was obvious; Northern attention turned to the political ramifications of a peace settlement; the split over reconstruction policy widened almost daily; people were looking forward to westward expansion, business, farming, ad all the enticements of a non-war world. **March 1.** Wisconsin ratified the Thirteenth Amendment (abolition of slavery) - NJ rejected the amendment. **March 2** Engagement at Waynesborough VA. George Armstrong Custer defeated Jubal Early's cavalry. **March 3** Thirty-eighth Congress passed the Freedmen's Bureau Act (Bureau for the Relief of Freedmen and Refugees). Lincoln wrote to Grant " . . . To have no conference with General Lee unless it be for the capitulation of Gen Lee's army . . . You are not to decide discuss, or confer upon any political question. Such questions the President holds in his own hands, and ill submit them to no military conferences or conventions. Meanwhile, you are to press to the utmost , your military advantages." **March 4** With Malice Toward None - Second Inauguration of President Lincoln. **March 8 -10** Battle of Kingston NC. Confederate Senate (9 to 8) approved use of Negro troops. **March 11** Federal troops occupy Fayetteville NC. **March 13** Confederacy approves Negro soldiers. **March 16** Battle of Averasborough NC. Active discord between President J Davis and confederate Senate and House. **March 18** Confederate Congress Adjourns. **March 19 - 20** Battle of Bentonville, NC. **March 23** President and Mrs Lincoln with Tad set out to City Point to meet with Grant. **March 25** Confederates attack Ft Stedman at Petersburg VA; Siege of Mobile AL begins. **March 27** Lincoln meets with Grant, Sherman. **March 29** Appomattox Campaign begins. **March 31** Engagement at White Oak Rd and Dinwiddie Court House VA.

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

Nathan Bedford Forrest (July 13, 1821 – October 29, 1877), called Bedford Forrest in his lifetime, was a lieutenant general in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War. He is remembered as a self-educated, brutal, and innovative cavalry leader during the war and as a leading Southern advocate in the post-war years. A cavalry and military commander in the war, Forrest is one of the war's most unusual figures. Although less educated than many of his fellow officers, before the war Forrest had already amassed a fortune as a planter, real estate investor, and slave trader. He was one of the few officers in either army to enlist as a private and be promoted to general officer and corps commander during the war. Although Forrest lacked formal military education, he had a gift for leadership, strategy and tactics. He created and established new doctrines for mobile forces, earning the nickname The Wizard of the Saddle.



Freedmen's Bureau

The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, usually referred to as simply the Freedmen's Bureau, was a U.S. federal government agency established in 1865 to aid freedmen (freed slaves) in the South during the Reconstruction era of the United States, which attempted to change society in the former Confederacy.

The Freedmen's Bureau Bill, which established the Freedmen's Bureau on March 3, 1865, was initiated by President Abraham Lincoln and was intended to last for one year after the end of the Civil War. The Freedmen's Bureau was an important agency of early Reconstruction, assisting freedmen in the South. The Bureau was made a part of the United States Department of War, as it was the only agency with an existing organization that could be assigned to the South. Headed by Union Army General Oliver O. Howard, the Bureau started operations in 1865. Throughout the first year, its representatives learned that these tasks would be very difficult, as Southern legislatures passed laws for Black Codes that restricted movement, conditions of labor, and other civil rights of African Americans, nearly duplicating conditions of slavery. The Freedmen's Bureau controlled limited arable land. Notwithstanding, the Bureau's powers were expanded to help African Americans find family members from whom they had become separated during the war. It arranged to teach them to read and write, considered critical by the freedmen themselves as well as the government. Bureau agents also served as legal advocates for African Americans in both local and national courts, mostly in cases dealing with family issues. The Bureau encouraged former major planters to rebuild their plantations, urged freed Blacks to gain employment above all, kept an eye on contracts between the newly free labor and planters, and pushed both whites and blacks to work together as employers and employees rather than as masters and as slaves.

Upcoming Events

National

60th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony commemorating the 151st Anniversary of President Lincoln's death. It will be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

2016 National Encampment will be in Springfield, IL. from August 11-14.

Remembrance Day Weekend and Parade: November 18-20



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

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

Department Officers 2015-2016

Commander: Charles S Reeves, PCC - E-mail reevesoldfarm@msn.com

Senior Vice Commander: James G Ward, PDC - E-mail nacheson1@att.net

Junior Vice Commander: David Palmer, PCC - E-mail Dayplm6@aol.com

Secretary: Clair D Whitlam, PDC - E-mail clairwhitlam@gmail.com

Treasurer: Clair D Whitlam, PDC - E-mail clairwhitlam@gmail.com

Councilor #1: Harvey K. Linscott, PDC

Councilor # 2: John M. Vaughn, PDC

Councilor # 3: James G. Ward, PDC

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the members of Lucius L Mitchell Camp of activities and events related to the mission of the SUVCW and its interests.

