

THE CHARGER



The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable

December 2023

Vol. 48, No. 5

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SPEAKER – Judge William F. B. Vodrey, Past President of CCWRT

LOCATION:

The Holiday Inn
Independence at 6001
Rockside Road,
Independence, Ohio
44131, off US

Interstate 77

TIME: Social Hour at 6:00 PM and Presentation at 7:00 PM

For reservations email:

ccwrtreserve@gmail.com. To ensure a dinner is reserved for you, the reservation must be made by Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Website:

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MEETING – December 13, 2023

PROGRAM – “Salmon P. Chase: Ambitious Ohioan”

Like us on Facebook!

President's Message

Fellow Roundtable Members:

Once again continuing with this year's theme of "Union Leaders and Ohio in the War", this month's presentation again checks both of those boxes. "Salmon P. Chase: The Ambitious Ohioan" will be presented by member Judge William Vodrey. This continues Judge Vodrey's exploration of the members of President Lincoln's cabinet. A great presentation and Prime Rib too. A great way to celebrate the holiday season! ... and don't forget your ugly sweater.

I mentioned last month that we would like to scan our historical records to our club computer. I am happy to announce that phase one is complete in that all of the newsletters back to 1957 have been scanned to the computer. We were unfortunately missing a little over 10% of the old newsletters but have 526 digitally available. Phase two is underway, which is the scanning of the records by year. An additional benefit of this project is the opportunity to better organize these historical files. Phase three will set up an index of articles in each newsletter to allow members to search for specific topics. This phase will be labor intensive and will take place over the next couple of years. This is the phase where we could use your help. Once we establish the template, we will need someone to read through the newsletters for a specific year and populate the template. We will send out a separate email when we are ready to start this process.

Here are some interesting facts about our newsletter. Did you know that it wasn't called *The Charger* until December

1978 and has been called that ever since. It was called *The Courier* from February 1964 until May 1966. The rest of the time it didn't have a name. Our current logo was attached to the newsletter in the October 1966 issue and has been used ever since. Prior to this the logo was a soldier sitting on a standing horse with no flag.

January will mark the 67th anniversary of the first meeting of the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable. We will celebrate it with the Annual Dick Crews Memorial Debate, once again moderated by Judge Vodrey. The debate topic is "Was Meade aggressive enough in chasing Lee after Gettysburg?". I understand that we have at least two of the four debater spots filled for the debate. If you are interested in being a debater, please contact Judge Vodrey.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting on December 13th.

Thanks,

Bob Pence

The Annual Dick Crews Memorial Debate

January 10, 2024

Topic: "Was Meade Aggressive Enough in
Chasing Lee after Gettysburg?"

Moderator: Judge William Vodrey

Winner receives fabulous prizes!

Interested in being a debator? Contact
Judge Vodrey

The Editor's Desk



In this issue, we have added a new monthly column titled "Civil War Roots." Many of our members have ancestors who either served in the Civil War armies, one side or another, or who were affected by the war, or perhaps contributed to the history of the period by working in the public or private sector of the community. At any rate, we want to include your stories in this new column. We believe that Civil War history includes many more topics than battles and leaders. To bring the matter to a more personal level opens a whole new vista of research and writing. I remember well the impact that Alex Haley had on my thinking as a fledgling historian when he published *Roots*.

A few years ago, I had the opportunity to write about the little-known Civil War history of my home county in southwestern Pennsylvania. When my brother told an NPS ranger friend of his at Fort Necessity that I had written a book and was going to speak at the CWRT in California, Pennsylvania, about the Civil War history of Greene County, he quipped, "How long is that going to take? Two minutes?" Well, I have now published a second volume on the subject, and with over three hundred pages between the two studies, I think it is safe to say that it takes more than two minutes to present the area's history. I told somebody once that over 24,000 people lived in Greene County,

Past Presidents Cleveland Civil War Roundtable

1957	Kenneth Grant	1991	Joe Tirpak
1958	George Farr, Jr.	1992	Bob Baucher
1959	John Cullen, Jr.	1993	Kevin Callahan
1960	Howard Preston	1994	Robert E. Battisti
1961	Charles Clarke	1995	Norton London
1962	Edward Downer	1996	John Sutula
1963	Paul Guenther	1997	Dan Zeiser
1964	Gur DiCarlo	1998	John Moore
1965	Lester L. Swift	1999	Dick Crews
1966	Donald Hamill	2000	Bob Boyda
1967	William Schlesinger	2001	William Vodrey
1968	Frank Moran	2002	Bill McGrath
1969	Donald Heckerman	2003	Maynard Bauer
1970	Frank Schuhle	2004	Warren McClelland
1971	Kenneth Callahan	2005	Mel Mauer
1972	Bernard Drews	2006	Dave Carrino
1973	Arthur Jordan	2007	John Fazio
1974	Nolan Heidelbaugh	2008	Terry Koozer
1975	Thomas Gretter	2009	Jon Thompson
1976	Milton Holmes	2010	Dennis Keating
1977	James Chapman	2011	Lisa Kempfer
1978	Richard McCree	2012	Paul Burkholder
1979	William Bates	2013	Michael Wells
1980	Charles Spiegle	2014	Jim Heflich
1981	Thomas Geschke	2015	Patrick Bray
1982	John Harkness	2016	Chris Fortunato
1983	William Victory	2017	Jean Rhodes
1984	Neil Evans	2018	Hans Kuenzi
1985	Brian Kowell	2019	Dan Ursu
1986	Tim Beatty	2020	C. Ellen Connally
1987	George Vourojanis	2021	Steve Pettyjohn
1988	Martin Graham	2022	Mark Porter
1989	Neil Glaser	2023	Lily Korte
1990	Ken Callahan, Jr.	2024	Bob Pence

Pennsylvania, in 1860, and each one of them has a story to tell. If nothing else, there were 1800 men from the area who served in the military. Lots of stories there!

So, how about it? We want to read your ancestors' Civil War stories. They do not have to be soldiers, sailors, or politicians. It may be you have an interesting tale from a civilian's

point of view. Perhaps your family's ancestral farm was visited by Morgan's Raiders. Perhaps there was a contractor who worked on Johnson's Island; an educator who went South to teach reading and writing to Freedmen; a nurse in a CW hospital, etc.

We look forward to your submissions!

You do not need to be a professional writer or historian to submit a letter or a short article for *The Charger*. Send your piece to the editor at dkfonner@gmail.com. In the future, we also want to add a column on CW collectibles and letters to the editor. Book reviews are always welcome.