If you wish to place a civil war article or SUVCW item please submit to the Editor at swilliams16@cfl.rr.com

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



Sutler Links

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

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

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

<http://www.crescentcity-sutler.com/index.html>

Camp Website

Be sure and visit our Camp Website at <http://c4dof-suvcw.org/camp4officers.html>. There is a page with a complete Calendar of Events that is updated regularly. Check back often for news of changes in time or place!

Soldier - From page 1

Brooklyn public schools took over in the U.S. Around 1859 he was attending the Fifth Street School in Brooklyn.

The family settled in Brooklyn and his father worked as a clerk in that city. By the 1860's he was considered to be a very good baseball player by Alexander Cartwright and others. He must have spent an awful lot of time playing ball in the 1850s. The start of the Civil War was placed at



the doorstep of New York City when the “Star of the West” brought all the garrison members of the surrendered Fort Sumter to that city. This was on April 15th. On April 17th Michael Emmet Urell joined the 2nd New York State Militia.

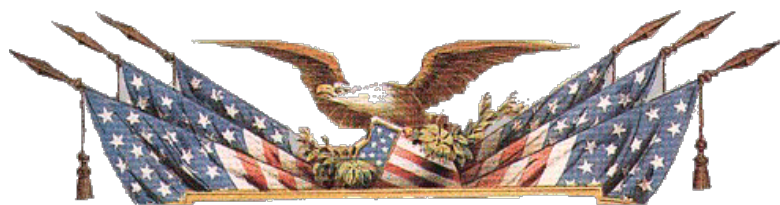
Michael Urell, L. L. Mitchell Camp 4 Commander

Nenagh

Nenagh - Irish: Aonach Urmhumhan or simply An tAonach) is the county town and second largest town in County Tipperary in Ireland. It is a civil parish in the historical barony of Ormond Lower. It is also an Ecclesiastical parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Killaloe.

Nenagh was originally a market town, and its name in Irish means “The Fair of Ormond” – a reference to the Ormond (East Munster) Fair, of which it was the site. Nenagh is today a busy commercial town and is governed by Nenagh Town council.

Nenagh is located in the Barony of Ormond Lower which was the traditional territory of the O’Kennedys prior to the Norman invasion of Ireland. This land was included in the grant made by King John of England to Theobald, the eldest son of Hervey Walter of Lancashire, England. Theobald was subsequently appointed Chief Butler of Ireland.



LOGISTICS AND THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: Part One

By

Oscar J. Dorr, CPL, Fellow

Politically, the Civil War began in December 1860, when South Carolina reacted to the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency by seceding from the Union. But innumerable factors - economic, social, and political - had played - - upon and intensified the breach between the North and South for several years.

More than the secession of South Carolina and the other Southern states was required for war to break out. However, it is not the purpose of this paper to discuss the factors leading up to the break; I want to limit the scope to the logistical factors at the beginning of hostilities, and as the war progressed.

Tactics and strategy, though they impact upon, and are acted upon by, logistical factors, will only be discussed peripherally .

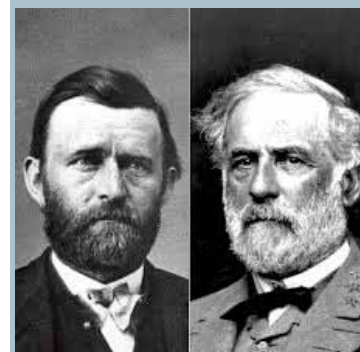
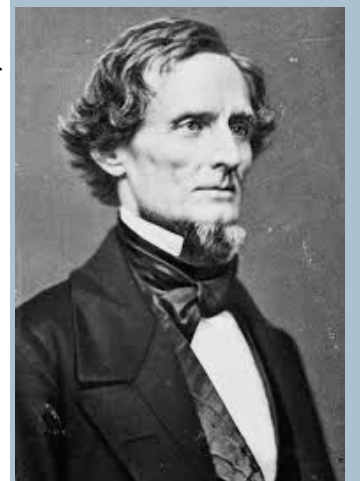
Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, had quite different backgrounds . Lincoln lacked both military education and experience. He had been a lawyer and politician prior to his election to the presidency. He also lacked administrative experience. But he apparently was a fast learner, as evidenced by his choice of commanders and grasp of military tactics. Davis on the other hand was a graduate of West Point, had a broad administrative background, and had served in the Army in the Mexican War as a regimental colonel. He had also gained experience, albeit primarily peacetime experience, as Secretary of War, and chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee. However, Davis' personal military experience, in my opinion, had little effect on the outcome of the war. In fact, there were times when he withheld military strategic actions to satisfy political goals. He also, in my opinion, had a poor understanding of the importance of logistics in a military conflict. James Archer in his book "Civil War

Command and Strategy" says, "The South frittered away its resources in local defense; it lost because of the casualties suffered in futile frontal attacks; and its best general wasted his men in a hapless search for an annihilating victory . "

In order to understand the logistical factors of the Civil War , it is necessary to understand the logistical environment of the time. In 1861, transportation was by road, waterways and railroad. And the last of these, the railroads, were in their infancy. Less than 50 years had passed since the development of the first practical steam locomotive. At first neither side considered railroads a factor in the impending war. Railroads and their logistical use were new to the U. S.

Army . When Robert E. Lee was graduated from West Point, no railroad in the world was longer than 100 miles. Ulysses Grant was younger than Lee, graduating later, and had served seven years in the Army following graduation before the first railroad crossed the Allegheny Mountains. In the South, railroads were built in an insular fashion, serving only to haul cotton from the back country to Southern ports, and did not link with other railroads. The North had a different perspective, being more industrially oriented, and was in the process of attempting to spread west, opening up new markets for its goods. Roads, outside the cities, were unpaved. In rainy weather they could turn into muddy quagmires. Even when dry, some roads seemed to be little more than cleared paths. Because of the slow pace of road travel, few goods moved any distance by road. Logistics support for an area tended to be localized. Food was grown, or obtained from local farmers. Goods were either manufactured locally, and used locally, or were brought in to the closest rail depot, then transferred to wagons for the slow haul to their ultimate destination. There was considerable water travel over major tributaries by steamboat and other methods, but this was limited to certain rivers located primarily in the North and West. Except for the Tennessee and Mississippi Rivers, there were few navigable rivers in the Deep South.

Railroads, Northern and Southern, had few interline connections. City politics had a great influence at major terminals. Most city politicians and businesses wanted railroads to terminate in their city, requiring transit passengers and freight to be moved by local carriage and cartage



across town to rail connections. This tended to increase local commerce, and resulted in construction of hotels and restaurants near rail connections.

At the outbreak of the war, there were only 30,000 miles of railroads in America, with about 21,000 in the North and 9,000 in the South. In all of Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, there were only 700 miles of railroads, and, as mentioned, Southern lines lacked connections, both with each other, and outside the South. Travel by rail, however, was relatively safe and reliable.

In comparison, travel by road for any distance was slow and hazardous, at best. Goods were hauled by wagons pulled by teams of horses or mules, over dirt roads that could become impassable in heavy rains, literally sinking wagons to their beds in mud.

Travel by water was much more reliable and comfortable, and steamships moved up and down the Mississippi, Ohio and other large rivers of the eastern states, as well as the Missouri River. Later, these steamboats played an important part in the logistical support of the Union Army, but were of less importance in Southern logistical support, because of early loss of control of the waterways to the North.

In preparing this paper, my first interest had been to discover how both the North and South could reach a war fighting capability from a logistical standpoint in such a short time. Later, as I became more familiar with the events of the war, my interest broadened to encompass how logistics impacted the outcome of the war.

Neither side was really prepared to fight a war. There was no federal war machine in place in 1861. The regular army consisted of 1,105 officers and 15,259 enlisted. Of the 197 companies of federal troops, 179 were in the Western Territories and only 18 in the Eastern Territories. The South, of course, had no standing forces.

The Confederate government was formed on February 4, 1861, between Lincoln's election in 1860, and his inauguration in March 1861. The South feared that Lincoln would take drastic political steps as president to declare slavery unlawful, among other political concerns. During this period, the seceded Southern states seized federal property, forts and arsenals within their borders without casualties, but this was not adequate in itself to make a substantial difference. When Fort Sumter surrendered, the Southern general allowed all Federal troops to march out and return to the North without harm.