CIVIL WAR ROOTS



William Silveus' wife, Mary Campbell Mildred, as a post-war widow. Born in 1840, Mary was only 22 years old when her husband died.

William Silveus, Company I, 8th Regiment of the Pennsylvania Reserves Corps

Submitted by Kent Fonner

My great-great grandfather, William Silveus, enlisted for service in Company I, 8th Regiment of the Pennsylvania Reserves

Infantry. The Pennsylvania Reserves had been organized by the Commonwealth in the summer of 1861 from excess volunteers responding to President Lincoln's initial call for state troops to form an army to put down the Southern rebellion. Composed of thirteen regiments of infantry, a regiment of cavalry, and a regiment of artillery, the Pennsylvania Reserves were essentially a full division equipped ostensibly for defense of the Commonwealth, but after the disastrous defeat of the Union forces at First Bull Run on July 21, 1861, the state Governor, Andrew Curtin, offered the force to President Lincoln for service with the Federal army in Virginia. Accordingly, the Pennsylvania volunteers became a division in General George B. McClellan's Army of the Potomac.

Company I, 8th Pennsylvania Reserves, was recruited from Greene County, Pennsylvania, in the southwestern corner of the state, an area bordering the Mason-Dixon Line and western Virginia (West Virginia in 1863). The early recruits in Company I (known as "The Greene County Rangers") enlisted with the first rush of volunteers in 1861 and witnessed hard service in the Peninsular Campaign. William enlisted on August 25, 1862, when 8th Pennsylvania recruiters appeared to try to bring the regiment back to full strength. William Silveus was a tenant farmer with assets of about \$100 living near the village of Rogersville, Pennsylvania, in Greene County's Center Township. At the time of his enlistment, Silveus had been married to Mary Campbell (Mildred) Silveus since 1856. The couple had one daughter, Martha Maria, born in 1860, and a second child on the way. This child, Elizabeth Sarah, was born September 27, 1862, after William left home for the army.

Given William's family circumstances, it is difficult to understand his decision to enlist in the army. To fill the state's quota after Lincoln's call for more troops in the summer, 1862, Governor Curtin had resorted to a state military conscription. It may be that William wanted to avoid service as a draftee. It is also possible that, as a tenant with a growing family, he was enticed by the County's offer of a bounty for enlistees. The Greene County Commissioners offered a \$50 payment for men who volunteered that summer. In addition, other local communities raised funds from voluntary contributions to entice enlistments. For a man earning perhaps less than a dollar per day, these bounties could be attractive. In one letter, Silveus tells Mary he had \$25 to send home and that she could draw the county's bounty from the Treasurer in Waynesburg after he got an order from his Captain, John Kent. Whatever his motives, Silveus left the county seat, Waynesburg, with the other recruits for Company I, about the first of September, 1862.

The men left Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, in wagons, making their way to the Monongahela River on the eastern boundary of Greene County. There they took a riverboat to Pittsburgh, arriving on September 5, 1862. From Pittsburgh, Silveus wrote a letter to his wife, Mary, describing his journey and noting that he was staying at "an old dutch inn where I am treated like an own son." From Pittsburgh, the recruits were sent by train to Harrisburg, where they were mustered into the army, September 8th, and then on to Washington, D.C., which Silveus in his letters home referred to as "The City." By mid-September, Silveus and his fellow recruits were hurrying west to catch up to the Army

of the Potomac searching for Lee near Maryland's South Mountain. He noted that one night they stayed at the house of "an old secesh" who "give us our supper and breakfast." On another day of their march, he told Mary that some of the men had caught and roasted a pig for supper. He said that he did not have any because "I won't eat anything that is stolen." As he marched toward the Antietam battlefield, he got his first glimpse of war. "O what a sight it was," he exclaimed, and "I never want to witness another such a sight." He saw CSA prisoners for the first time, a field hospital, and "a line of ambulances miles long." When he reached the regiment's camp near Antietam on September 19, 1862, the battle had been fought. He found Mary's brother, Albert Mildred, also in Company I, and the two men sat down together to write letters home. During Silveus' brief tour of the battlefield, he told Mary, he saw CSA dead "as high as thirteen rebels all in one pile." The piles were "scattered two or three miles any amount of them." He asked his brother, Joe, to pick up his County bounty for his family after he sent him a letter from his company commander, Captain John Kent. In his letters, he asked Mary, "Pray for me"



8th Penna Reserves Monument at Antietam

Silveus "saw the elephant" for the first time at Fredericksburg, VA, on December 13,

1862. As part of George G. Meade's division of the First Corps of the Army of the Potomac, the 8th Pennsylvania Reserves charged "Stonewall" Jackson's lines south of the town. Meade's men cracked the front line and made the only gain of the day. Failing to receive any support, however, the Pennsylvania Reserves Division was forced back by a counterattack. The 8th Pennsylvania Reserves suffered nearly fifty per-cent casualties. Company I had eight men killed and fourteen wounded, including Captain Kent. William Silveus was among those captured. Silveus and the other captured men from Company I were taken to the rear of Jackson's wing of the Confederate army, passing through one area where they were briefly under fire from Union artillery. One other Greene County man, William T. Minor, recalled that they were treated well by their captors and even managed to banter with some civilian girls who lined the road on their march. When the Yanks arrived in Richmond, they were taken to a large warehouse that Minor identified as Libby Prison. It took some time for the prison officers to process the men, and for hours Minor, Silveus, and the other prisoners stood in the cold December rain waiting to be ushered inside. Minor described prison life as the worst time he ever knew—overcrowded conditions, minimal food, and the noise. There were no blankets, and the men were forced to sleep on the bare floor. Minor and Silveus were placed in separate rooms, and by the time Minor saw him again, Silveus had become sick with a severe cough. He rapidly weakened. Another comrade from Company I, Milton John, was quartered with Silveus and did everything he could to nurse him. Minor described Silveus lying on the bare floor, covered only in his worn clothes,

infested with lice, and subjected every minute to unbearable noise from his fellow inmates. As he sickened, Silveus became delirious, carrying on conversations by himself with his wife, Mary. By the time the men were paroled, on January 9, 1863, typhoid fever had weakened Silveus to a point that Minor could hardly understand him when he tried to speak. Minor saw Silveus one last time in the hospital at Camp Parole, Maryland. William Silveus died from typhoid fever on January 12, 1863, not quite five months after he enlisted in the Federal army. He was buried in the military cemetery at Annapolis.