Neither side expected a long war. Initially, Lincoln, after his inauguration, called for 75,000 men to serve three months. On March 6, 1861, President Jefferson Davis created the Confederate Army, calling for 100,000 volunteers to serve 12 months. When this occurred, the 296 Southerners in the Federal Army resigned or were dismissed. Of these, 239 joined the Confederate Army before the end of 1861, with 31 joining later, for a total of 270. The remaining 26 took no part because of age, health or other reasons. Of the 824 West Point graduates on the active list, 184 joined the Confederacy. Including West Point graduates obtained from the civilian force, the Federal Army ended up with 754 graduates to the South's 283, a ratio of almost 3 to 1.

There were about 1,556,000 soldiers who served in the Union armies. Of these, 359,528 were killed, and 275,175 wounded.

Confederate forces numbered approximately 850,000, with 258,000 killed and 225,000 wounded. This means 41 percent of Union soldiers and 56 percent of Confederates who fought were either killed or wounded. The 1,117,703 casualties on both sides represented 3.6 percent of the total U.S. population of 22 million in the North, and 9 million in the South. The greatest tragedy was that the casualties represented 21 percent, or more than one-fifth, of the nation's youth killed or wounded.

Contrary to my initial belief, neither the North nor South had a viable militia organization, and both sides built their armies almost from scratch. The Union had a 5 to 2 ratio advantage over the South as a pool of manpower from which to draw.

The Confederate States of America formed an army based on the U. S. model, staffed primarily by the U.S. Army regular officers who joined the CSA, followed by some enlisted ranks who held allegiance to their home states. The CSA had the benefit of graduates of several military colleges, particularly the Virginia Military Institute. Some were veterans of the Mexican War. Both North and South relied heavily on volunteer forces, rather than the ill-trained militia units. States relied on individual entrepreneurs, prominent individuals who received authorization from the governor to raise a regiment that they would command as colonels. The state governor appointed the officers, but most had previously been elected to leadership by the volunteers in the formed unit. This assured the acceptance of the newly appointed officers by their followers.

Some statistics on the relative strengths of the North and South are interesting, particularly from a logistics viewpoint:

Manufacturing Firms:

North - 100,000 with 1,300,000 workers

South - 18,000 with 110,000 workers

Railroads:

North - 21,973 miles South 9,283 miles

Draft Animals:

North - 800,000 South - 300,000

Railroad Manufacturing:

South had only 4% of the nation's locomotive manufacturing capacity.

Firearms:

South had only 3% of the U.S. capacity.

Size:

The South had over 750,000 square miles, equal in area to the United Kingdom, West Germany, France, Italy, and Spain, plus an open border to Mexico, and 3,500 miles of coastline with 184 harbors. However, of the numerous harbors, only 10 Southern seaports had railroad connections. Six of these had fallen by 1862. Only Norfolk, VA remained to handle ships of more than 20' draft.

The logistical requirements for 19th century combat were primarily food for troops, forage or fodder for horses and

mules, and ammunition and powder.

Men in the field on both sides prepared their own food, so there was no central mess. Some units designated cooks, but most soldiers cooked their food over open fires. Food supplied was primarily pork, beef, bread and desiccated potatoes, coffee, tea, and sometimes fresh vegetables. Beans, rice, peas, hominy and sometimes beets were available. Beef cattle on the hoof often accompanied the armies. Troops obtained much of their food off the land. Much food was wasted in preparation, by spoilage, and even child-like food fights between groups of soldiers in high spirits. To support the Union army, hog production in Chicago between 1861 and 1865 went from 270,000 hogs per year to 900,000, tripling the supply. Food for horses and mules was 26 pounds per day for horses and 24 pounds for mules. Supply trains normally carried 12 pounds of grain per day per horse and 10 pounds per day per mule. The balance of 14 pounds for each animal had to be obtained from forage. This was a heavy demand for an army in place. An army on the move fared better, as new territory could supply more food and forage.

Each soldier carried from 60-100 rounds of ammunition per man, plus a like number of powder cartridges. The standard weapon for the foot soldier was a .55 caliber smooth bore, or rifled, musket. Both types were used. Ammunition was of lesser importance in the Civil War as a logistical item for two reasons.

First, armies did not stay in close contact for extended periods. Second, individual rate of fire was relatively slow with muzzle loading weapons. Fire and fall back, was the general rule. Troops would open fire from staggered ranks to maintain a reasonable rate of fire. Fire rate varied from 5-10 rounds per minute, though the higher rate often made the weapon too hot to handle. Black powder used often caused weapons to foul after a dozen rounds. Generally a regiment's ammunition would last up to two hours, but sometimes troops ran out of ammunition in a fire fight, requiring a quick retreat.