William's wife, Mary, never remarried, dying as a widow at the age of fifty-four in 1895. She did the best she could to raise her daughters without their father, living with her widowed mother, supporting herself by working as a seamstress and on a meager monthly widow's pension granted her after the war. Her oldest daughter, Martha Maria Silveus, eventually married Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, merchant, Jasper Dulaney, in 1878. Their oldest child, Mary Emma Dulaney, married Waynesburg ornithologist, oologist, and bird house manufacturer, J. Warren Jacobs. My mother, Helen Jacobs Fonner, was their youngest child. My grandmother saved her grandfather's letters from the war, and these were in turn passed down to me by my Uncle Bryan Jacobs. In addition to the four surviving letters, I also have William Silveus' military and widow's pension files from the National Archives. A few years ago, while researching a book on the history of Greene County, Pennsylvania, during the Civil War, I came across a letter written by William T. Minor published in a local newspaper that described my g-g-grandfather's capture and ordeal after the Battle of Fredericksburg.



The Army of Northern Virginia Retreating from Gettysburg

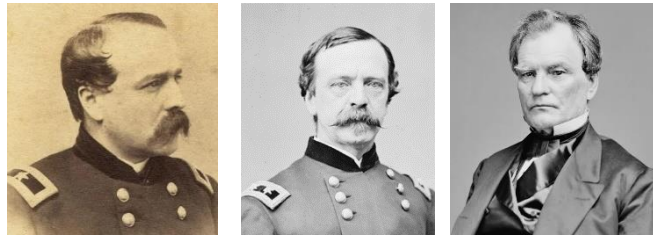
Meade, Gettysburg, and the Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War

By Dennis Keating

After the Union defeats at First Bull Run and Ball's Bluff, Congress created a Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War on December 10, 1861. Its purpose was to oversee the administration's conduct of the war. Its Chair and most outspoken member (of the seven members) and critic of the performance of the Lincoln administration was Radical Republican Ben Wade from Ohio. He and the Committee unsuccessfully tried to have Lincoln reinstate Joe Hooker after his dismissal before the battle of Gettysburg.

The Committee conducted hearings criticizing the decisions of George Gordon Meade during and after the battle of Gettysburg. Its two key witnesses were Dan Sickles (former commander of the Third Corps) and Dan Butterfield (former Chief of Staff) of the Army of the Potomac. As noted in the *Ohio Civil War* entry:

“Throughout its existence, the Committee was obsessed with second-guessing the performance of Union military commanders (especially in the Eastern Theater), despite the fact that its members had little if any martial experience. The Committee was notably critical of West Point graduates, while otherwise tolerant of less effective political generals who shared their partisan beliefs.”



Dan Butterfield, Dan Sickles, and Ben Wade

As to Meade’s decision not to immediately pursue Lee’s retreating Army of Northern Virginia after its defeat at Gettysburg, Wade wrote the Committee report criticizing him for being unduly cautious and allowing Lee’s army to escape (also much to the consternation of President Lincoln).

Civil War historian Eric J. Wittenberg rebutted this criticism in a multi-article series in *Emerging Civil War* beginning on July 7, 2015: “A Civil War Witch Hunt: George Gordon Meade, The Retreat from Gettysburg and the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War.”

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James Park Caldwell and Virginia (Ginnie) Bethel Moon

The Sweetheart of a Sigma Chi

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“If I could only see her once more, I feel that exile would lose its terror.”ⁱ

“[I] am growing very anxious to rec. letters, especially . . . fr. VBM . . . [she] is my chief source of anxiety. I fear I may have to go to some foreign land without ever bidding adieu to my best & most loved friend.”ⁱⁱ

“Am at a loss to hear from VBM. Must see her on my release at all events.”ⁱⁱⁱ

So wrote Ohio soldier James Parks Caldwell in his diary. Countless soldiers in the Civil War wrote to their wives and sweethearts, longing to see them. What makes Caldwell’s situation unique is that he was imprisoned at Johnson’s Island Prison in Sandusky Bay, Ohio, and his sweetheart was a rebel spy.

Parks, as Caldwell was called by his family, was born March 27, 1841 in Monroe, a small town in southwestern Ohio. Butler County, where Monroe sits, is a region known for a considerable population of Shaker people. He was the first of eight children born to Dr. W.W. Caldwell and Isabella H. Parks Caldwell. Both parents were of Scotch-Irish descent and were staunch Presbyterians and Democrats.^{iv}

Parks was a bright boy. When his principal at the local academy informed his father that Parks had passed everything offered in the course of study, Dr. Caldwell decided, despite Parks being

only 13-years-old, to enroll him at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He entered on September 2, 1854.^v

Miami University was founded in 1809 and had a distinguished faculty. Among its members was Professor William H. McGuffey of *McGuffey Readers* fame. Many of Parks' classmates became important men after graduation, such as future United States President Benjamin Harrison, noted journalist and ambassador Whitelaw Reid, and Parks' roommate, Benjamin P. Runkle, who would become a Union brevet brigadier general in the Civil War. Parks, Runkle, and five others formed the Sigma Chi Fraternity at Miami University in 1854.^{vi}

So who was VBM, and how did Parks find himself imprisoned on Johnson's Island?

In 1855, Parks' sister Isabella enrolled at Ohio Women's College (sometimes referred to as Oxford Female College). Isabella introduced her brother to her closest classmate, Virginia "Ginnie" Bethel Moon. They had a lot in common. Ginnie's father was also a doctor, Dr. Robert S. Moon, who migrated to southwestern Ohio from Virginia in the 1830s. The Moons were staunch Democrats, and despite freeing their slaves, believed in states' rights and had strong southern ties through family connections in Memphis, Tennessee and Panola County, Mississippi. Ginnie, like Parks, came from a large family of six children, being the youngest born on July 22, 1844, and three years younger than Parks. She was small, dark haired, with big blue eyes, a small nose, and a quick smile. She was spirited, flamboyant, high-strung, and charming. When Ginnie's father died, her mother enrolled her at Ohio Women's College and moved to Memphis. Parks had never met anyone quite like Ginnie Moon and was soon smitten.^{vii}

Parks graduated in 1857 and went to Iowa to visit an uncle. While away, his father moved the family and his medical practice and apothecary to the bigger town of Hamilton, Ohio. Upon his return, Parks decided to study law in the office of Judge James Clark, who married Ginnie's older sister Charlotte "Lottie" Moon. When Judge Clark left the bench to return to private law practice, the Clarks resided in Mrs. Moon's house, which is now known as the Lottie Moon house. It is there that Parks took up residence to study law. After the outbreak of the war, Clark became the leader in the Butler County Copperhead movement. It is easy to imagine how Parks was influenced by the Clark's political leanings and his empathy for Ginnie's strong pro-southern feelings.^{viii}

Ginnie's fierce pride for her beloved South was paramount in her demand to be released from school when a professor criticized her pro-southern leanings. Being so young, this was denied. Legend has it, she somehow found a gun and proceeded to shoot out the stars of the American flag in the school's courtyard and followed up by scratching "Hurrah for Jeff Davis" on windows with her diamond ring. Her actions got her expelled. She was remanded to the custody of her sister Lottie, where she and Parks found themselves under the same roof. This might have pleased Parks, but it did not please the Clarks.^{ix}

The Clarks soon decided to send Ginnie south to be with her mother and sister Mollie in Memphis. Parks soon followed. Dr. Caldwell recorded:

“J.P.C. left Hamilton Oct. 7, 1858 for Mississippi. Reached Memphis October 16. Left Memphis for Panola, Oct. 21. God bless my dear son.”^x

Parks stayed as a guest of the Moons in Memphis and in Panola, and decided to settle in the South, teaching the children on the plantation of Colonel Freeman Irby. As other plantation owners in Panola County began to send their children to be taught, Parks organized a school that he named Palmetto Academy near Como, Mississippi.^{xi}

Why does any man do what he does? Is it ultimately for the love of a woman? And how does that woman change his life forever?

Two former students from the Palmetto Academy told an agent for the modern historian of Sigma Chi Fraternity that “he [Parks] came to Mississippi with a family named Moon from Ohio and that he was in love with a young lady in that family named Miss Ginnie Moon, and on that account when the family moved South from Ohio, he came South.”^{xii}

With the outbreak of the war and the increase in hostilities, Ginnie, Mollie, and their mother began to make bandages for the Confederate cause. Ginnie’s brothers all enlisted with the Confederate army. Ginnie also began to travel back and forth between Memphis and Hamilton, Ohio, hiding medicines, possibly supplied from Dr. Caldwell, and other much needed supplies on her person (the “Petticoat Express”) and passing any information to the Confederate authorities. The *Memphis Commercial Appeal* wrote, “She needed no pass to get through the Union lines. Her eyes and her way won her permission.”^{xiii}

Parks warmly espoused the Confederate cause and not wanting to disappoint Ginnie, enlisted as a private in Hoole’s Company, Mississippi Light Artillery (sometimes referred to as the Pettus Flying Artillery or Hudson Battery). Because of his education, he was soon promoted to second lieutenant.

Parks saw action at Shiloh on April 6-7, 1862. Commanded by Captain Alfred Hudson and attached to Brigadier General John Bowen’s Brigade, the battery unlimbered on the south side of Locust Grove Branch near the Peach Orchard in support of the attacking Confederate infantry. Captain Hudson was killed in the action along with many of the men. On the second day, the battery supported Bowen’s brigade near the Eastern Corinth Road and took additional losses. After the battle, casualties were so high in the battery that the men who were left, were transferred to Watson’s Louisiana Battery while camped in Jackson, Mississippi in summer 1862.^{xiv}

One day the new second lieutenant was given dispatches to deliver to headquarters in Jackson. While there he purchased “a new uniform on my fresh promotion to the lofty position of Second Lieut.” While in town he heard of captured Union officers there waiting to be exchanged. He knew that his fraternity brother Runkle was at Shiloh, and he decided to ride his horse to the prison to see if any officers from Ohio were incarcerated. Arriving at the makeshift prison, he shouted up to a group of Union officers in a second story window, “Any Ohio men up there?” A Major Van Horn announced himself as being from Ohio, and Parks asked if he or any of the other Ohio men had attended Miami, Getting a negative answer, Parks said, “I’m from Ohio

myself,” to which the Union officer responded, “Those are d---d queer clothes for an Ohio man to wear.”^{xv}

Ginnie Moon continued to act as a courier carrying dispatches from Memphis to Hamilton. When Memphis fell to Union forces in June 1862, she began to carry information to Brigadier General Nathan Bedford Forrest. She was said to have swallowed an important message to Forrest to prevent it from falling into Union hands. She was under suspicion of spying and left Memphis for safety in Grenada, Mississippi.

Watson’s Louisiana Battery was attached to Bowen’s Third Brigade in Major General Mansfield Lovell’s First Division, District of Mississippi in Major General Earl Van Dorn’s Army of West Tennessee. On October 3-4, Generals Earl Van Dorn and Sterling Price attacked the Federals from northwest of the town of Corinth, Mississippi. Parks was in the middle of a maelstrom on October 4.^{xvi}

Lovell’s Division was positioned on a ridge on the Confederate far right flank. He was ordered to assault Battery Phillips when the main Confederate attack went forward to attack Battery Robinett, but Lovell refused to move. Bowen, frustrated and taking matters in his own hands, ordered his brigade’s sharpshooters forward while the remainder of his infantry lay prone behind the crest of the ridge. He then ordered four guns of Watson’s Battery forward to their support. As they dropped tail into battery, a dozen Federal cannon opened fire. The fire was so hot that Watson’s Battery “only fired two rounds before it had to retire,” wrote one Mississippian. Another wrote, “[In] less than five minutes there was scarcely a man, horse, gun carriage, or caisson left of the outfit.” Luckily Parks escaped unhurt. Repulsed, Van Dorn and Price’s forces retreated to Holly Springs, Mississippi and eventually to Jackson. There, Van Dorn was replaced by Major General John C. Pemberton. After the war when perusing the Official Records, Parks discovered, “That General Bowen in his report of the Corinth campaign has done me the honor to class me among those ‘conspicuous for coolness and courage during the action and on the retreat.’”^{xvii}

According to Parks, his battery was camped at Greenwood, Mississippi on December 29, 1862, then marched to Vaiden, Mississippi where they camped on January 20, 1863, arriving finally in Jackson, Mississippi on February 14, 1863.^{xviii} Greenwood is about 21 miles from Grenada, and Parks apparently discovered that Ginnie was there staying with friends, the McLeans. The record is unclear whether Parks ever met with Ginny there. But before marching to Vaiden he wrote, “Just before leaving I went to Mr. McLeans to bid my friend farewell, & much to my disappointment, found her gone.”^{xix}