Weapon making had actually become easier at the time of the Civil War. The manufacture or fabrication of bows, arrows, breastplates, spears, shields, helmets, crossbows, and other implements of warfare used prior to the 15th and 16th centuries all required the use of skilled artisans. On the other hand, simple machines could be used to manufacture guns, not requiring the work of a skilled gunsmith. Soldiers needed only a rifle, or a smooth bore musket. Both sides could make guns, or could import them. Some used hunting rifles, more common in the rural South. There was no shortage of gunpowder on either side. From January 1861 to June 1865, the U. S. Army procured over 670,000 Springfield rifle-muskets from the Springfield Armory and 22 subcontractors.

They also bought over 428,000 British Enfield rifles, plus over 2,000 other rifles from European suppliers. The Confederacy used Springfield rifle muskets, or copies, plus some smooth bore muskets of U. S. and British manufacture.



Enfield

Springfield

Uniforms were, strangely enough, not a serious requirement. Many troops wore civilian clothes, adapted to military use by dyeing. Some uniforms were captured, and some were home woven and dyed. There were some imports and some large-scale production. The CSA Quartermaster performed well. They bought from independent contractors, and, in some cases, operated their own works. The Atlanta unit of the quartermaster had 20 tailors and 3,000 seamstresses. Jackets were produced at the rate of 12,000 per month, and pants at 4,500 per month. The Quartermaster issued 146,000 pairs of shoes to Lee's army. But soldiers on both sides resorted to robbing the dead on the battlefield of boots and other clothing because of the delays in re-supply.

Horses were plentiful at the beginning, and many men were experienced riders, particularly in the rural South. Cavalry pistols and sabers were in short supply at first, but troops frequently used workaroud solutions, using shotguns, and even hatchets, when required.

Artillery also was not a problem. Soldiers preferred smooth bore, muzzle loading cannon. Existing foundries could make this type of weapon easily. Both sides used the more complicated rifled cannon with explosive shells, but preferred smooth bore because explosive shells tended to bury themselves in the ground before exploding. Shrapnel shells were devastating, but timed fuses were difficult to set and inaccurate. The cannon had wooden carriages, and caissons were of simple manufacture.



Biography of the Author

Oscar J. Dorr, C.P.L. and Fellow, has more than 50 years experience as a professional logistician with government, industry, and academia. He was adjunct professor of Logistics Engineering at the University of Central Florida, where he taught for nine years, and was a consultant to industry. He also served on the faculties of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Breward Junior College. He originated the short engineering course at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) on Logistics Program Management, which he taught for four years. He has served on the Society of Logistics Engineers (SOLE) Board of Directors and Executive Board. He has written numerous articles for the SOLE Spectrum, presented papers at two Symposiums, was guest dinner speaker at FlaLog98, and has served on numerous SOLE committees. He wrote the definitions of Combat Logistics and Operational Logistics for the Society in response to a request from the DOD. In 1985-86 he served as Chapter Chairman of the Orlando Chapter, and served as Finance Chairman of the 1988 SOLE International Symposium. He retired from Rockwell International, Singer-Link, AAI, and DME Corporations, and served as Manager or Director of Logistics for each.



Chaplain's Corner

Brothers of Camp 4, I take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of contacting your fellow camp members; especially the ones who are ill or in some way in need. Let us bond together in meaningful ways to show our comrades we care.

Currently, we do have some members who are struggling with health issues and the like. Our 1st Camp 4 Commander, brother Ron Criswell is presently in the hospital with severe lung ailments and other complications.. Send him a card, give him a call offering your thoughts and prayers for him. He is in room 108, Select Specialty Hospital on South Orange Avenue, Orlando, 5579 S. Orange Ave. Orlando, Fl, 32803, Phone 407-241-4800.

I invite any and all our camp members to call me if in any way you find the need to. I offer you my every concern and effort to guide, help and pray for you in full confidentiality.

Psalms 91: 2, 11, 12

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

For He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

with fraternity, charity and loyalty,
Ron McCracken, Chaplain Camp 4

Department Encampment February 20, 2016



Dave Palmer, Camp 1



Jim Ward, Camp 4





Larisa Roderick, Bob Jones



DC Charles, "Chuck" Reeves and Mayor Rebecca Border

DC Charles, "Chuck" Reeves and Larisa Roderick



Honored Guest, Nat'l Chaplain, Jerome W. Kowolski