Ginnie Moon may have returned to Memphis, perhaps engaging in another smuggling trip to Ohio. She evidently traveled to the Jackson, Mississippi headquarters of Major General Sterling Price. Her visit was prompted by articles published in J.W. Tucker’s Jackson newspaper, *The Argus*. In those articles, Tucker strongly hinted that General Price was the de facto military head of a movement to create a Northwest Confederacy and that he was trying to coordinate these efforts with the Copperhead organizations in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. Ginnie offered to carry dispatches from Price to the leaders of

the Ohio Knights of the Golden Circle. Price acquiesced to her request when she explained her Ohio origins, her connection with Judge Clark, and her brother-in-law's Copperhead connections and close association with Clement C. Vallandigham.^{xx}

With Pemberton's army defending Vicksburg from Grant moving south from Holly Springs, Major General Franklin Gardner was ordered to Port Hudson to defend the Mississippi River from Major General Nathaniel Banks moving north from New Orleans. Gardner immediately put his engineers to work constructing defenses and requested reinforcements. Pemberton sent him a mixed force of infantry, cavalry, and artillery under Brigadier General Abraham Buford. Parks, now promoted to first lieutenant, accompanied Watson's battery with this force to Port Hudson arriving in March 1863. Buford, and a portion of his command, was later recalled by Pemberton to Vicksburg. However, Watson's battery, staying behind, was split up and converted to heavy artillery. Gardner had approximately 7,000 men divided into three wings – a southern wing under Colonel William Miles, a center wing under Brigadier General William N.R. Beall, and a northern wing under Colonel Isaiah George Washington Steedman. Four of Watson's guns were assigned to the center wing, while Parks was assigned to Steedman's northern wing to command a section of guns. Banks' army besieged Port Hudson for 48 days. The Yankees outnumbered Gardner's forces in both men and artillery. There were several assaults trying to break the Confederate lines, all unsuccessful. Nonetheless, cannons were especially targeted by the Yankees, who had a three to one advantage in numbers. Supplies, ammunition, and food were running out for the defenders. The daily ration per man was three small ears of corn. The Confederates resorted to butchering mules, horses, and rats for meat. The number of killed, sick, and desertions increased daily. Finally, on July 9, 1863, the white flags went up and Gardner surrendered his forces. Fewer than 3000 Confederates could stand in line during the surrender ceremony. Parks was now a prisoner of war.^{xxi}

All of the Confederate officers were sent to New Orleans and placed in jail at the Custom House on Canal Street. There Parks wrote to his sister, "When I last heard (April 26th) from Va. M., Clark, Frank & Miss Mollie Moon [all] were well." He was transferred to Johnson's Island Prison on October 13, 1863, where he would remain for the next 18 months.^{xxii} During that time he wrote to his family and the Moons.

Parks remained devoted to the Confederate cause. Twice he had an opportunity to be released if he would take an oath of allegiance to the Union but refused. He was unaware, until after the war, that his fraternity brother and college roommate, Runkle, now on the military staff of Governor Tod, petitioned for Parks release and, as a favor, Tod granted the request, but insisted on the oath being taken. The second time was when his father came to the prison seeking to get Parks' parole, to be secured by sufficient bonds and securities. Prison authorities refused but instead suggested the oath. Parks later wrote:

"But I knew from sorrowful observation that I had only to take that oath and make a contemptible deserter of myself in order to obtain a release. When my father came to Johnson's Island, hoping to be allowed to see me, and asking for such an interview in the presence of some officers, he was asked whether he would advise me to take the oath of allegiance. His answer, entirely respectful and in no way to be construed as

disloyal, was unsatisfactory. But on account of his high standing as a Mason, he was allowed the privilege of looking at me through field glass at the distance of three or four hundred yards.”^{xxiii}

With the surrender of the last of the Confederate armies, on Monday June 12, 1865, Parks wrote: “I have taken the oath! That I should have lived to see this day!”^{xxiv} After a brief period of recovery with family in Hamilton, Ohio, he returned to Panola County, Mississippi to reestablish the Palmetto Academy. Judge Clark and Lottie had moved to New York City. Ginnie was in Virginia with Mollie. Parks was admitted to the Mississippi bar on November 25, 1866. Ginnie, around that time, had moved back to Memphis, but there is no record that the two met.

Virginia Bethel Moon never married. She opened a boarding house in Memphis renting only to men. When her female black cook died, she took in the woman’s child and raised him. She adopted other “lost” children. She became a familiar sight on the Memphis streets and was known to carry a pistol secreted in her umbrella. She stunned her Presbyterian minister nephew and his congregation by smoking in church, mixing her own mint juleps, and excoriating a Tennessee judge for sentencing a sickly black woman to prison because she was resting on the city streets. She was a supporter of women’s rights and claimed she voted in a Memphis election before women’s suffrage. In 1870 she helped victims during the outbreak of yellow fever in Memphis. In 1919 she went to Hollywood, California. There she got to fly as a passenger in an airplane and in 1922 convinced producer Jesse Laskey to cast her in a bit part in Douglas Fairbank’s classic *Robin Hood*. The following year she appeared as a gypsy fortune teller in *The Spanish Dancer*. She returned east and spent her last years in Greenwich, New York, near her adopted daughter, where she died at 81 in 1925.^{xxv}

Parks, also, would never marry. Instead, his wanderlust resulted in a move to California where he was admitted to the bar, dividing his time between practicing law and writing. His numerous articles and poems were published in various periodicals. He was admitted to the Texas and Tennessee bar associations. He returned briefly to Ohio and then finally settled in Jackson, Mississippi in 1875. He became a recognized leader among the Confederate veterans and was personally acquainted with ex-President Jefferson Davis who was passing his final years in Biloxi, Mississippi. Parks had written in his diary on May, 15, 1865:

“Terrible news! Nothing less than the capture of our beloved President, whom I honor and respect first among mortals . . . They may subject him to indignities, but they cannot deprive him of the love of thousands of devoted men. Nor can they deprive us of the privilege of being more proud of him in adversity than we were in his hours of glory.”^{xxvi}

When Davis died on December 9, 1889, one of the most widely circulated tributes to his memory was written by Parks. James Parks Caldwell’s own death came suddenly in the morning hours of April 5, 1912, in his room at the Kennedy Hotel in Biloxi. The *Gulfport (Miss.) Daily Herald* on Friday, April 5, 1912, carried the headline: “James P. Caldwell, Lawyer, Veteran, and Founder of a Fraternity, Dead.” His remains were buried in Biloxi Cemetery, where in 1930 Sigma Chi Fraternity dedicated a monument to the memory of James Parks Caldwell.^{xxvii}

According to Parks' obituary, "He had told intimate friends of a love affair during the Civil War when he had made an effort to get a leave of absence to go and claim his bride." Clearly, Parks' feelings toward Ginnie fit the lyrics of the song "The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi."

When the world goes wrong, as it's bound to do.

And you've broken Dan Cupid's bow.

And you long for the girl you used to love,

The maid of the long ago.

The blue of her eyes and the gold of her hair

Are a blend of the western sky.

And the moonlight beams on the girl of my dreams,

She's the sweetheart of Sigma Chi.

It is not known what correspondence took place between Parks and Ginnie or what commitment they attached to one another, but Ginnie was later to recount that she had promised to marry 16 soldiers during the war, saying afterwards, "I thought if they died, they would die happy, and if they didn't, I didn't give a damn."^{xxviii} Seems like Parks' love had been a one-way street and he never knew it.

[AUTHOR'S NOTE: Special thanks to David Carrino, Peter Holman, and Carole Kowell for helping with this article.]

ⁱ Caldwell, James Parks, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island Prison: The Civil War Dairy of James Parks Caldwell*. Ed. George H. Jones, Jefferson, North Carolina, McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers, 2010. Diary entry May 3, 1865.

ⁱⁱ Ibid. Diary entry April 18, 1865

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid. Diary entry June 1, 1865

^{iv} Ibid. p. 7. Nate, Joseph C., *The History of Sigma Chi Fraternity, 1855-1925*, 4 volumes. "James Parks Caldwell," <https://sigmachio.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Nate-Caldwell-Bio.pdf> P. 41.

^v Caldwell, *Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island Prison*, pp. 8-9

^{vi} Ibid. p.12. William H. McGuffey, 9/23/1800-5/4/1873, professor, university president, and author of McGuffey's Readers. Whitlaw Reid, 10/27/1837-12/15/1912, newspaper editor, ambassador to France, VP running mate of Benjamin Harrison in unsuccessful, 1892, presidential election, and author of two-volume treatise, *O War: Her Statesmen, Generals, and Soldiers*, Columbus, Ohio, Eclectic Pub. Co., 1893. Benjamin P. Runkle, 11/3/1836-6/28/1916, roommate of Caldwell at Miami University in a room they called "The Crystal Palace" where in 1854 they became founding members of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

^{vii} Kane, Harnett T., *Spies for the Blue and Gray: The Perilous World of Espionage During the Civil War*, New York, Ace Star Books, reprinted by arrangement with Doubleday & Co., 1954. P.189

^{viii} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*, p. 8

^{ix} www.findagrave.com/memorial/8493683/virginia-bethel-moon. There doesn't seem to be any evidence to support either of these actions.

^x Nate, Joseph C., *The History of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, 1855-1929*, 4 volumes. <https://sigmachi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Nate-Caldwell-Bio.pdf>. Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*, p.16.

^{xi} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*, p. 16

^{xii} Ibid. p.20

^{xiii} Kane, *Spies for the Blue and Gray*, p.194. Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate in Johnson Island Prison*. P. 21. A granddaughter of Dr. Caldwell wrote, "Grandpa (Dr. W.W. Caldwell) nearly impoverished himself sending supplies from his drugstore in Hamilton, Ohio."

^{xiv} Cunningham, O. Edward, *Shiloh and the Western Campaign of 1862*, ed. Gary D. Joiner & Timothy B. Smith, California, Savas Beatie, 2007. P.264. The battery consisted of two 3-inch rifles and two 12-pound howitzers. Smith, Timothy B., *Shiloh: Conquer or Perish*, Lawrence, Kansas, University Press of Kansas, 2014. P.192, 334

^{xv} Nate, Joseph C., "James Parks Caldwell," <https://sigmachi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Nate-Caldwell-Bio.pdf>. P.46

^{xvi} Cozzens, Peter, *The Darkest Days of the War: The Battles of Iuka & Corinth*, Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina Press, 1997. P.328

^{xvii} Ibid. pp. 271-272; Hirsch, I.E., "Shot Through by a Cannon Ball." *Confederate Veteran* 11, no. 11, November 1903 pp. 505-506. Smith, Timothy B., *Corinth, 1862: Siege, Battle, Occupation*, Lawrence, Kansas, University Press Of Kansas, 2012. P. 215. <https://sigmachi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Nate-Caldwell-Bio.pdf> Caldwell letter to Runkle, April 1896. P.49.

^{xviii} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*. pp. 25-26

^{xix} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*. p. 77. Diary entry of Wednesday, January 20, 1864.

^{xx} Kane, *Spies For the Blue and Gray*, pp.194-195. Castel, Albert, *General Sterling Price and the Civil War in the West*, Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University Press 1968. Pp. 132-133, 193-195. The exact date of Ginnie's audience with Price is obscure. Kane, however, gives the date of this meeting as February 1863 and Price left Mississippi crossing the river on March 18, 1863. Ginnie and her mother traveled to Ohio with the dispatches. The Clarks were being watched by Federal authorities and Ginnie was suspected of being a spy. She and her mother were arrested when they tried to return south. On her person was found 40 bottles of morphine, seven pounds of opium, and a quantity of camphor. She demanded to be taken to General Ambrose Burnside, an old family friend. He held them for a while and then had the charges dropped. They could return to Memphis with the stipulation that Ginnie had to check in daily with General Hurlbut, the garrison commander in Memphis.

^{xxi} Hewitt, Lawrence Lee, *Port Hudson: Confederate Bastion on the Mississippi*, Baton Rouge & London, Louisiana State University Press, 1987. Pp.106, 132, 169-173. Tanner, Linn, "The Meat Diet at Port Hudson" *Confederate Veteran*, XXVI, 1918. P. 484. Tanner, Linn, "Port Hudson Calamities – Mule Meat," *Confederate Veteran*, XVII, 1909. P. 512. www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battles-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=CLAWATSYA. According to the NPS site Watson's Battery was converted to heavy artillery. Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*, p.p. 26-29.

^{xxii} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island Prison*, p.29. July 18 Letter from J.P. Caldwell to Dear Sister Belle, p. 68-70. <https://sigmachi.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Nate-Caldwell-Bio.pdf> P. 52

^{xxiii} Nate, p.50-51

^{xxiv} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island*, p.200.

^{xxv} Kane, *Spies for the Blue and Gray*, p.201. www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-2000-jan-09-me-52359-story..html Rasmussen, Cecilia, "From Confederate Spy to Hollywood Actress," *Los Angeles Times*, January, 9, 2000.

^{xxvi} Caldwell, pp. 26-37, 196. Nate, pp. 53-55

^{xxvii} Ibid. p. 47. Nate. P.59

^{xxviii} Caldwell, *A Northern Confederate at Johnson's Island Prison*. Pp. 20-21. Kane, *Spies for the Blue and Gray*, p. 194. <http://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entries/-virginia-bethel-moon/>. Bucy, Carole Stanford, "Virginia Bethel Moon," *Tennessee Encyclopedia*, December 25, 2009. Accessed September 16, 2023.



No Fans of Kilpatrick's Band

by Brian D. Kowell

Brigadier General Hugh Judson Kilpatrick's fighting spirit convinced army commander Major General William T. Sherman to have a try at breaking the railroad south of Atlanta in August 1864. On August 18, Kilpatrick's Division destroyed a section of the Atlanta & West Point Railroad near Red Oak. After repulsing some Confederate cavalry, Kilpatrick's troopers marched to their primary objective – the Macon & Western Railroad at Jonesborough.

Jonesborough was lightly guarded when Kilpatrick arrived, and his troopers spent the next six hours destroying the railroad. W.L. Curry of the 1st Ohio Cavalry described the scene:

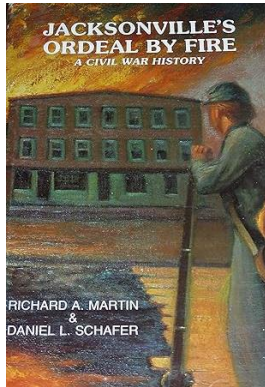
"The sky was lighted up with burning timbers, buildings and cotton bales; the continuous bang of carbines, the galloping of staff officers and orderlies up and down the streets carrying orders and dispatches, the terrified citizens peering out their windows, the constant marching troops changing positions."

All this was accompanied by Kilpatrick's headquarters band playing patriotic Union music.

At 11:00 p.m., Confederate infantry and cavalry attacked Kilpatrick's division. Kilpatrick suspended his rail destruction and sent his men to face the threat. As the two lines fought, heavy rain began which made visibility worse for both sides. The Chicago Board of Trade Artillery was exchanging heavy fire with the Confederate batteries. Due to the darkness, it was somewhat difficult for either party to accurately pinpoint their targets. Kilpatrick in his own particular style worsened the situation. He insisted that his band play Union songs while positioned near the Union artillery. This made it easier for the rebel gunners to zero in on their targets. J.A. Nourse of the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery recorded, "Our cannoneers were quite indignant and used their ramrods to drive the band out of the battery."

Kilpatrick eventually made it safely back to Union lines, but I don't think the members of the Chicago Board of Trade Artillery ever forgave him.

BOOK REVIEWS



Martin, Richard A. and Daniel Schafer, *Jacksonville's Ordeal by Fire: A Civil War History*, Jacksonville, Florida: Florida Publishing Co., 1984.

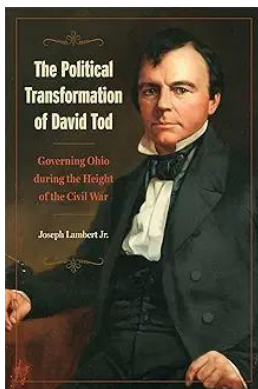
A question I have always wanted to discuss with a bonafide historian is what role exactly did Florida play in the southern war effort. One does not often hear very much about the “Sunshine State” and the role she played in the Civil War. Outside of the Battle of Olustee and the engagement at Natural Bridge not much is mentioned or brought to light regarding Florida’s place in the conflict. This book “*Jacksonville’s Ordeal By Fire*” goes a long way toward clearing up that ambiguous role. Written in 1984 by two prominent Jacksonville citizens it covers the antebellum years through to the end of 1865. The text is easy to read and includes many photos and maps which clarify events and places, and I thoroughly enjoyed reading it.

Jacksonville in the antebellum years was a relatively young city but had grown fast and by 1860 upon the completion of The Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad took an ever-expanding number of ocean-going freighters and facilitated the shipping their cargo into the interior of the state via the railroad. By 1861 that railroad had been extended to Tallahassee the state capital and beyond. When the secession issue arose Florida embraced the southern cause with open arms. Both shores of the St. John’s River were lined with large plantations worked by slave labor and these planters embraced the Confederate cause wholeheartedly. Governor John Milton was a dyed in the wool secessionist. However, many of the businessmen and businesswomen in Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Fernandina were northern transplants and were against any disruptive climate that would have a negative effect on business. Upon the secession of Florida on January 10, 1861 (the third state to secede) the two parties clashed. By January 1862 Jacksonville had been reduced to a shadow of itself, people had fled, business had closed and the U.S. Navy was closing in on the mouth of the St. John’s River. Jacksonville was occupied three times before 1864. Both sides burned whole sections of the city as they advanced and retreated. The U. S. Navy plied the waters of the St. John’s River and raided the large estates attracting many recently freed blacks who saw the U.S. troops as their only salvation. During this time snipers on the banks of the river impeded the advance of The Navy and by 1863 fighting raged up and down the St. John’s as far south as Pilatka and Mellonville just west of present day Cape Canaveral. After 1863 the Navy actively induced enslaved persons to join them and to find their freedom by joining the army which they did. As U.S. forces advanced westward into the interior of the state many African Americans began to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. The 54th Massachusetts played a major role at the Battle of Olustee and covered the retreat of the U.S. forces back into Jacksonville afterwards. After this the city was encircled by a huge complex of entrenchments which made what was left of Jacksonville a virtual fortress until the wars end. It is interesting to note that after the fall of Vicksburg Texas cattle were no longer available to Confederate troops in the field. Therefore, large cattle drives were organized in Florida northwards to Thomasville, Georgia where they were loaded onto trains and shipped to Savannah

and then north into Virginia and Tennessee. Florida thus supplied much of the beef that Confederate soldiers ate right up until the end of the war. After the War thousands of newly freed slaves flocked into Jacksonville from the estates lining the banks of the St. John's River and the large cotton plantations to the west of the city. Many of these people stayed and became part of the fabric that let Jacksonville recover after 1865. Because of the climate many people who had fled in 1861 came back to start businesses and farms. During Reconstruction, conflict between ex-Confederates, newly freed African Americans and newly transplanted northerners rose to a fever pitch and Florida was one of the last of the seceded states to re-enter the Union. The new government was based on the White Supremacy political philosophy and sadly remained that way up until the 1960s which held back progress for much of the northern part of the state. The text includes such individuals as U.S. Major General Quincy Gilmore, C.S. General Joseph Finnegan, General Horatio Wright, General Samuel Jones and General P.G.T. Beauregard. These men fought each other in the northern part of Florida and those on the southern side helped maintain the Confederate regime until the end.

All in all this book does a great job of answering questions as to the part Florida played in the Civil War. I would highly recommend it although a good map of Florida will be helpful in bringing the events to life for the reader. Although the book may be out of print it is available from any of the online vendors or contact the Jacksonville, Florida public library or Amazon Books.

~Paul Siedel



Joseph Lambert, *The Political Transformation of David Tod: Governing Ohio during the Height of the Civil War* (KSU Press, 2023)

David Tod was one of Ohio's Three Civil War governors. In his Preface, Lambert says that:

“David Tod’s collective contribution to American history and to the Civil War is largely unknown...This book is the very first full-length biography of David Tod...A thorough examination of Tod’s political career, highlighted by his role as a Civil War governor, is long overdue...I hope this biography sheds light on the important role David Tod played to help save the union.” (pp. xviii-xix)

Tod was a one-term governor (having been defeated in two prior gubernatorial campaigns for governor). His turbulent term (1861-1863) was marked by numerous crisis's, including:

- Recruiting and outfitting volunteers for the Union armed forces;
- Dealing with the anti-Lincoln opposition of the Peace Democrats, especially by Democratic Congressman Clement Vallandigham, and after the Democratic electoral victories in Fall, 1862;

- Addressing the impact of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation and the possibility of armed Black troops;
- Organizing the defense of a possible Rebel attack on Cincinnati in 1862; and
- Rallying troops against John Hunt Morgan's Southern Ohio raid in the Summer of 1863.

Tod and his family came from the Mahoning Valley near Youngtown. While his father was a judge, Tod grew up in poverty on their farm Brier Hill, which came close to foreclosure. While his father was a Whig, under the influence of attorney Rufus Spalding, a Democrat and follower of Illinois Senator Stephen Douglas, David Tod too became a political ally of Douglas. A strict believer in the Constitution, Tod was not an abolitionist. After being elected Mayor of Youngstown and then a State Senator in 1840, Tod gained a reputation as a powerful speaker. He twice was the Democratic candidate for governor but lost in 1844 and 1846.

Tod then devoted himself to first farming and law but with the discovery of coal around his family's property, Tod devoted his energy toward this business which along with iron later, made him a wealthy man. With the election of James K. Polk as President in 1844, Tod was appointed as the American envoy to Brazil in 1848, succeeding Henry Wise (later Virginia's governor when John Brown launched his attack on Harper's Ferry in 1859). Wise had become embroiled in controversy, including over Brazil's continuation of the slave trade. This exposed Tod to the plight of the Africans kidnapped and shipped to slavery in Brazil.

After returning to Ohio and his businesses in 1851, Tod maintained his interest in politics. He supported the Douglas policy of Popular Sovereignty to determine the fate of the extension of slavery in the Kansas territory. In 1858, Tod rejected the Democratic nomination of him for Congress. In 1860, he represented Ohio Democrats at the Democratic convention in Charleston where the party divided between North and South. Supporting Douglas in his quest for the Democratic nomination for president, Tod went to the Democratic convention in Baltimore that followed, resulting in three presidential candidates (Douglas, Breckinridge and Bell) opposing Republican Abraham Lincoln.

Immediately following the Confederate attack on Ft. Sumter, like Stephen Douglas, Tod became a War Democrat, supporting the Lincoln Administration. In 1861, Tod became the leading Democratic political voice in Ohio and easily won the governor's race. His mission was to help save the Union in a politically divided state. His first test came in responding to recruit Ohio volunteers in response to Lincoln's call for them to enlist. Later, he would have to deal with anti-draft sentiment. Tod resisted the enlistment of Black troops after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation until he finally relented. In 1863, Ohio formed the 127th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which became the 5th U.S. Colored Troops (USCT). Despite his change of view about this, in the postwar period Tod opposed the efforts at black male suffrage that led to the enactment of the 15th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution.

Militarily, Tod had to first deal with the 1862 Confederate threat to attack Cincinnati, which led to the recruitment of Ohioans statewide (known as the "Squirrel Hunters") to come to the defense of Cincinnati under General Lew Wallace. Then, in the Summer of 1863, Tod was faced with a real invasion by the raid of John Hunt Morgan, which ended with his defeat and capture.

Politically, Tod had to govern after the Democratic electoral victories in October, 1862. This led to arrests of leading Ohio Copperheads Clement Vallandigham and Edwin Olds in 1863 and the former's unsuccessful attempt to become Ohio governor and his participation in the failed 1864 Democratic presidential campaign of George McClellan to defeat Abraham Lincoln for re-election. After the 1862 Democratic electoral sweep, Ohio joined many other Northern states in authorizing absentee voting by Union soldiers, which was an important factor in Lincoln's victory.

Despite Tod's success in meeting these many wartime challenges, at the Unionist convention in June, 1863, Tod was defeated by railroad executive and War Democrat John Brough, whom he supported to defeat Vallandigham. After his term ended, on June 30, 1864, President Lincoln nominated Tod to succeed Salmon P. Chase, who had resigned as U.S. Treasury Secretary. However, Tod declined due to his poor health (and also probably his difference with Chase over the issuance of paper money – "greenbacks" to finance the war).

Tod attended two memorable events: Lincoln's Gettysburg address and on April 14, 1865, the return of Robert Anderson to Ft. Sumter in Charleston harbor. On September 11, 1868, Tod made his last political speech at a presidential campaign rally for U.S. Grant in Cleveland. Tod died on November 13, 1868.

Lambert concludes:

"David Tod needs to be a part of our historical conversation and our historical memory...I hope this study will help to shed light on the relevancy of Tod's service to the nation and keep alive the important role he played in helping to preserve the Union, and his place in American history." (p.235)

Lambert's best anecdote about Tod and Lincoln is as follows:

Lincoln wondered why Tod only used one *d* to spell his name while his wife's Kentucky family used two *d*'s. At a White House visit, Lincoln posed this question to Tod, saying: "You are the first Tod I ever knew who spelled his name with so few letters. As Lincoln finished his lighthearted interrogation a grinning Tod waited to respond. 'Mr. President,' said Tod leaning back, 'God spells his name with only one *d*, and what is good enough for God, is good enough for me.' The president laughed heartily." (p. 176)

For an interesting insight into the wartime politics of Ohio, this biography of Governor David Tod is worth a read.

For a short version of this biography, go to the David Tod entry in Ohio Civil War:
<https://www.ohiocivilwarcentral.com/david-tod/>.

~Dennis Keating

